

## “WORD OF LIFE”

December 03, 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

(2)

Hymns: #1143 / #215 / # 42

✚ “...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]

Rev 2:7 - ... To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

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

- ❖ The tree of life is a figure signifying God in Christ. (Gen. 2:9)
- ❖ The New Testament reveals Christ as the fulfillment of the figure of the tree of life.
  - In the book of John, the tree of life refers to Christ as the embodiment of the Triune God
    - eating of the tree of life was God’s original intention
    - to be our life in the form of food. (John 1:4; 14:6; 15:5)
  - In the book of Revelation, the tree of life refers to the crucified and resurrected Christ
    - eating of the tree of life will be the eternal issue of Christ’s redemption (1 Peter 2:24 John 11:25)
    - for our enjoyment and portion in eternity. (Rev. 22:2, 14)
  - Concerning Christ as the fulfillment of the figure of the tree of life in Genesis 2:9, Revelation 2:7 says, “To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.”
    - It was God’s original intention that man should eat of the tree of life.
    - Due to the fall, the tree of life was closed to man (Gen. 3:22-24).
    - Through the redemption of Christ, the way to the tree of life, has been opened again (Heb. 10:19-20).
    - However, in the church’s degradation religion crept to distract us from eating Him as the tree of life.
    - Hence, in Revelation 2:7 the Lord promises to grant the overcomers to eat the tree of life.

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

✚ Revelation 22:2 says, “On this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life.”

- ✓ The tree of life growing on the two sides of the river, spreading and proceeding along the flow of the water of life is for us to receive and enjoy. It fulfills, for eternity, what God intended from the beginning. We will enjoy Christ, the Son of God, the redeeming Lamb, as our eternal life supply.

✚ Revelation 22:14a says, “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have right to the tree of life.”

- ✓ After his creation, man was put before the tree of life to partake of it.
- ✓ But because of the fall of man, the way to the tree of life was shut to man by God’s glory, holiness, and righteousness (Gen. 3:24).
- ✓ Through Christ’s redemption, the way to the tree of life has been opened again to the believers.
- ✓ Hence, the believers who wash their robes in the redeeming blood of Christ have the right to enjoy the tree of life as their eternal portion.

### Hymn 1143

- 1 The **tree of life**,  
how sweet the fruit,  
With **God** as **life** complete.  
I once was dead,  
but now I live,  
Was starved, but now I **eat**.
- 2 'Twas **God** that brought me  
to the **tree**,  
With **Christ** Himself as meat;  
How precious did  
that **tree** become  
When I began to **eat**.
- 3 The **Lord** Himself  
is **food** to me,  
He is my **life** supply;  
He will my pure enjoyment be,  
None else can satisfy.
- 4 I freely **eat** this living **tree**,  
For **eating is the way**  
To put **God's life inside of me**,  
To live by Him today.

### Hymn 215

- 1 **Jesus, Lord**, we know  
Thee present  
At Thy **table** freshly spread,  
**Seated** at Thy priceless banquet  
With Thy banner overhead.  
Precious moments at Thy **table**,  
From all fear and doubt set free;  
Here to rest, so sweetly able,  
**Occupied** alone with Thee.
- 2 Here rejoicing in Thy nearness,  
Gladly by Thy **Spirit** led;  
Calmly in the blest **remembrance**  
Of Thyself, Thy **blood** once shed.  
**Lord**, we take each simple token  
In fond memory of Thee,  
Muse upon Thy body broken  
And Thy **blood** shed on the **tree**.
- 3 Oh, what joy it is to see Thee,  
In these chosen **emblems** here;  
In the **bread** and **wine**  
of blessing—  
**Bread** to strengthen,  
**wine** to cheer!  
**Lord**, behold us met together,  
One in Thee, our risen **Head**,  
Thus we take the **cup** of blessing,  
Thus we share the broken **bread**.
- 4 **Lord**, we know how true  
Thy promise  
To be with us where we meet,  
When in Thy loved  
name we gather  
To enjoy **communion sweet**;  
Dearer still that  
looked-for promise  
To each waiting, yearning heart,  
That with Thee  
we soon shall be, **Lord**,  
Yes, "**forever**" where Thou art.

### Hymn 42

- 1 By Thee, O **God**, invited,  
We look unto the **Son**,  
In whom Thy heart delighted,  
Who all Thy will hath done;  
And by the one chief treasure  
Thy bosom freely gave,  
Thine own pure love  
we measure,  
Thy willing mind to save.
- 2 O **God** of mercy—**Father!**  
The one unchanging claim,  
The brightest hopes, we gather  
From **Christ's**  
most precious name:  
What always sounds  
so sweetly  
In Thine unwearied ear,  
Has **freed our souls** completely  
From all our guilt and fear.
- 3 The trembling sinner feareth  
That **God** can ne'er forget;  
But one full payment cleareth  
His memory of all debt.  
When nought beside  
could free us,  
Or set our souls at large,  
The death of **God's** Beloved  
**Secured a full discharge**.
- 4 No wrath **God's** heart retaineth  
To usward who believe;  
No dread in ours remaineth  
As we His love receive;  
Returning sons He kisses,  
And with His **robe** invests;  
His perfect love dismisses  
All terror from our breasts.