

CRYSTALLIZATION STUDY - Ezekiel, Book 3, Week 16
The God of **Blessing and the **Blessing** of God**

Ezekiel 34:26 And I **will make them** and the places around My hill a **blessing**, and I will cause the showers to come down in their season; there will be **showers of blessing**.

Ezekiel 34:27 And the trees of the field will **yield** their fruit, and the earth will **yield** its increase, and they will be secure in their land; then they will know that I am Jehovah, when I break the bars of their yoke and deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them.

I. GOD'S BLESSING IS FOR US TO ENJOY, AND TO BECOME A SOURCE OF BLESSING TO OTHERS

Zech. 10: 1 **Ask rain** of Jehovah At the time of spring rain, Of Jehovah who makes the lightning, And He will give them **showers of rain**, To everyone herbage in the field.

The word **rain** here signifies blessing. **To ask for more rain** is to seek more blessing. The Lord is encouraging the children of Israel to seek more blessings while He would be favorable to them. While the Lord is so favorable to us, we should ask Him to send us even more favor. Since God is giving us showers of rain, we should ask Him for more rain. This indicates that **we all need to pray for the Lord's abundant blessing**.

Ezekiel 34: 26

God will cause the shower of blessing to come down in its season. There will be **timely** rain. As we are abiding in Christ, the rain, the Holy Spirit, will often come upon us.

The Lord promises that there will be "**showers of blessing**." In the meetings of the local churches we sense that something is flowing, coming down like a shower. The Lord's blessing is upon the local church. He sends us showers of blessing in season, so **timely**.

II. GOD'S BLESSING IS CHRIST

Genesis 1:22 And God **blessed** them, saying, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.

Genesis 1:28 And God **blessed** them; and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.

*In His creation of man, God intended that man might **enjoy God as his blessing**. But through the fall of Adam, man lost God as his blessing and enjoyment.*

Psalms 115:13 He will **bless** those who fear Jehovah, Both small and great.

Genesis 12: 1 Now Jehovah said to **Abram**, Go from your land And from your relatives And from your father's house To the land that I will show you;

Genesis 12: 2 And I will make of you a great nation, And I will **bless** you And make your name great; And **you shall be a blessing**.

Genesis 12: 3 And I will **bless** those who bless you, And he who curses you I will curse; And in you all the families of the earth will be **blessed**.

Galatians 3: 7 Know then that they who are of **faith**, these are sons of Abraham.

Galatians 3: 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles out of faith, announced the gospel beforehand to Abraham: "**In you shall all the nations be blessed**."

Galatians 3: 9 So then they who are of **faith** are **blessed** with believing Abraham.

Galatians 3:14 In order that the **blessing** of Abraham might come to the Gentiles **in Christ Jesus**, that we might receive the **promise** of the **Spirit** through faith.

Galatians 3:16 But to Abraham were the **promises** spoken and to his seed. He does not say, "And to the seeds," as concerning many, but as concerning one: "And to your seed," who is **Christ**. [Acts 3:25]

Galatians 3:29 And if you are of Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, **heirs** according to **promise**.

Christ is the unique seed inheriting the promises that all the **nations** of the earth might be **blessed**. The **physical aspect** of the blessing was the good land, which was a type of the all-inclusive Christ; the **spiritual aspect** of **the blessing is the Spirit**. Since Christ is eventually realized as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, the blessing of the promised Spirit corresponds with the blessing of the promised land. Therefore, God gave Abraham **the promise of grace** in order that the new race would hope in the **Christ** who would come to be a **blessing** to all the nations of the earth.

III. GOD'S BLESSING IS OUR TREASURE

A. The normal work of a Christian is a work of blessing:

- Deut. 28: 2 And all these **blessings** will come upon you and overtake you if you listen to the voice of Jehovah your God.
- Deut. 28: 3 **Blessed** shall you be in the city, and **blessed** shall you be in the field.
- Deut. 28: 4 **Blessed** shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your animals, the offspring of your cattle and the young of your flock.
- Deut. 28: 5 **Blessed** shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.
- Deut. 28: 6 **Blessed** shall you be when you come in, and **blessed** shall you be when you go out.
- Deut. 28: 7 Jehovah will cause your enemies, who rise up against you, to be struck down before you; on one road they will come out against you, but on seven roads they will flee before you.
- Deut. 28: 8 Jehovah will **command** the **blessing** upon you in your storehouses and in all your undertakings; and He will **bless** you in the land which Jehovah your God is giving you.
- Psalms 84: 4 **Blessed** are those who dwell in Your house; They will yet be praising You.
- Psalms 84: 5 **Blessed** is the man whose strength is in You, In whose heart are the highways to Zion.
- 2 Cor. 9: 6 But take note of this: He who sows sparingly shall also sparingly reap; and he who **sows with blessings** shall also with **blessings** reap;

We need to realize that in our **work**, everything **depends** on God's **blessing**. In serving the Lord, we should believe in and **treasure** God's **blessing**. We need to learn to live and to practice the church life in a way that does not hinder God's blessing.

B. The normal life of a Christian is a life of blessing:

Regeneration:

- 1 Peter 1: 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has **regenerated** us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [John3:3,6]

The Divine Life:

- 1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony, that God **gave to us eternal life** and this life is in His Son.
- 1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

The Divine Nature:

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

The Indwelling Spirit:

- Roman 8: 9 But you are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if indeed **the Spirit of God dwells in you** . Yet if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of Him.

Transformation:

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

Being One Spirit with the Lord:

- 1 Cor. 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is **one spirit** .

Being Like God:

- 1 John 3: 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been manifested what we will be. We know that if He is manifested, **we will be like Him** because we will see Him even as He is.

Entering into His Glory:

1 Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, He who has **called you into His eternal glory** in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself perfect, establish, strengthen, and ground you.

IV. GOD'S BLESSING IS FOR MAN TO BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY

Genesis 1:28 And God **blessed** them; and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.

Before God had a man to express Him and represent Him, there was no way to pour out His full blessing. **After** God created man, He was able to see on earth a living creature bearing His image and having His dominion, so immediately, God bestowed His full **blessing** upon man. The qualifications for receiving God's **blessing** are **image**, His expression, priesthood and **dominion**, for His representation, kingship.

V. GOD'S BLESSING IS THE DIVINE TRINITY, THE THREEFOLD BLESSING OF JEHOVAH

Numbers 6:24 Jehovah **ble**ss you and **keep** you;

Numbers 6:25 Jehovah make His face **shine** upon you and be gracious to you;

Numbers 6:26 Jehovah **lift up** His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:27 So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, that I Myself may **ble**ss them.

2 Cor. 13:14 The **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ and the **love** of God and the **fellowship** of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Father **bles**ses us, the Son **shines upon** us, and the Holy Spirit **lifts up His countenance** upon us; as a result, we are kept, we receive grace, and we have peace. This eternal **blessing** is the Triune God **dispensing** Himself in His Divine Trinity into us for our enjoyment.

VI. GOD'S BLESSING IN LIFE IS RELATED TO THE PRACTICE OF ONENESS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Psalms 133: 1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to **dw**ell in **unity**!

Psalms 133: 2 It is like the fine oil upon the head That ran down upon the beard, Upon Aaron's beard, That ran down upon the hem of his garments;

Psalms 133: 3 Like the dew of Hermon That came down upon the mountains of Zion. For there Jehovah **commanded** the **blessing**: **Life** forever.

Romans 15: 5 Now the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to be of the **same** mind toward one another according to Christ Jesus,

Romans 15: 6 That with **one accord** you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:29 And I know that when I come to you, I will come in the **fullness of the blessing** of Christ.

The life in Psalm 133:3 is the eternal life of God, which is **commanded** by God **as a blessing** to those who dwell together in **oneness** in the church life. The church life, and the church living is the highest living, a living in which the brothers dwell together in oneness. We must be on the ground of oneness that the Lord will command the blessing of life. The **one accord** is the master key to every **blessing** in the New Testament.

VII. GOD'S BLESSING IS WITH EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN THE HEAVENLIES IN CHRIST

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed** us with every **spiritual blessing** in the heavenlies in **Christ**,

God has blessed us with His good, fine, and fair speakings. All these blessings are **spiritual**, in the **heavenlies**, and **in Christ**.

All these blessings are **spiritual**. This indicates the relationship of God's **blessings** to the Holy Spirit. Being spiritual, all the **blessings** with which God has blessed us are related to the Holy Spirit, which is the channel and the reality, of God's blessings. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit are all related to the blessings bestowed upon us. **This is actually God's dispensation of Himself into us. God's blessing is mainly the dispensation of the Triune God into us.**

These spiritual **blessings** are in the **heavenlies**. They are from the heavens with a heavenly nature, heavenly state, heavenly characteristic, and heavenly atmosphere. The believers in Christ are enjoying on earth these heavenly **blessings**. They are **heavenly** as well as **spiritual**. They are different from the blessings with which God blessed Israel. Those were physical and earthly. The blessings bestowed upon us are of God the Father, in God the Son, through God the Spirit, and in the heavenlies.

All these spiritual **blessings** are **in Christ**. Christ is the virtue, the instrument, and the sphere in which God has blessed us. Outside of Christ, without Christ, God has nothing to do with us. But in Christ He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies. We are not in ourselves, but in Christ. Hallelujah, we are in Christ, who is the sphere, the channel, the instrument, and the virtue in which we have been **blessed!**

VIII. GOD'S BLESSING IS THE **SPIRIT**

Gal. 3:14 In order that the **blessing** of Abraham might come to the Gentiles **in Christ Jesus**, that we might receive the **promise** of the **Spirit** through faith.

The **blessing** of Abraham is the blessing promised by God to Abraham for all the nations of the earth. This promise was **fulfilled**, and this blessing has come to the nations **in Christ** through His redemption by the cross. The context of verse 14 indicates that **the Spirit is the blessing** which God promised to Abraham for all the nations and which has been **received** by the believers through faith in Christ. **The Spirit is the compound Spirit and actually is God Himself processed in His Trinity through incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, and descension, for us to receive as our life and our everything.**

IX. GOD'S BLESSING IS THE **CUP OF BLESSING, THE NEW COVENANT**

Psalms 23:5 You spread a **table** before me In the presence of my adversaries; You anoint my head with oil; My **cup** runs over.

1 Cor. 10:16 The **cup of blessing** which we bless, is it not the fellowship of the blood of Christ? ...

Matt. 26:28 For this is My blood of the **covenant**, which is being poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

Under Christ's shepherding, our cup runs over as we enjoy the Father as the source of **blessing**.

“The **cup of blessing**,” is the **new covenant**, comprising all the rich **blessings** of the New Testament, including God Himself. In this new covenant God gives us forgiveness, life, salvation, and all spiritual, heavenly, and divine **blessings**. When this new covenant is given to us, it is a **cup, a portion** for us. The Lord shed His blood, God **established** the covenant, and **we enjoy the cup**, in which God and all that is of Him are our portion. **At the Lord's table, when we drink the cup, we receive God's blessing—the blessing that is God Himself.**