

#7 The Eternal Blessing of the Triune God

Crystallization-Study of Numbers (1) 2019/4/8-14

I. In the entire universe the unique blessing is the Triune God, and this blessing comes to us through the dispensing of the Divine Being into us in His Divine Trinity—in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:

A. Ephesians 1 gives us a record of how the Triune God bless His chosen, redeemed, and transformed people in His Divine Trinity, issuing in the church as the Body of Christ, the fullness of the One who fills all in all: **1.** He blesses us in the Father, in the Son, and in the Spirit. **Eph. 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ. **2.**

Eventually, because of such a flow of the Divine Trinity as the blessing to God's chosen people, there is an issue, and the issue of this blessed flow is the church as the Body of Christ, the fullness of the One who fills all in all; the church as the Body of Christ is the total issue of the Divine Trinity as a flow to dispense all that God is into His chosen people.

Eph. 1:22-23 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church, which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

B. As the consummation of the entire record of the Bible, the New Jerusalem is the very God in His Divine Trinity—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—mingled with His chosen, redeemed, regenerated, transformed, and glorified people as their eternal blessing; such a blessing is the ultimate fulfillment of God's blessing to Israel in Numbers 6. **[Mon]**

II. In Numbers 6:22-27 we see a pattern of blessing by the priests; this blessing is neither an Old Testament blessing nor a New Testament blessing; rather, it is the eternal blessing of the Triune God, which is the Triune God dispensing Himself in His Divine Trinity into us for our enjoyment: Num. 6:23-24 Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the children of Israel; you shall say to them, Jehovah bless you and keep you;

A. "Jehovah bless you and keep you" can be ascribed to the Father: **1.** The Father blesses us in every way and in every aspect in His love, and He keeps us in every way and in every aspect in His power. **John 17:15** I do not ask that You would take them out of the world, but that You would keep them out of the hands of the evil one. **2.** The Lord prayed that the Father would keep us in His name; this is to keep us in the dispensing Triune God; the Lord Jesus went on to pray that the Father would keep us from the evil one. **3.** We should pray for the blessing of being kept absolutely in the dispensing of the Triune God and altogether outside of the evil one; what a blessing this is! **[Tue]**

B. "Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you" can be ascribed to the Son: **Num. 6:25** Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; **1.** In Luke 1:78, when the Lord Jesus was about to be born, Zachariah prophesied, "The rising sun will visit us from on high"; the rising sun is the Son in the Divine Trinity; this implies God's incarnation to show Himself to us in a shining way. **2.** The word face in Numbers 6:25 signifies presence; as the One whose face shines upon us, Christ the Son is the visible presence of the invisible God. **3.** Numbers 6:25 speaks not only of Jehovah making His face to shine upon us but also of Jehovah being gracious to us; these two

points added together equal John 1:14, 16-17. **John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and tabernacle among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality. **4.** God's incarnation was the shining of His presence, and along with this shining there was grace; this grace is the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is actually Christ Himself. **[Wed]**

C. "Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace" can be ascribed to the Spirit: **Num. 6:26-27** Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, that I Myself may bless them. **Eph. 4:30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption. **1.** The face denotes the presence of the person, and the countenance denotes the expression of the person; to lift up your countenance upon a person means that you confirm, assure, promise, and give everything to that person. **2.** Jesus came as the face of God, and the Holy Spirit comes as the countenance of God; if we grieve Him, His countenance will drop, but if we obey Him, He will be happy with us, and He will lift up His countenance to confirm us, assure us, guarantee us, promise us, and give us everything. **[Thu]**

III. Second Corinthians 13:14 says, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all"; the blessing here is actually the same as that in Numbers 6:23-27: 2 Cor. 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **2 John 3** Grace, mercy, peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

A. In the blessing of the apostle Paul, the Triune God comes to people for their enjoyment; Paul not only brought people into the presence of God but also brought God into them. **B.** On the one hand, to bless others is to bring them into the presence of God; on the other hand, it is to bring God into them as love, grace, and fellowship so that they may enjoy the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. **C.** Love, grace, and fellowship are three stages of God for our enjoyment—love is within, grace is love expressed, and fellowship is the transmission of grace into us. **D.** The love of God is the source, since God is the origin; the grace of the Lord is the course of the love of God, since the Lord is the expression of God; and the fellowship of the Spirit is the impartation of the grace of the Lord with the love of God for our experience and enjoyment of the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit, with Their divine virtues. **[Fri]**

E. The divine revelation of the Divine Trinity in the holy Word is not for theological study but for the apprehending of how God in His mysterious and marvelous Divine Trinity dispenses Himself into His chosen people, that we as His chosen and redeemed people may, as indicated by the apostle's blessing to the Corinthian believers, participate in, experience, enjoy, and possess the processed Triune God now and for eternity. We must enjoy and be blessed with the processed and inner circulating Triune God day by day so that we may dispense Him as the unique blessing of the universe into others for the accomplishment of God's heart's desire to have the testimony of Jesus, the corporate

expression of Jesus. **Num. 6:24-26** Jehovah bless you and keep you; Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

2 Cor. 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

IV. Sometimes when we consider our situation, we may be disappointed and feel that we do not have anything. It may seem to us that everything under the sun and even everything in the spiritual field is vanity of vanities. We may feel that nothing is real, not even in the church life. What should we do when we feel this way? We should turn to the Triune God. He is our real blessing and portion. What a blessing it is to have Him as the blessing! What a blessing it is to have His face, His presence, and to enjoy Him daily as grace! The more we suffer, the more we enjoy Him as grace. What a blessing it is to have His countenance smiling upon us, assuring us, and confirming us! And what a blessing it is to have peace in Him, by Him, and with Him! This is the Triune God as our blessing. Oh, may the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!" (Sat)

I . The High Gospel

Topic 10 Christ's Salvation (2)

Rom. 5:10 For if we, being enemies, were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more we will be saved in His life, having been reconciled,

The Organic Aspect of God's Salvation

Another aspect of God's complete salvation is the aspect of purpose. In this aspect of purpose, God has carried out by His life organically, including (1) regeneration, this allows us to receive God's eternal life. (2) shepherding, this allows us to grow in the sacred life. (3) sanctification in our disposition, (4) renewing in our mind, (5) transformation in our image, issuing in (6)-(8) of the following. (6) God's building, (7) conformation to the image of God's firstborn Son, that is to mature in the sacred life, and (8) glorification, that is the ultimate consummation of God's eternal economy. Whereas that which is accomplished judicially is the initial step as redemption with five items, that which is carried out organically is a further step as salvation, which is different from redemption and includes eight items. Redemption is accomplished judicially, whereas salvation is carried organically. The eight items in the organic aspect issue in the church of God to constitute the Body of Christ which will consummate the New Jerusalem, which is the ultimate goal of God's eternal economy, that is, an organism constituted with the processed Triune God and His regenerated, sanctified, transformed, and glorified elect joined and mingled as one to be the enlargement and expression of God in eternity.

Redemption as the judicial aspect cannot carry out the purpose of God's salvation, because it is merely the procedure, not the purpose. For example, a cook spends a great amount of time cooking in the kitchen to prepare a feast. However, the cooking is not his purpose but merely a procedure. Later when the guests are invited to enjoy the feast, that is the purpose of the cooking. Likewise, in the salvation of God we should not remain in the aspect of procedure, the judicial aspect; rather, we should go on to the aspect of purpose, the organic aspect.

The robe and calf in the Gospel of Luke Chapter 15,

symbolize the judicial and organic aspects of God's salvation. Here it speaks about a son who left home to wander abroad and became a prodigal son. One day, the prodigal son clothed in rags returned home. Although he was still his father's son, he appeared outwardly as a prodigal son. When he was still a long way off, his father saw him and ran to embrace and kiss him. Afterward, his father immediately ordered the slaves, saying, "Bring out quickly the best robe and put it on him." When the son left home to wander abroad, he lost his status as a son and became a prodigal son. When the father put that robe upon him, he immediately became a son again. This refers to the judicial aspect of God's salvation.

However, it is not sufficient merely to be clothed with the robe and become a son. At this time, on the one hand, the son was happy, but on the other hand, he must have said in his heart, "Father, what I need now is not to be clothed with a robe outside. I am not fed inside. I was feeding on carob pods for several years. Today I come back with an empty stomach. Please hurry and give me some food." Perhaps the son was ashamed to say it, but the father went on to say, "Bring the fattened calf; slaughter it, and let us eat and be merry." At that time the son must have been dancing with joy. After eating the fattened calf, the son was satisfied and no longer hungry. Hence, the robe signifies the judicial aspect of God's salvation, and the calf signifies the organic aspect of God's salvation.

The Need for Christ's Salvation

We know that we are sinful and that when we repent, confess our sins before God, and believe in the Lord, we receive forgiveness of sins and our sins are washed away, we are justified by God that we may be reconciled to Him, and we are sanctified positionally. We know all these things. Hence, some people may say, "These five things are sufficient for us to go to heaven. God will never condemn us again. He has forgiven us forever, so we can live in peace." Therefore, they preach the gospel to others, saying, "Just be at peace and rejoice by trusting in Jesus. Try to be a good person and try to help others, then one day you will go to heaven." But the Bible says that this is not sufficient. In addition to the five items, the Bible covers another eight items: regeneration, shepherding, dispositional sanctification, renewing, transformation, building up, conformation, and glorification. We should not despise the five items on the judicial side, and even more we should not despise the eight items on the organic side. The former group of five items is the base, like the foundation of a house. We need to build the latter group of eight items on the foundation of the former group of five items that we may have a more thorough knowledge and more experience concerning the eight organic items.

CS 1002 God's economy—Experience God's organic salvation (Banner of 1997 Chinese New Year Special Conference)

Regenerate us, sacred life we are given,
Renew us, sacred new creation we become.
Sanctify us, divine nature we are given,
Transform us, divine image we are given.
Conform us, sacred element we are given.
Glorify us, perfected image we have.
Organic salvation, reigns in life,
Economy completed, purpose accomplished

Crucial Point ①: The father blesses you and keeps you

OL1: "Jehovah bless you and keep you" can be ascribed to the Father. (Num.6:24) The Father blesses us in every way and in every aspect in His love and He keeps us in every way and in every aspect in His power. **OL2:** The Lord prayed that the Father would keep us in His name; this is to keep us in the dispensing Triune God; the Lord Jesus went on to pray that the Father would keep us from the evil one.

OL3: We should pray for the blessing of being kept absolutely in the dispensing of the Triune God and altogether outside of the evil one; what a blessing this is!

John 17:11 And I am no longer in the world; yet they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given to Me, that they may be one even as We are.

The blessing One keeps us. In Numbers 6:24 the word keep is of crucial importance. In John 17:11 the Lord Jesus prayed that the Father would keep us in His name. This is to keep us in the dispensing Triune God. While the Triune God is dispensing Himself into us, we are kept in the dispensing One.

In John 17:15 the Lord Jesus went on to pray that the Father would keep us from the evil one. When we are kept in the dispensing Triune God, there is nothing left for the hand of the enemy. We should pray for the blessing of being kept absolutely in the dispensing Triune God and altogether outside of the evil one. What a blessing this is!

The Son's believers are still in the world. They need to be kept that they may be one even as the Divine Trinity is one, that is, that they may be one in the Divine Trinity. The Son prayed that the holy Father would so keep them.

To be kept in the Father's name is to be kept by His life, because only those who are born of the Father and have the Father's life can participate in the Father's name. The Son has given the Father's life to those whom the Father has given Him; hence, they share the Father's name by being kept in it, and they are one in it. The first aspect of this oneness, that is, the first aspect of the building up of the believers, is the oneness in the Father's name and by His divine life. In this aspect of oneness the believers, born of the Father's life, enjoy the Father's name, that is, the Father Himself, as the factor of their oneness.

The whole world lies in the evil one. Hence, the believers need to be kept out of the hands of the evil one, and they need always to be watchful in prayer that they may be delivered from the evil one.

In the Bible, especially in the Gospel of John, the name denotes a person. Thus, the Father's name is actually the Father Himself....In 17:11 to be kept in the Father's name is to be kept in the person of the Father through His action. Today the Father is...actively building His house, the church.

For Junior High and High School Students/College Students
1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the evil one.

You are saved and belong to God and become children of God, but you are still living in the world of Satan's kingdom. Because of this, you need "the Father bless you and keep you." Some people are (1) unwilling to study due to the temptation of the devil, or (2) suffering from disastrous bullying from their classmates, or (3) not getting along well with their teachers or classmates, and their

mental or physical balance breaks down and become truancy, or (4) filled with negative thoughts such as anger, explosion of anger, resentment, jealousy, etc. towards friends, teachers or their parents in their hearts, leading to withdrawal and suicide etc. (5) encountering an unforeseen accident. These people are not very different from ordinary students, but ordinary people who did not get miserable if they were kept a little. This is a strong indication that you are in danger in the world of Satan and need to be kept by the Father. **Matt. 6:13** And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. FN "the evil one": The kingdom people should ask the Father not to bring them into temptation but to deliver them from the evil one, the devil, and from the evil that is out of him.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, I believe in the name of the Lord. I was baptized and saved. (Please go forward and be baptized by the end of the fifth grade of elementary school this year.) However, because I am still living in this world, there is still a chance that I may be brought into the temptation of Satan. I pray in the Father's name. Keep me and deliver me from any temptations that come from the devil. Amen!"

Crucial Point ②: Presence of the face of the Son provides you His shining and His grace

OL1: "Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you (Num 6:25)" can be ascribed to the Son. **OL2:** God's incarnation was the shining of His presence, and along with this shining there was grace; this grace is the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is actually Christ Himself.

The word face in Numbers 6:25 signifies presence. As the One whose face shines upon us, Christ the Son is the visible presence of the invisible God. God and His presence are invisible, but through His incarnation He became the shining sun. This shining sun is God's invisible presence becoming visible. God's presence not only became visible—it was also shining.

Numbers 6:25 speaks not only of Jehovah making His face to shine upon us, but also of Jehovah being gracious to us. God's incarnation was the shining of His presence. Along with this shining there was grace. "The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us...full of grace." The Lord is gracious to us; He has even become grace to us. For the Lord to be gracious to us means that He is continually grace to us. This grace is the grace of Christ, which is actually Christ Himself. When we have Christ, we have grace. The Triune God is altogether gracious to us. Day after day we enjoy Him as grace.

For Marriage Life

In marriage life, a husband and a wife are so close to each other as their conversations or attitudes toward each other may become lack of grace or even no grace. You two are a couple who has wedded under the Lord's gracious blessing, so you should look up the face of the Son, the incarnated God, and let Him enlighten your behavior and your words in "I am a king" attitude, if you are a husband, or "I am a queen" attitude, if you are a wife. A person whose attitude is "I am a king" or "I am a queen", can never become a overcomer. In another couple, both are too afraid of the other getting upset. So they avoid to tell the truth each other and pretend not to see root of the problem. In this

case, the problem will get worse and worse. This may be the other extreme case in which they cannot build up their marriage life in the Lord. In your marriage life, you need to experience everyday true “the Son make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.” Then blessing of the Triune God will flow out to the others through cooperation of you and your spouse.

Prayer: “O Lord Jesus, I have married with my spouse according to God’s ordination. Thanks to the Lord. May I be able to build up my marriage life, not according to Japanese culture nor the culture created by myself, but in the Lord. For this, I need to look up the face of the Lord, be enlightened, confess my sin, shortcomings and weaknesses to you, and be forgiven them by you. Please forgive my sins. Let me enjoy grace of the Lord and become the one whose words to my spouse are full of grace. Amen!”

Crucial Point ③: Behold the countenance of the Spirit to gain peace

OL1: “Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace (Num. 6:26)” can be ascribed to the Spirit. **OL2:** Jesus came as the face of God, and the Holy Spirit comes as the countenance of God; if we grieve Him, His countenance will drop, but if we obey Him, He will be happy with us, and He will lift up His countenance to confirm us, assure us, guarantee us, promise us, and give us everything. **OL3:** In the entire universe the unique blessing is the Triune God, and this blessing comes to us through the dispensing of the Divine Being into us in His Divine Trinity—in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The third aspect of the blessing is related to God the Spirit’s countenance and His peace. The lifting up of the Lord’s countenance upon us and the giving of peace is certainly the gracious work of the third of the Trinity, the Spirit. Today the Spirit is constantly lifting up God’s countenance over us and giving us peace. He gives peace not only in our environment, but also in our being—in our heart, in our spirit, and even in our mind. In the Spirit, through the Spirit, and with the Spirit we have peace. Others may be troubled in heart, mind, spirit, and environment, but we should not be troubled. Wherever we are, we have peace because the Spirit of God is with us and His countenance is uplifted over us.

In summary we may say that blessing is the bringing of people into the presence of God, into the very enjoyment of God. The threefold blessing in Numbers 6 is the pattern of blessing by the priests in the Old Testament. This pattern reveals that the proper blessing is to bring people into the presence of God, into the light of His face, and into the shining of His countenance that they may participate in His grace and may have peace. This surely is the proper blessing. How wonderful! How marvelous!

In both Numbers 6:23-26 and 2 Corinthians 13:14 the blessing is not outward and material. The blessing here is not a matter of an excellent job, a nice house, a high education, and a good family life. Furthermore, this blessing is not related to having any kind of position in the church. Sometimes when we consider our situation, we may be disappointed and feel that we do not have anything. It may seem to us that everything under the sun and even everything in the spiritual field is vanity of vanities. We may feel that nothing is real, not even in the church life. What should we do when we feel this way? We should turn to the

Triune God. He is our real blessing and portion. What a blessing it is to have Him as the blessing! What a blessing it is to have His face, His presence, and to enjoy Him daily as grace! The more we suffer, the more we enjoy Him as grace. What a blessing it is to have His countenance smiling upon us, assuring us, and confirming us! And what a blessing it is to have peace in Him, by Him, and with Him! This is the Triune God as our blessing. Oh, may the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

For Young Working Saints and Graduate Students

2Cor. 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. **4:6** Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. FN “face of Jesus Christ”: The part around the eyes; the look as the index of the inward thoughts and feelings, which shows forth and manifests the whole person. This indicates that the apostle was one who lived and acted in the presence of Christ, according to the index of His whole person, expressed in His eyes.

As a working young person, you should behold the Spirit as His countenance. After His resurrection, Christ has become the life-giving Spirit. The face of Jesus Christ in 2 Corinthians is the countenance of Christ the Spirit. The Spirit confirms us, assures us, and promises us by His countenance, especially by the index of His eyes and the part around His eyes. So please turn your heart to the Lord and behold the countenance of the Spirit with unveiled face.

Prayers such like “praying to increase in your salary” or “praying for asking to relocate your boss whom you disagree much with to other department” are prayers with the veil over your heart. Instead, you should exercise your spirit, and behold the countenance of the Spirit. Then the Lord’s countenance will guide you to the Lord Himself. And you will know the true blessings are not matters in the material realm, but matters of dispensing the Triune God Himself into our being.

12. Worship of the Father - As the Source of Life (Jap 9)

- 1 O God, Thou art the source of life, Divine, and rich and free!
As living water flowing out Unto eternity!
- 2 In love Thou in the Son didst flow Among the human race;
Thou dost as Spirit also flow Within us thru Thy grace.
- 3 Though we in sin and wickedness Went far from Thee apace,
Yet in the Son Thou didst redeem, Bestowing life and grace.
- 4 Though we have often slighted Thee, Thy Spirit often grieved,
Yet Thou dost still as Spirit come As life to be received.
- 5 Thou as the Spirit in the Son Hast mingled heretofore;
Thou wilt thru fellowship anoint. And increase more and more.
- 6 The love of God, the grace of Christ, The Spirit's flowing free,
Enable us God's wealth to share Thru all eternity.
- 7 The Father, Son, and Spirit — one, So richly care for us;
Thy love with one accord we sing And e'er would praise Thee thus.

Prayer: “O Lord Jesus, I behold the countenance of the Spirit. Save me from seeking material blessings but not seeking blessings of the Triune God Himself. When I look at your countenance, you infuse yourself into me. You provide me your confirmation, assurance, guarantee and promise by your countenance and lead me in peace. Hallelujah!”