

KEY STATEMENTS FOR THE 2025 THANKSGIVING BLENDING CONFERENCE

**What we need today is the up-to-date, instant, and living vision
of the heavenly Christ as the living star.**

**The practical Emmanuel is the Spirit of reality
as the presence of the consummated Triune God in our spirit;
His presence is always with us in our spirit,
not only day by day but also moment by moment.**

**The clearest revelation of the Divine Trinity is in Matthew 28:19:
“Go therefore and disciple all the nations,
baptizing them into the name
of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”**

**There are two great principles in the universe—
God’s authority and Satan’s rebellion;
the unique controversy between God and Satan
concerns authority.**

HWMR: THE ALL-INCLUSIVE CHRIST AS REVEALED IN MATTHEW (Week 1)

The Up-to-date, Instant, and Living Vision of the Heavenly Christ as the Living Star

Scripture Reading: *Matt. 2:1-12; Num. 24:17; Gen. 1:14-19; Dan. 12:3; Rev. 1:16, 20; 2:1, 28; 3:1; 22:16; 2 Pet. 1:19; Gen. 22:17; Jude 12-13*

- Matt. 2:1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem,
- Matt. 2:2 Saying, Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star at its rising and have come to worship Him.
- Matt. 2:3 And when Herod the king heard this, he was troubled and all Jerusalem with him.
- Matt. 2:4 And gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
- Matt. 2:5 And they said to him, In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written through the prophet:
- Matt. 2:6 "And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, by no means are you the least among the princes of Judah; for out of you shall come forth a Ruler, One who will shepherd My people Israel."
- Matt. 2:7 Then Herod, secretly calling the magi, determined accurately from them the time that the star appeared.
- Matt. 2:8 And sending them to Bethlehem, he said, Go and find out accurately about the child. And when you find Him, report to me, so that I also may come and worship Him.
- Matt. 2:9 And after they heard the king, they went their way, and behold, the star which they saw at its rising led them until it came and stood over the place where the child was.
- Matt. 2:10 And when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.
- Matt. 2:11 And they came into the house and saw the child with Mary His mother. And falling down, they worshipped Him; and opening their treasures, they offered gifts to Him, gold and frankincense and myrrh.
- Matt. 2:12 And because they had been divinely instructed in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed by another way to their country.
- Num. 24:17 I see Him, but not now; / I behold Him, but not near. / There shall come forth a Star out of Jacob, / And a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, / And He shall crush the corners of Moab / And break down all the sons of Sheth.
- Gen. 1:14 And God said, Let there be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;
- Gen. 1:15 And let them be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth; and it was so.
- Gen. 1:16 And God made the two great light-bearers, the greater light-bearer to rule the day and the lesser light-bearer to rule the night, and the stars.
- Gen. 1:17 And God set them in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth
- Gen. 1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night and to separate the light from the darkness, and God saw that it was good.
- Gen. 1:19 And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.
- Dan. 12:3 And those who have insight will shine like the shining of the heavenly expanse, and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars, forever and ever.
- Rev. 1:16 And He had in His right hand seven stars; and out of His mouth proceeded a sharp two-edged sword; and His face shone as the sun shines in its power.
- Rev. 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.
- Rev. 2:1 To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

- Rev. 2:28 And to him I will give the morning star.
- Rev. 3:1 And to the messenger of the church in Sardis write: These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: I know your works, that you have a name that you are living, and yet you are dead.
- Rev. 22:16 I Jesus have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright morning star.
- 2 Pet. 1:19 And we have the prophetic word made more firm, to which you do well to give heed as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;
- Gen. 22:17 I will surely bless you and will greatly multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and like the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.
- Jude 12 These are the hidden reefs in your love feasts, feasting together with you without fear, shepherding themselves; waterless clouds being carried off by winds; autumn trees without fruit, having died twice, rooted up;
- Jude 13 Wild waves of the sea, foaming out their own shames; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of darkness is kept for eternity.

Day 1

- Matt. 2:2* - ...Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star at its rising and have come to worship Him.
- Num. 24:17* - I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near. There shall come forth a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and He shall crush the corners of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

- I. After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star at its rising and have come to worship Him” (Matt. 2:2); this was the fulfillment of Numbers 24:17, which says, “There shall come forth a Star out of Jacob”; this **Star** refers to Christ:**
- The magi did not say, “We saw *a* star,” or “We saw *the* star,” but “We saw *His* star”; the **Star is the heavenly Christ**.
 - The star spoken of in Matthew 2:2 was shown to these learned men; it did not appear to any of the people of Israel; whereas the **Jews had the Scriptures** concerning Christ and knew where He would be born (vv. 4-6), the **magi saw the star of Christ**.
 - The Jews had the knowledge in letters concerning where Christ was to be born (Micah 5:2), but these learned men from the east received a **living vision of Him**; eventually, the star led them to the place where Christ was (Matt. 2:1-12).
 - Christ is the **real Sun** (Mal. 4:2), but strictly speaking, He does not appear as the sun during the age of night; rather, **He shines as a star** (Rev. 2:28); a star shines at night, but it indicates that day is coming (Rom. 13:11-14).
 - When Christ came the **first time**, He appeared openly as a **star**, but when He comes the **second time**, He will be the **morning star** (Rev. 2:28; 22:16) to His overcomers, who watch for His coming; to all others Christ will later appear as the sun (Mal. 4:2; cf. Matt. 13:43).

Matt. 2:4-6 - And gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. And they said to him, In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written through the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, by no means are you the least among the princes of Judah; for out of you shall come forth a Ruler, One who will shepherd My people Israel."

II. Matthew 2:1-12 reveals that to find Christ is a living matter; it is not a matter of mere doctrinal knowledge of the Bible:

- A. The star appeared far away from the temple in the Holy Land, from the Jewish religious center, from the priests, the scribes, the Pharisees, and from all the religious ones; instead, **there was a star showing something of Christ in a heathen land.**
- B. Merely to hold the Bible in our hand and read Micah 5:2, saying that Christ will be born in Bethlehem, **does not work**; we may have the Bible, but we may **miss** the heavenly star.
- C. The **star is the living revelation**, the **living vision**, not the old and dead doctrinal knowledge of the Scriptures, not the dead knowledge of Micah 5:2; what we need today is not merely Bible knowledge but the **heavenly vision**, the **up-to-date**, **instant vision**, the **living vision**, the vision that human concepts can never teach.
- D. Even if we have the knowledge of the Scriptures, we still need the **instant**, **up-to-date**, **living star to lead us** to the very street and the very house where Jesus is.
- E. After receiving the living vision, the magi were **misled by their human concept** and went to Jerusalem, the capital of the Jewish nation, where its king was presumed to be; their being misled caused many young boys to be killed—Matt. 2:16.

Oh, we all must see this star. It is not a matter of seeing the Bible, but absolutely of **seeing the star**. What is the star? The star is the **living revelation**, the **living vision**, not the old and dead knowledge of the Scriptures, not the dead knowledge of Micah 5:2. What we need today is not merely Bible knowledge, but the **heavenly vision**, the **instant vision**, the **living vision**, the **vision that human concept can never teach**.

Let me check with you. What do you have? Do you have the Scripture verses, or do you have the star? Do you have the scriptural knowledge, or do you have the heavenly star? Do you have the old teachings, or do you have the up-to-date, instant vision? Today so many Christian teachers just have the Bible in their hands—they have not seen the star. **Merely to have the Bible in our hand is a deadly thing, but to see the star is a living experience.** To find Christ according to the principle shown us in Matthew chapter 2 is not according to the Bible. To know Christ today is something living, not according to dead Bible knowledge, but the living, heavenly star.

The **Lord always goes away from religion, even the Christian religion**. Wherever and whenever we set up a religion, the Lord will certainly go elsewhere. We cannot circumscribe, confine, or restrict the Lord with our religion. We must learn in the church life never to set up a religion. Never say that this method or that way is right. If you say that, the Lord will say: "It is right for you, but I don't care for it. If you were not so right, I would be with you; but just because you are so right, I will go to those who are wrong." Whenever we say that we are right and others are wrong, be sure the Lord will leave us and go to the wrong ones. The Pharisees claimed to be so fundamental, so sound, and so scriptural. Yet the Lord Jesus said, "All right, you are so sound, but I will have nothing to do with you; I will go to the publicans and sinners; I will not only go to see them, but feast with them."

Numbers 24:17 says, "There shall come a star out of Jacob." But this star did not appear to any of the people of Jacob. The **star of Jacob appeared to the pagans.** (*Finding Christ by the Living Star, Chapter 1*)

Day 3

Micah 5:2 - (But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, so little to be among the thousands of Judah, from you there will come forth to Me He who is to be Ruler in Israel; and His goings forth are from ancient times, from the days of eternity.)

Matt. 2:10 - And when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

- F. When they arrived in Jerusalem and inquired concerning where the King of the Jews was to be born, the Scripture says that “when Herod the king heard this, he was troubled and all Jerusalem with him”—v. 3:
1. When they heard this news, they should have rejoiced; instead, **they were troubled**; this is for no other reason than that they were not genuinely seeking the Savior—cf. Prov. 4:23.
 2. If one who believes in the Lord is **not affected** by the Lord as love in his inward emotions, he is **not worthy** to be called a Christian—2 Tim. 4:8; Mark 12:30; 1 Cor. 2:9.
 3. A Christian who expects the Lord to come or who expects to be raptured should take this as a warning—2 Tim. 4:8; Titus 2:13; Rev. 2:28; 22:20; Matt. 24:40-44; 25:8-13.
- G. After the magi were corrected by the Scriptures (2:4-6), they went to Bethlehem (vv. 8-9), and the **star appeared to them again** and led them to the place where Christ was, “and when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy” (v. 10):
1. When the magi were **corrected by the Scriptures** and restored to the right track, the star appeared to them again; **living vision always accompanies the Scriptures**.
 2. The priests were those who taught people the law (Mal. 2:7), and the scribes were those who knew the Scriptures (Ezra 7:6); both the priests and the scribes had knowledge concerning the birth of Christ (Matt. 2:5-6), but unlike the magi from the east, they **did not see the vision, nor did they have the heart to seek after Christ**.
 3. Regardless of how “scriptural” we are, if we **lose the presence of the Lord**, we are **absolutely wrong**; the New Testament way to find and follow the Lord is to **continually stay** in His hidden presence—John 5:39-40; Isa. 45:15; Exo. 33:11, 14; cf. 2 Cor. 5:16.
 4. It is easy to accumulate scriptural knowledge, but if we would have living guidance, we must live in an **intimate relationship** with the Lord; we must be one with Him—Matt. 2:10-14.
 5. The magi saw Christ, and they worshipped Him; then they were warned by God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, so they departed into their own country “by another way” (v. 12); once **we have seen Christ**, we never take the same way, the way of religion apart from Christ, but **we will always take another way**.

To have the Bible in your hands is one thing; to take heed to the Word until the daystar rises in your heart is another. To have the knowledge of the Bible is one thing, but to have a shining star rising in your spirit is another. Just to go to the seminary to study the Bible means nothing. **What we need today is to take the Word into us, to take heed to the living Word until something within rises and shines in our heart.** Then we will have the star, and then we will be a star. This is **not just the knowledge** about Christ, **but Christ Himself** as the living star.

People say that we do not care for the Bible, but we do not admit this. If there are believers on this earth who love the divine Word, I believe we must be numbered among them. We love the Word, but not in the dead way of letters. We love the Word **by taking heed** to it until something within is dawning and arising in our heart—not the knowledge, not the written code, but the **breaking through of day**, the **rising of the shining star**.

What does this mean in practical experience? Sometimes we may take the Bible, read it, and get nothing. But sometimes when we **open our heart** and **take heed to this sure Word**, something within is **shining, rising, dawning, breaking through**. While we are pray-reading the verses of the Bible, there is a sense deep within of enlightening, of shining. And this shining creates a kind of love toward the Lord Jesus. We feel that He is so lovable. We could say, "O Lord Jesus, I love You; I do not have words to express how lovely You are!" Many times by this shining we are just beside ourselves with love to the Lord Jesus. That is Jesus coming to us as the dawning day, as the **daystar rising in our hearts**. I am not speaking of something I've learned from others, and I am not boasting; this is my actual experience. Many times when I was with this Holy Word, something has risen within me like the daybreak. Oh, it is wonderful! The situation may be extremely dull, the surrounding full of darkness, but something within is enlightening, shining, filling with glory. (*Finding Christ by the Living Star, Chapter 1*)

Day 4

Rev. 1:20 - The mystery of the seven stars...and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Dan. 12:3 - And those who have insight will shine like the shining of the heavenly expanse, and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars, forever and ever.

III. Christ's **faithful followers** are **shining and living stars**, those who follow Christ as the **shining and living star** to be **His duplication**—Dan. 12:3; cf. Gen. 22:17:

- A. The living stars **follow** the heavenly, living, up-to-date, and instant vision of Christ as the centrality and universality of God's economy—Acts 26:16-18; Col. 1:17b, 18b.
- B. The living stars are those who **bless God's people**; the more we praise the Lord for God's people and speak well of them in faith, the more we put ourselves under God's blessing—Num. 24:9; Gen. 12:2-3; 22:17.
- C. The living stars **give heed** to the prophetic word of the Scriptures "as to a lamp shining in a dark place" so that Christ as the morning star rises in their hearts day by day; if we give heed to the word in the Bible, we will have His rising in our hearts to shine in the darkness of apostasy where we are today, before His actual appearing as the morning star—2 Pet. 1:19; John 6:63; Rev. 2:28; 22:16; 2 Tim. 4:8:
 1. In the principle of the morning star, a Christian should **rise up early** because the early morning is the best time to meet the Lord (to fellowship with God, to praise and sing, to pray-read the Bible with the ministry, and to pray to the Lord)—S. S. 7:12; Psa. 5:1-3; 57:8-9; 59:16-17; 63:1-8; 90:14; 92:1-2; 108:2-3; 143:8; Exo. 16:21.
 2. The Lord will secretly give Himself as the morning star to those who **love Him** and who **watch and wait for Him** so that they may taste the freshness of His presence at His coming back after a long absence—1 Thes. 5:6; Rev. 2:28; 3:2-3; 16:15.
- D. The living stars **enjoy** and are **filled** with the **sevenfold intensified Spirit** to make them intensely living and intensely shining for God's building—3:1; 4:5; 5:6.

Day 5

2 Pet. 1:19 - And we have the prophetic word made more firm, to which you do well to give heed as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

Phil. 2:13 - For it is God who operates in you both the willing and the working for His good pleasure.

- E. The living stars are the messengers of the churches, those who **enjoy** and **experience** the **pneumatic Christ** as the Messenger of God and as the fresh message from God so that they can dispense the fresh and present Christ into the people of God for the testimony of Jesus—1:16, 20; 2:1; Mal. 3:1-3.
- F. The living stars have “**great resolutions in heart**” and “**great searchings of heart**”; they are lovers of God who are like the “stars...from their courses” to fight together with God against His enemy so that they may be “like the sun / When it rises in its might” and be those who “shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father”—Judg. 5:15-16, 20, 31; Dan. 11:32; Matt. 13:43.
- G. The living stars are those who **fear Jehovah** and **hear the voice** of His servant, **trusting in Jehovah** so that they may have light while walking in darkness—Isa. 50:10-11; Psa. 139:7-12, 23-24:
 1. Those who make **light for themselves** and walk in their **self-made** light instead of in God’s light will **suffer** torment—Isa. 50:11.
 2. This should be a warning to us so that we may walk in the light given by God, not in the light we make for ourselves; “Come and **let us walk in the light of Jehovah**”—2:5.
- H. The living stars are typified by the stars that were established on the fourth day of God’s restoration with His further creation, in which they rule by their shining; **where there is shining, there is ruling for the growth of life**—Gen. 1:14-19:
 1. The shining forth of the Lord Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration was the coming of the kingdom in power; this shining forth is actually the **ruling presence of the Triune God**—Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:1-8.
 2. The kingdom of God as the ruling of God, the reigning of God, with all its blessings and enjoyment is the **shining of the Lord Jesus** and the spreading of the Lord Jesus by shining over us.
 3. The kingdom is the shining of the reality of the Lord Jesus; **whenever He is shining over us** and we are under that shining, **we are in the kingdom under God’s ruling and reigning** within us for our growth of life.

The stars are Christ and the saints. Although Christ is the real sun, He does not appear as the sun during this age of night. He shines as a star, as the bright and morning star. **Christ Himself is a star. All the overcoming saints are also stars.** **Second Peter 1:19** tells us **to take heed to the sure Word** until the morning star, which is Christ, arises within us. **Revelation 1:20** not only tells us that the churches are the **lampstands shining with the Spirit**, but also that the angels, the leading ones or the messengers in the churches, are the shining stars. **Daniel 12:3** says that those who turn many from the wrong way unto righteousness will shine as stars. **Matthew 5:14** says that the believers today are the light of the world and **Philippians 2:15** says, "among whom you shine as lights in the world." All these verses show that the saints who are in the proper way and have the proper standing are stars.

These fourth-day lights rule for discernment. **Discernment comes from light.** Without the fourth-day lights, it is difficult to discern anything. We all need this discernment for the **growth in life.** Young people need discernment regarding where to go and where not to go, what to say and what not to say, what to do and what not to do, what is of God and what is of Satan, what is in the spirit and what is in the soul. Even the junior high young people need discernment concerning their schoolmates, which classmates to contact and which ones they should never touch.

Discernment comes from light. When the light shines, the light rules. If I am in a room without light, I will stumble. Without light there is no direction, no ruling, and no discernment. However, if I am **under the shining of the light, I can discern** which way I should go.

You junior high students are different from all other students in school because you are children of the day. The others are still in darkness. When you speak with your teacher, you know what you should say. You have discernment. The best way for parents to take care of their children is to cast them into the hand of the Lord. Then, they will have the light, and the light will be their ruling. This ruling of the light will give the children the best discernment. They would never be tempted into drugs. **Discernment is the biggest protection.**

Again I say, this discernment comes from the **shining**, and the shining of the light is just the **ruling**. If you read and pray over **Genesis 1:14, 16, 18** and **Ephesians 5:8-11, 13-14** until these verses get into you and the light shines upon you, you will know what you must reprove and what you must accept, what you should receive and what you should reject. Also, **1 John 1:5-7** is a good portion telling us that God is light, that if we have fellowship with Him we are in the light, and that when we walk in the light we know the difference between darkness and light. We have the ruling with the discernment. *Life-Study of Genesis*, Chapter 5)

Day 6

Matt. 13:43 - *Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father...*

Jude 13 - *Wild waves of the sea, foaming out their own shames; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of darkness is kept for eternity.*

- I. On the **negative side**, there are some who are “**wandering stars**”—Jude 12-13:
 1. The metaphor of wandering stars indicates that the erratic teachers, the apostates, were **not solidly fixed** in the unchanging truths of the heavenly revelation but were **wandering about** among God’s starlike people.
 2. The erratic apostates are wandering stars today, but they will eventually be **imprisoned in the gloom of darkness**, which has been kept for them for eternity.
 3. Anyone who does not teach that the local churches are not the goal of God’s economy but the procedure to reach the goal of the reality of the Body of Christ does not match the need of the ministry of God in the present age; anyone who **keeps us from the blending** of the churches for the reality of the Body of Christ is a **wandering star**; the **true stars** are those who turn many to righteousness, those who do not lead people astray but **turn them to the right way**.
 4. Today the **living Star** and the **living stars** are not far from us—they are **in and with the local churches** as the practical expressions of the Body of Christ (Rev. 1:11, 20); among all the local churches there are some living stars; we simply need to contact them and keep company with them; they will lead us to the place where Jesus is.
- J. May the Lord be merciful to us that we may always be **kept in the right way** to meet the Lord, to worship Him, and to offer our love to Him; may the Lord make us all like the magi, following the living star to find and make new discoveries of Christ in order to become His duplication as the living stars—cf. Eph. 5:8-9; Jer. 15:16a.

The Lord reminded Peter that he was a stone for the building up of the church. He was not built up in the universal church in a general way, but practically in the church at Jerusalem. Do not say that you are just in the church. In which local church are you being built up? Do not say that you are just a member of the Body of Christ. You must have a location. Once you are located, **you are no longer a wandering star**. **We must have a location**, and **we must be built**. Once we are located, we have a good opportunity to be built in. First we are located, then we are built in. Migration is wonderful, but do not move from city to city. We must be able to declare to the whole universe that we have been located and that we are now being built into a particular local church. We must not only be in Matthew 16 in the universal church, but also in Matthew 18 in the local church.

Growth, transformation, and building occur simultaneously. We should not think that these are three distinct stages. Although it may sound logical to say that growth, transformation, and building are three separate stages, this is not true according to the spiritual life in the church and the kingdom. Growth, transformation, and building progress together. The more you grow, the more you are transformed; the more you are transformed, the more you are built up. The amount of transformation depends on the amount of growth, and the amount of building depends on the amount of transformation.

In the coming years the Lord will increase both the number of churches and also the number of saints in the churches. More and more saints will be added to the local churches, and more and more churches will be built up. May the Lord make us very clear that the local churches in the Lord's recovery are absolutely different from today's Christianity. Christianity is composed mainly of formalism or fundamentalism or Pentecostalism. Formalism stresses correct forms; fundamentalism emphasizes teachings and doctrines; Pentecostalism emphasizes the gifts. However, **in the local churches we need one unique thing—the growth in life**. We do not need other things. Although people may have been helped by formalism, fundamentalism, or Pentecostalism, the subtle enemy will do his best to prevent them from proceeding further than these three things. We all must see that the Lord's recovery primarily needs the growth in life. Although we may have received some help from formalism, fundamentalism, or Pentecostalism, we must proceed further to seek the growth in life. Only the growth in life can bring us to the goal. (*The Kingdom, Chapter 14*)