

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS

Message Four

**Entering the Church Life as today's "Ark"  
according to the Lord's Present Revelation**

Scripture Reading: Gen. 1:26; Acts 1:8; Rev. 1:2, 11-12; Gen. 6:11-14; 1 Pet. 3:20; Phil. 2:12-16;  
Acts 2:40; Gal. 1:4; Rev. 3:18; Matt. 25:9; Prov. 23:23; Rev. 11:15; 1 Cor. 12:12; Acts 8:1; 13:1;  
Rev. 19:7; 22:7

**I. The purpose of God's salvation is not only that man be saved but also that he would be a testimony of God; the Bible records that all the saved ones throughout the ages were not only for their salvation but for God's testimony—Gen. 1:26; Acts 1:8; Rev. 1:2.**

**II. At the time of Noah the generation was degraded, but God came in and called Noah to build an ark; the ark not only saved Noah from God's judgment and eternal perdition: even more, it saved him out of that degraded, perverted generation and ushered him into a new age in order to carry out God's eternal plan, His testimony, on the earth—Gen. 6:11-14; 1 Pet. 3:20:**

A. At Noah's time, besides Noah and his family, there must have been a number of others who believed in God; although they were saved from eternal perdition, they were not saved from their perverted generation and were not ushered into the new age—Phil. 2:15-16.

B. Many Christians have been saved from eternal perdition, but not many have entered into the ark to be saved from today's crooked generation and thus following the course of today's present age—Acts 2:40; Gal. 1:4.

C. When Noah went into the ark, Jehovah shut the door: this kind of salvation may have seemed like a prison; in one sense, Noah was saved and rescued, but in another sense, he was imprisoned.

D. After the flood, Noah came out of the ark with his whole family and entered into a new age; this shows the kind of salvation Noah secured and enjoyed—cf. Gen. 8:16, 18.

E. We need not only to preach the individual Christ but also to build the corporate Christ, the church, which is today's ark; through this corporate Christ we are saved from the crooked and perverted generation—cf. Acts 8:35; 1 Cor. 12:12:

1. While the apostles were preaching the individual Christ, they were building up the corporate Christ, the ark in which they will enjoy God's full salvation—Acts 8:1; 13:1; cf. Acts 8:4-5, 35; 13:1; 14:23.

2. We should be faithful to do the same thing—preaching the gospel and building the ark, preaching Christ and building Christ—cf. 1 Cor. 12:12; 14:4-5, 12, 26.

F. When this ark is built up, the Lord Jesus will return—Rev. 19:7; 22:7, 12, 20:

1. The Lord has not come back yet because He is still waiting for the ark to be built—Matt. 16:18, 27.

2. When the testimony of the church in the Lord's recovery is matured, the Lord Jesus will return—Rev. 19:7; 22:7.

**III. To be in the church life practically, we need to pay the price to come into the local church—Rev. 3:18; Matt. 25:9:**

A. Regardless of how good a Christian someone may be, as long as he is not in the local churches, he is not the church practically; he is a member of the Body of Christ, but he is not in the practical church life—cf. Acts 8:1; 13:1.

B. There is only one thing that can fully satisfy God and rescue people from the crooked generation, and that is to build the ark, the proper church life.

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C. This is to take the way of the Lord's up-to-date-revelation; we need to be captured by seeing this revelation and declare, "This is it! Let us take this way at any cost"—Acts 26:18.

**FOCUS:** *We need to see our desperate need to enter into the practical church life and be built into the church as today's ark to be rescued out of the present evil age just as Noah was in his age. We are part of the great family of Noah to end this age. The church life is a family life, the great family of the Lord's recovery all over this earth.*

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Message Four

**Entering the Church Life as today's Ark  
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**Scripture Reading:**

**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.

**Acts 1:8**

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

**Rev. 1:2, 11-12**

- 2 Who testified the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, even all that he saw.  
11 Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.  
12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands.

**Gen. 6:11-14**

- 11 And the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.  
12 And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth.  
13 And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and now I am about to destroy them with the earth.  
14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall cover it within and without with pitch.

**1 Pet. 3:20**

Who had formerly disobeyed when the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared; entering into which, a few, that is, eight souls, were brought safely through by water.

**Phil. 2:12-16**

- 12 So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much rather in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;  
13 For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for His good pleasure.  
14 Do all things without murmurings and reasonings  
15 That you may be blameless and guileless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine as luminaries in the world,  
16 Holding forth the word of life, so that I may have a boast in the day of Christ that I did not run in vain nor labor in vain.

**Acts 2:40**

And with many other words he solemnly testified and exhorted them, saying, Be saved from this crooked generation.

**Gal. 1:4**

Who gave Himself for our sins that He might rescue us out of the present evil age according to the will of our God and Father.

**Rev. 3:18**

I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined by fire that you may be rich, and white garments that you may be clothed and that the shame of your nakedness may not be manifested, and eyesalve to anoint your eyes that you may see.

**Matt. 25:9**

But the prudent answered, saying, Perhaps there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.

**Prov. 23:23**

Buy truth, and do not sell it; / Buy wisdom and instruction and understanding.

**Rev. 11:15**

And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

**1 Cor. 12:12**

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.

**Acts 8:1**

And Saul approved of his killing. And there occurred in that day a great persecution against the church which was in Jerusalem; and all were scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

**Acts 13:1**

Now there were in Antioch, in the local church, prophets and teachers: Barnabas and Simeon, who was called Niger, and Lucius the Cyrenian, and Manaen, the foster brother of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

**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. 22:7**

And behold, I come quickly. Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this scroll.

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS

Message Four – Group Time

**Entering the Church Life as today's Ark  
according to the Lord's Present Revelation**

**Verses for Pray-reading:**

**Gal. 1:4** Who gave Himself for our sins that He might rescue us out of the present evil age according to the will of our God and Father.

**Rev. 3:18** I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined by fire that you may be rich, and white garments that you may be clothed and that the shame of your nakedness may not be manifested, and eyesalve to anoint your eyes that you may see.

**Ministry Reading:**

*(The Testimony of Jesus, W. Lee, Ch 8, pp. 86-89)*

<http://www.ministrybooks.org/books.cfm?id=%23%28LEY%0A>

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Discuss in your groups about the two aspects of God's salvation; you may be saved from eternal perdition, but can you say that you have been saved from the perverted generation?
2. Fellowship how practically we can enjoy God's complete salvation into the kingdom.
3. Does the church life feel like a prison to you? Fellowship why the young people do not feel a part of the church life; what are they waiting for?

## THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS

### Morning Revival

#### *DAY THREE*

#### **Verses for Pray-reading:**

**Phil. 2:12-14** So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much rather in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for His good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and reasonings

#### **Ministry Reading:**

*(The Testimony of Jesus, W. Lee, Ch 8, pp. 89-91)*

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#### **Simple Prayers:**

“Lord, save us not only from Your judgment but also from this present evil age!”

“Lord, bring us all fully into the church life!”

“Lord, build up the church life in Europe for Your expression; use the young people to build Your church!”