

# **The Voice of Cambodia Reformed Faith Institute**

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Ratanakiri Oyadav 67 pastors in 3 villages was gathered for pastoral leadership meeting for prayer and fellowship at Oyavdav Por Pot Church (pastor Rochom Derm) on May 2022. CEMF supports them for evangelize 27 villages.

This bulletin aims on sharing the sound doctrine to encourage Cambodia Christians and to make them obeyed to go to evangelism in order to occupy 14000 villagers in 25 Cambodia provinces.

**Cambodia Reformed Faith Institute**

## [Letter of the Editor]

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For my vacation time in my home, which is located at Pomona city in California for two months, I meditated on the meaning of Revelation 5:12, "aying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" that so-called, for the sevenfold praise traditionally in the church. Especially I tried to relate to the contents of new song with the abundant grace of redemption that we should enjoy in the present life in Christ, because God gave kingship as his promise and his command. Really how much do we enjoy the grace in our present life? Among them it is a wonderful means to focus on the truth, the word of God, the Scripture. Our Blettin executes the role in the contemporary day.

Although my ministry is so busy activities, I never postpone this ministry. I focus on proclaim the reformed faith expressed by several writers, Dr. Grace Oh, Dr. Paul Han, Dr. Hang Rock Kim and also especially, our mentors, John Calvin, Reformed Puritan theologians and Dr. Yune Sun Park etc. I appreciate them for their faithful serving in their esseys. Whoever read the articles shall find our wonderful world of truth in the chaos time. Especially I pray that God may provide the faithful grace to my loved Cambodia church in 25 provinces to plant the puritan reformed faith. May the grace of God and the truth of the Scripture be with the readers.

June 01 2022

In Christ

Dr. White Young Jeon, Editor.

## Corner of Biblical Apologetics – defense, explanation and attacking

Recently we observe some heresy in Cambodia mission field. One of them influence on the Cambodia Christians by the means of technology instrument and financial aids. So CEMF makes sure what the sound doctrine in the Scripture through my book, *Reasonable Reformed Doctrine* as the sound salvation issue.

### The essence of church

#### Main Points

1. The church is the people who God called out of the world
2. The church is the body of Christ that stays in the heaven and on the earth.
3. The distinguishing of the church
  - 1) The fighting church and the overcome church
  - 2) The visible church and the invisible church
  - 3) The organized church and systematic church
4. The individual church is the called people by the Holy Spirit of God or, the chosen people.
5. Three character of the church
  - 1) The unity of church - the church is the united system of spiritual body of Christ.
  - 2) The character of holiness of the church – the church is the called assembly to approach to the holiness in Christ.
  - 3) The universal character of the church includes all Christians.
6. The three external features ( mark) of the church
  - 1) The faithful proclamation of God's word
  - 2) The right execution of sacrament (baptism and communion)
  - 3) The Practice of faithful discipline

## **The essence of church**

### **I. The survey of doctrine of church**

The term of church in the Old Testament came out of the verb, "to call" and the term of the New Testament came out of verb to "call out". They mean that the church is called for by God.

#### ***1) Another meaning in the New Testament***

The term of New Testament generally has the local church whether gather for worship or not. (Acts 5:11, 11:26, Rom 16:4 I Cor 11:18, 16:1) Often it was described as home church or, "the church in a house" for some individual (Rom 16:5, 23, I Cor 16:19 Col 4:15). As in the best meaning it means the the complete body of the Christian. (Eph 1:22, 3:10-21, 5:23, Col 1:18-24).

#### ***2) Essence of church***

Roman church and reformed church are different in essence. Roman church thinks that it consists of the higher orders those are, the priest, archbishops, cardinals and the pope.

Reformed church polished these external concepts and seeks the nature of church at invisible spiritual unity of saints. The church to have essential character includes the Christians in the all generation. This is just the body of spiritual body of Christ and has no any unbelievers.

#### ***3) division of church***

Generally as we say the church there is several views.

- (1) **Fighting church and conquer church** –Now the church in the earth is the fighting church and actually she is participated into the holy war and is fighting. Contrastly the church in the heaven remains the victorious church that the sword was changed into palm tree.

- (2) **A visible church and invisible church** - This division is applied to the church on the earth, it has the invisible nature. So it is impossible to discern who belong to the church or, not, it is visible in the aspects of the confession of the believer's faith, the word, the sacrament and the external system and governs.

### **(3) The organized church and systematic church**

This division is applied to only the visible church. The church which is organized system reveals the figure to fight with the world in the community life. And the church system is revealed as officials, the Word, the practice of sacrament and the discipline of church.

### **4) Definition of church**

The invisible church is defined as the multitude to be called for, elected or, the unity of Christians. And the visible church is the unity that the people teach true faith to his children.

- 5) **The attribute of church and its feature** – Especially the church has three character and three external features.

(1) **The attribute of church** – It is arranged as following three things.

(2) **Unity of church** –According to Roman Catholics this is the unity that means the broad functions. But According to reformed church it is the unity of the body of the spiritual body.

Jn 10:16 "And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

Jn 17:20,21 " "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, **21**that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ".

Eph 4:4-6 "There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ."

### ***(3) Holiness of church***

Roman Catholics claim the character of discipline that follows the doctrine and the moral laws. But reformed church claims that it has more number than many denominations that are scattered in the entire world. The reformed church claims that because the church included every believer in the all generation and all nations, only the invisible church is true Catholic Church.

Ps 2:8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

Rev 7:9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

### **[1] External feature of church (mark)**

First of all the nature belongs to the invisible church, the mark belongs to the visible church. And it helps to discern between the truth and the false. We think of three things in it.

### **[2] Faithful preaching of the Word of God**

This is the important mark of church. (I Jn 4:1-3 Jn 9) It doe not mean that preaching is complete absolute purity, but that Christian true nature influence on the faith and the work faithfully.

II Tim 1:13 Follow the pattern of the sound<sup>d</sup> words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus

II Tim 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved,<sup>e</sup> a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.Tit 2:1 But as for you, teach what accords with sound<sup>a</sup> doctrine.

### **[3] Right execution of sacraments**

The sacrament like Roman Catholics should not be separated of the word, according to holy direction and it should be executed by the proper workers (pastors) to the Christians and his children. (Mt 28:19, Mk 16:16 Acts 2:42, I Cor 11:23-30)

Act 19:4,5 And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in<sup>b</sup> the name of the Lord Jesus.

I Cor 11:28-30 Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.

### **[4] Practice of faithful discipline**

It is needed for keeping on the purity and protecting the holiness of holiness. The word of God says this one. (Mt 18:18 I Cor 5:1-5:13, 14:33, 40 Rev 2:14-15, 20)

Mt 16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed<sup>d</sup> in heaven."

Tit 3:10,11 As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

## Of the Doctrine of the Predestination

Written by Dr. Jung Am, Yune Sun Park, translated by White Young Jeon

### 1. The explanation of difficult issue about the doctrine of predestination

At this point, I said that I referred to the book, Reformed Doctrine of Predestination written by L.. Boettner much.

#### 1) The theory that the predestination and the fatalism are same

The predestination is different to the fatalism because the fatalism affirmed all facts. The original source (Tea Won) is not personal god, the non- personal power, the power without the purpose which is called for affirming and the theory happened the principle but the predestination is appointed all thing by his holiness, his righteousness, and his wisdom and also makes them accomplished as to the plan. For example as we review the different points between the predestination and fatalism obviously, it is as followings. A British man who believes in the predestination and a Mohamed believer rode a same ship together, a man was dropped down into the water miserably. Then the Mohammed believer said, "if the book of fatalism recorded that the dropped man will not be saved although we try to deliver him with much sacrifice he shall not be salved" And he tried to ignore the salvation of the man But the British man to believe in the predestination said, "We do not know that he might be predestined by God to be delivered out of the water." And then he cast the rope in the water and he was delivered by it.

#### 2) The theory that the predestination is not proper to the free will theory.

The supporters of this theory said, "If God predestinated the activity before the eternity, how can the man be the being with the freedom?" In interpreting the freedom and the affection, no one can deny it. The interpretation of these two things is accomplished by harmonizing in the center of sovereignty Lordship of God with the freedom of the man. God who predestinated all things predestinated the freedom of the man also and after he predestinated the work of God that he established the freedom of the man is the mysterious that we can interpret it. The mysterious thing that God predestinates all things at the same time, and establishes the freedom of the man is accomplished by his excellent



wisdom and the impossible power. Philippians 2:12-13 said, "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. " reveals the thought of human freedom and also the word includes the meaning that "the one to appoint and to work is God". It reveals that the will of God moves in all things. Therefore Zengchius said, "The man cannot help but to serve to the appointed purposes of God from the beginning to the end. But we know well that he cannot have the feeling of forcing and oppression, only execute all works freely and intensely and he himself works as his own owner." At this point we offer a metaphor. The golden fish moves in the fish tank without any control but the fish tank is revealed by the people and is taken of it and is brought about it. The fish takes the freedom; the freedom will be taken the harmony by only the control of the person that put the fish tank there. We can see such many cases in the Scripture. The brothers to sell Joseph did so by their free deed. But finally Joseph interpreted the fact rightly, it comes out of Genesis 45:5, 8, 50:20) That is, the fact that Joseph was sold and the sects to related to the event were moved by the hand of God totally. ( Ex 12:36, I Sam 2:35, II Sam 17:14, I Ki 12:11, 15 Ez 6:22 7:6, Pro 16:9 Ac 10:23 Rev 17:17)

### 3) **The theory that it reduces the motive to try to sacrifice.**

The people to opposite the predestination again said, "If all things are worked by the predestination, the people do not need to do the good work." But this theory is false that the word of the Scripture is not understood rightly, at the same time, the general theory also was not understood rightly.

(1) We in this point have no any questions in thinking the area of predestination of God. God did not only the result of the work but predestined the totality of the work. That is, God did not predestination only the good things and also predestinated even the means to accomplish the work. Without means, no purpose, without purpose no means. Therefore this does not come forcibly but come true by the work in his mysterious impression. For harvesting on the fall, we cannot help but to plant on the spring. Therefore we cannot help but to offer confirmed sacrifice. Therefore Hebrew 12:4 said that until shedding the blood we should contrast to the sin.

(2) It is difficult that we can count what God predestinated and understand it. Therefore we cannot look at the future thing but we should stay at the place that we should take

responsibility. Our character and environment produce the motive of sacrifice. This does not belong to the chance but it is because God made us so.

(3) We receive Holy Spirit and also his lead. He made us run for the righteousness of God.

(4) Not only that, the believer to believe in the doctrine of predestination knows that he is the child of God. Therefore he assures that as he runs according to the word of God's revelation, finally he accomplishes the good work. Nobody can stop the steps of the person who has such assurance; his sacrifice is strong and strengthened. He in the perspective of the fact of predestination of God's children and absolute faithful promise endures long time in his sacrifice and his running by pulling to the hope of the glory. Therefore the saints to believe in the predestination have the assurance of hope and does not frustrate in the difficult state and sacrifice by believing the help of God to the good work. Therefore the doctrine of predestination does not reduce by the sacrifice rather does strengthen. If whoever depends on the sacrifice of the man and the free will and he lives in the temporary success and emotional pleasure, he shall be frustrated easily and cannot proceed before the lots of stumbling blocks with the overcoming power.

#### 4) **The theory that the predestination makes God become the maker of the sin.**

If God predestinated all things, he predestinated the sin also, therefore the guilt feeling should be attributed to God, and the opposite men said so. We do not think to solve this issue easily. Because the man is a creature and is committed sin and then becomes dark, although he is a believer of the gospel, he cannot solve completely to such deep theory. But we according to the Scripture we can know that God hates the sin and judges the sin but did not make the sin. About the part of the sin we can explain the part of the sin. According to the Scripture, God commands the man and says that he should not commit sin continuously. But the man tries to commit sin surely God does not compel them, God permitted it. But the permission does not come out of the cause that God hates him. Not only that although God permits it his good economy that he wants shall not be failed if it means that the permission means the sovereignty Lordship and economical failure, he shall not permit it so.

## 2. **The theory of destination and actual life ( 5-11)**

1) **The doctrine of predestination makes us known the warm character between God and man.**

The theory of predestination is not cold, isolated abstract theory, but is the relationship between the God and the man in the most warm, living and important meaning. Calvin said to this theory, as following, "This doctrine is not tired theory that meaningless debate like many people misunderstood. It is benefits to the devotion. Like we listen to the issue of election in salvation, nothing is the others for the growth of faith. The Holy Spirit through the doctrine of this election makes us understood the eternal unchangeable good will of God to us. This good will cannot be shaken by the secular custom, the attack of Satan and the change of the body. "

2) **The doctrine of predestination is the source to gives safety and courage to us.**

This doctrine makes us taken consciousness of safety in the u area. Not only that, this doctrine makes us kept on faithfulness in the disgrace and the persecution. By the word of the Lord, "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand."(Jn 10:28) the saints delights rather in the storm of darkness the safety feeling of the saints in the worst fighting is happened not by abandoning himself into his weak power but by assuring that he himself commits to the hand of the almighty God. According to the confidence of the believer to believe in the predestination, the devil and wicked people cannot harm the saints under the hand of God but rather they are used to accomplish the pleased will of God.

3) **The doctrine of predestination makes the man been humble by stressing the sovereignty activity of God to the salvation of the man.**

If the believer does not know the plan of salvation of God revealed in the doctrine of predestination, he cannot help but to be a weak believer. Such man does not understand the richness of God's salvation and his grace that was accomplished by Christ properly. His doctrine of predestination reveals that our all good things are come out of the grace of God. This doctrine makes the saints understood that the salvation comes out of only the grace but him is not better than those eternal destroyed persons. Therefore he treats to the people not to be saved more mercifully and meekly. And give the thanksgiving to God eternally.

**4) The system of the faith thought that comes out of this doctrine overcomes the all anti- Christian thought and the other false thought.**

The theologians that have the Christian theology but do not take the doctrine of predestination think that the doctrine of atonement and the work of Holy Spirit and the total impossibility of the man and the other important doctrines are wrecked. Because of this doctrine, finally their claim become like the vain word. Just like that, making the important doctrine become weakly arrives to the tendency not to be caring them.

**3. The historical research to the predestination faith of Calvinism (5, 6, 28)**

Before Augustine the church-fathers also did not assure the doctrine of the predestination, because before Augustine the false theories of the plan of salvation yet were not developed. As it was arrived at the time of Augustine, according to the thought of anti-predestination by Pelagius, among the church leaders considered the thought to the plan of God's salvation. So Augustine assured the doctrine of predestination and preached it. The day of Augustine that teaches the doctrine of predestination rightly was able to be called for the golden time of the church.

But in the mediaeval day, the church again was corrupted and flows into the ecclesiastic and was fallen down into the ritualism and the doctrine of predestination and the view of lavation were dark. Accordingly the moral of the church was corrupted and the sin of the clergymen was vicious indescribably. In the medieval time also Gottschalk and Wl cliff after Augustine, were the reformers before the reformation. They believed in the predestination and the sovereignty Lordship in the Scripture. In that day Waldo party also were able to be the alpinists before Calvin. They could not terminate the oppression, prison life ad exiled life in the dark time.

In the history of church we can say that reformation was the golden day. In this time the greet leaders, Luther and Calvin were the believers to believe in the predestination. The Luther party, at the latter, gradually was reduced and took the doctrine to be closed into Americanism, at the same time, the corrupted image of the church also gradually become severe. Because the renewal Calvinism always keep on the doctrine of predestination and the sovereignty Lordship, after renewal the Luther church wrecked in the thought of the plan of God's salvation, they were treated differently and was called for Lutheran church.

It is the historical fact that the sovereignty Lordship of God and the doctrine of predestination gave the strong faith. Fraud said, "The reformers took the systematical arrangement and the severe theological attitude. The dark day that it was difficult to break out needed the strong thinkers. The believed the sovereignty Lordship and the doctrine of predestination. "We think that the reformed movement is just like Augustans. The faith to the predestination, in the corrupted day of the church they could break out all superstition thought.

We remember that the protesters of British (the reformed believers), in the persecuted day of the queen Mary, were exiled into Geneva and learnt the theology from Calvin After that at the queen Elizabeth they became the leaders of the church. The Scott's reformers and British puritans were the guards of the truth in that day. Macaulay said, "The puritans were the most wonderful multitude n the people that the world begot." And Bancroft proclaimed, " British people became the people of mission for the puritans." Cromwell was the Calvinistic solider to believe in the doctrine of predestination, and them he trained his military with Calvinistic thought. As the result the military was sincerer and courage that they could not see at the early time. This puritan military did not give up until they occupied the other and they destroyed the object that protested against them absolutely. This military was not listened to the vowed saying, had no drunkard and gambling and then for their occupied areas, the property of the citizens and the women were respected preciously. Therefore a certain scholars said as followings, " In the 17<sup>th</sup> century the political issues of all the mankind was depended on the British issue. If then the puritan did not exist, in the world the political freedom might not be seen." Although the British offered the crowns at the three times to Cromwell, he rejected it. The thought of the puritans' faith was the system of John Calvin's theological thought obviously. Through them the freedom in the British was sustained. Fiske said, "The mankind has been taken great debts by Calvin."

At Scotland also the sovereignty Lordship and the doctrine of predestination executed the great role. The great historians said, "Before the Calvinism entered into the Scotland the country was dark. Then the Scott people were the slaves to Roman church without purpose., the used tools of the fathers, in the body, in the heart and in the moral, they were ignorance, corruption and stayed in the low level." A scholar, Bunckle said, "Then the scotch people were dirty poor and misery in their personality and their homes, and they were ignorant and superstition." But then John Knox believed in Calvinism and was happened. He, who was above four years old than Calvin, was a greatest one, who was learnt under Calvin

at Geneva for 5 years. He was like the sun that was raised in the night. He made Calvinism as the Scotland religion. As the result the moral standard of the country became the example of the world. The place that Calvinism exists was revealed the evaluation that the power of sin was wreaked." Carlyle, who was the famous writer said, "The work that Knox did for his country was to establish the resurrection out of the death." And also Frouds said, "Without having John Knox, the Scotland that the contemporary knows did not remained."

Next we can think of the history of Calvinism of France. The Calvinists of France were called for the Huguenots. The Huguenots are informed in the world well. Their moral purity and their heroism was admired by their enemies and their friends Encyclopedia Britannica said " The history of the Huguenots always was the wonderful fact not to disappeared and the powerful expression to be reveal in religious assurance." Miserably on August 24 1572, the St. Bartholomew's Day massacre made the great number of the death of Huguenots. Then the number of the death of the Huguenots was about 60000 persons or, 50000 persons, but Schaff, who was a great church historian, said 30000 persons. Through this killing France was lost greatly. Macaulay, who was a British historian said, "The Huguenots who were exiled out of the British were above the general people than the other Europeans in intellect and in moral, Lecky who was a great historian was a cold humanist but, to the Huguenots, said as followings, "the killing of the Huguenots means to delete the starts of the country that had the most faithful, most sound, the most virtuous men and the brightest men. Through this the way of the corruption without escaping in France was opened. If she had no this killing event, the thought of Huguenots might break out the power of skepticism that made the France religion and politics corrupted. "We remember this point in the reformation of the France. The result of the reformation of France made all mankind returned to humanism out of theism, and dropped down into the materialism to despise the coming world, truth and religion but to love the materialism. Accordingly the mankind of the world was spread into the materialism and despised moral, righteousness, authority and religion and threw away the theism and made them returned to the humanism and finally was corrupted into the revolution of Communism. The revolution of France and the revolution of communism were connected to each other. France was deprived by they killed the Huguenots that was the only power of the truth and the only proceed of Theism. Today the pictures to reveal the depravity of the arts world comes out of Paris and the confused custom also to come out of it are not little.

As we think the history of Calvinism, we remember the fact that the country had many martyrs executed by in the fire, or, in the pot, or, under the edge of the sword or, on the \*. Alva killed many Christian believers. But the oppression of Spain to the Dutch Protestants was destroyed by the fighting of faith of Calvinistic heroism finally. Then if then they had no Calvinistic mind, they could not overcome the trouble issues, the historians said. The most of martyrs in this day were the Calvinists. The few of Lutheran believers and the Arminius party were martyred. The professor, Fruin said, "in Swiss, in France, in Scotland, in British, in Dutch any place were located on the edge of the sword. Among them Calvinism took the important role. "Especially we cannot forget the connection between the puritanism and the Dutch. The pilgrimages that escaped into America out of the British arrived into the Dutch first of all and contacted to Calvinism theology. Especially, Clifton, Brewster etc. who were the heroes of Cambridge University had been at Dutch. They were the strong leaders that hold the interpretative principle of Calvin in strengthens at Geneva.

Finally, what history does the United States of America have? Calvinism is the faith of the puritans that rode on the ship of May Flower and exiled. They entered into America and revealed to begin all things by the faith. They mainly were settled at the Stern area of America. The eastern area of America is the most prosperous area in the culture of America. Today the western America is lower than the eastern area in the cultural level and the human culture are admitted by everybody. Now we try to review the history of the activities of Calvinists at the early time of America's establishment. William Penn belongs to the line of faith of Euro He was a great man to pioneer the United States of America. The people said that among 300 million Americans, 900000 persons came out of Scott line that received the Calvinistic thought of John Knox and 600000 persons came out of British Puritans and also 400000 belonged to Calvinists in the line of Dutch and Gemini. And also among them the Methodists also had the creed 39 articles to receive the much impression f Calves. As we see the population of 2/3 in the contemporary got the Calvinistic thought. And in the warfare of American independence, the Presbyterians that were founded obey Calvinism executed the important role. So the British land called the American independent warfare for The Presbyterian Rebellion a criticized it. A man who was faithful to the king, British, George III, sent his letter as following; I transferred the responsibility to the Presbyterians for an accident issue. They were used to the movement like the fiery situation and always they executed against the government (British government)."

Taint who, was a French historian, was not a religious faith. He said to the Calvinistic faith as followings, These are the true heroes of America, although Steward kingship line were corrupted, they established the British, they established the United States of America And their descendants established Australia and colonialize all the world." When the war of American independence, the Presbyterian Church in the criteria of Methodist church were not systemized but supported the original church in British thinkable. And the Baptist denomination did not make as the unified church, The Methodist denomination did not informed as the system, and Squeak denomination (shaking party) was the non- protestant church that opposite the warfare basically. D' Daubigny who is a French historian said as followings, "Calvin is the constructor to make the United States of America, which is the great country. The puritans left out of the British at the time of the king, I James to New England (the name of a region in America) and arrived and made many powerful colonies, really they were the disciples of Calvin in thought. As we see America was grown up rapidly and they are proud of the reformer (Calvin) as their forefather.

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#### **[CRFI's Voice] What is Reformed Faith? (8)**

##### **Hopefulness for the Next World**

Written by John Calvin from True Christian Life Chapter V

#### ***V. We should not fear death, but lift up our head.***

1. It is terrible that many who boast themselves to be Christians, instead of longing for death, are so filled with fear of it that they tremble whenever the word is mentioned, as if it were the greatest calamity that could befall them. It should not surprise us, indeed, if our natural feeling should be alarmed at hearing of our separation from this life. But it is intolerable that there should not be sufficient light and devotion in a Christina's breast to suppress all that fear with an overwhelming consolation. For, if we consider that this unstable, depraved, perishable, frail, withering, and corrupt tabernacle of our body is dissolved, in order that it may hereafter be restored to a durable perfect, incorruptible, and heavenly glory,-will not our faith then induce us



to wish ardently for what nature dreads? If we remember that by death we are called back from exile to home, to our heavenly fatherland, shall we then not be filled with comfort?

2. But it will be said, there is nothing in this world that does not want to be permanent. It must be admitted, but for that very reason we should look forward to a future immortality, where we may obtain such a realm of stability as is not found on this earth. For Paul clearly teaches believers to go with anxious longing toward death, not to be stripped of our body, but to be clothed with a new garment. Shall brute animals, and even lifeless creatures, down to blocks and stones, aware of their present vanity, be looking forward to the resurrection at the last day, that they may be delivered from vanity, together with children of God; and shall we, gifted with the light of natural reason, and with far superior enlightenment of the Spirit of God; shall we, when we consider our future existence, not lift our minds above the corruption of this world?

3. But, it is not necessary or suitable for my present purpose to argue against such utter perverseness as fear of death. In the beginning I have already declared what I would not enter on a complicated discussion of commonplace topics. I would persuade such timid hearts to read Cyprian's treatise on *Mortality*, unless they should deserve to be referred to philosophers, that they may blush when they discover how even pagans despise death. But this we may positively state that nobody has made any progress in the school of Christ, unless he cheerfully looks forwards the day of his death, and towards the day of the final resurrection.

4. For Paul stamps this mark on all believers, and Scripture often calls our attention to it, when it wants to provide us with a motive for true joy. "Look up," says the Lord, "and lift up your heads, for your redemption draws near." Is it reasonable to expect that the things which he planned to arouse us to ecstasy and wide-awaken should cause us nothing but sorrow and consternation? If this is the case, why do we still glory in him as our Master? Let us, therefore, return to a sounder judgment, and notwithstanding the position of the blind and stupid desires of our flesh, let us not hesitate to long passionately for the coming of the Lord, as the most stirring of all events. And let us not only long for it, but even groan and sigh for (the day of judgment). For he shall come to us as a Saviour, to deliver from this bottomless maelstrom of all evils and

miseries, and he shall guide us into the blessed inheritance of his glory. II Cor. 5:4; Titus 2:13; Luke 21:28.

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[Back to the Bible corner]

### **Sovereignty of God**

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God is sovereign, and He is also good. Knowing this, many believers struggle to understand why painful things happen in life. They wonder, "Why wouldn't the Lord stop me from experiencing such heartache?"

The question deepens when we read a Bible passage like Psalm 121:7-8: "The Lord will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. The Lord will guard your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forever." Many people interpret this to mean that God will keep them from difficulty. But what the words say is that He promises to keep their soul.

The Lord allows pain in our life. Sometimes He even orchestrates it. God understands the hurt, but He also looks into the deeper meaning of the situation.

Trials often strengthen our faith.

Trials make us more like Jesus.

Trials give us compassion for others.

At times, God may even use difficulties to keep us from becoming complacent in our spiritual walk.

With His help, we profit immensely more from walking through the pain than from avoiding it. When our heavenly Father knows it is best, He doesn't keep us from the pain; instead, He enables us to endure the hardship by giving us wisdom and strength.

And when we get to the other side, we can often see - with profound thankfulness - how His loving and gracious hand guided us through the whole situation.

We have tremendous hope, knowing that God will keep us through the most difficult times.

"The Lord will keep you from all harm-He will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore." Psalm 121:7,8

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### [Professor Lecture 1]

## **The Restoration of God's Image and Its Faith**

*By Dr. White Young Jeon, CRFI, president*

*This article expresses the theology and its faith of Dr. White Young Jeon and shall be edited into 10 times.*

[The Nineth Part]

### **C. Restoration of God's image revealed in the major prophetic books**

#### **1. Isaiah**

1. **God's Lamentation (Is 1:1-17)** Isaiah who is called for the author of gospel in the Old Testament reveals the salvation of Christ obviously. In the beginning at the larmentation of the prophets to the sin of Israelite rebellion, what shall we find? First, rebellion sins is related to the knowledge of God.(2-4) The children who was nutured forgot the grace and rebelled were worser than the animals because they did not try to know God. As we approach to the Lord, we can overcome these sins. Second, the sin of hypocrisy prohibited the answer of prayer. (12) Although they brought the precious offering but they lost the

faith of fear of the Lord (12) by stepping on the ground they can not receive the mercy of God. Only the life that concentrated on the faithfulness can serve God rightly. In the world the strongest man is to pursue to know God and to have fellowship with himself faithfully. Only the man can overcome the world that are filled with poison and take freedom in his unmerciful state.

**2. God's healing method (Is 1:18-31)** - To restore ungodliness, hypocrisy, rebellion into godliness, fidelity, thanksgiving life we should receive God's healing. How can he heal them? First, He gave hopeful promise to them. Although they had secret and crimson sin, they shall be changed into snow and wool. Although they are darkness, if they come to the Lord they shall have hope because the righteousness of Christ is the source of healing. (1 John 1:9) Second, they shall be healed by fellowship with the Lord. The word "Come now let us reason" means the invitation that lead us the seat of faith and obedience. Through conversing with the Lord, we can be healed completely. As we trust the God of healing and approach to him diligently the hope shall be brought about. As the prophecy of Malachi at this day to shine the ray of healing, we should request to Christ, righteous sun.

### **3. Salvation happened on the last day (Is 2:1-22)**

In the book of Isaiah first, the descendance of Christ was prophesied. How shall the salvation of Christ be happened at the last day (2-3)? How did it reveal? First, Jerusalem which was lifted up on the highest place points the church that is connected Christ, her head and all nations shall come to there and the great event that can shake all the earth. And the Laws that is the home teacher to lead to Christ shall be happened there. It means that his people who scattered into the world shall gather to Christ. Second, It shall be accomplished by becoming church that abide in the light. The church that abides in the light of Jehovah shall be fulfilled of the kingdom that only the Lord shall be lifted up, the idolatry shall be abolished, only God shall be depended on devotionally (22) and shall be unshaken. Although America, the center of the world may be shaken, the kingdom of God stand firm eternally. We should thank to God for this salvation.

#### **4. Signs of the last day (Is 3:1-12)**

What signs does the text that reveals the event before the judgment of Judah with the movement of gospel reveal to us? First, God shall cut off what Judah depended on. (1-3) food, water, warrior, fighter shall be removed by God and God makes them depended on only God. God shall not deprive his glory to the other. (8) Second, the leadership shall be reduced. Becoming a leader that come out of a child, weak person (4), and persecuted the people (12) proves that God chastised Israel. Third, the criteria between the righteous and the wicked is faith. Because at the last day, the light of gospel was revealed more, the believer and the unbeliever shall be divided each other. We who lives in the last day we should follow the line of gospel and obey the Word of God.

#### **5. Condition of Judgement (Is 3:13-4:1)**

What other elements except the idolatry, shall bring the sign of judgment and rebellious activity? First, the covet of leader (13,15) – They loved to oppress the poor and enjoyed their covet. The leader should concentrate on the worship in spirit and in truth and but should not follow money and honor because the snare of covet shall work. Second, the arrogance of Zion daughter (16) – Every ethical sin comes out of arrogance. Arrogance comes out of not to believe in the word of God naturally. Finally as he lost the center he shall be fallen down into the autonomus. The way that is saved out of this sins is to have poor heart in spirit, that the humble heart. We should pursue the Holy Spirit faithfully.

#### **6. The one who purifies (Is 4:2-6)**

Here Isaiah reveals how God treated sin, main element for Christian salvation. First, in verse 2 that the bud of Jehovah shall be beautiful and glorious means that Christ shall come as the bud of salvation. Christ himself has the complete beauty and shall make his people be beautiful. The church of Jehovah that was saved by grace through his death and his resurrection shall be beautiful by coming out as bud of redemption gradually. The work that we should do is to abide in him and obey his words in humility. Second, In verse

4 cleaning the dirty state of Zion daughter by the work of the spirit of judgment and the spirit of demorishment points the work of Holy Sppirit. Like the prologu of redemption the Spirit that worked in the day of Isaiah works stronger after ascending of Christ. We should live in grace on grace to clean up siful world.

**7. The song of vineyard (Is 5:1-12)** What did Isaiah who compared Judah's sin and desolation of managing the vineyard proclaim for their repentence? First, the focus of metaphor, This metaphor focus on the point that high quality vine producted the wild vine grape.(1-2) Although they were the best vine, the worst vine was producted. The Christian who received the best grace try to product the best fruit of Holy Spirit. Second, metaphor's interpretation, as we see, in verse 3 some problems were happened between God and Jerusalem. God broke fence and block and made them producted thone and prohibited raining by commanding to cloud. (3-6) Justice was changed into violence, righteousness into crying. Covet and desolation and isolation contoled them. (8) They have no products (10) They despised God by falling into the world festival. (11-12) If any body go to the flesh, finally they shall be lost the glorious promise.

**8. Both sides of grace (Is 5:13-23)** - The book of Isaiah reveals the stream of God's unresistable grace in the bottom. Although the man was trained by corruption, God excecutes the righteousness of God and the justice of God. What does the text reveal the truth? First, the highest, Jehovah is justice, holy and righteous. (16) (Jm 1:9-10) The lamb feed on the grass and reckoned his name to be precious. In Christ we should live by compiling the value of poverty and accepting his lowness for knowing the actual wealth comes out of the Lord to us. (James 1:9-10) Second, the total deprivaty of man. Judah's miserableness that were filled with false(19), non discernment (20) arrogance (21) and covet (22) reveals the holpe in the light of gospel. The christian who was moved from death to life and from darkness to the light live to know te glorious truth gradually. By making sure the foundation we should enjoy the abundant life in the world.

**9. When they throw away the Word (Is 5:24-30)** - Like a chronicle patient lost the restored hope, the text reveals the cause of sin and its result in Israel. First, what is the result? The 24th verse reveals essential judgment. Like the frame burnt remained things, God hit his people. (25) Israel who met external invasion was taken the peace by Gods protection, they was disciplined by committing sin. Second, why did God chastise them? Because they throw away the laws that is the source of life. (24) In the character of the Word and the human as the man was controlled by the word of God, the hope shall have hope. To love the word means to have concern, to concentrate on it and to unite with it and to obey them. It is the true blessing those products the seasoning fruit. But if they throw away the word like a throne tree on the dry wilderness they shall be wandered in the spiritual isolation. We should attach to the Scriptures, sound teaching.

10. **The Vision of the Spirit (Is 6:1-13)** – The secular dream was not secured but the vision of the Spirit should be accomplished absolutely. What was the vision that Isaiah received out of God? First, through suffering as they looked at the throne of God the vision came out of the above. At the day of Issiahs death (1-4) as he looked up the Lord on the throne he received a curious figure. Second, the vision came into the purified vessel. The experience of Isaiah was the transformation of heart. (Rom 3:13-18) The sins that he committed by his lips was cleaned by being applying by the death (blood) of Christ. We should examine our sins humbly before the Lord. Third, It is the obvious vision. (9-10) Making their heart been dull and making they blinded means that Jehovah shall make them destolation. We should try to clean up ourselves by the vision of Spirit for becoming the useful tool of God.

11. **The sign of Immanuel (Is 7:1-16)** As we meet more dark night, like the bright light of the star, the sign of God's salvation become more clearly. As the northern Israel that united with Aram attacked to Judah God provided the sign of Immanuel to them. (14) It was accomplished by Jesus birth, and it was the source of Gods consolation for his people. First, it is the power of source in the spiritual fighting. The victory was depended on Immanuel

that means to be with God. This is the foundation of salvation. Foolishness of Ahas is the result that they ignored the Lord and depended on the pagan power. Second, it is the source of blessing. The contents of blessing were summarized by Immanuel. It means that by uniting God the image of God was revealed. There is the abundant butter and honey and the strengthened state and the spreading power. We who received the main grace should produce abundant fruit in the world.

**12. The wisdom of Judgement (Is 7:17-25)** We misunderstand that we think blessing as woe and darkness as light and the goodness as evil because of our limited character. If we have God's view we can see everything rightly. How does God judge their unfaithfulness? First, God judged them by calling of Egypt and Syria like the fly and the bee. (18) Second, God gave shame by the invasion of Syria. (20) And third, God made them desolated. Their prosperity was stopped and they were brought up at the 1000 trees because the work of Holy Spirit was stopped. (23) The wisdom of Holy Spirit is to prohibit what they depend on soon. And to approach to the Lord immediately (Jer 17:5-6) We should go to the way.

**13. The grace of Immanuel (Is 8:1-8)** God concentrated on the essential solution of their actual lives, their rebellious lives. God reveals the swift stolen state through his family (3) and rebuked the faithful witnesses sternly. (1-2) We see the hand of faithful God that gave us his grace. First, as they treated Immanuel's grace preciously, God promised abundance, prosperity and life like eating butter and honey. Like Enoch, the life that we walk with God and take thankful heart is blessed. Second, as the grace of Immanuel was despised, the invasion of Syria shall cover them. We should respect the fellowship with God and focus on the work. So we should listen to his word well and should obey it well from small things faithfully. We should enjoy the promised grace in Christ.

**14. The man who is fearful of Jehova (Is 8:9-22)** The root of Judah's unbelief came out of not to be fearful and afraid of visible Syria power. How can the spiritual growth of the Christian be developed? First, we should accept God as the standard of our holiness. (13)



Holy life means the separated life in every thought, every activitie, every relationship and every word. As Isaiahs experience we should throw away decept, wickedness, hating words. Second, they should look at God and wait for Him. (17-18) We should wait on God who conceals his face to the sinner humbly. We should learn Samuel's attitude that waited for God's time by offering his sacrifice to God in the stacking off Palestines, in contast of Sauls foolish attitude. Third, they should pursue his word. (20) As we do not obey the word of God, we can not see morning. But although we are failed, if we follow the word of God, we can meet the day of brightness. We should be filled of the fear faith of God.

**15. The kingdom God establishes (Is 9:1-7)** Like the light that shines in darkness, Judah had hope by coming of Christ because the kingdom that Christ shall make comes. Already we live in the day that Isaiah prophesied. What does the Holy Spirit say about the accomplished kingdom in verses 1-2 First it was established by miracle? He is the wonderful counselor. The kingdom was accomplished by the almighty wisdom. Second, it is the eternal kingdom. The kingdom which the one like the son of man shall establish is the kingdom that eternal father rules over as the king in Dan 7:13. Third, it is the kingdom of peace. As justice and righteousness were established the peace comes to us. The Holy Spirit came to the world for this work. The kingdom shall be filled of new creation by work of hovering Spirit. We should live as the people in the kingdom.

**16. The reason of God's fury (Is 9:8-10:4)** In the contrast of the hope of Immanuel's birth the text reveals the extreme discipline. (12, 17, 21, 10:4) Why did this warth rise? First, they were arrogant as he was warned. (8) The humble heart reveals as we stand before the Word of God rightly. Devil plants the wicked teaching in the heart that does not meditate the sound doctrine, the Scripture. It is great wisdom to accept the Word of God and follow them in our heart. Second, the spiritual leader were corrupted the faithfulness mean to stand firm on the the truth, the Scripture. We should not achieve much work first but we should be entertained by the word of God. The seed of the word that was dropped in heart as good soil bring up minimum 30 fold because the Word itself has power. E should enjoy

the truth in the eschatological day.

**17. Consistency of humiliation (Is 10:5-19)** Assyria was strengthened and they destroyed Israel and Aram and Judah were the channel of God. But they were judged because their vain boasting. How did God treat the arrogance of Assyria? First, the arrogance of Syria. They boasted their intelligence and their strong hands (13) and lifted up their power to occupy the others (14). And also they were proud of their saws and axes. (15) The arrogance made the idol for them. Boasting is the root of every sin. Arrogance shall be destroyed absolutely for it is the stumbling block. (Lk 6:26) Second, The punishment of God was the judgment desolated by fire and flame. Humility keeps the grace of God. The praying heart and obeying heart makes humility. Prayer kills the sins but sin stops to pray. By following the way of humility we should prohibit the spirit of revenge and the spirit of rebellion

**18. The kingdom that the remnant establishes (Is 10:20-34)** The text reveals curious hope in judgement to us. Because it shall establish the salvation of the remnant and the kingdom of God through them. In the rebellion of Judah and the violent oppression of Assyria the kingdom of God shall be established. How shall it establish? First, it shall be established by trusting God faithfully. (20) God made them approach to the devotional seat by changing the heart that depends on only God. (Rom 12:1-2) Always the kingdom shall establish in the life of living offering. Second, the inner change established the kingdom. Verse 27 says that their yoke shall be broken by God by adding fat on their shoulders. The first way that the one who have troubles and burdens can get rest is to come to Christ and to learn his word well. Then his soul shall be changed and he shall know righteousness, peace and delight of God's kingdom.

**19. Messiah's Prophecy (Is 11:1-9)** The salvation of remnant comes out of the hope of messiah's descent. In the text that we observe the millennium kingdom of God on the earth (historical millennium kingdom) or, the spiritual kingdom in all days of the New Testament (Amillium kingdom) what figure shall the messiah come again? First, the

method that Messiah comes. Although he came in the world like a small new bud as a weak figure, he came by the power of Holy Spirit 2) he shall enjoy the the fear of the Lord and obedience (3) and he shall live in justice, honest and faithfulness. (4-5) Really Messiah Jesus shall come so and accomplish all redemption and works in the Holy Spirit now. Second, Messiah's dominion. He rules over the kingdom by peace (6) and gentleness (7-9) and shall protect his people with full knowledge of God.(9) He rules over his kingdom with wisdom, insight, craft, talent and knowledge in the fullness of Holy Spirit to accomplish the will of father-God. We can enjoy in his day in the Holy Spirit.

**20. Lord's salvation (Is 11:10-16)** - Still true salvation is begun with God. Only the salvation is so weak but later it shall be prosperous. A branch makes his death and his resurrection become the sign of all people (11) and makes them producted fruit. (1) And finally it makes all nations come to Him.( Gen 12:1-2) What victory shall it bring to us? First, only the remnant people shall be saved (11-12) Although they scattered and stayed in frustration, God makes them returned to accomplish the covenant of Abraham. It was fulfilled by receiving the Holy Spirit in the church. (Gal 3:14) Second, he shall accomplish the salvation of reconciliation. (13) The jealousy that suffered Judah and Ephraim was disappeared and the event of union shall be happened. Finally this harmony shall be accomplished by occupying the enemy and restoring them. (14-16) We should enjoy the restoration grace.

**21. The Well of Salvation (Is 12:1-6)** How does the fountain of salvation gush out? First, it shall be fountained by personal relationship of salvation. The salvation in verses 1-2 points true consolation. First, it comes out of personal fellowship with Christ. The salvation of verses 1-2 means true comfort because only Christ becomes my salvation, my power and my song. The eternal well that Jesus promised to the Samaritan woman comes out of knowing God continuously. (Jn 4:14) Second, we should declare Christ to all nations. Christ's salvation is the most beautiful(5) What the world needs is like the rising water in the well.(5) We should make the environment of the Acts by flowing the living water into the world by obeying the great commission of the Lord. (Mt 28:19-20)

**22. Judgement of Babylon (Is 13:1-8)** Isaiah chapters 13-23 warns the judgment of all nations. The judgment and destruction of Babylon came out of the almighty God. In every thing of life and death, blessing and woe in the person of the world what character does it reveal to us? First, they were judged because of arrogance. Like Israel and Babylon for arrogance shall be destroyed. (3) We should return to the God out of the way that we used temporarily by God. And also we have to be cautioned not to the Sabbath because of hypocrisy. (Heb 4:9-11) Second, it is the judgment that God himself shall accomplish. (4) In the one hand God treats to salvation at the other hand God himself judge the world. It is the sovereign God that God himself begins and consummate. Like the fact that the strong Babylon was destroyed by the wisdom of God, we should caution to the small event in our lives.

**23. The Day of Condemnation (Is 13:9-22)** The text that expressed the judgment of Babylon, as "the day", "the day of Jehovah (9,13) warned the fearful judgment of God.(17) What day is it? First, at the day many people shall be died,(12) unmerciful(16) and shall be demolished by attacking of Mede and Basa,(17-18) like Sodom and Gomorah. (19). It was the warning that informs the time of suffering, the last day. Second, the cause of judgment is arrogance. (11) The arrogance that the angels were corrupted shall be main reason that the world shall be destroyed. The way to become the humble man that a sinner was dropped down is to believe in the merit of cross of Christ. If we do not enter into the kingdom of God, we can not enter into it. (Lk18:17) Therefore we should return to God and pursue the goodness, righteousness, faithfulness in our lives. We should hold the merciful hand of God that reduced his wrath.

**24. Sin of Arrogance (Is 14:12-23)** Observing the text concretely it prophesied the destruction of Babylon, not the express the destruction of Satan like the interpretation of dispensationalism. Here we learn that the arrogant world shall be destroyed. First, Arrogance means the autonomy that leaves out the original seat God appointed. This sin is the reason

that Satan and Adam was fallen down into the depravity. It was developed into humanism and depends on the blood more than God and into naturally make horrible curse in his life. Any arrogance never escape out of Gods judgement. (20) Second, the way that overcomes arrogance is to attach the Word of God and keep the way consistently. The Lord knew that only the word can solve the poison and commanded to abide in the word of God. (Jn15:10) We should walk the way of humility in the world that is filled of boasting and arrogance.

**25. Why was she destroyed? (Is17:1-14)** The text warns the destruction of Aram, Damascus, Israel. Why did they destroy? First, because they did not see God but saw the idols. The fact that the object of their faith is idols means to depend on them. The one who trusts on his flesh means the cursed. Second, they did not put God, the rock of power on their hearts. Only God can save us out of the oast, the present and the future. The reason that God permits the situation of death is to trust to only God. Third, they did not depend on the God of salvation.

**26. Humble serving (Is 16:1-14)** Although the Moabite was destroyed for srrogance, what did the text say that the people of God keep the humble life? First, we should believe in the word of God unconditionally. Although Israel approached to the Word of God so much, their arrogance came out of the reason that they did not united with Gods word. When we abide in Christ's word, in every relationship we can keep the humility because the regenerated person be humble in the light of gospel. Second, we should have the heart of Christ. As we accept Christ, who is high priest, the king of justice, the prophet of righteousness as my Lord we learns the humility. In the Moabite destruction we should learn the humility in Christ because it is the vessel that cans occpy the blessing.

**27.The day Kush returns (Is 18:1-7)** Isaiah prophesied that the power of natural beauty of Kush shall be destroyed because of sins. But in the destruction, the special event shall be happened by offering their offering to God in the gospel. How do they return to the Lord?

First, God himself makes them returned. The thing that Kush each, the faithful chief was contacted to the gospel, receiving grace come out of totally revealing of Holy Spirit. Second, God makes them brought the gift and offered to God. It proves to receive grace of God and to become a living sacrifice. Third, God makes them worshipped God. The changing of Kush that worships by coming out of Zion mount. The one who is attached to Christ should be gathered before Christ to worship Him. We should live in the light of Christ.

**28. Warning to Damascus (Is 17:1-18:7)** How did God who gathered all nations to establish God's kingdom treat Damascus? First, although they united with the other, God destroyed them for not to unite with God. Because this union established the tower of Babel. So we should treat the relationship with God respectfully in every thing. Second, because they saw the idols they shall be destroyed. The contemporary day the great idols are materialism and secular hedonism. The idolatry is that we do not put our heart on God and his power. Third, true hope to be put in Christ. From Isaiah 18:3 Isaiah's revelation that told the hope of judgement and salvation reveals that the hope of the future comes out of only Christ. His own people in the world shall be come back to Zion, Christ. Then the Jew and the gentile shall be united in Christ truly. We should keep this blessed union in our day.

**29. Warning to Egypt (Is 19:1-20:6)** Isaiah chapter 19 and 20 warns the destruction of Egypt by responding to the prophesy in 17:3 "It shall be the glory of Israel." How shall the hope of the remnant reveal like Damascus and Ethiopia? First, the restoration of Lordship, (16-17, 18, 19-22). The first feature of Messiah's dominion is to raise the change of position that the Lord was admitted the Lord. In the future the people shall be afraid of the shaking hand of the highest Jehovah. (16-17), in the land of Egypt they shall speak Canaanite tongue. (18) The altar of Jehovah shall be established in the center of Egypt and in the border the pillars of Jehovah shall be established. (20-22) Second, the restoration of worship (23). Third, the restoration of blessing in the Lord. (24-25). At that day through the great road to Assyria, the Assyrian shall go to Egypt and the Egyptian shall go to Assyria and shall worship to God together. The feature of Messiah's kingdom lives as the blessed man by God. (24-25) That is, the promise of Abraham had realized. (Eph 1:3) We should live to enjoy the original blessing that to call for his people and to gather them in Christ.

**30. My Chosen Jesurun! (Is 44:1-28)** Jesurun means "the one who was chosen to establish righteousness" ( Deut 32:15) How should the Christian, Jusurun, live in the world? First, we should have right relationship in the Lord. Verses 2-3 reveals to say not to be afraid of and also the importance of blessing in the relationship with God. They get the water in thirsty (Jn 7:38-39) and Then on the dry land the stream shall be flown and the young bud trees shall bring up by the stream. Second, we should cut off the relationship with the idols. Verses 9-20 compared God of god proclaimed (9) Third, they should hold the grace of remission. Verses 21-23 promised the remission of redeemer towards Jesurun, (21)

**31. The Hope of new heaven and new eath (Is 65:1-25)** What is the new heaven and new earth, the hope of saints? First, It is filled of God's forgiveness. The world shall become as followings, ""For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. (17)" and God's forgiveness and love rules over them and the effective of Christ's blood shall be completed. (Heb 10:17). The fact that Paul confessed that no condemnation, no confronted enemy and also no accuse are there means that alredy the new heaven and new earth came in us in Christ. Second, it is the world that enjoys his people as the object of his delight. Verses 18-19 says, "But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.". God can not overcome huis delight towards his people.(Zban 3:17) Third, it is the world of the eternal blessing. The blessing of ling life (20), Blessing of work (21-23), blessing ofgrace (24) and blessing of peace (25).

**32.Lord's Day (Is 24:1-23)** Chapter 24 that compared the future between the world and God's kingdom reveals that the one should be perished but the other should be eternal because "in that day" Jehovah shall be the king in Jerusalem. (21-23) First, the kingdom of God is the kingdom God rules over and shall be fulfilled by the church. Zion mount and Jerusalem point the church and coming of the kingdom of God and judgement of the world shall be happened at the same time.

Second, through coming of Christ the kingdom came to the world. In the Holy Spirit God rules over this world now. Therefore we should review the fruit of the Spirit, the presence of the kingdom in our families and our lives. Like the Apostles, in the tension between already kingdom and not yet kingdom, we should see the assurance of salvation and the hope of accomplishment of God's kingdom.

**33. Delight of Salvation (Is 25:1-12)** What does the text say about the issue enjoying the delight of salvation? First, from where does the salvation delight come to us? Verses 1-5 praise the salvation that the Lord fulfilled. According to the predestination the Lord looked down all enemies and removed. (4-5) He is like the patron of the poor, the security of the poverty person in tribulation, the refuge of storm, the shadow to cover the sun heat and the rock to protect out of heat of Sun, he is so faithful and complete salvation. Second, from where shall the salvation come to us? It shall be happened in the church compared with mountain. (6-8) In the church that is the pillar and foundation of truth, the festival of salvation shall be happened. Third, what is the feature of salvation? (1-12) It is the universal salvation (3,7) united spiritually and was filled with humility. (10-12) We should live in full impression of God's salvation. (10-12)

**34. Delight in the Lord (Is 26:1-21)** What is the promise that God gave to his people? First, God gave the security way to us. (1-4) and in his wrath God secured his protection. (20-21) Second, God gave the prosperous way to us. (7-9) "The path of the righteous is level; you make level the way of the righteous. In the path of your judgments, O LORD, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul. My soul yearns for you in the night; my spirit within me earnestly seeks you. For when your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness. Third, God provided the way that was lifted up. (12-15) God settled the limited line and established the honorable person. We should keep the 4<sup>th</sup> command in the chaos generation and enjoy the inheritance of Jacob and walk on the highest place because true Sabbath delight is there.

**35. Salvation that comes out of the Lord (Is 27:1-13)** Why is the salvation that comes out of the



Lord opened? First, It shall be accomplished by the hand of the Lord. In verse 1 the hand that removed Leviathan, the devil is God. In the verse 1, "In that day the LORD with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea." It is complete hand to kill devil completely. Finally the one who takes both edges of a sword keep the church and judge it. Second, it is the salvation that enjoys the protection of the Lord. (2-6) The church that compared to the vine in vineyard produces the beautiful fruit by God's protection. (Is 15:5) Third, It is the salvation that atones the unrighteousness of Jacob. The day is to clean unrighteousness of his people. The Lord rebukes properly and keeps in storm (7-8) and removes the sin of Jacob (9) makes them worshipped Jehovah in the holy mountain. (13) We should receive the wonderful grace from God.

**36. Foundation of Kingdom of God (Is 28:1-29)** The text compared Ephraim of "and the fading flower of its glorious beauty, which is on the head of the rich valley, will be like a first-ripe fig before the summer: when someone sees it, he swallows it as soon as it is in his hand." (4). It reveals that as we do not admit God as our foundation, although we live at so beautiful fertile land we shall be perished. What figure does the one who left God reveal? First, it shall be reduced. It means to demolish and to destroy. (1-3) The crown shall be cast to the ground by hail, storm and flood. And also it means that God shall press the arrogant crown. Second, it is not secured by God. Verses 7-22 reveals that although they are the people of God as they do not repent God shall judge them concretely. Third, only the one who trusts on God, the foundation of Zion shall be saved. In verse 16 the reason that a stone put on Zion as the foundation means if the one stand firm on it he shall be saved out of miserable state. The one who depends on Christ has living hope at the situation. We should follow Christ as our unique foundation.

**37. Hand of discipline (Is 29:1-14)** How does God chastise the sin of his people? First, God chastises them by the attack of enemy. (1-8) God punished Israel with all nations, but they do not repent their sins God judge them. Babylon, Assyria and Egypt were the tools of God. Second, God chastised by pouring out the spirit who made them slept. Verses 9-13 says "Astonish yourselves and be astonished; blind you and be blind! Be drunk, but not with wine; stagger, but not with

strong drink! For the Lord has poured out upon you a spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes (the prophets), and covered your heads (the seers). And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men," Zechiah's prophesy comes out of the Spirit but false prophets prophesy comes out of the work of false god. God treat even the sin of his people by the external thorn and inner sword. (Jn 15:1) The hand is alive now in us.

**38. The Hand of Restoration (Is 29:17-24)** How does God restore his people? First, God restores them by the changing of world. Verse said that Lebanon shall be reckoned as the fertile land and forest. Second, they change them by changing of spiritual life. Verses 15-16 warned that the one who hide his sin shall be wood and verses 17-19 promised that Lebanon shall be changed into fertile land and the deaf and the blind shall be changed. Third, they change them by changing Jacob. Verses 22-24 promised that the Lord who redeemed Abraham shall change Jacob tribe. In the New Testament that Christ came, the fearful discipline of Jehovah's glory (6) was begun already at the same time the work of the Spirit that God controls shall be continued. We should fulfill our salvation in trembling and fear.

**39. Unfaithfulness and Faithfulness (Is 29:25-33)** What different is God's faithfulness of human one? (18-33) First, God is waiting to pour out the grace and mercy to them. (18) He is waiting for them as a day like one thousand years, one thousand years as one day. Second, he is healing God. (26) He shines the ray of healing to them. Then they shall be run like calf that come out of the fence. Third, He is God who sang a song like Paul and Silas. (29) But he is the judging God just like Syria was removed one moment. (31-33) The one who trusts faithful God is blessed because the man is not trusted but only God is able to be believed. We should open our mouth widely to God and seek his amazing grace because he surely answers to me.

**40. Warning to Tyre (Is 23:1-18)** What does the text make us thought the confession of

the foolish richman? "My soul, let's enjoy eternally by drinking. First, the material civilization without God shall be terminated by destruction. (1-14) that the prosperity of Tyre, Dasis, and Sidon were desolated reveal the judgment of the human. We should listen to the Apostl's word that loving money is the root of every evil. Second, the reason that God judges materialism was God's appointment. (8-9) But God promised restoration because the last of materialism is destruction. After the duration of discipline God promised the restoration of Tyre and Sidon. (15-18) We should look at the glory of salvation.

**41.The power of prayer (Is 40:27-31)** The first part of the text stresses that comfort, hope and power belongs to God but the last part reveals the passionate invitation of the Lord to go to the world of prayer. What do we learn out of the text about the prayer? First, the object of prayer is God who has much power. Israel seeked some help out of the idols foolishfully. (18) Almighty God, the eternal Creator (15, 21-22) does not know tiredness and ex-hausted and has no sleeping; drowsing is the protector who has infinitive wisdom. Only the one should be the object of our prayer. Second we have to seek the grace in God. Verse 27 reveals that the reson that God did not know his larmentation and his bitterness was the fact that he did not know God well. Third, new power shall come to the one who wait on the Lord. Isaiah who compared this one of young powerful running (30-31) and the lifting of a eagle exhorted to wait on the Lord.

**42.The Arm of Jehovah (Is 51:9-16)** The term, the arm of Jehovah which means Gods power (9) reveals 11 times in Isaiah among 28 times in the Old testament. (30:30, 40:10 48:14, 51:5,9 52:10 53:1 59:16 62:8 63:5,12) What is the arm? First, it means the foundation of creation and redemption. The one who works behind creaton (13) and redemption (9-11) is just God himself because the creaton and salvation were accomplished by his power. Second, it revealed through the word. The preaching, to proclaim the word is not separated of teaching because preaching is to proclaim the written Word of God, the Scripture by the power of Holy Spirit. So through preaching the faith was grown up normally, and can contact to the spiritual grace. Third, as we trust to the arms the fear was changed into boldness. (12-14) We

should become the powerful cristian by faith.

**43. Servant of suffering (I) (Is 52:13-53:6)** What is the redemption that the servant of suffering accomplished? First, It is the planned work before creation. He promised "Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. " (13) and" Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand."(53:10) reveals that God had planned already in the creation. (Gen 3:15) Second, It is the plan that had the supernatural plan overpassed human imgemation. Verses 14-15 reveal two surprising events. It means that he executes the surprising thing and his miserable harmfulness. Because he was born , (1) and was despised, was suffered and was sick, the people did not respect him and he lived as a sorrowful man. (3-4). Third, as we believe in him he reveald the effective thing. Redemption is the event that many prophesies of God were accomplished. (1) We should accomplish our redemption by self-denial and bearing-cross.

**44.Servant of suffering(II) (Is 53:6-9)** What character did the trial reveal to us? First, It was the replaced suffering. (6-7) He was suffered without reasonable reason. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth". Verses 4 said "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted." What character does the trial have? First, it was the substitute suffering. (6-7) He received our diseases, our sorrow and also verses 5 says he was suffered our sin. And verse 8 says, he was suffered for defiles of his people. Second, it was the suffering that endures all despising things.(7) He kept the silence like a lamb that keep silence before the hair cutter. As he sacrifices to offer his gair, he was silent and until he achieves his purpose he did not move any moment. Like a lamb that was pulled to the slained place, and like Isaacc on the

mount Moriah, no answer response to them. Like such facts his suffering was so actual. We should learn to bear the cross.

**45. Servant of Suffering (Is 53:10-12)** What benefits did the death of Christ bring to us? First, He made God been sufficient. (10-11) – He accomplished the will of Jehovah as the trespass offering (reparation offering) Through several thousands historical event and prophets as the only sin offering came into the world. Second, God made his people justified. His death cleaned up all sins his own people and he treated them on the high place to take fellowship.(11). To justified by his knowledge means that it was accomplished by the atoned standard and method because we can not stand firm before righteous God without righteousness. Third, God gave abundant grace to us. Dirtiness and sin issues were solved, peace and cure was gotten (5) " As we see the seed, his day shall become long. (10) As Daniels prophesy through his death as the purpose that the son of man came in the world he offered them to God.

**46. The Way of peace (Is 57:1-21)** The last of the wicked should be destroyed but the righteous should be gotten the way of peace. (2) How can we keep the peace in our lives? First, lamentation. Verses 14-15 says that Although God stay on the highest place but he presense with him who repents and he shall revive their heart. Verse 18 says that God heals such persons. In the mountain teaching of our Lord to the mountain the blessing of consolation shall presense.( Mt 5:4) God is with the humble person. Lamentation has communication with humility each other. Verse 7 says that the feature of the idolatry is arrogance. The arrogant heart has no this peace and shall not be communicate with this union. As the Holy Spirit come to us he shall lead to the seat of peace. (Philipian 2:1-2)

**47. Blessing of Keeping Lords Day (Is 58:3-14)** First, keeping the Sabbath day holily. As the Lord appointed one place, the Garden of Eden as fellowship place between God and Adam, God appointed one day as the day of fellowship between God and Adam. Second how should we keep it? 1) Self-control- "your feet should be prohibited ", "the pleasure should be prohibited". He should learn self-

control. Self-control is the fruit of Holy Spirit, the important virtue of faith life. (3-4) 2) Following Lords will- " Do not walk to your way" " personal speaking should be stopped". The day should be God centric life concretely. 3) Worship centric life- Because the day is honorable, we should treat honorable day. Third, God promised three things to the one who keeps the Lord's Day holily. 1) He shall get delight to come out of God 2) he shall get honorable in the earth. 3) Jacob's inheritance shall be enjoyed. Like mountains come to us, the blessing of God shall return to us as the blessing of resource. (8-12) By keeping the Lord's day we should enjoy the blessing of Eden.

**48. God the Warrior (Is 42:1-26)** We can overcome our actual warfare as we see the fighting God in place of us. First, the reason God reveals as a warrior - He told " . (13) The Lord who is warrior as a pregnant woman shouted out destroyed the enemies greatly although they were so strong (15-17) and surely he shall establish justice.(4) Second, the fighting method- he fights by two channels (1-2) 1) he fights with humility (2) 2) And he accomplishes with his mercy. In a short word, he fights with love that is the principle of love. We should look at the Lord as the warrior daily and examine ourselves and follow our example, we should overcome our enemies, Satan, the sinful desire and the world because all victories are ours in Christ.

**49. We have the reason to sing (Is 54:1-17)** Why did Isaiah exhort "(1) First, Because he enlarged our land. In verse 3, they sang the enlargement of tent land. It is a wonderful promise to enlarge the tent land towards the right side and the left side really. Second, because it is eternal love of God. God promised that God give eternal mercy to them (8) and God takes responsibility for their blames and corrects them and does not leave God. (10) Third, They sang because God gave peace to them (13-15) God declared to receive God's teaching and enjoy the peace (13), oppression should be left and horror can not come nearby (14), And the one who hit you shall be destroyed (14). We should live as the praising people to God.

**50. Glory of Redemption (Is 43:1-28)** What is the redemption of God we delivered? First,

it began with Gods plan. Verse 1 means redemption that is the work of recreation. It is not a accident event but the plan of God before creation. ( 7, 21,25) This redemption was planed for God himself. (Eph 1:4-6 refer) Second, it was accomplished by personal calling of God. Verse 1 and verses 5-7 point that the thing that God called for the northern and southern people means to reveal that all people shall come to Christ Because Gods calling is elective he does not call some body without purpose. Third, it shall blossom for the glory of God. The glory surly should be approached by Gods leading. I shall go to the glorification out of righteousness. Salvation out of Egypt (16-17) and salvation out of Babylon and enjoying the abundance of union of pagans shall be accomplished by Gods will. (20) Seeing the flower of redemption we should devote ourselves to God.

**51. Come to the Water (Is 55:1-13)** How can we enjoy the grace of salvation that is the honor of Jehovah and the eternal sign without terminating eternally? (12-13) First, we should know the grace that God prepared for us. The text expresses this abundance as some promises. There are mercy and love (7), reviving of soul (3) the good and the fat meat (3) flowing cup (12) and Gods honor (13) on the dining table. Second, who prepared for us? (11) He was the almighty God, transendant God, the holy one, the sovereignty God, revealer, commander, leader and consummator God. Third, how should we response? They should come to the water. That is. It means repentance and faith that as they obey the word of God, they can experience the wonderful transformation. Where is such promise in the world? It is not cheap grace because the Lord received all curse on the cross. We should approach to the water.

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## The Study of the Kingdom of God by Jesus

by Dr. Paul Han

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*And also he has served as the president of Cambodia Mission Foundation (CMF)*

### [Part II] The kingdom of God revealed in the Old Testament

Although the Old Testament have no the expression of the kingdom of God but the concept of the dominion of God's kingdom exists. The word, to have the kings means the fact that the kingdom of God existed at the same time. Contractedly the word, the king comes 41 times out of the Old Testament were applied to Jehovah, and then there are three terms that mean the kingdom. Those are, Malkud (Ps 103:19, 145:11-13, Dan 3:33-4:31), Meluka (Ob 2:1-, Ps 22:29), and Malaka (I Chron 29:11). Here we should concentrate on the fact that the authors of the Old Testament stressed that the kingdom of God is not the abstract concept but the activity of God's ruling. When did Israel think of the kingdom of God? Probably Before the king, David they might not be able to think that God is the king. In the tribe of Shem they tended to think that their king was admitted as their king, this term means simply the higher position above than the head of the monarchy. The fact that Jehovah is the king is related to his sovereignty activity for his people through all ages. "Jehovah is the king." (Ps 93:1) is the absolute truth with the word, "Jehovah is God" (Ps 100:3) the covenant of Sinai in the day of Moses is the covenant of kingship that Israel was entered into the rule of Jehovah and the people belongs to his possession. (Ex 19:5-6) The Psalm of the kingship praised only Jehovah. (Ps 97:1, 99:1) And "the salvation is only Jehovah" (Ps 3:8) is the obvious assurance of the Old Testament and Isaiah 33:22 remarks as followings.

"And no inhabitant will say, "I am sick"; the people who dwell there will be forgiven their iniquity."



And Zechariah 14:9 said, "And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one" obviously.

But the majority people of the Old Testament did not take the consciousness of the people in the kingdom of God, and also did not live under the dominion of God's ruling. Despite they received the warning of the prophets repeatedly they finally were scattered out around the other countries. Whenever the covenant that they hold on was obscure, God made them entered into the prisoner and the slave of the strong countries, like Rome, Persia, Assyria, Babylonia, Palestine.

But God promised to establish the new covenant in order to restore the kingdom of Israel. The people to believe in the word of God that shall be sent by the prophets were waiting for the special dominion of God. In the Old Testament God was recognized as the concept of the people of Israel and the king of all lands. In other passages also remarked that he become the king and he rule over them. As we see it, the simple glimpse to the concept of the kingship of God prepared the survey of all Old Testament. It is the contents that God is the king that rules over all land, but as the special method he becomes the king of Israel, his people. Therefore the dominion of God was realized in the history of Israel. Accordingly as the prophets expected that God's dominion shall be experienced on the Israel and all nations fully, the reason that God call for the couple of Abraham as the father of all nations and the mother of all mother is just here. Just like reflection makes us seen the passion of God towards the world and the foundation of the evangelization of all nations.

#### 1) The Background of Judaism in the Old testament

The kingdom of God is the central message of Jesus. The kingdom is related to the life of Jesus and all his teachings closely, and also is connected to the covenant of God (Gen 3:15) that God promised the salvation out of the crush of the covenant of the work (the fruit of the tree to know the good and the evil) revealed at the Genesis in the Old Testament and also is connected to the kerygma in the early church. Therefore we need to interpret the

redemptive historically with the perspective totally. If we do not see the perspective of redemption, understanding of the kingdom of God may be concluded to the each essay easily.

The proclamation of Jesus for the kingdom of God consist of the Old Testament, the thought of creation of Judaism, it's thought of disparity , the thought of covenant and the eschatology. God is the creator and also the king to rule over the entire universe and to provide them. He rules over all nations in the world, gives them his blessing and judges them too. But as the man was deprecated and left God and then God promised the messiah as the descendant of the woman and also he made the covenant and made Israel as his people through Moses at the Mount Sinai. Through this covenant God become the king of Israel and Israel became his people that is the kingdom. So the thought that God rules over Israel as the king was the central thought of the Old Testament. This thought was revealed by committing the ruling authority to rule over Israel to Davidic kings to replace God well. (II Sam 7:12-16)

## 2) Melek and Malkut in the Old Testament

In the Old Testament the kingdom of God came out of the language of Shem tribe, Melek for the kingdom of God and Malik for the kingdom. As this terminology was used to the concrete area of the authority was astray than the essential meaning little. As the day before Daniel described Jehovah as Melek, the area of his power often was called for Malkut. Then the term of the kingdom was not called for some area but said the Royal power and Reign. Just like that God is the king and two aspects of this kingship influence on understanding the concept of the kingdom of God, the Israelites believed that God rules over the history and executes the righteous judgment in history as the God of righteousness.

## 3) The people in the Scripture of the Old Testament

The terms that revealed the people in the Old Testament are ám, lóm, goy etc. Among them ám was used oppressively (about 2000 times), lóm and goy come

out of the next order. But this several terms was used as the other meaning in effect. The people of Israel thought the closed relationship between the chosen people and God. They assured that God is their father; they are the people of God. Such thought was found in proclaiming that the king of the Israelite is God, (Ex 1:18) the people is the chosen people Israel.

The salvation of the Old Testament leads to the life of community, the continued experience of God and the way of abundant life. The word, "I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. "(Ex 6:7) described it, they under the sovereignty Lordship of God means "a covenantal people" They believed that Israel people obey God absolutely; He will protect them and lead them. As God said "I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God", Israel was begun out of the covenant of Abraham as the people of God.

So the beginning of the gospel to the kingdom of God is the Old Testament. Dir. George Eldon Ladd, who is a professor in the Fuller Theological Seminary in America, explains that the starting point of God's kingdom was the event that God chose Israel as his people. Just like that the hope was put on God himself depends on the criteria of the Old Testament revealed to the prophets. Such great expectation to the salvation of Israel became the thought of the greatest hope to become the king in the eschatological thought. It is the hope that God who is true ruler of Israel in the theocracy kingdom shall come with the strengthened kingship in the future to release Israel. Just like that the Scripture of the Old Testament reveals the fact that God is the ruler of the entire world as its core element.

Finally the kingdom of God that God rules over was connected to the greatest thought to expect the messiah. It was begun with Genesis 3:15, the primitive gospel. This is the eternal prophesy of messiah. That is, the true kingdom of God in the future was proposed by coming of the messiah, The messiah who the Old testament prophesied will come as the ruler of peace ( Is 11:1-9), his kingship is supernatural, divine and eternal feature. ( Mi 5:1-9) Especially, the dominion of God and the thought of the great expectation of messiah

established the criteria of the kingdom of God Jesus declared. Most prophets in the Old Testament proclaimed that the people of God shall live with God peacefully in the future. They believed that as the day of peace comes, the conflict and social issues will not be existed and no more evil shall not be survived. Therefore the gospel of the kingdom of God revealed in the Old Testament was the absolute declaration that God shall rule over Israel and the entire world. That is, the gospel of God's kingdom is the news that informs the release out of sin, evil, suffering, diseases, death, warfare and failure, like freedom out of the strong great kingdom like Assyria and their prisoned life. Just like revelation and prophecy to the kingdom of God was accomplished by the messiah, Jesus finally, because the thought of messiah in the Old Testament was accomplished in the center of messiah in the history, the person, the event and the background. For example, as we see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, we need to see the perspective to take the messiah centric expectation. Let's Heb 11:24-26!

"By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. "

The kingdom of God that written by the Hebrew language in the Old Testament is *malkeuth*. This word is revealed about 200 times and the meaning is very various. As it is applied to the human king, it was used as the dynamic meaning like dominion and kingship etc. But it was used as the meaning of the space area that the king rules over, the category and his ruling land. The New Testament written in Greek expressed the kingdom of God as "*Basileia*". It is used surprisingly as the same dynamic meaning of *malkur* of the Old Testament , that is, we can understand that the meaning of *malkur* in the Old Testament and *basileia* in the New Testament points to the " the dominion of God" and the sovereignty Lordship and kingship. In the Old Testament the word, "the kingdom of God" always are used by the meaning of dominion, ruling, Lordship. This is the centered thought that ruled over the total contents of the Old Testament.

In the kingdom of God are only God of Israel and also the Lord of all people that all nations should obey. At the present and in the future in coming, God is the Lord of all mankind.

The Old Testament stresses the sovereignty Lordship of God continuously. Of course, the sovereignty Lord of God in the Old Testament was revealed directly through Israel. (The appearance of God) and God wanted to reveal his vision through the theocracy kingdom, Israel. But the full stories that Israel rejected continuously the calling of God and God tried to make them returned the people is the Old Testament. Finally the judgment of God arrived to the northern Israel and Southern Judah. Israel in this judgment and the prisoned life in Babylon waited for "the descendant of David", "the servant of Jehovah" passionately. This points to just "the day of the Lord."

God called for the remnant people and judged the wicked persons and the wicked countries and restored the righteous and his kingdom and also promised to restore all creatures that were broken for their sin. This one is the thought of "the remnant people". The Old Testament expected the messiah and finished so. In the contrast of this one, the New Testament wrote that Jesus proclaimed that the great expectation of the Old Testament was accomplished by him and was written it. (Mt 1:1, Mk 1:15) The words, Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." and Mt 1:1, "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. " opened the closed door of the history by the accomplishment of the covenant and came into us. ( continued)

### **[Professor Lecture 3]**

## **Rahab's Story**

**By Dr. Grace Oh**

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Rahab was a foreign woman who lived in Jericho.

Her faith was so special that she is known as one of the ancestors of faith as a woman when women weren't respected in those days.

She was a Canaanite that God had commanded to perish. She was not an origin citizen of Israelites but a foreigner who God had commanded to perish. The most interest thing was

that Rahab was a prostitute. A prostitute, as well as a foreign woman who became one of the ancestor of faith, was a great-great-grandmother of King David, who's name ultimately appeared in the Messiah's genealogy.

Joshua sends two spies before attacking Jericho.

They spent a night at Rahab's house, which was located near the gate of Jericho in an elevated place.

Rahab was a prostitute who operated her house to foreigners who had been visiting with lodging and meals near the gate.

Eventually Her lie saved the nation of Israel.

Rahab's Boldness Agility and her action of faith was highly credited before God.

The fact that God used a prostitute, we can learn that anyone can be used by God regardless of their social class for the purpose of His salvation.

Let us talk together about the faith of a prostitute, Rahab, who God was well pleased with.

And let's also talk about the perceptions of the spies and Joshua.

Consider how the name of a prostitute, Rahab got stated in Chapter 11 followed by Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses, the ancestors of faith. Also, let's look at how the name Rahab, appeared in the genealogy of Jesus?

Rahab, the prostitute is stated as the 11th person in the genealogy of Jesus. "and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the King" (Matthew 1: 5,6).

## 1. Rahab's Faith

Joshua sent two spies out of Sittim to spy out Jericho. The two men went into the house of Rahab and to spy out Jericho, they lodged there. It was because the house of Rahab was located on the walls of Jericho. "And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and lodged there. They went and entered the parish house called Rahab and stayed there" (Joshua 2: 1).

It was a dangerous place in a politically hostile relationship. Chemosh was a corrupt place full of idolatry worshiping Baal Asherah gods. Including Jericho, it was a place of soon to be judged by God. A prostitute, Rahab lived in an ethically immoral place, a politically hostile

place, a religiously corrupt place, and in a place of soon to be judged.

But, there, Rahab's confession of a sincere heart melting faith towards God was found. Rahab said to the two spies; "Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof and said to the men, "I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you. For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the LORD your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath"(Joshua 2: 8-11).

"The LORD your God is God in heaven and earth." It was such an amazing confession of faith. So Hebrews 11, Rahab is introduced as "By faith Rahab the prostitute..."

The confession of faith of a prostitute Rahab was amazing.

Her confession surprised the two spies, Joshua and God.

The Israelites who had experienced the Exodus did not make such a profound confession of faith toward God as did Rahab. When they crossed the Red Sea where they crossed like walking on the land, the Israelites did not confess their faith whole heartily toward God. Then how did a prostitute confessed these kind of profound faith? (Joel 2:18)

God also uses sinners. Jesus came to the world and used the immoral Samaritan woman as a tool of salvation. He has shown a woman, a sinner as a representative of a person who has been forgiven.

He used Magdalene Mary, who had been possessed by seven demons, eventually became a witness of the cross and resurrection of Jesus.

He used the Gentile Cornelius as a tool for the Caesarean evangelism.

Rahab's faith showed the possibility of salvation to any immoral sinners. She was used as a tool of salvation."

The faith of a prostitute, Rahab led God to think.

## 2. Rahab's Action

Rahab hid two spies on the roof of her house before King Jericho sent the soldiers to her house. "the woman had taken the two men and hidden them (Joshua 2: 4). "She had brought them up to the roof and hid them with the stalks of flax that she had laid in order on the roof" (Joshua 2: 6). Despite of facing the danger, Rahab showed kindness and mercy to two men who she believed to be God's people.

The author of James highly appreciated Rahab's actions of saving two men. "And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? (James 2:25).

It may be a lie to hide two men on the roof and say that she did not hide them. But with a risk of her life, she hid the two men whom God sent to her house. In God's ethics and morals, these were actions that were acceptable and an action to be highly praised.

God would have been astonished as he watched as well as Joshua who heard Rahab showing mercy to save the two spies in the danger of possibly losing her own life. "Through Moses, Deuteronomy chapter 10 teaches us to love our strangers. It wasn't from the chosen Israelites but how was it possible for a prostitute who faced the risk of losing her own life showed mercy to strangers? "The act of mercy must be followed by faith.

Rahab's faith followed the actions of mercy toward strangers. Faith is not a sober intelligence that represents what's right and wrong. Faith is showing compassion and mercy. So the Apostle Paul said, "Faith works by love." "Not faith alone" (James 2:24). "Only faith working through love" (Gal. 5: 6). We, the Cambodian WLS, are justified by actions with faith (James 2:24). The action of a prostitute, Rahab led God to think.

### **3, Rahab's love of father's house**

"Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father's house, and give me a sure sign that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death." (Joshua. 2: 12,13). As Rahab gained faith towards God, and as she helped and showed mercy to the messengers of God, she regained her relationship and love for her family.

Love for her parents, brothers and relatives grew within from her heart.

The relationship between her parents, brothers and sisters began to recover. In the heart of a prostitute, Rahab, the love for her family grew where these actions have again melted



God's heart who has an unconditional love for humanity. She prayed for the salvation of her parents, brothers and relatives. Just as the Shunammite woman who asked Elisha to save her dead son, Rahab, the prostitute also swore to the LORD for the life of hers and her family's.

Love and caring for family and relatives in Rahab's heart reminds of a woman from Sychar who went back to her own town Sychar to evangelize after she meets Jesus.

It is like an a foreigner, Cornelius, waiting for his family, relatives, and neighbors to be summoned and to hear the word of God.

The two spies promised Rahab's request to save her family and relatives. "And the men said to her, "Our life for yours even to death! If you do not tell this business of ours, then when the LORD gives us the land we will deal kindly and faithfully with you." (Joshua 2:14)

Rahab was saved. Rahab and his family and relatives were all saved. At that very moment when all the city of Jericho was destroyed, Rahab and his relatives, who had tied the red string to the spear, were saved.

The red sting on the window symbolized the cross. All the relatives of Rahab, who were gathered under the cross, were saved. "But Rahab the prostitute and her father's household and all who belonged to her, Joshua saved alive. And she has lived in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. (Joshua 6:25).

Rahab's fate changed. Rahab later became the ancestor of David because she married to an Israelite named Salmon and gave a birth to Boaz, and ultimately became the ancestor of Jesus. Some think that Salmon might have been one of the two spies.

. "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners" (Matthew 9:13).

Paul said to himself, "sinners, of whom I am the foremost" (1 Timothy 15).

Rahab had an act of faith and was saved by love, even to the kin.

Not only I be saved, but I want to spread the Word of Faith to my family friends and neighbors so beautiful Christian role models of WLS can bear 30, 60 and 100 times more fruit.

I hope to have faith like Rahab's. We do not want to have faith just in our minds and hearts but to act it out with our hands and feet so that we may grow fruitfully through our actions by faith.

## **[Epilogue]**

It is hard time to publish the continued blettin per the other month to share the reformed faith to my mission field, Cambodia church. But in the grace of God, I could do it, because I get the spiritual joy in sending it to my readers by email. In my vacation time, also I have prepared the edition of the 3th time in this year, 2022. I appreciate my co-workers, my staffs and CEMF translators. Without their cooperation, it is impossible to do it.

In this time the contents consist of continued themes, reformed doctrine, the kingdom of God, the Restoration of God's image, the story of the Scripture etc. and especially I appreciate my teacher, Dr. Jung Am, Yune Sun Park (1905-1988) for his excellent essay of the history of Reformed theology and its faith. I expect that Cambodian church leaders understand the history in their world-view to establish up the wonderful world on ttheir country. And also I want to share some joy, for the translation of Roman sermons of Dr. Park, included in the commentary of Romans had been finished into English version. And now I am enjoying to translate his book, Reformed Dogmatics into English version to make Khmer version. May the illumination of Holy Spirit be with my readers in Christ.

In Christ

June 01 2022

Dr. White Young Jeon, president of CRFI & News Letter Editor

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