CHRISTIANS ON CAMPUS

FNF Session 10- God's Ultimate Intention Fulfilled in Transformation.

I. Enjoying the Lord as the Tree of Life and the flow of life to be transformed in the image of Christ.

<u>Gen. 2:8</u> And Jehovah God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there He put the man whom He had formed. <u>9</u> And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. <u>10</u> And a river went forth from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four branches. <u>12</u> And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.

II. Growing in life for God's building

<u>1 Cor. 3:9</u> For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building. <u>1 Cor. 3:12</u> But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,

III. The way to be transformed into precious materials for God's building

John 1:42 He led him to Jesus. Looking at him, Jesus said, You are Simon, the son of John; you shall be called Cephas (which is interpreted, Peter).

Heb. 12:2 Looking away unto Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith,

Rom. 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace. 2 Cor. 3:16 Whenever their hearts turn to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 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 2 Sam 8:7, And David said to him, Do not be afraid, for I will surely show kindness to you for the sake of Jonathan your father; I will restore to you all the land of your father Saul, and you will eat food at my table continually. <u>13</u> And Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem because he ate the king's table continually. And he was crippled in both his feet.

IV. God's ultimate intention fulfilled by the enjoyment of Christ as the tree of life.

<u>Rev. 22:1</u> And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street. <u>2</u> And on this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life, producing twelve fruits, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

<u>Rev. 21:18</u> And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. <u>19</u> The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;

Today's Reading

Genesis 2 records that God placed man in front of the tree of life and that this man was a vessel of clay (vv. 8-9). A river went out of Eden to water the garden, and this river was divided into four heads (v. 10). The issue of the flow of this river was gold, bdellium (a kind of pearl), and onyx stone (v. 12). We need to look to the Lord that He would give us a heavenly, spiritual view of this picture presented to us in Genesis 2. We all need to be transformed from men of clay, vessels of clay, into precious materials for God's building—gold, bdellium, and precious stones. If we are going to be transformed from clay into precious material for God's building, we have to eat the fruit of the tree of life. If we eat the fruit of the tree of life, this life becomes the pure, heavenly, living, and spiritual water flowing within us. This flow of life will transform the clay into gold, pearl, and precious stones. All these precious materials are for God's building. The conclusion of the divine revelation shows us a city built of gold, pearls, and precious stones. When we enjoy the Lord as the tree of life, this life flows within us and transforms us into the image of Christ.

The life of Christ is living and powerful and can swallow up all the death and negative things within us. He will not only correct us, adjust us, deliver us, and save us, but He will transform us. We need to forget about our temper, our weaknesses, our problems, and our troubles. We need to take our eyes away from all these things and look to Christ. Look away from everything unto Jesus (Heb. 12:2), and set your mind upon Him (Rom. 8:6). Feast on Him, drink Him, breathe Him in, abide in Him, praise Him, adore Him, and behold Him. We need to be like a mirror beholding and reflecting the glory of the Lord (2 Cor. 3:18). When we behold the Lord in this way, He infuses us with the elements of what He is and what He has done. Thus, we are being metabolically transformed into His image, and all the negative things within our being are swallowed up.

The divine way is not self-correction, self-adjustment, or self-improvement. God's way is to put Christ into us for us to enjoy Him by eating Him, drinking Him, breathing Him in, abiding in Him, and letting Him be everything to us. He is living and powerful, and He will transform us. Transformation is much better than outward correction, adjustment, or improvement. Transformation is a heavenly, spiritual, divine metabolic change in our being. The Lord is transforming us from one degree of glory to another degree of glory. We are being changed from clay to gold, pearl, and precious stones. The way of transformation is to enjoy the Lord, to feast on Him. Transformation is a feast, an enjoyment.

All of us are like Mephibosheth, the grandson of King Saul (2 Sam. 4:4). Mephibosheth was lame; he was unable to walk. King David preserved his life, restored to him all his inheritance, and invited him to feast with him at the same table (9:1-13). After Mephibosheth received grace from David, he only looked at the riches on David's table; he did not look at his two lame legs underneath the table. Whenever we look at ourselves, we discover that we are lame, and we become discouraged. After we have been saved, we should forget about our two lame legs and sit at the table of our King, Jesus Christ, to enjoy Him with all His unsearchable riches. We should only look at the riches on the Lord's table and enjoy them. By our enjoyment of the unsearchably rich Christ, He will transform us.