<u>Life-Study of 1 and 2 Chronicles Summaries - Messages 11-13</u>

Living Christ for the Expression of God

God needed a people on the earth so that He could be incarnated in humanity. God also needed a land for His people that He might form a nation to set up His testimony. This testimony was set up according to the law of God. The law of God comprises the moral law and the ceremonial law.

The moral law includes the Ten Commandments with their statutes and ordinances. Eventually, this became the base of the civil law of many nations. The Ten Commandments were called the testimony of God. As the testimony of God the Ten Commandments are a picture, a portrait, of God. We may say that the law is a photograph of God. Based on this fact, we may say that the law is also a type of Christ.

God's economy is God becoming a man that man may become God in life and in nature (but not in the Godhead) to produce the organic Body of Christ, which will consummate in the New Jerusalem. The law is linked to God's economy because the law was given as God's portrait, God's picture, God's image, and God's testimony.

God knew that no man can keep the Ten Commandments as the moral section of His law to be justified by Him. So, by His grace and according to His economy, He also gave His people the ceremonial section of His law, through which the condemned sinners, the breakers of the moral law of God, could contact Him and enter into Him to enjoy Him as their everything. God prepared the ceremonial law to be our salvation, to save us from the condemnation under the moral law.

The Resemblance of God and Man in their Images and Likenesses

In God's creation there was not such a thing as "mankind." Genesis 1:26 indicates that man is after God's kind. God created *adam*, which means "red clay." God created something of red clay in His own image and after His own likeness. Therefore, it was God-kind.

Adam was a type, a prefigure, of Christ. The piece of red clay was a type of Christ, and Christ is the image of the invisible God. In Romans 8:29, Paul tells us that those whom God foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers. This verse assures us that we, the believers in Christ, will all be conformed to the image of the Son of God. Romans 12:2 speaks of our being transformed by the renewing of the mind. God intends to transform us into the same image and conform us to the image of the Son of God.

All this will consummate in the New Jerusalem. Eventually God and man, man and God, all have the appearance of jasper. This is the conclusion of the Bible. The consummation of the Bible is the New Jerusalem—divinity mingled with humanity. Divinity becomes the dwelling place of humanity, and humanity becomes the home of divinity. We are in the process of being made "a piece of God," to look the same as God—jasper.

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