

## “WORD OF LIFE”

January 08, 2023

### 33. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (13) – In the New Jerusalem-In Eternity

#### M5. The Spring of the Water of Life

#### M6. The Tree of Life

Hymns: #1151 / #198 / # 984

#### ✚ “ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD-BREATHED ...” (2Tim. 3:16)

- Rev. 21:6 - And He said to me, They have come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give to him who thirsts from the spring of the **water of life** freely.
- Rev. 22:1 - And he showed me a **river of water of life**, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
- Rev. 22:2 - And on **this side** and **on that side** of the **river** was the **tree of life**, producing twelve fruits, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.
- Rev. 2:7 - He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to **eat of the tree of life**, which is in the Paradise of God.

#### ✚ “... COME TO THE FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.” (1Tim. 2:4)

#### ❖ In the New Jerusalem Christ will be the **spring of the water of life** (Rev. 21:6)

- The **water of life** is the Triune God Himself **as** life to us (Rev. 22:1)
  - This **water of life** **first** has a **spring** and then a **flow**, a **river**
  - The **flow** comes from the spring,
  - The **spring** comes from the fountain is the Father.
  - The **fountain** is the **Father**, the **spring** is the **Son**, and the **flow**, the **river**, is the **Spirit**.
- **In eternity Christ** will be the **spring** of the water of life, even as the **Spirit** will be **the river** and the **Father** will be the **fountain**.

#### ❖ In the New Jerusalem Christ will be the **tree of life**. (Rev. 22:2; 1Pet. 2:24)

- The **tree of life** refers to **Christ** **as** the **embodiment of all the riches of God** (Col. 2:9)
  - it refers to the **crucified** (the **tree** as a piece of wood—1 Pet. 2:24) and **resurrected** (the **zoe** life—John 11:25)
  - for our food (Gen. 2:9; 3:22, 24; Rev. 22:14, 19)
  - for the nourishment of all God’s redeemed people for eternity
- The one **tree of life** growing on the two sides of the river **signifies** that the **tree of life** is a **vine**,
  - **today** the enjoyment of Christ as the tree of life is the believers’ **common portion** (John 6:35, 57)
  - **in the millennial** kingdom the **overcoming** believers will **enjoy** Christ as the tree of life as their **reward**
  - **eventually**, in the new heaven and the new earth, for eternity, all **God’s redeemed** will enjoy Christ as the tree of life as their eternal portion

#### ✚ “FOR YOU CAN ALL PROPHECY ONE BY ONE ...” (1 Cor. 14:31)

- ✚ In Revelation 21 and 22, the river of **water of life** will flow throughout the New Jerusalem and saturate the entire city. The **fountain**, the **spring**, and the **river**, is the **flowing out** of the **Triune God** as the **water of life** to dispense Himself into His redeemed people. This is God’s marvelous dispensing.
- ✚ It was God’s **original intention** that man should eat of the tree of life (Gen. 2:9, 16).
  - ✓ **Due** to the **fall**, the tree of life was closed to man (Gen. 3:22-24).
  - ✓ **Through** the **redemption** of **Christ** the way to touch the tree of life, as life to man, has been opened again (Heb. 10:19-20).
- ✚ The **tree of life** is **Christ** as our life supply. First Christ is the **Lamb of God for our redemption** (John 1:29) and then the tree of life **for our life supply**. He is not only the redeeming Lamb of God but also the tree of life.

*{(Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 33, letter M – points 5 & 6)  
[Preparing this “word of life” (SUPPLYING THE WORD IN MEETINGS OF MUTUALITY) was motivated by:  
The Elder’s Training Book 8, Ch. 4, and The Administration of the Church and the Ministry of the Word, Ch. 11]}*

### Hymn 1151

**1 Drink!** A **river** pure and clear that's  
flowing from the throne;  
**Eat!** The **tree of life** with fruits  
abundant, richly grown;  
Look! No need of lamp nor sun  
nor moon to keep it bright, for  
Here there is no night!

#### Chorus

Do come, oh, do come,  
Says **Spirit** and the **Bride**:  
Do come, oh, do come,  
Let him that heareth, cry.  
Do come, oh, do come,  
Let him who thirsts and will  
Take freely the **water of life**!

**2 Christ**, our **river**, **Christ**, our **water**,  
springing from within;  
**Christ**, our **tree**, and **Christ**,  
the fruits, to be enjoyed therein,  
**Christ**, our day, and **Christ**,  
our light, and **Christ**,  
our morningstar:  
**Christ**, our everything!

**3** We are washing all our robes  
the **tree of life** to eat;  
"O **Lord**, Amen, Hallelujah!"—  
**Jesus** is so sweet!  
We our **spirits** exercise,  
and thus experience **Christ**.  
What a **Christ** have we!

**4** Now we have a home so bright  
that outshines the sun,  
Where the brothers all unite  
and truly are one.  
**Jesus** gets us all together,  
Him we now display  
In the local **church**.

### Hymn 198

- 1 Dear Lord**,  
Thou art the **Tree of Life**,  
The very life supply;  
Thy fruits, replete with life divine,  
Our hunger satisfy.
- 2** Thou art the true and heav'nly **Vine**,  
Our very **source of life**;  
By Thee we live, in Thee abide,  
And rest from all our strife.
- 3 Dear Lord**,  
Thou art the **Apple Tree**,  
Thyself we all enjoy;  
Thy fruits are sweet to all our taste,  
Thy shadow brings us joy.
- 4** Thou art to us the healing **Tree**;  
Our **death** Thou didst endure;  
Thou on a **tree** for us **wast slain**,  
That we may have Thy cure.
- 5** Thou art the very **Branch of God**,  
His fulness dwells in Thee;  
In Thee we take of Him as grace  
And the reality.
- 6 Lord**, Thou art also David's **Branch**  
**Incarnate** here to be;  
In Thee we see and comprehend  
The true humanity.
- 7** Thou art the sprouting **Rod**  
with **God**,  
In Thee is endless life;  
Before Thy **resurrection** pow'r  
**Death** never can be rife.
- 8** Thou also art the swimming **Stick**,  
The fallen "ax" are we;  
By Thine uplifting pow'r of life,  
From **death** we're lifted free.
- 9** Lord, Thou art such a  
"Plant of Fame,  
Of Thee we richly share;  
As we are here remembering Thee,  
Thyself we thus declare!

### Hymn 984

- 1 River** of **living water**,  
**River** that **flows** from the throne,  
Fellowship giving and making  
**God's** own authority known.
- Chorus**  
**River** of **living water**,  
Fellowship freely bestows;  
Bringing authority with it,  
Through every place where it **flows**.
- 2 Water of life** is the **Spirit**,  
**God** as the **life** in it **flows**;  
Carrying with it His **Lordship**,  
Through every place where it goes.
- 3** Midst the gold street it **floweth**,  
Thus showing to us the way;  
As in **God's** nature it **floweth**,  
So in His way we will stay.
- 4** The **tree of life** by the **river**,  
Shows to us **God** as our food;  
We by the **river's** full **flowing**  
Take of the **tree's** plenitude.