

“WORD OF LIFE”

September 27, 2026

58. CHRIST – HIS PERSON (38)

U. IN THE CHURCH

7. The Sanctifier and the Cleanser

Suggested Hymns: # 564 & # 1181 / # 214 / # 22

✚ “... the words ... are spirit and are life,” (John 6:63)

Eph 5:23 - ... Christ is Head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the Body.

Eph 5:25 - ... Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her

Eph 5:26 - That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word,

Eph 5:27 - That He might present the church to Himself glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that she would be holy and without blemish.

✚ “... the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...,” (Phil. 3:8)

❖ Christ is the Sanctifier and the Cleanser.

- Christ gave Himself to the church to sanctify the church
 - not only separating her to Himself from anything common
 - but also saturating her with Himself so that she may be His counterpart.
 - by cleansing her with the washing of the water in the word.
 - We are separated from what is common
 - and the very element of Christ added to us.
 - He is sanctifying us subjectively by dispensing His element into our being.
- In sanctifying the church, Christ -
 - first washes away our sins with His blood (Heb. 13:12)
 - then washes away our natural blemishes with His life.

✚ “For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged.” (1Cor. 14:31)

✚ In subjective sanctification something of Christ is added to us, but in cleansing something of us, especially our natural disposition, is subtracted. As we are cleansed, our natural disposition is washed away.

- ✓ As Christ is adding His element into us, He is also cleansing us and subtracting our natural disposition.
- ✓ As the Sanctifier and the Cleanser, He dispenses Himself into us. As His element is being added to us, something of ourselves is being removed.

✚ The Christ who is the Sanctifier and the Cleanser is the life-giving Spirit. As the Spirit in our spirit, He is sanctifying us and cleansing us. He sanctifies us by dispensing His element into us. As we open to Him for His dispensing, He will work within us as the life-giving Spirit to add Himself to us and to carry away our natural disposition. This is the living, subjective Christ as the Sanctifier and the Cleanser in the church.

{(Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 58 letter T- 7)
[Preparing this “word of life” (SUPPLYING THE WORD IN MEETINGS OF MUTUALITY) was motivated by:
The Elder’s Training Book 8, Ch. 4, and The Administration of the Church and the Ministry of the Word, Ch. 11]}

Hymn 564 Experience of Christ— Abiding in Him

1 I have learned the wondrous secret
Of **abiding** in the **Lord**;
I have tasted life's pure fountain,
I am **drinking** of His **word**;
I have found the strength and sweetness
Of abiding 'neath the **blood**;
I have lost myself in **Jesus**,
I am sinking into **God**.

Chorus:

I'm **abiding** in the **Lord**
And **confiding** in His **word**;
I am hiding in the bosom of His love.
Yes, abiding in the Lord
And confiding in His word,
I am hiding in the **bosom** of His love.

2 I am **crucified** with **Jesus**,
And He **lives** and **dwells** with me;
I have **ceased** from all my **struggling**,
'Tis **no longer I, but He**.
All my will is yielding to Him,
And His **Spirit** reigns within;
And His precious **blood** each moment
Keeps me **cleansed** and free from sin.

3 All my **sicknesses** I bring Him,
And He bears them all away;
All my **fears** and **griefs** I tell Him,
All my cares from day to day,
All my **strength** I draw from **Jesus**,
By His **breath** I live and move;
E'en His very mind He gives me,
And His **faith**, and **life**, and **love**.

4 For my words I take His **wisdom**,
For my works His **Spirit's** power;
For my ways His ceaseless presence
Guards and guides me every hour.
Of my heart, He is the portion,
Of my joy the boundless spring;
Savior, **Sanctifier**, Healer,
Glorious **Lord**, and coming **King**.

1Pet. 1:14 –

As children of obedience, **do not be fashioned**
according to the former **lusts** in your ignorance;

1Pet. 1:15 –

But according to the **Holy One** who **called** you,
you yourselves also **be holy** in all your manner
of life;

1Pet. 1:16 –

Because it is written, "**You shall be holy
because I am holy.**"

THE HOLY ONE IS THE TRIUNE GOD—

The **Father** chose us and **regenerates** us,
imparting His holy nature into us;
the **Son** **redeemed** us with His **blood** from the
vain manner of life; and
the **Spirit** **sanctifies** us according to the Father's
holy nature, separating us from anything other
than **God** that we, by the holy nature of the
Father, may **be holy** in all their manner of life,
even as **holy** as **God** Himself.

[Hymn #1181– As Our Person]

Hymn 214 Praise of the Lord – Remembrance of Him

1 According to Thy gracious word,
In meek humility,
This will I do, my dying **Lord**,
I will **remember** Thee.

2 Thy **body**, broken for my sake,
My **bread** from heaven shall be;
Thy **testamental cup** I take,
And thus **remember** Thee.

3 **Gethsemane** can I forget?
Or there Thy conflict see,
Thine **agony** and **bloody sweat**,
And not **remember** Thee?

4 When to the **cross** I turn mine eyes
And rest on **Calvary**,
O Lamb of God, my sacrifice,
I must **remember** Thee—

5 Remember Thee and all Thy **pains**
And all Thy love to me;
Yea, while a **breath**, a **pulse** remains,
I will **remember** Thee.

6 And when these failing lips grow dumb
And mind and memory flee,
When **Thou** shalt in Thy **kingdom** come,
Jesus, remember me.

Exo. 12:5 –

Your **lamb** shall be without blemish, ...;

Exo. 12:11 –

... It is **Jehovah's passover**.

Exo. 12:14 –

... you shall **keep** it as a **feast** to **Jehovah**;
throughout your generations as a **perpetual
statute** you shall **keep it as a feast**.

Exo. 12:25-26 –

you shall **observe** this **service** (the feast).

And when your children say to you,
What do you mean by this service?

Exo. 12:27 –

..., It is the **passover** sacrifice to **Jehovah**,

1Cor. 5:8 –

So then **let us keep the feast**, not with old
leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and
evil, but with the **unleavened bread of sincerity
and truth**.

LET US KEEP THE FEAST

The feast refers to the **Feast of Unleavened
Bread** as the continuation of the **Passover**.
It lasted for seven days, a **period of completion**,
signifying the **entire period** of our Christian life.
This is a long **feast**, which **we must keep** not
with the sin of our **old nature**, the old leaven, but
with **unleavened bread**, which is the **Christ** of
our **new nature** as our nourishment and
enjoyment. Only He is the life supply of
sincerity and **truth**, absolutely pure, without
mixture, and full of reality. The **entire** Christian
life should be such a **feast**, such an enjoyment of
Christ as our banquet, the rich supply of life.

Hymn 22 Worship of the Father – As the Source of Life

1 **Holy Father**, we adore Thee,
Rev'rent song to Thee we raise;
Thou art **holy**, Thou art lofty,
"Holy is Thy **Name**," we **praise**.

2 Loving is Thy heart, dear **Father**,
Righteous ever are Thy ways;
But how **holy** is Thy **nature**,
Yet, to us **Christ** it conveys.

3 Thou hast ever **sanctified** us
With the **blood** of **Christ** our **Lord**;
Thou hast separated **sinners**
Thru the **truth** which is Thy **Word**.

4 Thou hast, by Thy **Holy Spirit**,
Made us holy unto Thee;
And our spirit, soul, and body
Wholly **sanctified** will be.

5 Oh! the **holy** life of **Jesus**
Thru Thy **grace** we now possess;
Thou wilt make us e'en **partakers**
Of Thy very **holiness**.

6 When within that holy city,
Thy full **holiness** we'll share,
To the uttermost forever,
"Thou art **holy**," we'll declare.

Lev 11:44 –

For I am **Jehovah** your **God**. **Sanctify**
yourselves therefore, and **be holy**, for **I am
holy**. And you shall not defile yourselves with
any of the swarming things that move upon
the earth.

Rev 22:11 –

Let him who does **unrighteousness** do
unrighteousness still;
and let him who is **filthy** be filthy still;
and let him who is **righteous** do righteousness
still; and **let him who is holy be holy still**.

Rev 22:12 –

Behold, I come quickly, and My **reward** is
with Me to **render** to each one as his **work** is.

Whatever one is,
whether **unrighteous** or **righteous**,
whether **filthy** or **holy**, is a serious matter.
To be **righteous** is to **walk outwardly**
according to the righteous ways of God,
whereas to be **holy** is to **live inwardly**
according to the holy nature of **God**.

We must walk and live in this way that we
may **receive the reward**; otherwise, we will be
condemned as **unrighteous** and **filthy** and will
receive punishment at the **Lord's** coming
back.