

## #1 The Intrinsic Revelation in 1 and 2 Kings concerning the Economy of God Unveiled and Conveyed through Typology

Bird's-eye view 9/12-18

**I** The Bible is a book of God's economy: **A**

The entire Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament, is first a picture of God's economy and then a full definition and fulfillment of God's economy. **B** The Bible is a record of the divine revelation concerning God's eternal economy, of which Christ is the center and the reality: **1** Christ is the embodiment of the Triune God, and the church is the Body of Christ. **2** Christ and the church are the basic structure of the Bible. [Eph. 5:32](#) This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church. **C** God's economy, the key to the Bible, is the Triune God with His plan and arrangement to dispense Himself in His Divine Trinity into His chosen, redeemed, and regenerated people as their life, their life supply, and their everything to make them His corporate expression, initially as the Body of Christ and ultimately as the New Jerusalem: [Eph. 3:9](#) And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, **1** If we see that God's economy is the key to the Bible, we will use this key in our study of every book of the Bible. **2** If we see this key and use it, the Bible will become to us what it is to God—the revelation of the divine economy.

Inspiration:

**II** 1 and 2 Kings are concerned not with the historical facts but with the intrinsic revelation in these books: **A**

The intrinsic revelation of the history according to the record from Joshua to Esther is to unveil to us how the eternal economy of God was carried out by His elect on the earth. **B** Apparently, the books 1 and 2 Kings are the history of the kings of Israel; actually, 1 and 2 Kings were written in the inspiration of the Spirit of God in the way of being related to God's eternal

economy. **C** David and Solomon, as types, are strong evidences that the history of the kings of Israel is related to the economy of God, which concerns Christ as the embodiment of God and the church as the Body of Christ. **D** Since Solomon and the temple built by him play strong roles in the history of Israel and occupy a wide realm in such a history, they are evidence that the history of Israel concerns very much the fulfillment of God's eternal economy in the Old Testament in the way of typology. [Matt. 16:16](#) And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. **18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. **E** In reading 1 and 2 Kings, we need to see the link between the Old Testament books of history and the New Testament; this link is God's economy for Christ and for Christ's Body.

Inspiration:

**III** The Old Testament history is closely related to God's economy in the way of typology: **A**

The Old Testament is a figurative portrait of God's eternal economy, and the New Testament is the practical fulfillment of God's eternal economy. **B** The types from Genesis to Deuteronomy unveil the Triune God embodied in Christ as the center and circumference of His eternal economy and also unveil Christ as the blessing and everything to the Triune God's chosen people. **C** The twelve books of history from Joshua to Esther unveil the Triune God's move in His chosen people to possess, inherit, and enjoy His promised all-inclusive Christ as the good land. **D** The books of poetry—Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs—unveil that Christ is the unique perfection for God's chosen people to pursue after and the unique satisfaction for God's chosen people to obtain and enjoy. [Psa. 2:6](#) But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain. **12** Kiss the Son / Lest He be angry and you perish from the way; / For His anger may suddenly be

kindled. / Blessed are all those who take refuge in Him. **E** In the seventeen books of prophecy from Isaiah to Malachi, we see that the Triune God has become a God-man to accomplish His full redemption for the fulfillment of His eternal economy, which will consummate in the new heaven and new earth.

Inspiration:

**F** The books from Matthew to John unveil that the Triune God has been processed and consummated to be the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit. John 7:39 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.

**G** The book of Acts unveils the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit spreading Himself as the reality of Christ, who is the embodiment of God, for the producing of the churches of God. Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth. **H** The books from Romans to Revelation unveil the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit building up the churches through transformation into the organism of the consummated Triune God as the Body of Christ, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem as the eternal enlargement of the consummated Triune God. Rom. 12:5 So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Inspiration:

**IV** The intrinsic revelation in 1 and 2 Kings is unveiled and conveyed through typology: **A** Israel's history is not only a type of the entire church but also a type of God's economy. **B** Israel typifies the church as God's elect in the New Testament: 1 Cor. 5:7 for our Passover, Christ, also has been sacrificed. 10:6 Now these things occurred as examples to us, that we should not be ones who

lust after evil things, even as they also lusted. **B** The Old Testament has a people—Israel—and the New Testament has a people—the church; these two peoples are a description of one thing that God has done—the accomplishment of God's economy. Eph. 1:10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

Inspiration:

**C** David typifies the suffering Christ, and Solomon typifies the Christ glorified in the kingdom of God and its splendor. **D** The temple typifies Christ and the church as the unique building of God in the universe. **E** The prophet Elisha represents God's New Testament economy in typology; he is a type in the Old Testament who typifies the real things in the New Testament. **F** Jezebel, a most hateful person, the pagan wife of Ahab, is a type of who Jezebel is in the New Testament reality—a type of the apostate church. **G** In typology the king's palaces and God's temple were separate, whereas in the New Testament reality these two are one building: **1** On the one hand, we, the New Testament believers, are priests to serve and worship God. 1 Pet. 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation... **2** On the other hand, we are God's kings to reign for God. **H** The kings are types of the New Testament believers, because all the New Testament believers are saved by God to be kings. Rom. 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. **V** The history books were put into the Holy Scriptures because, in typology, they give us a vivid view of God's economy; the essence of the typology of the Old Testament is God's economy with Christ and His Body as the center and reality.

Inspiration:

**CP1** When we become irrelevant to God's economy, we lose all of God's work, portion, presence, and blessings

**Ic** God's economy, the key to the Bible, is the Triune God with His plan and arrangement to dispense Himself in His Divine Trinity into His chosen, redeemed, and regenerated people as their life, their life supply, and their everything to make them His corporate expression, initially as the Body of Christ and ultimately as the New Jerusalem. **1** If we see that God's economy is the key to the Bible, we will use this key in our study of every book of the Bible. **2** If we see this key and use it, the Bible will become to us what it is to God—the revelation of the divine economy. **IIB** Apparently, the books of 1 and 2 Kings are the history of the kings of Israel; actually, 1 and 2 Kings were written in the inspiration of the Spirit of God in the way of being related to God's eternal economy. Eph. 3:9 And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, **D1** That Christ and the church are the centrality and universality of God's economy is universal in both the New Testament and the Old Testament. Eph. 5:32 This mystery is great, but I speak with regard to Christ and the church. **2** We need to see that the books of history were written from the point of view of God's eternal economy concerning Christ and the church. **E** In reading 1 and 2 Kings, we need to see the link between the Old Testament books of history and the New Testament; this link is God's economy for Christ and for Christ's Body.

When most think of an economy, they think of it in terms of dollars and cents. We do not mean this when we speak of God's economy. God's economy is God's plan, God's divine arrangement, for the fulfillment of His good pleasure in His will to be His purpose. Israel's history is not only a type of the entire church, as the Brethren teachers pointed out, but also a type of God's economy. The fulfillment of this economy is in the New Testament. The New Testament presents the complete fulfillment of the typology of the kings in the Old Testament.

The Bible is the record of the divine revelation concerning God's eternal economy, of which Christ is the center and reality. Christ is the embodiment of the Triune God, and the church is the organic Body of Christ. These two items are the basic structure of the Bible. So, in understanding any book of the Bible, we should hold this point of view, especially in the life-study of the books of Kings.

Application to young people, college students, new ones

Our God is the Living God and He has a plan, an Economy, according to His great pleasure. God does all things according to this economy. The Father chose the elect before the foundation of the world for His economy, the Son redeemed the Father's chosen people, and the Holy Spirit comes and applies God's plan to those whom the Father has chosen and the Son has redeemed. It is for them to build the Body of Christ and consummate the New Jerusalem. We should make the accomplishment of God's economy the goal of our lives, taking God's economy, which is experiencing Christ and dispensing to others to build the Body of Christ, as our own paths. Then the presence of God will be with us in our days. Never use God's presence lawlessly for your own prosperity and peace. May our lives be blessed in God's economy and in His presence!

Whether you are a brother or sister studying in school or working in an office, walk in the economy of God. You can experience Christ at school or at work and share the gospel with people around you.

**Testimony** I testify of my experience of being blessed with God's presence when I connected my student life with God's economy and my experience of losing His presence and blessing when I became indifferent to God's economy, thinking His economy was unrealistic.

When I made God's line of economy the center of my student life by faith, many classmates and juniors were saved and I experienced the blessing on graduate school admission. But once I became unbelieving and thought that God's economy was far from reality that real life was more important than such thing, I lost the presence, vigor, and blessings of the Lord. Just as the Israelites had repeated failures and successes, I had experienced repeated failures and blessings in my student life. At such times, I prayed the following prayer, "Lord Jesus, I am a foolish person and I keep making the same mistakes. Have mercy on me so that I may always put God's economy at the center of my life". After praying that way, since graduate school, my student life had gradually and continuously been blessed because of God's economy.

**Prayer** Oh Lord Jesus, God's economy is the key to the Bible, and Christ is the center and reality of God's economy. If I become indifferent to God's economy, I lose His presence and blessings. I live a life connected to Christ in order to connect my life to God's economy.

## CP2 The enjoyment of Christ must reach the level of kingship and reign over the chaos

**IVH** The kings are types of the New Testament believers, because all the New Testament believers are saved by God to be kings: **1** The believers in the New Testament should be the fulfillment of the typology of the kings in God's economy. Rom. 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. **2** In the New Testament all the believers are saved to be kings and priests: **b** We were regenerated with a divine, spiritual, heavenly, kingly, and royal life; this enthrones us to reign as kings over all things.

Both the kings and the priests are the deputy authority of God. The deputy authority of God is composed of God's oracle to speak and God's authority to rule. When the priests speak for God, they become God's spokesmen, God's mouthpiece, and these are the prophets. So in the New Testament we believers are kings, priests, and prophets. The kings of the Old Testament are a type, and this type is fulfilled by the New Testament believers being kings. These are the people who enjoy Christ to the uttermost.

If we have not reached the level of a king in our Christian life, we are still below the proper standard ...Our enjoyment of Christ may be only "one inch high," but Christ is unlimited. Our enjoyment of Christ should come up to the kingship level. As the God-ordained prophets and priests, we are also kings to rule over all the enemies of God. God rules, but He does not rule directly. God rules through us, through the believers, as kings. The believers in the New Testament should be the fulfillment of the typology of the kings in God's economy.

We can be such kings only by being men regenerated with God and transformed with God as the element so that we live not by our own life, by ourselves, by our natural man, or by our flesh. Instead, we live by God who is now mingling Himself with us as one. The believers' life is to live such a human yet divine life. It is in this life that we can be kings to enjoy our God-ordained portion, which is Christ as our good land.

Application to business persons/ graduate students

**Testimony** Because I didn't understand what Romans 5:17 meant by "rule as kings in life", I didn't pay much attention to this when I was in my early 30s

While I was working at the company, I read a book titled "The Satanic Chaos in the Old Creation and the Divine Economy for the New Creation". I have worked in both big and small companies, and every corporate organization has had situations of chaos. There I felt the urgent need to rule as king and recover the order to control the chaos. I originally did not want to be a leader because it would be bothersome to be a leader, but God's will is for the believers to be regenerated by the divine life, then grow in life and furthermore rule as the kings in life. Unless believers grow and come to rule in life, they cannot reign over Satan's chaos.

When I was in my 30s, I turned down promotions to be a department head, but in my 40s, I began to accept the natural progression of my career. It is to experience "ruling as a king in life" in the company, in an environment arranged by the Lord. However, since "ruling as a king in life" is against my natural disposition, I became anxious, and I fellowshiped with the Lord often, and prayed as follows, "Lord Jesus, I didn't want to be bothered, so I didn't want to be promoted, but this was from my natural way of thinking. Now I will do whatever You lead me to do. However, it must be beneficial, not a hindrance, to the building of the church. Therefore, if this promotion does not come from You, please close this door of promotion. Since my major business is Christ and the church, I cannot fail in my major business. If this is from You, may I do things powerfully in a new position in You, with You, and for You." I prayed this way every time I had an opportunity for promotion. To my surprise, my management and performance were greatly blessed in these prayers of consecration. My secret was to experience "ruling as a king in life" over the people and projects of the company, for the sake of the building of the church.

**Prayer** Oh Lord Jesus, in the New Testament all believers were saved to be kings. God wants to rule through us. I must be transformed to rule as a king. Instead of living by natural person or flesh, I learn to live according to the mingled spirit and rule over chaotic situations. My enjoyment of Christ must surely reach the level of ruling.