

#16 Speaking to the Rock to Drink of the Spirit as the Water of Life and Digging the Well to Allow the Spirit as the Water of Life to Flow Freely within us

(Crystallization-Study of Numbers 2) 2019/9/2-8

I. The striking of the rock is a clear, complete, and full picture of Christ's crucifixion:

Exo. 17:6 I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

A. In this type, Moses signifies the law, and the staff represents the power and authority of the law. **B.** Hence, the striking of the rock by Moses' staff signifies that Christ was put to death on the cross by the authority of God's law.

C. Christ as the living, spiritual rock was smitten by the authority of God's law so that the water of life in resurrection could flow out of Him and into His redeemed people for them to drink: **1 Cor. 10:4** And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.

1. Christ is our begetting rock and the rock who is our salvation, strength, refuge, hiding place, protection, covering, and safeguard.

2. Blood and water flowed out of the Lord's pierced side on the cross; the blood for our judicial redemption saves us from the guilt of sin, and the water of life in resurrection for our organic salvation saves us from the power of sin. **Mon**

D. The water that came out of the rock is the water of life in resurrection: **1.** Resurrection denotes something that has been put to death and is alive again; it also denotes life that springs forth out of something that has passed through death. **2.** The water that flowed out of the smitten rock sprang forth only after the major steps of incarnation, human living, and crucifixion had been accomplished; hence, Exodus 17:6 is a profound verse, implying Christ's incarnation, human living, and death. **3.** The Spirit as the living water for us to drink and flow out could be received only after the Lord Jesus had been glorified, that is, only after Christ had entered into resurrection. **John 7:37-39** Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink, He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

4. Actually, the water of life, the flowing water, is resurrection; resurrection is the Triune God—the Father as the source, the Son as the course, and the Spirit as the flow.

E. The source of the water of life is the throne of God and the lamb—the redeeming God; hence, the water of life is the Triune God flowing out to be our life: **1.** The flow of the living water began from the throne in eternity, continued through the incarnation, human living, and crucifixion of Christ, and now flows on in resurrection to supply God's people with all the riches of the divine life. **2.** The flowing of the water of life in resurrection is for the building up of the Body of Christ and the preparation of the bride of Christ, both of which will consummate in the New Jerusalem. **Tue**

F. John 4:14b reveals a flowing Triune God—the Father is the fountain, the Son is the spring, and the Spirit is the flowing river, issuing in the totality of the eternal life, the New Jerusalem. **John 4:14** But whoever drinks of the water

that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life. **G.** The entire Triune God was involved in the water flowing out of the smitten rock for the people to drink—God [the Father] was standing upon the rock, the rock was Christ [the Son], and the living water coming out of the rock signifies the drinkable and outflowing Spirit as the ultimate issue of the Triune God.

H. Our drinking of the one Spirit in resurrection makes us members of the Body, builds us up as the Body, and prepares us to be the bride of Christ.

II. To receive the living water from the crucified Christ, we need only to "take the rod" and "speak to the rock": Num.

20:8 Take the rod, and gather the assembly, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes, so that it yields its water.... **A.** Since Christ has been crucified and the Spirit has been given, there is no need for Christ to be crucified again, that is, no need to strike the rock again, that the living water may flow; in God's economy Christ should be crucified only once.

B. To take the rod is to identify with Christ in His death and apply the death of Christ to ourselves and to our situation.

C. When we identify ourselves with the smitten Christ, that is, when we are one with Him as the smitten Christ, the divine life as the living water flows out of us.

D. To speak to the rock is to speak a direct word to Christ as the smitten rock, asking Him to give us the Spirit of life based on the fact that the Spirit has already been given. **E.** If we apply the death of Christ to ourselves and ask Christ in faith to give us the Spirit, we will receive the living Spirit as the bountiful supply of life. **F.** Moses should have simply spoken to the rock, telling it to flow forth with water; if we deal with the contending of God's people in this way today, the church life will be glorious. **Wed**

III. Whereas the rock in Numbers 20:8 typifies Christ on the cross, smitten by God so that the living water, the Spirit of life, may flow out into us, the well in Numbers 21:16-18 typifies Christ within us:

Num. 21:16-18 ...to Beer; that is the well where Jehovah said to Moses, Gather the people together, and I will give them water. Then Israel sang this song: Spring up, O well! Sing to it! The well, which the leaders sank, Which the nobles of the people dug, With the scepter, with their staffs....

A. The digging of the well signifies the digging away of the "dirt," the barriers in our heart—our conscience, our mind, our will, and our emotion—so that the Spirit as the living water may spring up within us and flow freely.

B. We need to go to the Lord to be "dug out" for the free flow of the living water within us; there is much "dirt" within us that needs to be dug out: **Thu**

1. We must dig away the many things condemned by the Lord in our heart; not many brothers and sisters have a pure heart in seeking only the Lord Himself: **Matt. 5:8** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

a. On the one hand, many are seeking the Lord and His way, but on the other hand, they are still seeking things other than the Lord Himself. **b.** Our loving and seeking the Lord may be with a complicated heart; the aim and goal of our heart are not so pure; we do not know many goals are within our heart, such as our family, our job, our degree, and our concerns about our future.

2. If we would experience a free, inward flow of the Spirit, our conscience must be dealt with and purified: **a.** When

we refuse to do what the Lord commands, this becomes an accusation in our conscience; these accusations are the dirt that needs to be dug away. **b.** We need to go to the Lord again and again in our spirit and be dug in His presence; by the help of the Holy Spirit we must dig away all the dirt. **c.** A conscience void of offense means to be free from any kind of offense or accusation. [Acts 24:16](#) **Because of this I also exercise myself to always have a conscience without offense toward God and men.** **Fi**

3. We must dig away the dirt in our mind; the Lord wants to transform us by the renewing of our mind: **a.** Many who are regenerated are just like the people of the world in their thinking about fashion; they dress in conformity to the modern age. **b.** Many who are regenerated continue to use their money in the same way as those in the world; not until they love the Lord more and give the Lord more ground to work within them will they be transformed in their way of spending money. **c.** Many young people studying in the colleges have the same thoughts about their studies and degrees as other worldly young people; if their minds were being renewed, they would not give up their studies, but they would have the Lord's point of view in which to evaluate their studies. **d.** Our mind has been blinded by the many imaginations that we have day by day; the heaps of dirt are simply the many thoughts, imaginations, and dreams, which must be dug away before the living water can freely flow. **4.** We must dig away the dirt in our will; there are not many who are absolutely and utterly obedient to the Lord: **a.** Many times we do not submit ourselves to the Lord's sovereign arrangement in our environment. **b.** Sometimes we think that we are quite submissive to the Lord, but when He puts us into certain circumstances, we are exposed. **c.** Many experiences and circumstances under His sovereignty simply expose us to the light so that we may know how stubborn our will is. **d.** The will must be wholly submissive, and not only submissive but in harmony with the will of God; then every decision that we make will be an expression of Christ. **5.** After digging away the dirt from the will, we need to deal with our emotion: **a.** When we are emotional, we are occupied with ourselves; we are under the bondage and control of our emotion. **b.** The regulating of our love must be under the control of the Lord, and we must always be ready to exercise our emotion according to the Lord's pleasure. **c.** We all must learn to deal with our emotion according to the pleasure and joy of the Lord; we must learn that whatever we hate or love, whatever we like or dislike, must be done under the permission of the Lord with His joy. **d.** If our emotion is kept under the rule of the Lord with His pleasure and joy, it will be saturated with the spirit and transformed. **6.** We must forget about our needs, our jobs, our future, and our circumstances; we must seek only the Lord's presence and ask Him to bring us into His light; then we can follow His light to dig away the dirt in our heart, conscience, mind, will, and emotion. [1 John 1:7](#) **But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

7. This digging is accomplished only by prayer in our private time with the Lord; we have to spend more time with the Lord and pray according to His inner leading. **8.** The more

we dig away the dirt, the more living, strengthened, and victorious we will be as the living water flows freely within us to cause us to grow in life for the building up of the Body of Christ—we need to sing and pray over Hymns, #250. **Sat**

Crucial Point(1): Christ is the Rock which flows out the living water

OL1: Christ as the living, spiritual rock was smitten by the authority of God's law so that the water of life in resurrection could flow out of Him and into His redeemed people for them to drink. **OL2:** Christ is our begetting rock and the rock who is our salvation, strength, refuge, hiding place, protection, covering, and safeguard. **OL3:** Blood and water flowed out of the Lord's pierced side on the cross; the blood for our judicial redemption saves us from the guilt of sin, and the water of life in resurrection for our organic salvation saves us from the power of sin.

The Lord told Moses to use his rod to "strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink". ...In typology, Moses signifies the law, and the rod represents the power and authority of the law. The rock, of course, typifies Christ. The smiting of the rock by the rod signifies that Christ was smitten by the authority of God's law. In the eyes of God, the Lord Jesus was put to death, not by the Jews, but by the law of God. During the first three hours of His crucifixion, Christ suffered under the hand of man. But during the last three hours, Christ suffered because He was smitten by the power of God's law.

In 2 Samuel 22:47 and Psalm 95:1 we see that God is the rock of our salvation. Furthermore, this rock is our strength (Psa. 62:7) and our refuge (Psa. 94:22). This rock is our hiding place, protection, covering, and safeguard. Isaiah 32:2 speaks of the Lord as "the shadow of a massive rock in a wasted land." When we are weary [wasted], we can rest under the shadow cast by this rock and be refreshed. This rock, which was waiting in a dry place for God's people, has been smitten so the people may have living water to drink.

The water flowing out of the smitten rock typifies the Spirit. [John 7:37 and 38](#) say, "Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water." This word was uttered on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles. [John 7:39](#) goes on to say, "But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive." This indicates clearly that the flowing water signifies the Spirit.

Application to the new ones

[Exodus 17:6](#) **I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.** [Gal. 3:13](#) **Christ has redeemed us out of the curse of the law, having become a curse on our behalf; because it is written, "Cursed is every one hanging on a tree";**

The striking of the rock by Moses' staff signifies that Christ was put to death on the cross by the authority of God's law. You were under the curse of the law due to the sin. But on the cross, Christ has fulfilled the requirement of the law, **the wages of sin**

is death (Rom. 6:23), on behalf of you. So that you who believe would be liberated from the curse of the law and drink the water of life.

Christ is the Rock, your salvation, strength, refuge, hiding place, protection, covering, and safeguard. Don't you feel that you need the hiding place, protection in your daily life? For instance, you might be criticized without any reason by your friends because of the trouble in relationship. Please call on the name of the Lord many times for one minute in such a time. And you can pray like this, "Oh Lord Jesus, You are my Rock, my hiding place and protection. Please protect my heart".

Christ as this Rock was smitten on the cross and let the living water flow and cause you to drink. [John 4:13](#) Jesus answered and said to her, [Everyone who drinks of this water shall thirst again, 14](#) But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

Please drink and enjoy Christ as the living water. God's salvation not only delivers you from the curse of the law but also cause you to drink the living water and gives true satisfaction within. "This water" in John 4:13 is the material and worldly water. Women desires for the fashionable clothes. But once she purchases one, she then wants the latest one. In this way, the lust springs up one after another. Because whoever drinks of this water "shall thirst again". But whoever drinks of the water that the Lord gives will become in the person a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life. May you drink the Lord every day and be filled with the Lord to have the life full of joy.

Prayer : "Oh Lord Jesus, You are my hiding place, protection as the Rock. Moreover, this Rock will flow out the living water. Whoever drinks of the water of the world shall thirst again. The true satisfaction is the water You give me. Let me drink this water You give me every day and have the life full of joy. Amen ! "

Crucial Point(2): Dig out the dirt in the conscience and let the living water spring up and flow out from within

OL1: Whereas the rock in Numbers 20:8 typifies Christ on the cross, smitten by God so that the living water, the Spirit of life, may flow out into us, the well in Numbers 21:16-18 typifies Christ within us.

OL2: The digging of the well (Num. 21:18) signifies the digging away of the "dirt," the barriers in our heart—our conscience, our mind, our will, and our emotion—so that the Spirit as the living water may spring up within us and flow freely.

OL3: We need to go to the Lord to be "dug out" for the free flow of the living water within us; there is much "dirt" within us that needs to be dug out:.

The leaders and nobles of the people would not normally be the ones to dig the well. The people of the lower class would do the digging. But Numbers 21 tells us that the leaders and nobles of the people of God dug the well at Beer. If we are going to enjoy Christ as the well springing up all the time in the local churches, all the leading ones have to take the lead to dig away the dirt under the Lord's authority and according to His

guidance. Then we will have a well springing up with living water all the time in the churches because we have the digging by the leaders and the nobles of the people with the scepter and the staffs.

We need to learn how to have the flow of the Spirit within our inward parts. In Numbers 20 the smitten rock, which typifies Christ, ...flowed with living water. Then in Numbers 21 the well dug by the people of God sprang up with water. Therefore, in these two chapters of the same book there is first a rock that must be smitten for the living water to flow out and then a well that must be dug for the water to spring up.

For believers, it is not a matter of the rock but the well. Christ as the rock has already accomplished His work on the cross, which issued in the water of life flowing into us, but today Christ as the well of living water springing up continuously within us is something else and has much to do with the present process of digging.

Our conscience is not so pure. Perhaps at this very moment some accusation which we have not confessed to the Lord is still upon our conscience. These accusations are the dirt that needs to be dug away. We do not sense much liberty within because of the accusations in our conscience. What are the accusations? You must ask yourself; only you know. You know what is within you that is wrong with others. When you are not right with others, the accusations persist. When you refuse to do what the Lord demands, this becomes an accusation in your conscience. Then you wonder why you are bound and without freedom. It is simply because there is a demand of the Lord which you will not answer, and it has become an immediate accusation in your conscience. Your conscience is not pure from accusations and without offenses.

Application to the young people and college students

After Christ has accomplished His redemption on the cross, He let the living water to flow out. This is the accomplished fact. On the other hand, we need the Lord to dig our inward being for this living water to flow into us and flow out of us. First you need to dig the dirt in your conscience. To dig away the dirt in your conscience, you need these things: (1) be enlightened the sins, weakness and faults under God's light, (2) confess those enlightened sins and apply the blood of Jesus, the Son of God, (3) by your conscience being dealt with, the water of life flows inwardly more.

[1 John 1:7](#) But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin. [8](#) If we say that we do not have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9](#) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In the practice of dealing with conscience, please pay attention to the following subsidiary points. (1) Not confessing the sins of others, (2) Not saying your excuses and simply confess your sins, (3) No need to confess your sins which are not enlightened yet. You don't need to look for the sins to confess, (4) Because God's people have the privilege of their sins to be

forgiven, take a positive view in confessing of sins.

Young men may look at women in order to lust after them. It is normal for male to have interest in female, but to look at a woman in order to lust after her is the sin.

Mat. 5:27 You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." 28 But I say to you that every one who looks at a woman in order to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. II Tim. 2:22 But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

If you are enlightened by the Word and the Holy Spirit, you should confess the sin of the lust. Do not say any excuse like "nobody knows what I think in my heart" or "everyone has the lust, so just a little bit is OK". The sin dwells in the flesh, so we have the problem of lust. Until the Lord's second coming, we cannot take away this problem fundamentally. But in this present age, we can confess each sin of the lust which is manifested and can be cleansed. Otherwise your conscience is contaminated and the living water cannot flow freely within.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, shine on me. I confess each sin, weakness and failure that you have shined on. Being cleansed by Your blood, let me walk according to my conscience and spirit in this world, not according to my flesh. As taking shower every day, I need to confess my sins and get cleansed every day. By dealing with my conscience, the rivers of the living water will flow out my innermost being. Praise the Lord!"

Crucial Point(3): Dig away the dirt in each parts of our heart so that the living water can overflow out of our inner being

OL1 "Dig away the dirt in our mind": We must dig away the dirt in our mind; the Lord wants to transform us by the renewing of our mind: **a.** Despite of being regenerated, many are just like the people of the world in their thinking about fashion; they dress in conformity to the modern age. **b.** Concerning about using their money, they does in the same way as those in the world; not until they love the Lord more and give the Lord more ground to work within them will they be transformed in their way of spending money. **c.** Many student saints have the same thoughts about their studies and degrees as other worldly young people; if their minds were being renewed, they would not give up their studies, but they would have the Lord's point of view in which to evaluate their studies. **d.** Our mind has been blinded by the many imaginations that we have day by day; the heaps of dirt are simply the many thoughts, imaginations, and dreams, which must be dug away before the living water can freely flow.

OL2 "Dig away the dirt in our will": We must dig away the dirt in our will; there are not many who are absolutely and utterly obedient to the Lord: **a.** Many times we do not submit ourselves to the Lord's sovereign arrangement in our environment. **b.** Many experiences and circumstances under His sovereignty simply expose us to the light so that we may know how stubborn our will is.

OL3 "Dig away the dirt in our emotion": After digging away the dirt from the will, we need to deal with our emotion: **a.** When we are emotional, we are occupied with ourselves; we are under the bondage and control of our emotion. **b.** The regulating of our love must be under the control of the Lord, and we must always be ready to exercise our emotion

according to the Lord's pleasure.

Application to the young working saints and graduate students

Unless your heart is pure and single to God, you cannot see God. Your heart is cohesive like a flypaper, so that you heart is being attracted by many things other than the Lord and attached to them. As an example, hoping to be promoted in your company, to buy a large house as your "My Home", to be respected and well appreciated by others, or to get your child rich, easily stick to your heart. If you do not get rid of those stains and foreign materials, you cannot see God.

Prayer: "I forget about my need, my job, my future, and my circumstances. I only seek your presence and ask you to bring me into your light. According to the light of the Lord, may I be able to dig away all the dirt in my heart, conscience, mind, will and emotion! It is for the living water to flow out of me!"

The Mystery of Human Life(2)

*** * * The miserable situation of human: "Suffering" * * ***

A. "For all his days the wicked man travails in pain," (Job.15:20) **B.** "If I speak, my pain is not mitigated; / And if I forbear, how much departs from me?" (Job.16:6) **C.** "But another dies in bitterness of soul ..." (Job.21:25) **D.** "Who Himself bore up our sins in His body on the tree, in order that we, having died to sins, might live to righteousness; by whose bruise you were healed." —The healing of death. We were dead, but Christ's suffering of death healed our death that we might live in His resurrection. (1 Peter 2:24, FN7)

*** * * Grace and blessings from God "Precious" * * ***

A. "Knowing that it was not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, that you were redeemed from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers, But with precious blood, as of a Lamb without blemish and without spot, the blood of Christ;" —The blood of Christ, by which we are sprinkled and thus marked out from the common people, is more precious than silver and gold. The highest price was paid for our redemption that we might be redeemed from a vain manner of life to a holy life. (1 Peter 1:18-19, FN1 of verse 19) **B.** Five preciousness...(1) Precious stone, which is the Lord Himself. (2:4,6-7). (2) Precious blood (2:19). (3) Precious promises (2 Peter 1:4). (4) Precious faith (2 Peter 1:1). (5) Precious trials (1 Peter 1:7, FN3). **C.** "Honorable vessels" —This indicates that God chose us so that we might be vessels of honor to contain Him. God created man as a vessel to contain Him, and out of many vessels He chose us to contain Him, the God of honor, that we might be vessels of honor. (Rom.9:21, FN1) **D.** "If therefore anyone cleanses himself from these, he will be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, useful to the master, prepared unto every good work." — Unto "honor" is a matter of nature, Honorable vessels are constituted of both the divine nature (gold) and the redeemed and regenerated human nature (silver). (2 Tim.2:21, FN3, FN3 of verse 20)

E. "If you return to the Almighty, you will be built up. If you put injustice far away from your tents, And place your gold nuggets in the dust And your gold of Ophir in the stones of the brooks, Then the Almighty will be your gold nuggets. And precious silver to you. For then you will delight yourself in the Almighty, And you will lift up your countenance to God. You will pray to Him, and He will hear you; And you will repay your vows. You will also decree something, and it will be established for you; / And light will shine on your ways." (Job.22:23-28)