

**HWMR: LIVING AND SERVING ACCORDING TO GOD'S ECONOMY CONCERNING THE CHURCH,  
(Week 3)**

*Scripture Reading: 1 Tim. 2:4, 7; 3:15; 4:3; 2 Tim. 2:15, 25; 3:7; Titus 1:1*

**The Full Knowledge of the Truth**

- 1 Timothy 2:4 Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.  
1 Timothy 2:7 For which I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I speak the truth; I do not lie), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.  
1 Timothy 3:15 But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.  
1 Timothy 4:3 Who forbid marriage and command abstaining from foods, which God has created to be partaken of with thanksgiving by those who believe and have full knowledge of the truth.  
2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman, cutting straight the word of the truth.  
2 Timothy 2:25 In meekness correcting those who oppose, if perhaps God may give them repentance unto the full knowledge of the truth,  
2 Timothy 3:7 And are always learning yet never able to come to the full knowledge of the truth.  
Titus 1:1 Paul, a slave of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ according to the faith of God's chosen ones and the full knowledge of the truth, which is according to godliness,

**Day 1**

- John 8:12* - Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
- John 8:32* - And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.
- 1 John 1:5-6* - And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and are not practicing the truth;

**I. The Lord's recovery is the **recovery of the light of the truth**—1 John 1:5-6:**

- A. Truth is the **shining** of light, the **expression** of the divine light—John 8:12, 32; 1 John 1:5-6:  
1. Truth is the **issue** of light—John 1:4, 7, 9; 3:21; 8:32.  
2. Knowledge **without light** is doctrine, but knowledge **full of light** is truth— 1 John 1:5-6; 4:6.
- B. The truths as revealed in the Scriptures have been **lost, missed, misunderstood, misinterpreted, and wrongly applied** throughout the ages—John 17:17:  
1. The goal of the Lord's recovery is to recover the **reality, life, livingness, strength, power, and impact** of the matters revealed in the Bible.  
2. The truth in the Lord's recovery is the **consummation of the truth** of the past nineteen centuries— 2 Tim. 2:2.

## Day 2

*1 Timothy 3:15* - But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

*1 Timothy 4:6* - If you lay these things before the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, being nourished with the words of the faith and of the good teaching which you have closely followed.

*2 Timothy 2:15* - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman, cutting straight the word of the truth.

- C. We need to have the truth **wrought into us** and **constituted into our being**— 1 John 1:8; 2:4; 2 John 1-2; 3 John 3-4:
1. To be constituted with the truth is to have the **intrinsic element of the divine revelation** wrought into us to become our constituent, our intrinsic being, our organic constitution.
  2. There is the **desperate need** of the **living truth** to produce the church, to help the church to exist, and to build up the church—1 Tim. 3:15.
  3. The solid truth that is constituted into us becomes in us a **constant** and **long-term nourishment**—4:6.
  4. If the truth is wrought into us and constituted into our being, we will be **able to protect** the interests of the riches of God's divinity and the attainments of His consummation—Rev. 21:12a, 17.
  5. The Lord's word, the truth, is in the Bible, but the Bible needs the **proper interpretation**—2 Tim. 2:15.
  6. We need to **pay the price** to learn the truth—Prov. 23:23.
  7. The truth is **absolute in itself**, and we must be absolute for the truth—2 John 1-2, 4; 3 John 3-4, 7-8.

The divine light is the essence of God's expression. When God is expressed, the essence of that expression is light. What is the divine truth? The **divine truth is the issue of the divine light**. When the divine light **shines** in us, it becomes the **divine truth**, which is the divine reality. This means that when the divine light shines in us, we receive the divine reality. We may also say that the divine light brings us the divine reality.

Among Christians today there is a great lack concerning the knowledge of biblical truths. Some know the truth, but their understanding is rather superficial. The goal of the Lord's recovery, therefore, is to **recover all the biblical truths, all the biblical realities**. As those who are in the Lord's recovery, we must realize that there is a desperate need for us all to have the **full knowledge of the truth, the experience of the truth, and the skill to present the truth to others**.

Suppose the parents of a certain young person in the Lord's recovery are opposing him. That brother should not be offended by his parents, and he should not argue with them. Instead, with a good spirit and a pleasant attitude, he should present the truth to his parents. Perhaps during a visit with them he may say, "Dad and Mom, let me tell you that light is the essence of God's expression and that truth is the issue of this light. Aren't you glad to hear about this? This light shines in the divine life, and the divine life is in Jesus Christ. Christ is even the life. The Lord Jesus says, 'I am the life.' When we are in this life, we have the shining of the divine light. Then as we are under this shining, we have the truth." Perhaps this brother's parents will accept his word, or they may reject it. But whatever the case may be, when he leaves them, he may want to say, "Dad and Mom, I need to go now. But I leave with you three 'diamonds'—life, light, and truth." (*Life-Study of First John, chapter 9*)

## Day 3

*1 Timothy 2:4* - Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.

*Titus 1:1* - Paul, a slave of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ according to the faith of God's chosen ones and the full knowledge of the truth, which is according to godliness,

### II. God desires that we “all...come to the full knowledge of the truth”—1 Tim. 2:4:

- A. The Lord's recovery is to recover the **full knowledge of the truth**—v. 7; 4:3:
  - 1. The degradation of the church issued from the **neglect** of the truth.
  - 2. The Lord's recovery today is the **full recovery** of the divine truths in the holy Word—John 1:14, 17; 8:32.
- B. Paul was an apostle not only according to the **faith** but also according to the **full knowledge of the truth**—1 Tim. 2:4; Titus 1:1:
  - 1. Faith is to receive all God has **planned for us**, all God has **done for us**, and all God has **given to us**—1 Tim. 1:4; 2:7.
  - 2. In the books of 1 and 2 Timothy, Paul emphasizes the need of the believers to come to the full knowledge of the truth—1 Tim. 2:4; 4:3; 2 Tim. 2:25; 3:7.
  - 3. The full knowledge of the truth is a **thorough apprehension** of the truth, a **full acknowledgement** of the reality of all the spiritual and divine things that we have received through faith—1 Tim. 4:3.
- C. **All the believers** need to come to and be in the full knowledge of the truth—v. 3:
  - 1. Every believer **has the capacity** to come to the full knowledge of the truth— 2:4.
  - 2. To have the full knowledge of the truth is to fully know the truth; knowing the truth in this way is a safeguard.

First Timothy 2:4 says, “Who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.” God desires all men to have two things: **salvation and the full knowledge of the truth**. In the past we took care of salvation, but we neglected the full knowledge of the truth. Notice that, according to the Greek, this verse does not say that men should come simply to the knowledge of the truth, but to the **full knowledge of the truth**. The last part of 1 Timothy 4:3 speaks of “those who believe and have full knowledge of the truth.” Here we see believing, which refers to salvation, and fully knowing the truth. To have the full knowledge of the truth is to **fully know the truth**. To know the truth in this way is a safeguard.

Now we need to see two functions of the truth. The first is found in John 8:32, which says, “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.” The first function of the truth is to **set us free**. To be deprived of the truth is to be in **bondage**, in **slavery**, but to know the truth is to be **released from slavery**, to **be freed**. The second function of the truth is seen in John 17:17, which says, “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.” On the one hand, the truth sets us free; on the other hand, it **sanctifies us**. It causes us to be **saturated** with the element of God. It is a very significant matter to have the truth, for it frees us from all negative things and saturates us with the divine element. The more truth we have, the more we are released from bondage and the more we are saturated with the element of God. Eventually, the truth will cause us to be thoroughly sanctified and transformed. Hallelujah for the functions of the truth! How we need the truth in these days! (*Truth Messages, chapter 1*)

## Day 4

*Romans 1:7* - To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, the called saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Ephesians 4:6* - One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

## Day 5

*Ephesians 3:16-19 - That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, 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, May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.*

- D. All the believers need to know, experience, and be absolute for the **subjective truths**—John 8:32; 14:6:
1. The truths in the Bible have both an objective aspect and a subjective aspect—Rom. 8:34, 10; Col. 3:1; 1:27.
  2. The **objective truths** are for the **subjective truths**, and the subjective truths are for the **producing of the church**—2 John 1, 4; 3 John 3-4, 7-9a.
  3. The Lord desires to recover the subjective truths in the Holy Scriptures—the subjective aspect of the **truth concerning the Triune God and the church**—John 1:14; 14:16-20; 1 Tim. 6:15-16; 2 Tim. 4:22; 3:15-16.
  4. The **Gospel of John** is a book on the subjective truths for the **producing of the church**—4:14; 6:57; 14:16-17, 20; 3:15-16.
  5. The subjective truths are linked to the **Spirit and life** and are constituted with Spirit and life—Rom. 8:2; 2 Cor. 3:6:
    - a. The Spirit and life are the **substance of the subjective truths**; without the Spirit and life we do not have the subjective truths.
    - b. When we **live by the Spirit and life**, we have the experience of the subjective truths—Rom. 8:2, 4, 14.
    - c. The church life is an issue of our experience of the subjective truths; when we experience the subjective truths, the **church is spontaneously produced**—vv. 10-11; 12:4-5; 16:1, 4-5; 1 Cor. 1:9, 30; 15:45b; 6:17; 1:2; 12:27.

We have to see that the Gospel of John refers to the church in five different ways. First, many grains are ground to powder to become one bread. Second, many brothers in totality become the church. Third, many branches joined to the vine become one entity. We are members of His Body, and though the members are many, they are one Body. This is similar to the branches; though they are many, they are still one vine. Fourth, there is one bride. Fifth, the one bride is the house of God, “My Father’s house.” All these different terms depict the church from different angles and aspects. However, the main point we should not forget is that the **church is produced as a result of our subjective experience of Christ**.

It is **not enough** to know theology and doctrines or merely to read the Bible. If you have **never contacted Christ** by calling on Him and eating, drinking, and breathing Him, even though you have all the knowledge, you still have nothing to do with Him. You may be a member of Christianity, even one who occupies a very high position there, but you still may not be a constituent of the church. To become a constituent of the church, you must **call on the name of the Lord** and receive Him into your spirit by **drinking Him** as the living water. You must also receive Him into you by **eating Him** as the spiritual food so that He may be assimilated into the inward parts of your organic being. Then He will become you, and you will have a **subjective union with Him**. Moreover, you can even **breathe Him in as air**. It is only by taking Him in that you can become a constituent of the church. You are a **grain**, you are one of His **brothers**, and you are a **branch**, that is, a member, of His Body. You are also a part of the **bride**, and you are a part of His **eternal dwelling place**. This is the **church**. (*The Subjective Truths in the Holy Scriptures, chapter 3*)

## Day 6

*2 Timothy 2:2* - And the things which you have heard from me through many witnesses, these commit to faithful men, who will be competent to teach others also.

*2 Timothy 2:15* - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman, cutting straight the word of the truth.

- E. We need to fully know and be absolute for the **highest truth**—Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; 12:4-5:
1. The highest truth is that in Christ **God became man to make man God in life, nature, constitution, and expression but not in the Godhead so that the redeeming God and the redeemed man can be united, mingled, and incorporated together to become one entity**—John 1:12-14; 14:20; Rev. 21:2, 10-11.
  2. The **high peak of the divine revelation**—the “diamond” in the “box” of the Bible—is the revelation that in Christ God has become man in order that man might become God in life and nature but not in the Godhead—2 Sam. 7:12-14a; Rom. 8:3; 1:3-4; Eph. 3:17a.
  3. God became man through **incarnation**, man becomes God through **regeneration, sanctification, renewing, transformation, conformation**, and **glorification**—John 3:5-6; 1:12-13; Rom. 6:19, 22; 12:2; 8:29-30.
  4. It is **only by God’s becoming man to make man God** that the Body of Christ can be produced and built up; this is the high peak of the divine revelation given to us by God—v. 3; 1:3-4; 8:14-16; 12:4-5.
- F. The standard of the Lord’s recovery depends upon the **standard of the truth we put out**; the truths will be the measure and the standard—John 18:37.

If you preach the gospel only of going to heaven and not going to hell, people will not be interested. This kind of preaching can only frighten the very old and the very young. In this age you cannot preach this kind of low gospel. This does not mean that the Bible does not speak of heaven and hell but that people today do not need this. They are **thirsty for the high gospel**. You must tell them that the **Triune God entered into humanity, not only to be our Savior but also to be our life and even to become the meaning of our life**. Anyone who is even a little philosophical in his thinking will welcome and receive this. Therefore, brothers and sisters, today if we do not have a considerable amount of education in the truth, our service cannot meet the demand of the present age. As a result of the diligent labor of the brothers, the number attending the Chinese-speaking meeting in Anaheim has increased. Among those who attend this meeting are some who have worked in the Chinese society. They are intellectual and philosophical people, and they are all over sixty years of age. When we speak to them about the gospel of life, they feel that it is very meaningful, and they are interested. (*The Full Knowledge of the Word of God, chapter 1*)