

HWMR: EXPERIENCING, ENJOYING, AND EXPRESSING CHRIST (3) (Week 3)

Enjoying the All-inclusive Christ as the Good Land— Our Allotted Portion

Scripture Reading: *Col. 1:12; 2:6-15, 19; Exo. 3:8; Deut. 8:8-9; 26:9*

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the **allotted portion** of the saints **in the light**;

Col 2:6 As therefore you have **received** the Christ, Jesus the Lord, **walk** in Him,

Col 2:7 Having been **rooted** and being **built up** in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Col 2:8 Beware that no one carries you off as spoil through his philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ;

Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the **fullness of the Godhead bodily**,

Col 2:10 And you have been **made full in Him**, who is the **Head** of all rule and authority.

Col 2:11 In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, in the putting off of the body of the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ,

Col 2:12 **Buried together** with Him in baptism, in which also you were **raised together** with Him through the faith of the **operation of God**, who raised Him from the dead.

Col 2:13 And you, though dead in your offenses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, He **made alive together with Him**, having forgiven us all our offenses;

Col 2:14 **Wiping out the handwriting in ordinances**, which was against us, which was contrary to us; and He has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross.

Col 2:15 **Stripping off** the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being **richly supplied** and **knit together** by means of the joints and sinews, **grows with the growth of God**.

Exo 3:8 And I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a **land flowing with milk and honey**, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.

Deut 8:8 A land of **wheat** and **barley** and **vines** and **fig trees** and **pomegranates**; a land of **olive trees** with **oil** and of **honey**;

Deut 8:9 A land in which you will **eat bread without scarcity**; **you will not lack anything** in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.

Deut 26:9 And He has brought us to this place and has given us this land, a **land flowing with milk and honey**.

Day 1

Col. 1:12-13 - Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the **allotted portion** of the saints **in the light**; who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.

I. Christ as the preeminent and all-inclusive One is the allotted portion of the saints—Col. 1:12:

- A. *The allotted portion* refers to the lot of the inheritance, as illustrated by the allotment of the good land of Canaan given to the children of Israel for their inheritance—Josh. 14:1.
- B. The New Testament believers' allotted portion is not a physical land; it is the all-inclusive Christ as the life-giving Spirit—Col. 2:6-7; Gal. 3:14:
 - 1. The riches of the good land typify the unsearchable riches of Christ in different aspects as the bountiful supply to His believers in His Spirit—Deut. 8:7-10; Eph. 3:8; Phil. 1:19.
 - 2. By enjoying the riches of the land, the believers in Christ are built up to be His Body as the house of God and the kingdom of God—Eph. 1:22-23; 2:21-22; 1 Tim. 3:15; Matt. 16:18-19; Rom. 14:17.

Day 2

Exo. 3:8 - *And I have come down to deliver them, ...to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey...*

John 12:9 - *Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!*

John 12:24 - *Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.*

II. The purpose of God's calling is to bring God's chosen people into the enjoyment of the all-inclusive Christ, typified by the good land flowing with milk and honey—Exo. 3:8; cf. 1 Cor. 1:9:

- A. Milk and honey, which are the mingling of both the animal life and the vegetable life, are two aspects of the life of Christ—the redeeming aspect and the generating aspect—Deut. 8:8; 26:9; cf. John 1:29; 12:24:
 - 1. The redeeming aspect of Christ's life is for our judicial redemption, and the generating aspect of Christ's life is for our organic salvation—1:29; 12:24; Rev. 2:7; Rom. 5:10.
 - 2. The symbols of the Lord's table signify the redeeming and generating aspects of Christ's life for God's complete salvation; thus, the good land has become a table, a feast, for our enjoyment—Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:17.
- B. We must be *in the light* in order to enjoy the all-inclusive Christ as the good land in His redeeming and generating aspects—Col. 1:12; 1 Pet. 2:9; Isa. 2:5:
 - 1. God is light—1 John 1:5.
 - 2. The word of God is light—Psa. 119:105, 130.
 - 3. Christ is light—John 8:12; 9:5.
 - 4. The life of Christ is light—1:4.
 - 5. The believers are light—Matt. 5:14; Phil. 2:15.
 - 6. The church is a lampstand shining with light—Rev. 1:20; Psa. 73:16-17.

Day 3

1 Pet. 2:2 - As newborn babes, long for the **guileless milk of the word** in order that by it **you may grow unto salvation**.

Psa. 119:103 - How **sweet are Your words** to my taste! Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

- C. **We must eat God's words** to enjoy the all-inclusive Christ as the good land in His redeeming and generating aspects; **God's word** is milk for us to **drink** and honey for us to **eat**—John 6:57, 63, 68; 1 Pet. 2:2; Psa. 119:103; Ezek. 3:3.
- D. **By enjoying** Christ as the land of milk and honey, **we will be constituted with Him as milk and honey**—“Your lips drip fresh honey, my bride; / Honey and milk are under your tongue”—S. S. 4:11a:
 - 1. Honey **restores** the stricken ones, whereas milk **feeds** the new ones.
 - 2. The seeker has **stored** so many riches within her that food is under her tongue, and she can **dispense** the riches of Christ to the needy ones at any time—Isa. 50:4; Matt. 12:35-36; Luke 4:22; Eph. 4:29-30.
 - 3. This **sweetness is not produced overnight** but comes from a **long period of gathering**, inward activity, and careful storage—S. S. 4:16; 2 Cor. 12:7-9.

Day 4

Col. 2:6-7 - As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him, having been **rooted and being built up in Him**, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Col. 2:9-10 - For in Him dwells all the **fullness of the Godhead bodily**, and you have been **made full** in Him, who is the **Head** of all rule and authority.

III. We can walk in Christ as our living land and absorb Christ as our rich soil, in which we have been rooted, so that we may grow with the elements that we absorb from the soil—Col. 2:6-7; cf. 1 Cor. 3:6, 9; Col. 2:19:

- A. **Colossians 2:8-15** presents a full description and definition of Christ as the soil, **in which we do not lack anything**; as we take time to absorb Him as the all- inclusive land, the facts in these verses become **our experience**:
 - 1. **Christ as the soil** is the One in whom all the **fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily**—v. 9:
 - a. **Fullness** refers not to the riches of God but to the **expression of the riches of God**; what dwells in Christ is not only the riches of the Godhead but the expression of the riches of what God is—v. 9; 1:15, 19; 3:10-11.
 - b. **When we are rooted** in Christ as the soil, **we are made full in Him**; we are filled up with all the divine riches to become His expression—Eph. 3:8, 19.
 - c. In Christ as the soil we are **filled, completed, perfected, satisfied, and thoroughly supplied**; we do not lack anything—cf. Phil. 1:19.

- d. Christ as the soil is the **history** and **mystery of God** with all the riches of His person and processes—Col. 2:2.
- 2. **Christ as the soil** is the **Head** of all rule and authority—v. 10.

Day 5

Col. 2:12-14 - *Buried together with Him in baptism, in which also you were raised together with Him through the faith of the **operation of God**, who raised Him from the dead. And you, though dead...He made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our offenses; **wiping out** the handwriting in ordinances, which was against us...; and **He has taken it out of the way**, nailing it to the cross.*

- 3. **In Christ as the soil** there is an element with the **killing power** that puts the flesh to death—v. 11.
- 4. **In Christ as the soil** there is an element that causes us to be **buried**—v. 12a.
- 5. **In Christ as the soil** there is an element that causes us to be **raised up**—v. 12b.
- 6. **In Christ as the soil** there is an element that **vivifies** us—v. 13.
- 7. **In Christ as the soil** there is an element that **wipes out** the handwriting in ordinances—v. 14.

Day 6

Col. 2:7 - *Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

Col. 2:15 - *Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*

- 8. **In Christ as the soil** there is an element that is victorious over the evil spirits in the atmosphere—v. 15.
- B. **We must take time** to enjoy the Lord as the all-inclusive land so that all the elements of Christ as **the rich soil may be absorbed into us** for us to be **made full** in Him in our experience—v. 10a; 4:2:
 - 1. If we would **absorb** the riches of Christ as the soil, we need to have **tender, new roots**—cf. 2 Cor. 4:16.
 - 2. We need to **forget** our situation, our condition, our failures, and our weaknesses and **simply take time to absorb the Lord**; as we take time to absorb Him, we grow with the growth of God in us for the building up of the Body of Christ—Luke 8:13; Matt. 14:22-23; 6:6; Col. 2:7a, 19.