

“WORD OF LIFE”

May 08, 2022

CHRIST IN HIS PERSON – In Human Living

Hymn: 656 / 1125 / 602

✚ IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD (John 1:1)

- 1Pet. 2:21 - For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered on your behalf, leaving you a **model** so that you may **follow** in His steps;
- John 13:15 - For I have given you an **example** so that you also may **do** even as I have done to you.
- Matt. 11:29 - Take My yoke upon you and **learn** from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

✚ LET US OFFER UP A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE CONTINUALLY TO GOD (Heb. 13:15)

SIX ASPECTS OF CHRIST IN HIS HUMAN LIVING

*We need to see that His person in the **human element** is **also for God's dispensing**.*

Before God could dispense Himself into us,

*He first had to dispense Himself **into the man** Christ Jesus.*

1. The Son of Man, Found in Fashion as a Man

- Matt. 8:20 - And Jesus said to him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of heaven *have* roosts, but the **Son of Man** has nowhere to lay His head.
- Phil. 2:8 - And being found in **fashion as a man**, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and *that* the death of a cross.

➤ In human living Christ was the **Son of Man**

- found in **fashion as a man**, in the appearance of a man
- He continually lived as a man.
- He did not insist on anything, He humbled Himself to the point of dying on the cross.

2. A Despised Nazarene

- Micha 5:2 - (But you, O **Bethlehem** Ephrathah, So little to be among the thousands of Judah, From you there will come forth to Me He who is to be Ruler in Israel; And His goings forth are from ancient times, From the days of eternity.)
- John 1:45 - Philip found Nathanael and said to him, We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, wrote, **Jesus**, the son of Joseph, from **Nazareth**.
- John 1:46 - And Nathanael said to him, Can anything good be from **Nazareth**? Philip said to him, **Come and see**.
- Matt. 2:23 - And he came and settled in a city called **Nazareth**, so that what was spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, He shall be called a **Nazarene**.

➤ In His human living Christ was also a despised **Nazarene** (John 1:45-46).

- He took the **lowest position** and **rank**. Hence, He was despised as a Nazarene
- He grew up as a “**root out of a dry ground**,”
- having “**no form nor comeliness**,”
- “**no beauty that we should desire him**,”
- for He was “**despised and rejected of men**” (Isa. 53:2-3)
- The title “**Nazarene**” refer to the “**Branch**” in Isaiah 11:1.
 - The **Branch**, **signifying Christ**, is “**a shoot [or sprout] of the stump of Jesse**,”
 - The sprouting and growing of this shoot was in a situation of **humiliation**.

3. A Carpenter, a Son of a Carpenter

Mark 6:3 - Is not this the **carpenter**, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? And they were stumbled because of Him.

- In His human living the Lord Jesus was a **carpenter**, a son of a carpenter (Mark 6:3; Matt. 13:55).
 - Although the Lord was a descendant of the royal family of David, He had gone down from a high rank to a low rank, to the rank of a carpenter.
 - Those who rejected Him heard wonderful things out of His mouth and saw some of His marvelous deeds, and yet, they **considered** that He did not have a high status or degree. They saw Him as one who was merely a carpenter.

4. Taking the Form of a Slave—Serving God and Men

Phil. 2:6 - Who, existing in the **form of God**, did not consider being equal with God a treasure to be grasped,

Phil. 2:7 - But emptied Himself, taking the **form of a slave**, becoming in the likeness of men;

Mark 10:45 - For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but **to serve** and to give His life as a ransom for many.

- In His human living Christ took the **form of a slave**, **serving God and men** (Phil. 2:7; Acts 3:13; Mark 10:45).
 - He was a slave not only to God but also to man.
 - He was a slave who had no rights.
 - but with His **deeds** in His gospel service, Christ's **diligence**, **faithfulness**, was portrayed
 - and **served** sinners as their **Savior** with His life as their **ransom** (Mark 10:45)

5. A Faithful Witness of God

Rev. 1:5 - And from Jesus Christ, the **faithful Witness**, the Firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and has released us from our sins by His blood

Rev. 3:14 - And to the messenger of the church in Laodicea write: These things says the Amen, the faithful and true **Witness**, the beginning of the creation of God:

- Christ is called the faithful **Witness** who **testifies** God.
 - Without Him, we cannot know God or gain God.
 - His living was a testimony of God,
 - As a despised man in a low estate, He lived God.
 - He lived a life that witnessed God faithfully.

6. The Holy and Righteous One

Acts 3:14 - But you denied the holy and righteous One and asked that a man *who was* a murderer be granted to you;

- Jesus the Nazarene, was absolutely for God and **separated** unto Him.
 - As the **Holy** One, the human living of the Lord Jesus was altogether holy in nature.
 - In His being and behavior He was holy, that correspond to God's desire and nature.
 - To be righteous is to be right with God and also with everyone and everything.
 - In everything the Lord said and did He was right with both God and man.
 - He was never wrong with God or with anyone or anything.

✚ WITH ONE ACCORD ... WITH ONE MOUTH GLORIFY THE GOD (Rom. 15:6)

1. He was a man, He did not insist on anything...First, having the form of God, He **emptied** Himself. Then, being found in **fashion as a man**, He **humbled** Himself, **becoming obedient** even unto death (Phil. 2:7-8).
2. Although Jesus was a **Nazarene**, within Him there was the **glory of God**. Therefore, we should not know Christ according to the **outward** appearance. Rather, we need to discern the **inward** reality of Christ.

3. In Mark 6 we see the **Lord Jesus** as a **carpenter**. He did not have a high social status. But He certainly had the **riches** of the Triune God, and He also knew the **depths** of the truth in the Scriptures. In the Lord's recovery we want Jesus, we want the riches of Christ, and we want the depths of the divine truths in the Word of God.
 4. Christ, as the Son of Man in His humanity, is the Slave of God to serve sinners even with His life, His soul. He did not come to be served, but to **serve**, and to give His life a ransom.
 5. In **Revelation 3:14** the Lord is the **Amen**, the **faithful** and **true Witness**. The Lord Jesus is the **firm**, **steadfast**, and **trustworthy** One.
 6. In His human living the Lord was always the **Holy One**, the One absolutely separated unto God, for God, and one with God, and also the **Righteous One**, the One who was right with God, with everyone, and with everything.
- ✦ As such a One **Christ is being dispensed into us**, the members of His Body. **If** we are under His dispensing, **surely** we shall **be the kind of person** He was **in His human living**. We shall not want to hold a high rank but rather be low in rank and position. **Actually**, we are not the ones living in this way. This is **Christ living in us after being dispensed into us**. This is **not a matter** of following His steps or imitating Him. This is **a matter** of having **Christ dispensed into us and then living Him**. **First**, Christ is **dispensed into our being**, and then **He lives from within us**. **As** He lives within us we shall have a **human living** that is low in position and rank, yet **holy** in nature and **righteous** in behavior.

*(The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 27)
[This "word of life" was inspired by The Elder's Training Book 8, Ch. 4]*