

**THE LIVING AND EXERCISE OF GOD-MEN
FOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF
THE GOAL OF GOD'S ECONOMY TO GAIN
HIS TESTIMONY IN THE CHURCH**

By Titus Chu

**OUTLINE FOR MESSAGE ONE:
GAINING HIS TESTIMONY THROUGH THE CHURCH
AS THE GOAL OF GOD'S ECONOMY**

**I. Living And Growing As The House Of The Living
God For His Rest, Satisfaction, And Manifestation**

- A. The focus of our attention should be on the controlling vision in the Bible, which is the eternal economy of God concerning the dispensing of God as life into His chosen and redeemed people in order to produce and constitute the church as the organic Body of Christ, the house of God for His expression (1 Tim. 1:4; 3:15; Eph. 1:10, 22-23).
- B. Gaining the church is the desire of the Lord's heart.
 - 1. The church was obtained by Him through His own blood and is precious in His eyes (Acts 20:28).
 - 2. The church belongs to God, is of God, is being possessed by Him, and bears Him as the content in its nature and essence (1 Cor. 1:2; 10:32; Rev. 1:12, 20).
 - 3. It was for the church that Paul was willing to spend and be utterly spent. It was to the church that he ministered life by dying (2 Cor. 12:15; 11:28; 4:10-12).
 - 4. We should treasure the church and love the church as the Lord does and as Paul did (Matt. 13:44-46).

- C. The house of God is the household of God, His dwelling place, His family, which is composed of the many sons of God, the many brothers of Christ (Eph. 2:19; John 1:12-13; Heb. 2:10; Rom. 8:29).
- D. Since the church is the house of the living God, the living God should be subjective to us, and we should be those who are living and moving together in Him, by Him, and with Him (1 Tim. 3:15; John 14:6; 17:2-3).
- E. As the house of God, the church is the place where God can have His rest, put His trust, accomplish His will, express Himself, and satisfy the desire of His heart (Eph. 2:22; 1:5, 9, 11).
- F. For His dwelling in His house, we need to allow the divine life an opportunity to grow and make home in our hearts (Col. 2:19; Eph. 3:17).

II. Standing And Testifying As The Pillar And Base Of The Truth For The Bearing And Upholding Of All The Divine Realities

- A. Truth in 1 Timothy 3:15 refers to the real things in the New Testament concerning Christ and the church according to God's New Testament economy (Matt. 16:16, 18; Eph. 5:32).
- B. The church testifies the reality, the truth, of Christ as the mystery of God and the church as the mystery of Christ (Col. 2:2; Eph. 3:4).
- C. The church is the firm foundation of God that stands firm against any attack of heresy and degradation (2 Tim. 2:19).
- D. The local churches should have a high standard of truth for the shining out, the expression, of the divine light (John 8:12, 32, 36).

- E. The word of the truth should be rightly unfolded and spoken in all the local churches for the enlightening of darkened people, the inoculating against poison, the swallowing up of death, and the bringing back of the distracted (2 Tim. 2:15, 25).
- F. We should endeavor to come to the full knowledge of the truth—a thorough apprehension, acknowledgement, and appreciation of the reality of the spiritual and divine things—in order to stand firm and unfold without bias or distortion the reality of God’s economy (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 2:15).

III. Expressing God Manifested In The Flesh for The Continuation And Enlargement of The Mystery of Godliness

- A. The church as the Body of Christ joins with Christ as the Head for the manifestation of God in the flesh—the mystery of godliness (1 Tim. 3:15-16).
- B. Godliness is the living out of God as life in the church for God’s enlarged corporate expression in the flesh.
- C. A properly-cared-for church, as described in 1 Timothy 1–3, will become the continuation of Christ’s manifestation of God in the flesh—Christ lived out of the church as the manifestation of God. This is the mingling of God Himself with man, divinity brought into humanity and working within humanity (John 15:4-5).

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