

Crystallization-Study – Song of Songs

Becoming the Sanctuary of God

The Consummation of the Seeker's Transformation

- After reaching the point where she is called to **live in ascension**, the seeker of Christ has reached her **highest attainment**.
 - In her attainment she becomes **four wonderful things** as the consummation of her transformation:
 - Garden
 - Sanctuary
 - Heavenly bodies
 - Terrible army with the overcome, the Shulammitte
 - Her becoming a **garden** is not as high or as deep as her becoming a **sanctuary with a safeguard**.

Becoming Mature in the Riches of the Life of Christ

- **Through** her living in Christ's ascension as the new creation in resurrection, the lover of Christ **becomes mature** in the riches of the life of Christ so that she becomes **not only a garden** to Christ but also the **sanctuary of God**, signified by **Tirzah**, and its **safeguard**, signified by **Jerusalem**.
 - A **garden** is just a **visiting place** for the king
 - The **palace** is where the **king lives**, and the **city safeguards** the king's palace.
- To be a garden is very good, but we have to reach the **highest peak**, the building of God.

Becoming the Sanctuary of God by Being Built up in the Growth with the Life of Christ

- To become a garden to Christ is to be **flourishing in the element of Christ's life** with its unsearchable riches.
- To become the sanctuary of God is to be **built up** (related to the building of the Body of Christ) **in the growth with the life of Christ** with its unsearchable riches.
 - In the **Old Testament** the building of God is typified by **Tirzah** and **Jerusalem**.
 - In the **New Testament** this building is the **organic Body of Christ**.
- The sanctuary of God is **divided** by the **veil** into two sections: the outer **Holy Place** and the inner **Holy of Holies**. The veil signifies our **flesh**.

- With **Christ** the veil in the sanctuary of God was **split**, but with the **believers** it still **remains** for the purpose of **God's dealing** with them.

The Process of Our Salvation in God's Economy

- In God's economy God first **regenerates** us in our spirit with His resurrection life.
- Second, He **renews** us, **transforms** us, and **conforms** us in our soul through His resurrection life to the image of His firstborn Son.
- However, He leaves our body to be **redeemed progressively** through our whole Christian life.
- Ultimately, this body will be **transfigured** to be **conformed** to the body of Christ's glory **at His coming back**.

The Need of the Lord's Ultimate Calling

- There is still the need of the **Lord's ultimate calling** of us to live within the veil through a **stronger experience of the cross** in **dealing with our flesh** after our experience of His resurrection as the new creation of God.
 - The flesh needs a **stronger** cross.
- Brother Nee's interpretation of Song of Songs includes these **two calls** to the cross:
 - The call for the cross to **break the self**
 - The self becomes a **secluding wall of introspection** that secludes the Lord's seeker from the presence of Christ.
 - The call for a stronger cross to **deal with the flesh** in a deeper sense.
 - In the sanctuary there is the **veil of the flesh**. Thus, there is the need of the highest calling to experience a stronger cross to deal with our existing flesh.
- Through these two steps of the cross's dealing, we become God's sanctuary.
 - This sanctuary is the Holiest of all, which is God Himself.
 - When we enter into the Holiest of all, we enter into God. Then we become the sanctuary.
 - It is in the Holy of Holies that all the seekers of Christ who **live within the veil** enjoy the **hidden Christ** in His **hidden life supply**, the **resurrection life**, and the **inner law of life** to the fullest extent.

(Crystallization-Study of Song of Songs – Message 10)