

**46. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (26) –
In the Parables of the New Testament**

P - 1. The Winnower on the Threshing Floor

Hymns: # 192 / # 935 / # 34

✚ “So that what was spoken through the prophet [Psa. 78:2] might be fulfilled, saying,
‘I will open My mouth in **parables**; I will utter things **hidden** from the foundation of the world’.” (Matt 13:35)

- Matt. 3:1 - Now in those days **John the Baptist** appeared, **preaching** in the wilderness of Judea
- Matt. 3:2 - And saying, **Repent**, for the **kingdom of the heavens** has drawn near.
- Matt. 3:3 - For this is he who was spoken of through **Isaiah** the prophet, saying,
“A voice of one crying in the wilderness, *Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight His paths.*”
- Matt. 3:4 - Now this **John** had his garment of camel’s hair and a leather girdle around his loins,
and his food was locusts and wild honey.
- Matt. 3:5 - At that time **Jerusalem** and all **Judea** and all the surrounding region of the **Jordan** went out to him,
- Matt. 3:6 - And they were **baptized** by him in the **Jordan River** as they **confessed** their sins.
- Matt. 3:7 - **But** when he saw many of the **Pharisees** and **Sadducees** coming to his baptism, he said to them,
Offspring of vipers, who prompted you to flee from the coming wrath?
- Matt. 3:8 - Produce then **fruit worthy of your repentance**.
- Matt. 3:9 - And do not presume to say within yourselves, We have **Abraham** as *our* father;
for I tell you that **God** is able, out of these **stones**, to raise up children to **Abraham**.
- Matt. 3:10 - And already **the axe is laid at the root of the trees**.
Every tree therefore that does not produce good fruit is cut down and **cast into the fire**.
- Matt. 3:11 - I baptize you in water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is stronger than I,
whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He Himself will **baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire**,
- Matt. 3:12 - Whose **winnowing fan** is in His hand. And He will thoroughly **cleanse** His **threshing floor** and
will gather His **wheat into the barn**, but the **chaff** He will **burn up** with **unquenchable fire**.

✚ “...Why do You speak in **parables** to them? (Mat 13:10)
“...And His **disciples** came to Him, saying, Make the **parable** ... clear to us. (Matt. 13:36)

❖ **Christ is the Winnower on the Threshing Floor**

- The **winnowing** fork is in His hand”, (Matt. 3:12).
- He will thoroughly **cleanse** His threshing floor and
 - He will **gather** His **wheat** into His barn
 - Those **signified** by the **wheat** have **life within**.
 - The Lord will **baptize** them in the Holy Spirit (v. 11)
 - and gather them into His “barn” in heaven by rapture.
 - He will **burn** the **chaff** with unquenchable fire
 - Those **signified** by the **chaff**, like the tares in Matthew 13:24-30, are without life.
 - **Chaff** in Matthew 3:12 refers to **unrepentant** Jews,
 - whereas the **tares** in chapter thirteen refer to **nominal** Christians.
 - The **eternal destiny** of both will be the same—perdition in the **lake of fire** (Matt. 13:40-42).
 - The Lord will **baptize** them in **fire**, putting them into the **lake of fire**.
 - This is related to His being the **Judge**
 - of the **living** at His throne of glory **after His coming back** (Matt. 25:31-46) and
 - of the **dead** at the great white throne **after the millennium** (Rev. 20:11-15).

✚ “And having the same spirit of faith according to that which is written, “I believed, therefore I spoke,” we also believe, therefore we also speak,” (2Cor. 4:13)

✚ We should not be like the chaff, and we should not be tares. Rather, we should be wheat, the living children of God. In order to be children of God we need to be born anew (John 3:3), born of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5).

✓ All those who repent and believe in the Lord will be baptized by Him in the Holy Spirit that they may have eternal life.

✓ Those who do not repent and believe will be baptized by Him, the Winnower, in fire; they will be put into the lake of fire for eternal perdition.

✚ The Lord’s baptism is either for eternal life in the Holy Spirit or for eternal perdition in fire. Because Christ is such a Winnower on the threshing floor, we all need to be serious with Him.

[(Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 45 letter P – point 1)

[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 192	Hymn 935	Hymn 34
<p>1 We come, O Christ, to Thee, True Son of God and man, By whom all things consist, In whom all life began: In Thee alone we live and move And have our being in Thy love.</p> <p>2 Thou art the Way to God, Thy blood our ransom paid; In Thee we face our Judge And Maker unafraid. Before the Throne absolved we stand: Thy love has met Thy law’s demand.</p> <p>3 Thou art the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in Thee, Thou Source of every skill, Eternal Verity! Thou great I Am! In Thee we rest, True answer to our every quest.</p> <p>4 Thou only art true Life, To know Thee is to live The more abundant life That earth can never give: O Risen Lord! We live in Thee And Thou in us eternally!</p> <p>5 We worship Thee Lord Christ, Our Savior and our King, To Thee our youth and strength Adoringly we bring: So fill our hearts that men may see Thy life in us and turn to Thee!</p>	<p>1 Around Thy grave, Lord Jesus, In spirit here we stand, With hearts all full of praises, To keep Thy blest command: Our souls by faith rejoicing, To trace Thy path of love, Down through death’s angry billows, Up to the throne above.</p> <p>2 Lord Jesus! we remember The travail of Thy soul, When through Thy love’s deep pity, The waves did o’er Thee roll; Baptized in death’s dark waters, For us Thy blood was shed; For us Thou, Lord of Glory, Wast numbered with the dead.</p> <p>3 O Lord! Thou now art risen, Thy travail all is o’er; For sin Thou once hast suffered, Thou liv’st to die no more; Sin, death and hell are vanquished By Thee, the Church’s Head; And lo! we share Thy triumphs, Thou first-born from the dead.</p> <p>4 Unto Thy death baptized, We own with Thee we died; With Thee, our Life, we’re risen, And shall be glorified. From sin, the world, and Satan, We’re ransomed by Thy blood, And here would walk as strangers, Alive with Thee to God.</p>	<p>1 Father, ’twas Thy love that knew us Earth’s foundation long before: That same love to Jesus drew us By its sweet constraining pow’r, And will keep us, and will keep us, Safely now, and evermore, Safely now, and evermore.</p> <p>2 Now that changeless love enfolds us, All its wealth on us bestows; While its pow’r unchanging holds us In a holy calm repose. God and Father, God and Father, Unto Thee our worship flows, Unto Thee our worship flows.</p> <p>3 God of love, our souls adore Thee! We would still Thy grace proclaim, Till we cast our crowns before Thee, And in glory praise Thy name; Praise and worship, praise and worship Be to God and to the Lamb! Be to God and to the Lamb!</p>