

“WORD OF LIFE”

April 19, 2026

55. CHRIST – HIS PERSON (35)

T. TO THE BELIEVERS

38. The **Treasure** of Excellent Power

Suggested Hymns: [# 548 \(# 8432\)](#) / [# 221](#) / [# 26](#)

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

2Cor. 4:6 - Because the **God** who said, Out of darkness **light shall shine** (*Gen. 1:3*), is the **One** who **shined** in our hearts to **illuminate** the knowledge of the **glory** of **God** in the **face** of **Jesus Christ**.

2Cor. 4:7 - But we have this **treasure** in earthen **vessels** that the **excellency of the power** may be of **God** and not out of us.

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

❖ The **shining reality** of **Christ** is the **treasure** in us, the earthen vessels (2Cor. 4:7).

- This **treasure** is Christ as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit in us.
 - **Outwardly** we are **earthen vessels**, worthless and fragile
 - we, the earthen vessels **contain** this **treasure**
 - in ourselves we do not have the power to shine forth the glory of the gospel
 - although we are earthen vessels, God has shined Christ as a precious **treasure** into us.
 - that the excellence of the power **is** of God and **not** of us.
 - **Inwardly** we have a **priceless treasure**, Christ
 - a **treasure** that is wonderful, precious, and marvelous
 - this **treasure** has a power, and this power is excellent
 - Christ as the life-giving Spirit in us is the One **shining in our hearts**
 - God’s shining in our hearts brings into us a **treasure**,
- A **priceless treasure**, **Christ**, is contained in us, the **worthless vessels**.
 - through the process of **transformation**, the **treasure** takes over the vessel and swallows it up
 - we have Christ operating within us as a living and active **treasure**.
 - Christ, the **treasure** made us, the **worthless vessels**, ministers of the **new covenant**

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

✚ The indwelling **Christ** is the **treasure** in us, the earthen vessels, He is the divine source of the **supply** for our Christian life. It is by the excellent power of this **treasure** that we will be capable of living a crucified life **that** the resurrection life of Christ, whom we ministered might be **manifested**.

✚ **Christ** is the One living within us so **that** we may **live** Him, **that** He is being **formed** within us, **that** He is making His **home** in our hearts, **that** He is the One **magnified** in us, and **that** He is the One **empowering** us. If we experience Christ in this way, we shall **regard** Him as most precious, **as a treasure** of excellent power.

*{Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 51 letter T-38}
[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 548
Experience of Christ–
Containing Him

- 1** Earthen vessel I was made, [2Cor. 4:7]
Christ in me the treasure laid;
 His container I must be, [Rom.9:23]
 As the content He in me.
- 2** In His image I was made, [Gen.1:26]
 Fit that **Christ** should all pervade;
 Thus the vessel **God** did form
 With the content uniform. [2Cor. 3:18]
- 3** In my spirit He remains, [1John 4:13]
 With His power He sustains;
 As the **Spirit** one with me, [1Cor. 6:17]
 He is my reality.
- 4** Moving in me day by day, [1John 2:20,27]
 Mingling with me all the way,
 All my steps He regulates,
 Every part He saturates.
- 5** Him expressing from within,
 Making Him to others seen, [Rom.8:18-19]
 I transparent have to be [2Cor. 5:17]
 That He may be shown thru me.
- 6** Transformation is my need, [Rom.12:2]
 To be broken more indeed,
 That the clay may change in form,
 To the treasure to conform.
 [Rom. 8:29; Phil.3:21]

2Tim. 2:20 –

But in a great house there are not only gold and silver vessels but also wooden and earthen; and some are unto honor, and some unto dishonor.

2Tim. 2:21 –

If therefore anyone cleanses himself from these, he will be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, useful to the master, prepared unto every good work.

2Tim. 2:22 –

But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

[Hymn 8432 – maintaining the spirit]

Hymn 221
Praise of the Lord –
Remembrance of Him

- 1** Lord, we thank Thee for the table,
 With the bread and with the wine;
 At this table we enjoy Thee
 As the feast of love divine.
 We partake the bread, the emblem
 Of Thy body giv'n for us;
 And we share the wine, the symbol
 Of Thy blood Thou shedd'st for us.

Chorus:

- Lo, the holy table!
 With the sacred symbols;
 Its significance in figure
 Is unsearchable!
- 2** By the death of Thy redemption,
 That Thy life Thou may impart,
 E'en Thyself to us Thou gavest
 That we share in all Thou art.
 By the bread and wine partaking,
 We Thy death display and prove;
 Eating, drinking of Thyself, Lord,
 We remember Thee with love.
- 3** By this bread which signifieth
 Thy one body mystical,
 We commune with all Thy members
 In one bond identical.
 By this holy cup of blessing,
 Cup of wine which now we bless,
 Of Thy blood we have communion
 With all those who faith possess.
- 4** Thou art our eternal portion,
 Here we take a sweet foretaste;
 We are waiting for Thy kingdom,
 And Thy coming now we haste.
 At Thy coming, in Thy kingdom,
 With all saints that overcome,
 We anew will feast upon Thee
 And Thy loving Bride become.

1Pet. 1:18-21 –

Knowing that it was not with corruptible things, ..., that you were redeemed from your vain manner of life
 But with precious blood, as of a Lamb ... the blood of Christ;
 Who was foreknown before the foundation of the world but has been manifested in the last of times for your sake,
 Who through Him believe into God.

Hymn 26
Worship of the Father
His Mercy

- 1** God, we praise Thee for Thy mercy,
 'Tis so great and so profound!
 In our weakness and our failures;
 With its greatness it abounds. [Rom.5:6-8]
 We adore Thee! we adore Thee!
 With such mercy we've been crowned!
 With such mercy we've been crowned!
- 2** How we marvel at this mercy
 So far-reaching and so vast! [Tit.3:4-6]
 It has reached us, e'en the sinners,
 And will ever hold us fast. [Rom.5:6-8]
 From this mercy, from this mercy,
 What can cause us to be cast?
- 3** For Thy mercy we are grateful,
 'Tis so rich, so plenteous! [Eph.2:4]
 Thru Thy mercy in redemption,
 Thou hast richly favored us. [Eph.1:7]
 If without this, if without this,
 How could we be favored thus?
- 4** Oh, Thy mercy, so inspiring!
 Gentle, tender, dear and sweet!
 With Thy patience and Thy kindness,
 Us in all our need it meets. [Psa. 103:8]
 It we treasure, it we treasure, [Rom.2:4]
 Nothing can with it compete.
- 5** Father, we enjoy Thy mercy,
 Ever fresh and ever new; [Lam.3:22-23]
 Every morning shed upon us,
 It refreshes as the dew.
 How we taste it! how we taste it!
 Giving Thee the praises due.
- 6** We can never cease to praise Thee,
 As Thy mercy e'er endures; [Psa. 136]
 All Thy grace and all Thy favor,
 Ever for us it secures. [2Cor.12:9]
 Trusting in it, trusting in it,
 Thy sure mercy us assures.

Eph. 2:7-4 –

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved) And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus, That He might display in the ages to come the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.