

# “WORD OF LIFE”

November 26, 2023

## 41. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (21) –

### In the Fulfillment of the Types and Figures of the Old Testament

#### O 2. The Tree of Life

(1)

Hymns: # Christ is the Tree of Life / #1110 / #17

✚ “...the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.” (John 6:63b)

[Type/Figure]

Gen. 2:9 - And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden ...

[Fulfillment]

John 1:4 - In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

✚ “...to come to the full knowledge of the truth....” (1Tim.2:4b)

- ❖ The tree of life is a figure signifying God in Christ as our life. (Gen. 2:9)
  - The tree of life signifies the Triune God in Christ
    - to dispense Himself into His chosen people as their generating life.
  - The tree of life is the center of the universe.
    - the earth is the center of the universe,
    - the Garden of Eden is the center of the earth, and
    - the tree of life is the center of the Garden of Eden.
- ❖ The New Testament reveals Christ as the fulfillment of the figure of the tree of life. (John 1:4; 14:6; 15:5)
  - The tree of life in Genesis 2 was the life incarnated in Christ.
    - The Lord told us that He Himself is life (John 14:6).
    - John 15 reveals that Christ is a tree, the vine tree.
  - If we put together John 1:4 and 15:5, we shall realize that Christ is the tree of life.
    - He is the bread of life indicates that He has come to us as the tree of life in the form of food.
    - Christ, the embodiment of God, is the tree of life.

✚ “...Pursue love, and desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.” (1Cor. 14:1)

- ✚ God’s procedure in fulfilling His purpose was to place the created man in front of the tree of life, which signifies the Triune God embodied in Christ as life to man in the form of food. God’s placing man in front of the tree of life indicates that God wanted man to receive Him as man’s life by eating Him organically and assimilating Him metabolically, that God might become the very constituent of man’s being.
- ✚ Christ is a vine tree and is also life, He is the tree of life. He was processed through incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection that man might have life and live by eating Him.

## Christ is the Tree of Life

- 1 In the beginning we can see  
God placed man in front  
of two different trees—  
The tree of life  
and the tree of knowledge  
Of good and evil.  
One leads to life by eating Him.  
And the other leads  
to deadness and sin.  
So, feed on Christ!  
Don't be satisfied  
with being good and legal.

### Chorus:

#### Christ

Is the tree of life.  
He's our life supply.  
Let's choose the way of life!  
Take Him in  
By enjoying Him!  
Open deep within.  
And on His life depend.  
(End: Eat the tree of life.)

- 2 Now everyone can feast on Him!  
Open deeply  
and be filled to the brim!  
Partake of Christ  
as the tree of life.  
Express Him together.  
Give Christ  
the first place in our hearts.  
As we love Him  
all His life He imparts.  
In spirit He fills eternally!  
Satisfied forever!

(Verse and chorus can be sung together.)

## Hymn 1110

- 1 O Jesus Lord,  
when present at Thy table,  
And on the bread  
and on the wine we gaze;  
We praise Thee, Lord,  
that Thou as food art able  
To be enjoyed by man  
in many ways.

### Chorus 1:

So all our being sings in praise to Thee,  
How small Thou art,  
how small Thou art!  
And Thee we'll eat through all eternity;  
How small Thou art,  
how small Thou art!

- 2 O what a shame—  
when Christ with all His riches,  
Has come into the world,  
life to supply—  
That man would live,  
not by Him, but by teachings,  
So powerless these riches to apply.

### Chorus 2:

But all we need to do is eat the Lord;  
He's marvelous, He's wonderful!  
And as we eat, we're inwardly restored;  
Christ grows in us, grows to the full.

- 3 O Jesus Christ,  
Thou camest not to mankind  
To be a king, to rule us outwardly.  
But Thou hast come  
as food to satisfy us,  
And by Thy life  
to guide us inwardly.  
(First chorus)

- 4 We praise Thee, Lord,  
for all Thy glorious grandeur,  
For all Thy strength  
and majesty replete;  
And yet, O Lord,  
what special thanks we give Thee,  
That all Thou art  
is small enough to eat.  
(First chorus)

## Hymn 17

- 1 My Father God,  
when on Thy vast creation,  
The wonders of the heav'n  
and earth, I gaze,  
Things great and small,  
beyond enumeration,  
Which manifest  
Thy pow'r in untold ways;

### Chorus:

Then all my being  
sings in praise to Thee,  
How marvellous!  
How great Thou art!  
And this I'll sing  
through all eternity,  
How marvellous!  
How great Thou art!

- 2 As I enjoy  
the grace of Thy salvation  
And contemplate  
how Thou Thy Son hast sent,  
Who died that we might be  
Thy new creation,  
Thy life expressing  
to the full extent;

- 3 When in the church,  
in blest participation,  
I see how millions  
Thine own life possess,  
How they are built  
to form Thy habitation,  
Containing Thee,  
Thy fulness to express;

- 4 As I expect the coming age  
of fulness  
And hope to share  
the new Jerusalem,  
With all the heavens  
and the earth in newness  
And all Thou art  
expressed in all of them;