

**SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE 2009**

**AT LAKE LAVON**

**AUGUST 6-9, 2009**

**THE VISION OF THE CHURCH**

**NOTE:**

Please keep your copy with you and in good condition, not only for a weekend, but for reference in the future.

<b>Name:</b>
<b>Locality:</b>

# THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 6, 2009

MESSAGE ONE

## THE CHURCH – GOD’S BUILDING

Ephesians 1: 17-18a That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him, the eyes of your heart, having been enlightened...

### I. God’s goal with the believers: His house, the building

**1 Pet. 2:4-5**

4 Coming to Him, a living stone, rejected by men but with God chosen and precious,

5 You yourselves also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**John 2:21** But He spoke of the temple of His body.

**1 Cor. 3:9b** You are God’s cultivated land, God’s building.

**Eph. 2:20-22**

20 Being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone;

21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

**Eph. 4:16** Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

**Col. 2:7** Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

### II. The history of God’s building versus Satan’s counterfeit

#### A. Noah’s ark versus the city of Enoch

**Gen. 6:14-16**

14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall cover it within and without with pitch.

15 And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

16 You shall make an opening for light for the ark, and you shall finish it up to a cubit from the top; and you shall put the entrance of the ark in its side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third stories.

**Gen. 4:16-17**

16 And Cain went forth from the presence of Jehovah and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

17 And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enoch; and he built a city and called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch.

#### B. Abraham’s tent (Gen. 12:7b-8; 18:1; 24:67a) versus Babel (Gen. 11:3-4) and Sodom (Gen. 13:12-13)

**Gen. 12: 7b-8**

7b And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.

8 And he proceeded from there to the mountain on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to Jehovah and called upon the name of Jehovah.

**Gen. 18:1** And Jehovah appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre as he was sitting at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day.

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**Gen. 24:67a** And Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother. And he took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her.

**Gen. 11:3-4**

3 And they said to one another, Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and they had tar for mortar.

4 And they said, Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower whose top is in the heavens; and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered over the surface of the whole earth.

C. **Jacob's dream – Gen. 28:17-18, 22**

**Gen. 28:22** And this stone, which I have set up as a pillar, will be God's house; and of all that You give me I will surely give one tenth to You.

D. **God's tabernacle (Exo. 25:8-9; 40:34) versus two Egyptian treasure cities (Exo. 1:11)**

**Josh. 18:1** And the whole assembly of the children of Israel gathered together at Shiloh, and they set up the Tent of Meeting there; and the land was subdued before them.

E. **The temple (1 Kings 6:38; 8:10-11) versus Babylon (2 Kings 25:1,9)**

F. **The recovered temple – Ezra 1:3; 6:15**

G. **Christ as the temple versus the Jewish religionists**

**John 1:14, 51**

14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

51 And He said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, You shall see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

**John 2:21** But He spoke of the temple of His body.

**John 5:16** And because of this the Jews persecuted Jesus and sought to kill Him, because He did these things on the Sabbath.

H. **The New Jerusalem versus Babylon the Great**

**Rev. 21:2** And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

**Rev. 17:5** And on her forehead there was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS AND THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

### III. **Materials for the building--1 Cor. 3:9-15**

**1 Cor. 3:12** But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,

**Cabin time:** Read 1 Peter 2:4-5, Footnotes 4<sup>1</sup>, 5<sup>1</sup>, 5<sup>2</sup>, 5<sup>3</sup>, 5<sup>4</sup>; 1 Corinthians 3:9, Footnote 9<sup>2</sup>.

**Morning Revival:** Pray-read Ephesians 1:16-17, 2:20-22

# THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 7, 2009 (1)

MESSAGE TWO

## THE CHURCH--THE ONE NEW MAN

### I. God's intention in His creation was to have a corporate man to express Him and to represent Him.

**Gen. 1:26** And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.

### II. The one new man was created through Christ's death on the cross.

**Eph. 2:15** Abolishing in His flesh the law of the commandments in ordinances, that He might create the two in Himself into one new man, so making peace,

**Rom. 6:6** Knowing this, that our old man has been crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;

**2 Cor. 5:17** So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

### III. The church is the one new man.

**Eph. 4:24** And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

### IV. The emphasis on the church being the body of Christ is on life, whereas the emphasis of the church being the one new man is on the person.

**Eph. 4:22-24**

22 That you put off, as regards your former manner of life, the old man, which is being corrupted according to the lusts of the deceit,

23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

### V. In the one new man, Christ is all; we have no place.

**Col. 3:10-11**

10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

### VI. The new man is uniquely one--Eph. 2:15, Col. 3:11.

**1 Cor. 1:10** Now I beseech you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be attuned in the same mind and in the same opinion.

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**VII. The one new man comes into being as we are saturated, filled, and permeated with Christ and replaced by Him through an organic process.**

**2 Cor. 3:18** But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

**VIII. Christ is all the members and is in all the members - Col. 3:11.**

**IX. In the new man, we are still needed; we continue to exist.**

**Col. 3:11b** But Christ is all and in all.

# THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 7, 2009 (2)  
MESSAGE THREE

## THE CHURCH--THE HOUSEHOLD AND KINGDOM OF GOD

### I. The church is the household of God

**Eph. 2:19** So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

A. The church is the household of the faith--a matter of promise, a family matter for our enjoyment

**Gal. 6:10** So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do what is good toward all, but especially toward those of the household of the faith.

**Gal. 4:28** But you, brothers, in the way Isaac was, are children of promise.

B. The church is the house of God – a matter of God’s governmental administration

**Heb 3:6** But Christ was faithful as a Son over His house, whose house we are if indeed we hold fast the boldness and the boast of hope firm to the end.

**1 Pet. 4:17** For it is time for the judgment to begin from the house of God; and if first from us, what will be the end of those who disobey the gospel of God?

C. The church is the house of the living God – a matter of God’s dwelling

**1 Tim. 3:15** But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

D. The church is a spiritual house – a matter of God’s life

**1 Pet. 2:5** You yourselves also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

### II. The church is the commonwealth of Israel, the kingdom of God

**Eph. 2:12** That you were at that time apart from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

A. At our regeneration, we entered the kingdom

**John 3:5** Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

**Col. 1:13** Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

**Acts 26:18** To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

B. The kingdom is Christ

**Luke 17:20-21**

20 And when He was questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, The kingdom of God does not come with observation;

21 Nor will they say, Behold, here it is! or, There! For behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.

C. The development of the kingdom is the believers’ growth in life

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### **2 Pet. 1:3-4, 11**

- 3 Seeing that His divine power has granted to us all things which relate to life and godliness, through the full knowledge of Him who has called us by His own glory and virtue,
- 4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.
- 11 For in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly and bountifully supplied to you.

### **D. The kingdom is the church life today**

**Rom. 14:17** For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

### **E. The kingdom today will develop into the coming kingdom as a reward to be inherited by the overcoming saints in the millennium**

**Eph. 5:5** For this you realize, knowing that every fornicator or unclean person or greedy person (who is an idolater) has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

### **Rev 20:4,6**

- 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and of those who had not worshipped the beast nor his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.
- 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

**Cabin time:** Read Ephesians 2:15, note 15<sup>8</sup>; Ephesians 2:19 with all footnotes; Ephesians 2:12 with all footnotes; 2 Peter 1:3-11.

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FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 7, 2009

MESSAGE FOUR

## THE CHURCH--THE BODY OF CHRIST

**I. The Body of Christ is not an organization; it is an organism of the Triune God constituted of all the regenerated believers for the expression and activities of the Head.**

**Rom. 12:4-5**

4 For just as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function,  
5 So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

**II. The Body of Christ is the constitution of the divinity of the processed and consummated Triune God with the humanity of all His redeemed, regenerated, and transformed people.**

**Eph. 4:4-6**

4 One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling;  
5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism;  
6 One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**III. The heavenly vision of Christ, the Head, and the church, the Body--the wonderful "Me" – captured, constrained, and captivated Paul as a young man and formed the foundation for his unique ministry--Acts 26:13-19; Rom. 12:5; 1 Cor. 10:17; 12:12-13; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4,16.**

**Acts 26:13-15**

13 At midday, on the way, I saw, O king, a light from heaven beyond the brightness of the sun, shining around me and those who journeyed with me.  
14 And when we all fell to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew dialect, Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.  
15 And I said, Who are You, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus, whom you persecute.

**1 Cor. 12:12-13**

12 For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the body, being many, are one body, so also is the Christ.  
13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

**IV. The Body is the mystery of Christ--Eph. 3:4,6.**

**V. The Body of Christ is built up with Christ's life as its element, the Spirit of reality as its essence, and the person of God as its source--Eph. 4:4-6.**

**VI. The Body of Christ is built up by the perfected saints who are perfected by the members.**

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### **Eph. 4:11-12**

- 11 And He Himself gave some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as shepherds and teachers,  
12 For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ,

### **VII. The Body of Christ is built up by itself in love.**

**Eph. 4:16** Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

### **VIII. In the whole universe, the Body of Christ is uniquely one.**

A. In the Father's name by His divine life--John 17:6-13.

B. Through sanctification by the reality of the word – John 17:14-21.

**John 17:21** That they all may be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that You have sent Me.

C. In the divine glory for the expression of the processed Triune God.

#### **John 17:22-23**

22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;

23 I in them, and You in Me, that they may be perfected into one, that the world may know that You have sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.

D. Of the Spirit--Eph. 4:3.

**Eph. 4:3** Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace.

E. With the Triune God as its contents – Eph. 4:4-6.

F. Not according to culture, race, or any natural affinity – Col. 3:10-11.

### **IX. God has blended the Body together--1 Cor. 12:19-25.**

#### **X. Our entrance into the Body of Christ is:**

A. Complicated for God: Chosen and predestinated by the Father (1 Pet. 1:2; Eph. 1:4-5), redeemed by Christ through His blood (Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:12), regenerated through the resurrection of Christ (1 Pet. 1:3; Eph. 1:19-20), breathed into by the pneumatic Christ (John 20:22), and clothed by the outpoured Spirit (Acts 2:4; 10:44).

B. Simple for us: believing and being baptized.

#### **Acts 16:14-15**

5 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple-dyed goods from the city of Thyatira who worshipped God, was listening, whose heart the Lord opened to give heed to the things being spoken by Paul.

6 And when she was baptized, as well as her household, she entreated us, saying, If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and abide. And she constrained us.

**Cabin time:** Read Acts 9:1-6, Footnote 4<sup>1</sup>; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, all footnotes; John 17, notes 11<sup>2</sup>, 21<sup>1</sup>, and 22<sup>2</sup>.

**Morning Revival:** Pray-read Ephesians 4:4-6, read note 4<sup>1</sup>; Romans 12:4-5, read all footnotes to these two verses.

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SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 8, 2009 (1)

MESSAGE FIVE

## THE CHURCH--THE MANCHILD AND THE FIRSTFRUIT

### I. The Man-child--Rev. 12:1-18

A. The universal bright woman, signifying the totality of God's people (Rev. 12:17), being with child.

**Rev. 12:1-2**

1 And a great sign was seen in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon underneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

2 And she was with child, and she cried out, travailing in birth and being in pain to bring forth.

B. The great red dragon, Satan, against the woman— Rev. 12:3-4

C. Giving birth to a man-child

**Rev. 12:5** And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

D. Resulting in war in heaven and Satan being cast out— Rev. 12:7-9

E. Signifying the stronger part of God's people— 1 Pet. 3:7

F. Consisting of the resurrected overcomers

**Rev. 12:11** And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

G. Overcoming the devil, Satan

1. By the blood of the Lamb

2. By the word of their testimony

3. By not loving their soul life— Matt. 16:23-27

**Matt. 16:25** For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever loses his soul-life for My sake shall find it.

H. Being brought forth by the woman— Rev. 12:5

I. To rule all the nations

**Rev. 2:26-27**

26 And he who overcomes and he who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations;

27 And he will shepherd them with an iron rod, as vessels of pottery are broken in pieces, as I also have received from My Father;

J. Being caught up— Rev. 12:5

### II. The firstfruit--Rev. 14:1-5

**Rev. 14:1-5**

1 And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him a hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

2 And I heard a voice out of heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder; and the voice which I heard was like the sound of harpsingers playing on their harps.

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- 3 And they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the hundred and forty-four thousand, who have been purchased from the earth.
- 4 These are they who have not been defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are they who follow the Lamb wherever He may go. These were purchased from among men as firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.
- 5 And in their mouth no lie was found; they are without blemish.

### **Lev. 23:10-11**

- 10 Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, When you come into the land which I am giving you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring the sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest;
- 11 And he shall wave the sheaf before Jehovah for your acceptance; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.

**Exo. 23:19a** The first of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of Jehovah your God.

- A. Firstfruits to God and to the Lamb, signifying the early living overcomers, before the great tribulation – Rev. 14:4
- B. A hundred and forty-four thousand – Rev. 14:1, 3
- C. Purchased from the earth – Rev. 14:3
- D. Purchased from among men – Rev. 14:4
- E. Standing with the Lamb on Mount Zion – Rev. 14:1
- F. Having the Lamb's name and the Father's name on their foreheads – Rev. 14:1
- G. Singing a new song – Rev. 14:3
- H. Not defiled with women – Rev. 14:4
- I. No lie being found in their mouth – Rev. 14:5
- J. Without blemish – Rev. 14:5
- K. Following the Lamb wherever He may go – Rev. 14:4

# THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 8, 2009 (2)

MESSAGE SIX

## THE CHURCH--THE LAMPSTAND

### I. In the Bible, the lampstand is always related to God's building

#### A. The lampstand for the building of the tabernacle – Exo. 25:31-40

**Exo. 25:31** And you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand with its base and its shaft shall be made of beaten work; its cups, its calyxes, and its blossom buds shall be of one piece with it.

**Exo. 25: 37** And you shall make its lamps, seven; and set up its lamps to give light to the area in front of it.

#### B. The lampstand for the building of the temple – 1 Kings 7:49

#### C. The lampstand for the building of the recovered temple – Zech. 4:2-10

**Zech. 4:2** And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see that there is a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl on top of it and its seven lamps upon it, with seven pipes for each of the lamps on top of it;

#### D. The lampstand being for the local churches

**Rev. 1:12** And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,

**Rev. 1:20** The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

### II. The lampstand is a type of the church

#### A. The golden element – divine in nature

**Exo. 25:39** It shall be made of a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils.

**2 Pet. 1:4** Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

#### B. The gold being beaten to form the stand – the testimony of Jesus

**Exo. 25:31b** The lampstand with its base and its shaft shall be made of beaten work; its cups, its calyxes, and its blossom buds shall be of one piece with it.

**Rev. 1:9** I John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

#### C. The seven lamps as the expression – shining in the dark age with the seven Spirits of God

**2 Cor. 3:17** And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

**Zech. 3:9** For here is the stone that I have set before Joshua – upon one stone are seven eyes. I will engrave its engraving, declares Jehovah of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

**Zech. 4:10** For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice when they see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel; they are the eyes of Jehovah running to and fro on the whole earth.

**Rev. 5:6** And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

#### D. The reproduction of the lampstand

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**Rev. 1:12b** and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands,

### III. Christ today is walking in the midst of the lampstands

**Rev. 1:13** And in the midst of the lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment reaching to the feet, and girded about at the breasts with a golden girdle.

**Rev. 2:1** To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

### IV. The church is the embodiment of Christ and the reproduction of the Spirit

#### A. The Spirit as the reality of Christ--John 14:17-20; 16:13-15

**John 16:13** But when He, the Spirit of reality, comes, He will guide you into all the reality; for He will not speak from Himself, but what He hears He will speak; and He will declare to you the things that are coming.

#### B. The church as the reproduction of the Spirit – Rev. 22:17a

**Rev. 22:17a** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come!

# THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

SATURDAY EVENING, AUGUST 8, 2009

MESSAGE SEVEN

## THE CHURCH--GOD'S MASTERPIECE AND CHRIST'S BRIDE

### I. The church is God's masterpiece

**Eph. 2:10** For we are His masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand in order that we would walk in them.

**Eph. 1:23** Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

**2 Cor. 5:17** So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

### II. The church is Christ's bride

#### A. The type of Eve, coming out of Adam—Gen. 2:18-24

**Gen. 2:18** And Jehovah God said, It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper as his counterpart.

**Gen. 2:21-23**

21 And Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.

22 And Jehovah God built the rib, which He had taken from the man, into a woman and brought her to the man.

23 And the man said, This time this is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman because out of Man this one was taken.

#### B. The type of the church, coming out of Christ, the last Adam—John 19:31-37

**John 19:34** But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water.

#### C. From the beginning of the Bible to the end, in the eyes of God, God's people being considered as a woman

##### 1. In the Old Testament—Isa. 54:5, Jer. 31:32, Hosea 2:19-20.

**Isa. 54:5a** For your Maker is your Husband; Jehovah of Hosts is His name.

##### 2. In the New Testament—Matt. 9:15, John 3:29, 2 Cor. 11:2

**John 3:29a** He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice.

**2 Cor. 11:2** For I am jealous over you with a jealousy of God; for I betrothed you to one husband to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

#### D. The bride of Christ—Eph. 5:25-30

**Eph. 5:25-26**

25 Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her

26 That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word,

##### 1. Christ loving the church

##### 2. Cleansing the church by the washing of the water of the word

#### E. The woman bringing forth the man-child—Rev. 12:1-6

## THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

- F. The Holy City, New Jerusalem – Rev. 19:7; 21:2, 9-10; Psalm 45:13-14; Rev. 22:17  
**Rev. 21:2** And I saw the holy City, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.  
**Rev. 21:9-10**  
9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.  
10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.,  
**Rev. 22:17a** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come!

**Cabin Time:** Read all verses referred to in message 7; read all footnotes to Eph. 5:25-27.

LORD'S DAY MORNING, AUGUST 9, 2009  
MESSAGE EIGHT

## THE CHURCH--THE CORPORATE WARRIOR AND THE HOLY CITY

### I. There are three wills in the universe:

#### A. The will of God

**Eph. 1:9** Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,

#### B. The satanic will that is set against God's will

**Isa. 14:13** But you, you said in your heart: I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will exalt my throne. And I will sit upon the mount of assembly in the uttermost parts of the north.

#### C. A human will that is free

**Matt. 4:17b** Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near.

#### D. All warfare having its source in this conflict of wills

### II. The church must be a warrior to defeat God's enemy.

#### **Eph. 6:10-13**

10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.

11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

#### A. Empowered – Eph. 6:10

#### B. Putting on the whole armor of God – Eph. 6:11a

#### C. Able to stand against the stratagems of the devil – Eph. 6:11b

#### D. Our wrestling not against flesh and blood – Eph. 6:12a

#### E. Our wrestling against the rulers, the authorities, the world-rulers, and spiritual forces of evil – Eph. 6:12b

#### F. Able to withstand in the evil day – Eph. 6:13a

#### G. Having done all to stand – Eph. 6:13b

### III. Put on the whole armor of God.

#### **Eph. 6:14-17**

14 Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness

15 And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace;

16 Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one.

17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God.

#### A. The girdle of truth – Eph. 6:14a

#### B. The breastplate of righteousness – Eph. 6:14b

#### C. The firm foundation of the gospel of peace – Eph. 6:15

#### D. The shield of faith – Eph. 6:16

## THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

- E. The helmet of salvation – Eph. 6:17a
- F. The sword of the Spirit – Eph. 6:17b

### IV. Prayer is the application of the items of God's armor.

#### Eph. 6:18-20

- 18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,
- 19 And for me, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known in boldness the mystery of the gospel,
- 20 For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

### V. The corporate warrior is related to the bride.

#### A. The seeker in the Song of Songs likened to an army

S.S. 6:4 You are as beautiful, my love, as Tirzah, as lovely as Jerusalem, as terrible as an army with banners.

#### B. The wife in Ephesians followed by the warrior – Eph. 5:22-33; 6:10-20

#### C. The marriage of the Lamb in Revelation followed by the war at Armageddon – Rev. 19:5-10, 11-21.

Rev. 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.

Rev. 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sits on it called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

Rev. 19:14 And the armies which are in heaven followed Him on white horses, dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

### VI. The church is the holy city--Rev. 21-22.

#### A. The holy city descending from heaven – Rev. 21:9-10

#### B. The light of the holy city – v. 11

Rev. 21:11b Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal,

#### C. The inhabitants of the holy city – Rev. 21:12, 14

#### D. The city, the gates and the wall – Rev. 21:12-17

##### Rev. 21:12-14

12 It had a great and high wall and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names inscribed, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel:

13 On the east three gates, and on the north three gates, and on the south three gates, and on the west three gates.

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

#### E. Gold, precious stones, and pearl – Rev. 21:18-21

##### Rev. 21:18-19a

18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

19a The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone:

Rev. 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each of the gates was, respectively, of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

## THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

### F. The temple and the light of the city

#### **Rev. 21:22-23**

22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon that they should shine in it, for the glory of God illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

### G. The river of water of life and the tree of life

#### **Rev. 22:1-2**

1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

2 And on this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life, producing twelve fruits, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

### H. Forever and ever—Rev. 22:3-5

**Rev. 22:5b** And they will reign forever and ever.

**Ride Home:** Read Revelation 12:1-12, Footnotes 5<sup>2</sup>, 11<sup>1</sup> to 11<sup>5</sup>; Revelation 14:1-5, Footnote 4<sup>2</sup>; Revelation 1:12-20, Footnote 12<sup>3</sup>.

Ephesians 6:10-20, Footnotes to verses 10 to 13.

Pray-read Ephesians 6:14-18, read Footnotes for verses 17 and 18.

## THE VISION OF THE CHURCH

### **Message 1. The church -- God's building**

*The Vision of God's Building*, chapters 1-4 and 15; Recovery version footnotes and cross references to 1 Peter 2:4-5, Ephesians 2:20-22.

### **Message 2. The church -- the one new man**

Outlines 1 and 2 from *The Vision Needed for the Reality and Practicality of the Universal One New Man* given in the Elders Training in 2001.

### **Message 3. The church - the household and kingdom of God**

This section on the household was composed based upon Ephesians 2:19, cross reference 19<sup>c</sup>, notes on the verses in the cross reference, note 19<sup>a</sup>. The section on the kingdom was based on Ephesians 2:12, with notes 2 to 6; but the outline's verses were structured based upon footnote 43<sup>2</sup> in Luke 4.

### **Message 4. The church - the body of Christ**

This outline was composed by compressing messages 5 to 7 of the August 1997 conference at Lake Lavon.

### **Message 5. The church - the man-child and the firstfruit**

For the man-child, see L. S. Revelation, pp. 31-32; Messages 34, 35 and 36, especially pp. 419-434, and message 45. For the firstfruit, see L. S. Revelation pp. 32-33, Message 46.

### **Message 6. The church - the lampstand**

Rev. 1:12, footnote 12<sup>2</sup>, L. S. Revelation Message 8 and 31.

### **Message 7. The church - God's masterpiece and Christ's bride**

L. S. Ephesians, Message 21, pp. 186-188; *The Glorious Church*

### **Message 8. The church - The Corporate Warrior and the Holy City**

L.S. Ephesians, Messages 63-66.