

52. CHRIST – HIS PERSON (32)

T. TO THE BELIEVERS

24. The Reality

Suggested Hymns: # 1182, # 496 / # 220 / Father, We Worship Your Blest Name

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

John 1:14 - And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us ..., full of grace and reality.

John 1:17 - For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.

John 14:6 - Jesus said ..., I am the way and the reality and the life; ...

John 14:17 - ... the Spirit of reality, ... abides with you and shall be in you.

 “... it pleased God, who ... called me through His grace, To reveal His Son in me ...,” (Gal 1:15-16)

❖ The Lord Jesus is the reality (John 14:6).

➤ Christ is the embodiment of the Triune God.

- The Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—is the reality.
 - Apart from the Triune God, the entire universe is vanity, no reality.
- The reality we receive is the being and the doing of the Triune God
 - this reality is the incarnated God (John 1:1, 14)
 - this reality is also the Son (John 8:32, 36) and
 - this reality is the Spirit (John 14:17; 15:26; 16:13; 1 John 5:6)

➤ In the universe only what God is and what God does are real.

- This reality in the universe is God’s being and God’s doing.
- God’s being is the Father, the Son, and the Spirit, and His doing is redemption.
- He is everything and has done everything necessary for us to contact Him.
 - when we call on the name of the Lord Jesus, we receive this universal reality.

➤ The reality of Christ is the consummated Spirit, the aggregate of the Divine Trinity (John 14:16-20):

- it is the reality of the processed Triune God
- it is the reality of the death of Christ as the Spirit compounded with His person and death
- it is the reality of the resurrection of Christ as the Spirit compounded with His person and resurrection

 “... ‘I believed, therefore I spoke,’ we also believe, therefore we also speak,” (Psa. 116:10; 2Co 4:13)

 The reality is the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. This reality includes what the Triune God has done. This is the gospel (Eph. 1:13). The reality, is the very being of the Triune God and what He has done.

 The reality is actually the way, and the way is the destination.

- ✓ When we get on the way, we arrive at the destination.
- ✓ When we receive the Lord Jesus, we have the Father.
- ✓ When we receive the Son as the way, we have the Father as the destination.

Because the Son is the embodiment of the Father, when we call on the name of the Lord we have both the Son and the Father. When we call on the Lord’s name, we have the reality, we are on the way, and we have the Father.

{Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 51 letter T-24}

{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}

Suggested hymns:

<p>Hymn 1182 Experience of Christ— As our Person</p>	<p>Hymn 496 Experience of Christ— As the Reality</p>	<p>Father, We Worship Your Blest Name Worship of the Father— As the Source of Life</p>
<p>1 In spirit and reality We meet to worship Thee, <i>[John 4:24]</i> And every principality Must fall down or must flee. Reality, reality, <i>[2Cor. 5:17]</i> O what a joy to see, That Christ may be enjoyed by us As our reality. <i>[John 15:11; Phil. 4:4]</i></p> <p>2 A Person, Thou hast come in us, Into our spirit now, <i>[1Cor. 15:45]</i> And quickened us until we know Our inner man art Thou. <i>[2Cor. 4:16]</i> O praise Thee, Lord, we sense Thee thus, Forever inwardly; Thy Person in each one of us Is our reality.</p> <p>3 And now the corporate life we live— <i>[Col. 3:10]</i> Christ in His Body known; Where every portion adds more Christ, Until the whole is shown. O Hallelujah, one new man! <i>[Eph. 4:24]</i> Our portions blend as one; <i>[1Cor. 12:24]</i> In one accord, express the Lord, And He will quickly come.</p>	<p>1 Christ is the one reality of all, <i>[John 1:14]</i> Of Godhead and of man <i>[John 14:6]</i> and all things else; No man without Him ever findeth God, Without Him man and everything is false.</p> <p>2 All types and figures of the ancient time, <i>[Heb. 10:1]</i> All things we ever need, both great and small, <i>[Col.2:17]</i> Only are shadows of the Christ of God, Showing that He must be our all in all.</p> <p>3 All things are vanity of vanities, <i>[Ecc.1:2]</i> Christ, the reality all things to fill; Though everything <i>[Eph. 4:9-10]</i> we may enjoy and own, If we're devoid of Christ we're empty still.</p> <p>4 Christ is our real God, our real Lord; Christ is our real life, our real light; Christ is our real food, our real drink, Our real clothing, and our real might.</p> <p>5 Christ also is the one reality Of all our doctrine and theology; And all our scriptural knowledge without Him <i>[1Cor. 8:1]</i> Is just in letter and is vanity.</p> <p>6 Christ, the reality of time and space, Christ, the reality of every stage; Christ is the one reality of all Thru all eternity from age to age.</p>	<p>1 Father, we worship Your blest name! <i>[Psa. 113:2]</i> O great “I AM,” You’re all indeed! Surpassing everything You’ve made— All that You are is all we need!</p> <p>2 God of the living, not the dead, <i>[Mark12:27]</i> Your life with power overcomes! Death is annulled! Life reigns instead! We’re made alive in Christ Your Son!</p> <p>3 From heaven’s seat, enthroned on high, The Lord, Your Son, <i>[Acts 2:32; 5:31]</i> that Man most dear, <i>[Heb. 1:3]</i> Leads us to seek You inwardly, In spirit sensing You draw near.</p> <p>4 As You draw near, we apprehend And we experience all You are, <i>[SS 1:4]</i> Beyond constraints of time and space, Your life, in Christ, a realm entire.</p> <p>5 Have You not willed that Christ should be <i>[Col. 3:3-4]</i> Everything to us inwardly? In Christ, You are the source of life, In faith, our true reality.</p> <p>6 Highways to Zion in our hearts, From strength to strength <i>[Psa. 84:5]</i> we go each day; Depending on Your life alone, <i>[John 15:5]</i> In Your supply of Christ we stay.</p> <p>7 In this supply, Your heart of love <i>[Eph. 1:4]</i> Makes known Your will subjectively. Wooed by Your grace and perfect will, We come to know You inwardly.</p> <p>8 Father, in reverent praise we sing! <i>[Lev. 19:30; Psa. 111:10; Prov. 9:10]</i> We worship You for all You are! Your life, in Christ, is everything! Glory to You forevermore!</p>
<p>Eph 1:13 – In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise,</p> <p>Eph 1:14 – Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory.</p> <p>(Hymn 6119 – opening & introducing the subject)</p> <p>1 Christ, the real life-giver, Gives life to me, And every time I call on Him, His Spirit sets me free; Christ, the real life-giver, Lives now in me; No longer is He just a name, But my reality!</p>	<p>Eph 1:7 – In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offenses, according to the riches of His grace,</p> <p>Eph 1:9 – Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,</p> <p>Eph 1:11 – In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,</p> <p>Eph 1:12 – That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ.</p> <p>(Hymn 220 – for maintaining the spirit)</p>	<p>Eph 1:4 – Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love,</p> <p>Eph 1:5 – Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,</p> <p>Eph 1:6 – To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;</p>