

Crystallization-Study – Epistle to the Romans

Introduction

The Book of Romans is on the Gospel of God

- The **entire** book is the **gospel** of God to men in its completeness.
- **Rom. 12:5** – So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.
- The **Body of Christ** is first mentioned in the New Testament in Romans 12.
 - The last five chapters in Romans begins with the **Body of Christ** and conclude with the **local churches** for the **fellowship** and **communication** of the Body of Christ.
 - The Body of Christ is the very organism of the Triune God, and the local churches are the fellowship and the communication of the Body of Christ.
- **The center of the book of Romans is Jesus Christ the God-man.**

The Center of the Gospel of God – Jesus Christ the God-man

- The **person** of Christ is of two aspects – divine and human.
- In **humanity**, He was the **seed of David**.
 - Christ in His humanity was of the **old creation**.
 - In His humanity He was “according to the flesh,” “the flesh of sin” in its **likeness** but without sin.
- This seed of David in His humanity was **sonized**, was made the Son of God.
 - Through resurrection, Christ made His humanity divine.
- The **Son of God** is the **divine** part of Christ.
- Out of resurrection, which is the consummation of the processed Triune God, Jesus Christ as a man in the flesh was made the **firstborn** Son of God.
 - When the Son of God was merely the **only begotten** Son of God, He had only divinity.
 - But now He has His humanity, and His humanity has been made divine to become a part of Him as the Son of God.
 - The regenerated believers, having both humanity and divinity, are to be **conformed** to the image of this firstborn Son of God.

The Work of Jesus Christ the God-man

- The first preliminary step for Christ's work was His **incarnation**.
 - He came as God in the Triune God's divinity to be the flesh in its likeness but without sin.
 - This was to bring God into man, making **God and man mingled as one person**.
 - He is the God-man in the universe, as a model, a prototype, for the mass reproduction of **many sons** of God, for the accomplishment of God's eternal economy.
 - This is the initiation of God's new creation.
- After being born as a God-man, He needed to **live as such a person**.
 - His living was through death—**dying to live**.
 - It was a living of **righteousness before God**.
 - His human living **qualified** Him to be the Redeemer of the unrighteous men.
- After He walked through the preliminary steps of incarnation and human living, He began His **earthly ministry**.
 - In His earthly ministry He did mainly two things:
 - Consummated His all-inclusive death
 - Carried out the life-imparting and new-creation-germinating resurrection
 - Christ died a death that He volunteered to accomplish. This is His **all-inclusive death**.
 - He **bore** the transgressions and iniquities of God's chosen people.
 - He **died** for the sins of the believers by bearing their sins on the cross.
 - He **condemned** sin in the flesh.
 - He **accomplished** God's eternal redemption to bring God's people back to God.
 - He **terminated** the old creation signified by our old man, including our flesh.
 - He **destroyed** Satan.
 - He **judged** the world and cast out Satan as the ruler of the world.
 - Christ carried out the **life-imparting** and the **new-creation-germinating resurrection**.
 - His resurrection was a **releasing** of the divine life within Him.
 - In resurrection He, as the last Adam in His flesh, became (was transfigured—pneumatized—into) the **life-giving Spirit**, the Spirit of life.

- He **regenerated** His believers in His resurrection with Him in one great, corporate birth to be the **many sons of God** and His **many brothers**, who, as the many sons, are to be **conformed** to the image of Him as the firstborn Son of God.
 - The life-giving Spirit is the **germinating factor** of the Body of Christ as the new creation of God.
- In His **heavenly ministry** He, as the pneumatic Christ, the Spirit of life, **indwells** us in the **heavenlies** to give life to our mortal bodies to **minister** the divine life of the processed and consummated God into us, the dying ones, for the **building up** of the Body of Christ, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem for the accomplishing of the eternal economy of God.
- In His heavenly ministry He, as the pneumatic Christ, **intercedes** for us in our weakness with groanings within us in the heavenlies that we may **grow** in Him unto maturity to reach our sonship in full, which is the **redemption of our body**, the **glorification of our entire being**.
 - Christ is interceding for us in our weakness through our groaning.
 - He is groaning within us in the heavenlies that we may grow in Him unto maturity.
- He **intercedes** at the right hand of God in the heavens for us that we, His many brothers and members, who are the many God-men, could **overcome the oppositions and any kind of circumstances** and be kept in **union with Him** in His unconditional love so that we may be conformed to the image of Him, to be His consummated mass reproduction for the **constitution** of His corporate and organic Body.
- His earthly ministry **produced** the many sons of God who are His many brothers as the **constituents** for the building up of His Body.
- His heavenly ministry **ministers the divine life** to His members that they may grow unto maturity, unto the redemption of their body, the glorification of God's redeemed people, and keeps all His members in union with Him that they may be conformed to the image of Him as the prototype for the mass reproduction of Him for the carrying out of God's eternal economy.

(Crystallization-Study of the Epistle to the Romans – Messages 1-3)