

#3 Loving the Lord Jesus Christ in Incorruptibility

Bird's-eye view 12/26-1/1

I "Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruptibility (Eph. 6:24) A Grace is needed for us to live a church life that fulfills God's purpose and solves God's problem with His enemy. B The enjoyment of the Lord as grace is with those who love Him: 1 Love in Ephesians 1:4 refers to the love with which God loves His chosen ones and His chosen ones love Him. Eph. 1:4 Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, 2 According to Ephesians 3:17, we may be rooted and grounded in love, and according to verse 19, we can know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ; as God's cultivated land, we need to be rooted for our growth, and as God's building, we need to be grounded for our building up. 3 Ephesians 4:15-16 reveals that we hold to truth in love and that the Body builds itself up in love: a This is the love of God in Christ, which becomes the love of Christ in us, by which we love Christ and the fellow members of His Body. b Love is the inner substance of God; the goal of Ephesians is to bring us into God's inner substance so that we may enjoy God as love and enjoy His presence in the sweetness of the divine love, and thereby love others as Christ did. C For proper church life we need to love the Lord in incorruptibility: 1 According to the usage of incorruptible in the writings of Paul, this word refers mainly to God and the things of God; everything natural is corruptible, but God, the divine life, and all things that are in resurrection are incorruptible. 2 To love the Lord in incorruptibility is to love Him in the new creation, not in the old creation. 2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold they have become new. Gal. 6:15 for neither is circumcision anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creation is what matters. 3 To love the Lord in incorruptibility is to love Him in the regenerated and renewed spirit indwelt by the Holy Spirit. 4 To love the Lord in incorruptibility means to love Him according to all the incorruptible things revealed in Ephesians. 5 In the Lord's recovery we need to love our Lord Jesus Christ in all the divine, spiritual, heavenly, and incorruptible things revealed in

Ephesians concerning the Triune God, the divine life, what Christ is to us, what He has done, and the church.

II Paul's blessing at the end of his Epistle to the Ephesians foreshadows a problem that would arise; the love in the church in Ephesus would fade, as indicated by the Lord's rebuke in Revelation 2:2-5: Rev. 2:4-5 But I have one thing against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore where you have fallen from and repent and do the first works; but if not, I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place, unless you repent. A The concluding word of Ephesians 6:24 adds a condition to the presence of grace: loving the Lord in incorruptibility; this seems to imply that if the Ephesians did not love the Lord in such a way, the grace of the Lord would no longer be with them. B Ephesians emphasizes the relationship between grace and love; this indicates that if we want to receive and enjoy grace continually, we need to fulfill one condition—love. Eph. 4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with long-sufferings, bearing one another in love, 15-16 But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ, out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love. C The church in Ephesus failed in the matter of loving the Lord; such a failure became the main reason for the failure of the church throughout the ages.

III The revelation of the church in the Epistle to the Ephesians has two main aspects: the first aspect is the work of the ministry to build up the Body of Christ, and the second aspect is our spiritual life, which comprises many spiritual experiences that enables us to live a life that matches the church life: A We need to love the Lord in incorruptibility by doing the work of the ministry to build up the Body of Christ: Eph. 4:11-12 And He Himself gave some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as shepherds and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ, 1 What is needed today is an organic building of the Body not directly by Christ as the Head or by the gifted persons but by all the

members being perfected to function as the gifted persons do. **2** The building up of the Body of Christ comprises the following categories of work, which are eternal and glorious: **a** We need to visit others with the gospel to bring them into the Triune God, offering them as sacrifices to God. **b** We need to shepherd the new believers in home meetings, nourishing them and helping them to grow so that they can offer themselves as living sacrifices to God. **c** We need to perfect the saints in group meetings that they may do the work of the ministry unto the organic building up of the Body of Christ. **d** We need to lead the saints to prophesy, to speak for God, one by one in the church meetings for the organic building up of the church. **3** This is the organic service of the Body of Christ, which is also the organic service of the New Testament priesthood of the gospel, in which we have to be like the apostle Paul, who labored and struggled in all wisdom to present every man full-grown in Christ to God. **B** We need to love the Lord in incorruptibility in the spiritual experiences that match the church life as unveiled in each chapter of Ephesians: **1** Chapter 1 unveils our being chosen in Christ to be holy and without blemish before God in love; chapter 2 unveils our being God's masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works; chapter 3 unveils the unsearchable riches of Christ becoming our enjoyment, Christ making His home in our hearts, and our being filled unto all the fullness of God; chapter 4 unveils our putting off the old man and putting on the new man; chapter 5 unveils our being filled in spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with our heart to the Lord; and chapter 6 unveils our being empowered in the Lord and putting on the whole armor of God. **2** The key to all the spiritual experiences in Ephesians is to be strengthened into the inner man in order to be supplied with the supporting grace. [Eph. 3:16-17](#) That He would... to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man, that Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **3** This is the miraculous yet normal way to live the church life, a revived life, a life that continually overcomes, and a life that loves the Lord in incorruptibility.

神戸に在る召会 交わりと報告事項

1. **宋劉劍君S(佳穂Sの母親)来日:**
12/26(月)に宋劉劍君Sが、神戸に来られ、1/18(水)まで滞在します。
滞在中の神戸での召会生活、ブレンディングが祝福されるようにお祈りください。
2. **ヤンさん夫婦送迎会、宋劉劍君S歓迎会を同時に行います:**
12/27(火)17:30-19:00@本山
3. **姉妹集会:**
10:00-30@本山
本山に集まり、集会后掃除ブレンディングを行います。本山に来れない人はZoomで参加してください。
4. **掃除BLDスケジュール:**
12/28(水)10:30-12:30@本山
12/29(木)10:30-12:30@夙川、六甲、三宮
12/30(金)15:00-17:00@魚崎
※魚崎の掃除ブレンディングには、各地区から1~2名出してください。
5. **六甲学生福音センターリニューアル集会:**
外壁工事の工期が、12/28(水)まで延長になったため、リニューアルオープン集会を1/2(月)14:00-30に変更します。
6. **ビデオ訓練スケジュール:**
基本的に近くの集会所に来て参加してください。75歳以上の高齢者、幼児以下の子供の顧みがある人は例外です。
【スケジュール】
12/29(木) 19:30-21:00 M1
12/30(金) 8:30-12:00 M2,3
12/31(土) 8:30-12:00 M4,5
1/2(月) 8:30-12:00 M6,7
1/3(火) 8:30-10:00 M8
1/3(火) 10:20-12:00 M9 Open day
1/6(金) 19:30-21:00 M10
1/7(土) 8:30-12:00 M11,12

CP1 For the normal church life, we need to love the Lord in incorruptibility, not by our natural love. **I** "Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruptibility (Eph. 6:24)" **B** The enjoyment of the Lord as grace is with those who love Him: **1** Love in Ephesians 1:4 refers to the love with which God loves His chosen ones and His chosen ones love Him. Eph. 1:4 Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love, **a** It is in this love that God's chosen ones become holy and without blemish before Him. **B** God first loved us, and then this divine love inspires us to love Him in return. **C** In such a condition and atmosphere of love, we are saturated with God to be holy and without blemish, just as He is. **C** For proper church life we need to love the Lord in incorruptibility: **1** According to the usage of incorruptible in the writings of Paul, this word refers mainly to God and the things of God; everything natural is corruptible, but God, the divine life, and all things that are in resurrection are incorruptible. **2** To love the Lord in incorruptibility is to love Him in the new creation, not in the old creation. 2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold they have become new. Gal. 6:15 for neither is circumcision anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creation is what matters. **3** To love the Lord in incorruptibility is to love Him in the regenerated and renewed spirit indwelt by the Holy Spirit. **4** To love the Lord in incorruptibility means to love Him according to all the incorruptible things revealed in Ephesians: **a** We need to love the Lord Jesus in His being the embodiment of the Triune God; in His being the element of the Body; in His being reality, grace, peace, love, and light; and in His being the constituent of the one new man. **b** All these things are related to what is revealed and taught in Ephesians, including the Triune God, Christ, and His Body, the church. **C** Ephesians speaks concerning the dispensing of the Triune God to produce the church, of what Christ is and has done for the church, and about the church being the Body of Christ, being the bride of Christ, and being one with Christ in the heavenlies. **D** All these matters are incorruptible, and if we love the Lord Jesus in all these things, our love toward Him will be incorruptible; such a love is not a natural love; it is a love in resurrection, the love that God Himself is in His divine essence.

Application to young people, college students, new ones

"In incorruptibility" means **1** not in corruptible natural life, **2** in the divine life and resurrection, **3** not in the old creation, **4** in the new creation, **5** in the regenerated and renewed spirit indwelt by the Spirit, **6** the incorruptible things, that is according to the Triune God, God's economy and His dispensing, Christ and the church. We love our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruptibility.

Testimony Immediately after I was saved in my first year of college, I began to love the Lord and attend all the meetings. I thought I loved the Lord. However, one day, about two and a half years after I was saved, I realized that I no longer had love for the Lord inside me. I became impatient and tried to squeeze out love like I would squeeze out a tube of toothpaste, but no love came out. I was uneasy, but I ignored the sense, thinking there was nothing I could do about it. After a while, I went back to the Bible and read, "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). After a while, I went back to the Bible and read, "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). Then I understood that this love did not start with me. Furthermore, with the help of the Life Study of Ephesians, I learned that the love mentioned so often in this book is the love of God and my love mingled together. I prayed, "Lord, there is no need to be impatient if there is no love for You in my natural being. Love is from God, and God's love, received through His dispensing, comes out mingled with my love. My need is only to open to and enjoy Your dispensing. Then I can love You with the divine love!" By praying in this way I was able to come out of my own introspection and Satan's accusation. Hallelujah, I may be weak, but I can receive God's dispensing and love the Lord in incorruptibility. Eph.6:23 Peace to the brothers and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruptibility. **Prayer** Oh Lord Jesus, for a normal church life, I need to love the Lord in incorruptibility, not by my natural love. I thank God for He first love me. This divine love motivates us to love Him back. Such love is the love that is in the resurrection. I may be weak, but I can receive God's dispensing and love the Lord in incorruptibility. Amen!

CP2 Go to the Lord as you are, fellowship with Him, be touched by His love, be strengthened, and love Him in incorruptibility

II Paul's blessing at the end of his Epistle to the Ephesians foreshadows a problem that would arise: the love in the church in Ephesus would fade, as indicated by the Lord's rebuke in Revelation 2:2-5:

Rev. 2:4-5 ...I have one thing against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore where you have fallen from and repent and do the first works; but if not, I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place, unless you repent. **C1**

The genuine ministry of the New Testament always stirs us up to love the Lord Jesus with the first love, strengthening us in the simplicity of enjoying Christ as our life supply. **2**...approximately twenty-six years later, when the apostle John wrote the epistle to the church in Ephesus, they had left their first love and lost the genuine enjoyment of Christ, resulting in the loss of the testimony of the Lord. **III** The revelation of the church in the Epistle to the Ephesians has two main aspects: the first aspect is the work of the ministry to build up the Body of Christ, and the second aspect is our spiritual life, which comprises many spiritual experiences that enable us to live a life that matches the church life: **A**

We need to love the Lord in incorruptibility by doing the work of the ministry to build up the Body of Christ: **1** What is needed today is an organic building of the Body not directly by Christ as the Head or by the gifted persons but by all the members being perfected to function as the gifted persons do. **2a** We need to visit others with the gospel to bring them into the Triune God, offering them as sacrifices to God. **B** We need to shepherd the new believers in home meetings, nourishing them and helping them to grow so that they can offer themselves as living sacrifices to God. **c** We need to perfect the saints in group meetings that they may do the work of the ministry unto the organic building up of the Body of Christ. **d** We need to lead the saints to prophesy, to speak for God, one by one in the church meetings for the organic building up of the church.

We can be revived in a miraculous yet normal way every morning, and we can be revived again and again throughout the day in the same way. If we sense that we are sinful, we should immediately pray, "Lord, I am sinful. Forgive me of all my sinfulness and cleanse me with Your precious blood." Right away we will be cleansed and revived. We do not need to pray for

many days but can simply speak a brief word to the Lord in order to be instantly revived. In this way we can live Christ, walk according to the spirit, speak Christ everywhere and at any moment, and then come to the meetings and overflow.

Application to business persons, graduate students

To love the Lord Jesus in incorruptibility is by doing two things: **1** Follow God, preach the gospel to people, shepherd new ones, and build up the church, **2** Live a daily life in accord with the church life and the preaching of the Gospel. In other words, we cannot love the Lord in incorruptibility unless we follow God, preach the gospel and shepherd, and practice the spiritual life. Loving the Lord is a very practical thing to do. And if we do not do these two things, we will lose our first love for the Lord, we will lose our true enjoyment of Christ, and we will lose our testimony of the Lord.

Businesspersons should go to the Lord as they are and fellowship with Him, so as not to lose the first love in their busy schedule. Then you will be touched by His love, strengthened and made vital.

Please read the following OL of the Thanksgiving Conference **1** There is a hymn that says, "Just as I am" (Hymn #1048); this means that we should come to God just as we are without trying to improve or change our condition; we receive Christ in this way, and we should walk in Christ in this way. **2** To pray is to come to the Lord just as we are; when we come to the Lord, we should lay our inner condition before Him and tell Him that we are short in every matter; even if we are weak, confused, sad, and speechless, we can still come to God; no matter what our inner condition is, we should bring it to God. **3** Instead of caring about our condition, we need to enter into God's presence to contact Him by looking to Him, beholding Him, praising Him, giving thanks to Him, worshipping Him, and absorbing Him; then we will enjoy God's riches, taste His sweetness, receive Him as light and power, and be inwardly peaceful, bright, strong, and empowered.

Prayer Oh Lord Jesus, I do not try to improve or change my condition, but just go to the Lord as I am. Open my inner self to the Lord and tell Him that I am short in every matter. Even if I am weak, confused, sad, and speechless, I can still come to the Lord as I am. Then I will be touched by His love, be made vital, and love Him in incorruptibility.