

HWMR: THE DIVINE DISPENSING OF THE DIVINE TRINITY FOR THE DIVINE ECONOMY, (Week 6)

Scripture Reading: Gen. 2:7; Rom. 9:21-23; 2 Cor. 4:7; 2 Tim. 2:20-21

**BEING A VESSEL OPEN TO THE LORD AND LIVING
ORDINARY DAYS IN THE DIVINE DISPENSING OF
THE DIVINE TRINITY**

Genesis 2:7	Jehovah God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.
Romans 9:21	Or does not the potter have authority over the clay to make out of the same lump one vessel unto honor and another unto dishonor?
Romans 9:22	And what if God, wishing to demonstrate His wrath and make His power known, endured with much long-suffering vessels of wrath fitted for destruction,
Romans 9:23	In order that He might make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He had before prepared unto glory,
2 Corinthians 4:7	But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.
2 Timothy 2:20	But in a great house there are not only gold and silver vessels but also wooden and earthen; and some are unto honor, and some unto dishonor.
2 Timothy 2:21	If therefore anyone cleanses himself from these, he will be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, useful to the master, prepared unto every good work.

Day 1

<i>Romans 9:23</i>	<i>- In order that He might make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He had before prepared unto glory,</i>
<i>2 Timothy 2:20</i>	<i>- But in a great house there are not only gold and silver vessels but also wooden and earthen; and some are unto honor, and some unto dishonor.</i>

I. The first step of God's procedure in fulfilling His purpose was to create man as a **vessel to contain Himself as life—Gen. 2:7:**

- A. God chose us so that we may be **vessels of honor** filled with the **Triune God**—Rom. 9:21-23; 2 Cor. 13:14:
 - 1. God created man as a vessel to contain Him, and out of the many vessels, **He chose us** to contain Him, the God of honor, that we might be vessels of honor—4:7.
 - 2. Honorable vessels are constituted of **both** the **divine nature** (gold) and the redeemed and regenerated **human nature** (silver)—2 Tim. 2:20-21.
 - 3. God makes known His glory upon us, the vessels, that we may become **vessels of glory**—Rom. 9:23; 2 Cor. 3:18; 4:6-7:
 - a. All of this is out of **His mercy** and according to His mercy; it cannot be obtained by our efforts.
 - b. For this reason **we must worship Him and thank Him** for His mercy— Rom. 9:15-16, 18.

We also have to learn how to enjoy Him. He is life, food, water, and air to us, but how can we enjoy Him? If we are going to enjoy the Lord, **we have to open ourselves**, not superficially but in a deep way. We should not only open our mind, or even our heart, but we also have to **open our spirit**. You may say that you are so open to the Lord. But how open are you, and how deeply do you open to the Lord? A brother may seem to be open to everybody, but he may only be open superficially. He is not open deeply. Many times when we come to the Lord, we just open our mind but not our whole heart. Sometimes we may open our heart, but some deep part within us may still be closed. We have to open ourselves from the depths of our being. If we would learn to enjoy the Lord, we have to learn this one lesson—how to open ourselves. We have to open ourselves by **opening our mind**, our **heart**, and eventually by opening our **spirit**. We have to open the depths of our entire being to the Lord.

Open yourself to the Lord and learn to stay with Him for some time. During this time, **forget** about your needs, your business, your family, your home affairs, your work, and everything else. **Just open yourself** to the Lord and enjoy Him for a length of time. **Feed** on Him, **drink** of Him, and **breathe** Him in. Regardless of how busy we are, we have to spend three times a day to sit down to eat something. The most healthy practice is to pay full attention to what you are eating and not to anything else. If you try to take care of other things while you are eating, your enjoyment of the food will be limited, and you may not digest it so well. Sometimes I do not like to receive phone calls while I am eating. Likewise, while I am praying and having a time with the Lord, I do not like to receive phone calls. We all need to **set apart a time**, free from all outside disturbances, in which we open our entire being to the Lord just to enjoy Him.

Learn to contact the Lord by realizing that He is your food, your drink, and your air. You have to enjoy Him. You have to feed on Him, drink of Him, and breathe Him in. Then your Christian life will be healthy, and you will be **normal**. We are somewhat abnormal because we are too active in doing, too active in working, but very **passive** in eating and enjoying the Lord. We do not enjoy the Lord so much, so we have a very poor expression of the Lord and a very weak representation of the Lord. If we will feed on the Lord properly and adequately, drink of the Lord richly and deeply, and breathe the Lord all the time from the depths of our being, we will be so strong in the expression of the Lord and in the representation of the Lord. (*The Tree of Life, chapter 1*)

Day 2

2 Corinthians 4:7 - *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.*

Ephesians 3:17 - *That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,*

B. The summary of Paul's fourteen Epistles can be expressed in two words:
open vessel:

1. The New Testament shows us that God wants believers as **vessels loving Him** and keeping themselves **open to Him**—2 Cor. 3:16:
 - a. If in the depths of our being we are **not open** to the Lord, He **cannot** dispense Himself into us and make His home in our heart—Eph. 3:17.
 - b. An open vessel is doing nothing but **keeping itself open** to be filled by the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—2 Cor. 13:14.

Day 3

Matthew 22:37 - And He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Galatians 2:20 - I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

2. A genuine Christian life is one that **loves the Lord and keeps itself open** to the Lord and stops its doing—Mark 12:30; 1 John 4:16-21:
 - a. Then the Lord comes in and does everything; the vessel **simply contains** the Lord and **enjoys** the Lord's filling and doing.
 - b. **We simply need to love the Lord and keep ourselves open to Him**, giving Him every opportunity to do everything He wants to do—Eph. 3:17.
 - c. This is the proper and genuine Christian life—Gal. 2:20.
3. We should pray, "Lord, by Your grace I would not have any part of my being closed to You; I choose to keep myself entirely and thoroughly open to You":
 - a. This **proper** prayer, **deeper** prayer, **genuine** prayer, is to love the Lord and be open to Him—Eph. 3:17-19.
 - b. If we have this kind of prayer, we will be **living, open** vessels, and the Lord will have the way to fill us with Himself—vv. 14-18.
 - c. When the Lord fills us, He does **everything** for us—v. 19.

Day 4

Romans 8:2 - For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Romans 8:10-11 - But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

II. As believers in Christ, we need to learn to be **satisfied with a life of ordinary days** in the regular and normal experiences in the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—Rom. 8:2, 6, 10-11; Eph. 3:16-17a:

- A. We need to receive the divine dispensing **little by little, day by day**, receiving this dispensing **again and again** in a slow, steady way—2 Cor. 13:14; Matt. 6:11; Psa. 68:19:
 1. Very few spiritual things are accomplished in us once for all; rather, as with our physical life, most spiritual things must be **repeated** again and again—John 6:57b; 4:14; 1 Cor. 10:3-4.
 2. Whatever God gives to us is not given all at once so that it becomes unbearable; instead, the divine supply is given **bit by bit**.
- B. The processed and consummated Triune God is within us not in a spectacular way but in an ordinary way; for this reason **we need to live a steady and normal Christian life**; the less special and the more normal we are, the better—Col. 1:27; 3:4; Eph. 3:16-17a.

- C. All the things of life that the Triune God gives to us through the divine dispensing are quiet and calm, and our life as believers should also be quiet and calm; day by day we need to live in this way, **simply living an ordinary life of receiving the divine dispensing**—Rom. 8:6; 1 Thes. 5:23; 2 Thes. 3:16.
- D. Our **destiny** is to live an ordinary life in the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity, for our Father has destined that we live in an ordinary way under His continual dispensing—Matt. 6:11, 32-34; 24:40-41.
- E. As believers, we experience the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity by **faith**; God wants us to do everything by depending on Him, by taking Him as life, and by allowing Him to dispense Himself into us—Eph. 3:17a; Heb. 11:1.
- F. In this way we will become normal spiritually, and our spirituality will be **regular** and **normal** without anything spectacular—Rom. 8:4, 6; Gal. 5:22-23.

Since we have the Spirit in us as a seal, pledge, and foretaste, every morning when we wake up, we should spend ten to fifteen minutes to **open up** the Lord's Word and read two or three verses successively. We do not need to shout or yell. Of course, we should call on the Lord. This is like our breathing. But we do not need to seek for a feeling. **We should simply pray and pray-read** several verses in a **calm and ordinary way**. We should do this every day, fellowshiping with the Lord all the time. We should refrain from anything that gives us unrest and should do the things that make us feel peaceful and make the Lord happy. When there is a meeting, we should always attend. In the meetings we do not have to be that excited; there is no need to stand up to shout or yell. If we have anything to say, we simply say it in a calm way. If we have any testimony to give, we share it in a quiet way. If we continue to live this kind of steady life, we will surely be a healthy Christian. We will enjoy the Father's continual transfusing and dispensing of the life of His Son and His divine nature into us.

We have to realize that very few spiritual things are accomplished once for all. As with our physical life, most spiritual things must be **repeated again and again**. For example, we need to eat, drink, and breathe for our physical life every day; we cannot graduate from these things. However, we do not need to do these things excessively; we simply need to do them in **small portions over a long period of time**. Likewise, the calmer our Christian life is, the better it will be. Daily we should allow the Father to dispense His life and nature into us. This can be compared to electricity, which steadily flows bit by bit into the house. If too much comes in all at once, it will be dangerous. First, we must see that whatever our God wants us to do, He does not want us to do it by our own striving but **by Him**. Second, whatever God gives to us is **not given all at once** so that it becomes unbearable to us. Rather, it is given bit by bit. For this reason we have to live a **steady and normal Christian life**. The less special and the more normal we are, the better.

I say these things to point out to you through my many years of experience that God has no intention that we jump and shout; in fact, all the things of life that God has given to us are quiet and calm. We go to bed on time, sleep calmly, rise calmly, wash up, pray-read, take our breakfast, do our work, and study calmly. Other than some physical exercise, we do everything in a **calm way**. To live this way is most healthy. It is the same with the plant life. In growing flowers, it is **harmful** to overfertilize or water too much. We should not disturb the plants too much. Instead, we should allow them to live calmly. Even if we do not water the plants, sometimes the heavens will give them water and make them grow. Sometimes we are "cold" toward the Lord; we may **not even go** to the meetings anymore. At other times we may love the Lord so much that we become **very zealous**. Formerly, it was difficult just to read through half of a chapter in the Bible. Now it is easy to read through five chapters a day. But because both our "coldness" and our "hotness" are something of ourselves, they do not last. Only those who are unhurried and steady will **remain and persevere**. (*A Deeper Study of the Divine Dispensing, chapter 11*)

Day 5

- 1 Timothy 1:4* - Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.
- Ephesians 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,
- Ephesians 3:16-17* - 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,

III. A life of ordinary days in the divine dispensing is according to the **miraculous normality** of the divine economy—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 3:9:

- A. The experiences of Christ, of the Spirit, of the Triune God, and of the divine life with the divine nature are altogether **normal**—vv. 16-17a.
- B. All the spiritual and divine things provided by God for our experience and enjoyment are **normal**; nevertheless, these normal things are **miraculous**, and for this reason we may speak of the miraculous normality of the divine economy—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 3:9.

Day 6

- Romans 10:12-13* - For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord is Lord of all and rich to all who call upon Him; For "whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."
- John 3:6* - That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

- C. **Regeneration** is the greatest miracle, yet it takes place in a normal way; thus, regeneration is a normality that is miraculous, a miraculous normality in our Christian life—John 3:3, 5-6, 8; 1 Pet. 1:23.
- D. **Calling on the name of the Lord** is a normality, yet it is miraculous that when we call, we receive the totality of the processed and consummated Triune God—Rom. 10:12; Jer. 33:3.

According to my own experience, to be filled with the Spirit does not require much struggling or striving. You do not need to say, "Lord, I am too weak. I cannot help loving the world. I cannot free myself from my family affairs. I cannot drop my burdens. Lord, I can only be a fallen, backsliding Christian. Besides, I am no good in anything..." It is useless to pray this way. You need to realize that God in the economy of His spiritual life wants us to be those who **call on the Lord, enjoy Him, and experience Him regularly and in a normal way.**

Therefore, every morning when you get up, you should call "O Lord Jesus!" to begin your spiritual breathing. **You should call in this way all day long.** Also, you cannot separate the **word** of the Lord from the **Spirit** of the Lord. Even the more, you cannot separate the Spirit of the Lord from the Lord Himself. The Lord is the Spirit, and the Spirit is the word. Not only did God come down to the earth from the heavens and then from the earth to Hades; He also ascended to the heavens from Hades and became a life-giving Spirit. In the universe among the human race, there is also the word of God written and printed here, and it has been left in our hands. Therefore, every morning as soon as we wake up, we need to call on Him and also receive His word. During the day we simply do these two things: **contact the Lord and receive His word.**

We do not need much begging and groaning. I exhort you sisters who are housewives not to be bothered by your talkative husband, your troublesome children, and the endless household chores. All of these are for the purpose of compelling you to call on the Lord. Today the Spirit is **within us**, and the **Word is in our hands**. All we need to do is to call on the Lord **moment by moment** and receive His word **day by day**. Then many of the problems will not exist. When we are weak, we feel that everything is difficult. When we are strong, however, we feel that nothing is difficult.

Brothers and sisters, the Lord as the **Spirit is already in your mouth and in your heart**. The Lord as the Word is also **already in our hands and within us**. Now you need **only to receive** the word and contact this Spirit, and the Lord will become your supply. Then day by day you will be saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, and you will allow the Holy Spirit to descend upon you. This should be your daily experience, which is **normal yet miraculous**. Brother Moody once said, "The greatest miracle in the universe is that man can be regenerated." Truly, regeneration is a great thing in the universe. Every day in the spiritual life, we can experience this great thing in the universe. It is miraculous yet normal. Therefore, it is a miraculous normality. (*Words of Training for the New Way, chapter 10*)