#12 Becoming the New Jerusalem Bird's-Eye View

For our Christian life and church life we need to have a vision of the New Jerusalem: Rev. 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb. 10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal. A A New Jerusalem is a composition of divinity and humanity mingled, blended, and built up together as one entity; all the components have the same life, nature, and constitution and thus are a corporate person. Rev. 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His peoples, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. The New Jerusalem is the consummation of the central vision of God's economy and of the high peak of the divine revelation: 1 The New Jerusalem, the ultimate consummation of the Bible, involves God becoming man and man becoming God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead. 2 The New Jerusalem is a composition of God's chosen, redeemed, regenerated, sanctified, renewed, transformed, conformed and glorified people who have been deified: John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Rom. 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers; 30 And those whom He predestinated, these He also called; and those whom He called, these He also justified; and those whom He justified, these He also glorified. 3 The New Jerusalem is the corporate Godman-the enlargement, expansion, and expression of God—the corporate God.

The New Jerusalem is "the bride, the wife of the Lamb...the holy city, Jerusalem": A The apostle John saw "the holy city...prepared as a bride adorned for her husband": The New Jerusalem is a bride, indicating that she is not a material city but a corporate person for Christ's satisfaction. As the bride, the wife of the Lamb, the New Jerusalem is Christ's eternal counterpart.

Jerusalem is the ultimate consummation of the divine romance—a universal couple," a loving pair eternally": Rev. 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely. Christ's espousal and marriage life cover the church age, the kingdom age, and the eternal age. The New Jerusalem will be the bride in the millennium for one thousand years as one day and then the wife in the new heaven and new earth for eternity. Revelation 22:17 indicates that Christ and the New Jerusalem as His wife will be a universal couple for eternity. The overcomers in the recovered church will be the New Jerusalem in the millennial kingdom.

The Lord Jesus will make the overcoming one in the recovered church a pillar built into the temple of God, which is the Triune God Himself: Rev. 21:22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. A In Revelation 21:22 we see that in the New Jerusalem the Triune God Himself will be the temple: B The Lord makes us pillars by transforming us, that is, by carrying away our natural element and replacing it with His divine element. The Lord's work in the recovered church is to work Himself into us, constituting us into pillars in the temple of God.

IVUpon the one in the recovered church who overcomes, the Lord Jesus will write the name of His God, the name of the city of God, the New Jerusalem, and His new name: A The fact that the name of God, the name of the New Jerusalem, and the Lord's new name are written upon the overcomer indicates that the overcomer is possessed by God, by the New Jerusalem, and by the Lord; that God Himself, His city (New Jerusalem), and the Lord Himself all belong to him; and that he is one with God, with the New Jerusalem, and with the Lord. The name of God denotes God Himself, the name of the New Jerusalem denotes the city itself, and the name of the Lord denotes the Lord Himself. That the name of God, the name of the New Jerusalem, and the name of the Lord are written on the overcomer indicates that what God is, the nature of the New Jerusalem, and the person of the Lord have all been wrought into the overcomer. John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him. D The mentioning of the New Jerusalem as a prize to the overcomer indicates that this promise will be fulfilled in the millennial kingdom; the New Jerusalem in the millennium will be a prize only to the overcomers.

CP1Realize the truth concerning the New Jerusalem and see the vision and experience and build the New Jerusalem today

For our Christian life and church life we need to have a vision of the New Jerusalem: Rev. 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal. AA New Jerusalem is a composition of divinity and humanity mingled, blended, and built up together as one entity; all the components have the same life, nature, and constitution and thus are a corporate person. John 14:20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. 23 Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him. BThe New Jerusalem is the consummation of the central vision of God's economy and of the high peak of the divine revelation: 1 The New Jerusalem, the ultimate consummation of the Bible, involves God becoming man and man becoming God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead. 2 The New Jerusalem is a composition of God's chosen, redeemed, regenerated, sanctified, transformed, renewed, conformed and glorified people who have been deified: Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect. a For us to be deified means that we are being constituted with the processed and consummated Triune God so that we may be made God in life and nature to be His corporate expression for eternity. The deification of the believers is a process that will consummate in the New Jerusalem; this is the highest truth and the highest gospel. 3The New Jerusalem is the corporate God-man—the enlargement, expression God-the expansion, of and corporate God.

Application to business persons, graduate students

The following message outlines from ITERO present our basic attitude, the right realization toward every truth including New Jerusalem.

ITERO#3The Full knowledge of he Truth 1Tim.

2:4 God Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth. 1 The

degradation of the church issued from the neglect of the truth. The goal of Lord's recovery is to recover the reality, life, livingness, strength, power, and impact of the matters revealed in the Bible. 2 Faith is to receive all God has planned for us, all God has done for us, and all God has given to us. **3**The full knowledge of the truth is a thorough apprehension of the truth, full a acknowledgement of the reality of all the spiritual and divine things that we have received through faith. **4** Every believer has the capacity to come to the full knowledge of the truth. 6 The truths in the Bible have both an objective aspect and a subjective aspect. 6 The objective truths are for the subjective truths, and the subjective truths are for the producing of the church. The Lord desires to recover the subjective truths in the Holy Scriptures-the subjective aspect of the truth. 8 The Spirit and life are the substance of the subjective truths; without the Spirit and life we do not have the subjective truths. 9When we live by the Spirit and life, we have the experience of the subjective truths. **10** The church life is an issue of our experience of the subjective truths; when we experience the subjective truths, the church is spontaneously produced.

Testimony I have heard many times that brother Lee had emphasized that "New Jerusalem is not a physical city. It is a spiritual sign and we need to realize its spiritual significance and apply it". In the beginning I thought that "Isn't it that important?" but I was enlightened by the Lord and repented and spent time to considered this by setting my mind on the spirit. I noticed following points in the fellowship with the Lord, "The church is a spiritual building. But if I considered New Jerusalem, the ultimate conclusion of the Bible as the physical building, the spiritual building today will be weakened and misled. Thus it is extremely important to understand that New Jerusalem is not the physical city. Today I need to build up the New Jerusalem".

And the spiritual significance of the New Jerusalem needs to be applied by me. For example, the outline of the Morning Nourishment this week tells us following; "B1aIn Christ, God has become man to make

man God in His life and in His nature so that the redeeming God and the redeemed man can be mingled, constituted, together to be one entity—the New Jerusalem. BEventually, the triune, eternal God becomes the New Jerusalem incorporated with all of us, and we also become the New Jerusalem through the process of God's organic salvation". Today I need to be mingled and incorporated with the processed God. When I thought about this, my prayer came up spontaneously because I could not do this by myself, "Oh Lord Jesus, in my business life, family life, church life and service, I exercise my spirit and set my mind on the spirit to be mingled with You. I want to live and act in the mingling of Your nature, not according to my natural disposition. Moreover, when I make decision, I deny the self, take Christ as my person and should be incorporated in person, not according to my mind or desire. Today I live out and work out the New Jerusalem in the union and mingling and incorporation with the Lord. I rely on the Lord's Please listen to this prayer".

CP2We are replaced with God's divine element, transformed, and we become overcomers and pillars in the temple of God

IIIThe Lord Jesus will make the overcoming one in the recovered church a pillar built into the temple of God, which is the Triune God Himself: Rev. 3:12 He who overcomes, him I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall by no means go out anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven from My God, and My new name. 21:22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. A In Revelation 21:22 we see that in the New Jerusalem the Triune God Himself will be the temple: 1 For the overcomer to be a pillar in the temple means that he will be a pillar in the Triune God. 2 This involves being mingled with the Triune God and constituted with the Triune God. Eph. 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man, 17 that Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,... B The Lord makes us pillars by transforming us, that is, by carrying away our natural element and replacing it with His divine element: 2Cor.3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit. In the church life today the Lord desires to make us, constitute us, into pillars in the temple of God. The Lord's work in the recovered church is to work Himself into us, constituting us into pillars in the temple of God.

IV Upon the one in the recovered church who overcomes, the Lord Jesus will write the name of His God, the name of the city of God, the New Jerusalem, and His new name: <mark>A</mark> The fact that the name of God, the name of the New Jerusalem, and the Lord's new name are written upon the overcomer indicates that the overcomer is possessed by God, by the New Jerusalem, and by the Lord; that God Himself, His city (New Jerusalem), and the Lord Himself all belong to him; and that he is one with God, with the New Jerusalem, and with the Lord. That the name of God, the name of the New Jerusalem, and the name of the Lord are written on the overcomer indicates that what God is, the nature of the New Jerusalem, and the person of the Lord have all been wrought into the overcomer. John 14:19 Yet a little while and the world beholds Me no longer, but you behold Me; because I live, you also shall live. 20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. 23 Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him. D The mentioning of the New Jerusalem as a prize to the overcomer indicates that this promise will be fulfilled in the millennial kingdom; the New Jerusalem in the millennium will be a prize only to the overcomers.

Application to young people, college students, new ones Testimony 1 When I just got saved, I didn't know anything and thought it was enough to go to meetings only when I wanted to and to rely on the Lord only when I was in trouble. However, gradually, as I lived the church life, I began to

feel that I could not live without the Lord and without the church life.

Later, as I began to serve in the church life, my eyes were gradually opened and the truth became clearer, and I came to recognize that the meaning of my existence has to do with God's economy. May I daily behold the Lord and daily participate in the transformation to be a pillar in the temple of God. 2 Cor.3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

Testimony 2 When my husband and I were living in Sendai, we had the opportunity to personally come to Kobe to meet with brother and sister Yoriki who had been taking care of us for a long time. They were warm and hospitable, often fellowshipped with us about the problems we were having and supplied God Himself to us. Through that fellowship, I realized that I was pursuing a very natural and self-centered life and not pursuing God's will. It was not surprising, that although I was in contact with the gospel friends at the time, I was stuck because I could not supply them God. I prayed earnestly with a sense of urgent need that nothing should remain unchanged in this way. Brother and sister Yoriki also prayed a lot for us.

After returning from my stay in Kobe, I continued to pray, being compelled by the Lord. Shortly thereafter, I was informed that my husband, who was originally scheduled to be transferred to Tokyo, had been reassigned to the Kansai region. I was very surprised, but I had peace and gratitude inside for the Lord's guidance, and two months later we moved to Kobe. From then until now, we thank the Lord that He has kept us in the church life, despite the failures we have made. I hope to be transformed for the building.

Rom.8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of

His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

Prayer Oh Lord Jesus, what the Lord desires for me in the church life today is to make me a pillar in the temple of God and to constitute me into a pillar in the temple of God. The Lord makes me a pillar by transforming me, that is, by carrying away my natural element and replacing them with His divine element. I thank the Lord for arranging people, matters, things, and circumstances for my transformation. All things work together for good by allowing those who love God to be transformed. Amen!

神戸に在る召会報告事項

1.YouTube福音集会:

● 12 月から全地区で毎月福音主日集会を行います。具体的に言うと、福音集会担当でない月においても、月に1回、その週の福音アウトラインを用い、各地区で福音を行います。

毎週の福音アウトラインは水曜日夜に配布します。

③ YP と六甲については、従来通り、第3週YP グループと 第4週六甲地区は毎月福音集会を行います。11/26 YP 12/3 三宮・神戸(動画を録画してください)、本山は地区内 で取り組んで福音をしてください。

2.月曜20:00-30責任者・奉仕者祈りと交わり:

11/27 三宮·神戸

3.預言準備集会:土曜7:55-8:25

12/2 魚崎・六アイ12/9 YP

4.サンクスギビング国際特別集会:

12/1(金)19:00~M1

12/2(土)10:00~M2, 13:30~M3, 19:00~M4

12/3(主)10:30~M5, 13:30~M6

5.12/12-18 宜蘭(台湾)45名神戸訪問:

兄弟姉妹を大いに歓迎、接待し、からだの交わりとブレン ディングに共にあずかりましょう。

6.12月-1月の海外からの神戸訪問スケジュール:

12/1-4 台湾の同労者である徐Bと姉妹が来られます。

12/1-4,9-10 Beryl姉妹、娘2人(シンガポール)