

Outline of the Messages for the Thanksgiving Conference

November 28—December 1, 2013

GENERAL SUBJECT: THE MENDING MINISTRY OF JOHN

Message Two

The Revelation of the Triune God and of the Consummated Spirit

Scripture Reading: John 1:1, 14, 29; 7:37-39; 14:7-20; 20:22

- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
- John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
- John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
- John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.
- John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
- John 14:7 If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and henceforth you know Him and have seen Him.
- John 14:8 Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father and it is sufficient for us.
- John 14:9 Jesus said to him, Have I been so long a time with you, and you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how is it that you say, Show us the Father?
- John 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak from Myself, but the Father who abides in Me does His works.
- John 14:11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; but if not, believe because of the works themselves.
- John 14:12 Truly, truly, I say to you, He who believes into Me, the works which I do he shall do also; and greater than these he shall do because I am going to the Father.
- John 14:13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- John 14:14 If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.
- John 14:15 If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.
- John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever,
- John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.
- John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.
- John 14:19 Yet a little while and the world beholds Me no longer, but you behold Me; because I live, you also shall live.
- John 14:20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.
- John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.

I. The Gospel of John reveals the Triune God—the Father as the source, the Son as the expression, and the Spirit as the realization—14:7-20:

John 14:7-20 (be omitted.)

A. The Father is the source—6:46; 7:29; 13:3:

John 6:46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except Him who is from God, He has seen the Father.

John 7:29 I know Him, because I am from Him, and He sent Me.

John 13:3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all into His hands and that He had come forth from God and was going to God,

1. No one has ever seen God the Father—1:18; 5:37; 6:46.

John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

- John 5:37 And the Father who sent Me, He has testified concerning Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor have you seen His form,
- John 6:46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except Him who is from God, He has seen the Father.
2. All that the Father has is the Son's and is in the Son—16:15.
 John 16:15 All that the Father has is Mine; for this reason I have said that He receives of Mine and will declare it to you.
 3. The Father sent the Son—7:29; 6:57.
 John 7:29 I know Him, because I am from Him, and He sent Me.
 John 6:57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.
 4. The Father is expressed in the Son—14:7-11; 8:19.
 John 14:7 If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and henceforth you know Him and have seen Him.
 John 14:8 Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father and it is sufficient for us.
 John 14:9 Jesus said to him, Have I been so long a time with you, and you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how is it that you say, Show us the Father?
 John 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak from Myself, but the Father who abides in Me does His works.
 John 14:11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; but if not, believe because of the works themselves.
 John 8:19 They said then to Him, Where is Your Father? Jesus answered, You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also.
 5. The Father is working in the Son—14:10; 7:16.
 John 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak from Myself, but the Father who abides in Me does His works.
 John 7:16 Jesus therefore answered them and said, My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.
- B. The Son is the expression—1:18:
 John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.
1. The Son is the Word who is God and who was with God in the beginning—v. 1.
 John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
 2. The Son is equal with God—5:18.
 John 5:18 Because of this therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath but also called God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.
 3. The Son and the Father are one—10:30.
 John 10:30 I and the Father are one.
 4. The Son is the expression of the Father—14:8-9; 8:19.
 John 14:8 Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father and it is sufficient for us.
 John 14:9 Jesus said to him, Have I been so long a time with you, and you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how is it that you say, Show us the Father?
 John 8:19 They said then to Him, Where is Your Father? Jesus answered, You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also.
 5. The Son lives because of the Father—6:57a.
 John 6:57a As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, ...
 6. The Son came to carry out the Father's will—v. 38; 5:19-20, 30; 12:49.
 John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
 John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing from Himself except what He sees the Father doing, for whatever

- that One does, these things the Son also does in like manner.
- John 5:20 For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and greater works than these He will show Him that you may marvel.
- John 5:30 I can do nothing from Myself; as I hear, I judge, and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
- John 12:49 For I have not spoken from Myself; but the Father who sent Me, He Himself has given Me commandment, what to say and what to speak.
7. The Son became flesh, bringing grace and reality—1:14, 16-17; 8:32, 36.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 1:16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.

John 8:32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.

John 8:36 If therefore the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed.
 8. The Son became a man to be the Lamb of God—1:29, 36.

John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

John 1:36 And looking at Jesus walking, he said, Behold, the Lamb of God!
 9. The Son baptized people in the Spirit—v. 33.

John 1:33 And I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water, He said to me, He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and abiding upon Him, this is He who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.
 10. The Son is life and the bread of life—11:25; 14:6; 6:35.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live;

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.
 11. The Son is a grain of wheat bearing much fruit—12:24.

John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
 12. The Son is the good Shepherd who will gain His flock—10:14-16.

John 10:14 I am the good Shepherd, and I know My own, and My own know Me,

John 10:15 Even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

John 10:16 And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must lead them also, and they shall hear My voice, and there shall be one flock, one Shepherd.
 13. The Son is the Bridegroom coming for His bride—3:29-30.

John 3:29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice. This joy of mine therefore is made full.

John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease.
 14. The Son is the vine cultivated by the Father—15:1.

John 15:1 I am the true vine, and My Father is the husbandman.
 15. The Son died, shedding His blood for the redemption of sins, and flowed out as living water, even as the Spirit—19:34; 7:38-39.

John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
 16. In resurrection the Son was breathed into us as the Spirit—20:22.

John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.

C. The Spirit is the realization—14:17; 15:26; 16:13-15:

- John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.
- John 15:26 But when the Comforter comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of reality, who proceeds from the Father, He will testify concerning Me;
- John 16:13 But when He, the Spirit of reality, comes, He will guide you into all the reality; for He will not speak from Himself, but what He hears He will speak; and He will declare to you the things that are coming.
- John 16:14 He will glorify Me, for He will receive of Mine and will declare it to you.
- John 16:15 All that the Father has is Mine; for this reason I have said that He receives of Mine and will declare it to you.
1. The Spirit is the reality of the Son—14:16-20; 15:26.

John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever,

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.

John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.

John 14:19 Yet a little while and the world beholds Me no longer, but you behold Me; because I live, you also shall live.

John 14:20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

John 15:26 But when the Comforter comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of reality, who proceeds from the Father, He will testify concerning Me;
 2. The Spirit receives all that the Son is and has obtained and discloses it to us—16:13-15.

John 16:13 But when He, the Spirit of reality, comes, He will guide you into all the reality; for He will not speak from Himself, but what He hears He will speak; and He will declare to you the things that are coming.

John 16:14 He will glorify Me, for He will receive of Mine and will declare it to you.

John 16:15 All that the Father has is Mine; for this reason I have said that He receives of Mine and will declare it to you.
 3. The Father is in the Son, and the Son became the Spirit for us to drink so that He may become the living water flowing out of us—7:37-39; 4:10, 14.

John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.
 4. The Spirit enters into us to be with us so that we may experience and enjoy the Son—14:17-18.

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.

John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.
 5. The Spirit being in us is the Son being in us—vv. 17, 20; 17:23, 26.

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.

- John 14:20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.
 John 17:23 I in them, and You in Me, that they may be perfected into one, that the world may know that You have sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.
- John 17:26 And I have made Your name known to them and will yet make it known, that the love with which You have loved Me may be in them, and I in them.
6. In the Spirit we are joined to the Triune God as one—vv. 21-23.
 John 17:21 That they all may be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that You have sent Me.
 John 17:22 And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, even as We are one;
 John 17:23 I in them, and You in Me, that they may be perfected into one, that the world may know that You have sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.
7. We worship God, who is Spirit, by this Spirit and with reality, that is, with the Christ whom we have experienced—4:23-24.
 John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.
 John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.
8. We are regenerated by the Spirit in our spirit, and we worship the Spirit in our spirit—3:6; 4:24.
 John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
 John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

II. The Gospel of John reveals the consummated Spirit as the consummation of the processed and consummated Triune God—7:39; 20:22:

- John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
 John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
- A. The consummated Spirit is the Triune God after He has passed through the process of incarnation, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection—7:39:
 John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
1. The process through which the Triune God passed to become the Spirit is an economical, not essential, matter—1:14; Heb. 9:14; 1 Cor. 15:45b:
 John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
 Heb 9:14 How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
 1 Cor 15:45b ... the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
 a. With God, change can never be essential; it can only be economical.
 b. In His economy God has changed in the sense of being processed; although God has changed in His economy, He has not changed in His essence.
2. *Processed* refers to the steps through which the Triune God has passed in the divine economy; *consummated* indicates that the process has been completed; and *the consummated Spirit* implies that the Spirit of God has been processed and has become the consummated Spirit—John 7:39.
 John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

3. The Spirit of God was there from the beginning (Gen. 1:2), but the Spirit as “the Spirit of Christ” (Rom. 8:9), “the Spirit of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:19), was “not yet” at the time of John 7:39, because He was not yet glorified.
 - Gen 1:2 But the earth became waste and emptiness, and darkness was on the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was brooding upon the surface of the waters.
 - Rom 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.
 - Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
 - John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
 4. The Lord Jesus was glorified when He was resurrected, and through this glorification the Spirit of God became the Spirit of the incarnated, crucified, and resurrected Jesus Christ—Luke 24:26; Phil. 1:19.
 - Luke 24:26 Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into His glory?
 - Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
 5. The consummated Spirit is the compound of the Triune God, the man Jesus, His human living, His death, and His resurrection—John 7:39; Acts 16:7; Rom. 8:10-11; Phil. 1:19.
 - John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
 - Acts 16:7 And when they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, yet the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them.
 - Rom 8:10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.
 - Rom 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.
 - Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
- B. The consummated Spirit was breathed as the holy breath into the disciples by the Son in resurrection—John 20:22:
- John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
1. The Gospel of John reveals that Christ became flesh to be the Lamb of God and that in resurrection He became the life-giving Spirit; thus, in His resurrection He breathed Himself as the consummated Spirit into the disciples—1:29; 20:22:
 - John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
 - John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
 - a. The Holy Spirit in 20:22 is the Spirit expected in 7:39 and promised in 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; and 16:7-8, 13.
 - John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
 - John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
 - John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever,
 - John 14:17 Even the Spirit of reality, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him; but you know Him, because He abides with you and shall be in you.

- John 14:26 But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and remind you of all the things which I have said to you.
- John 15:26 But when the Comforter comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of reality, who proceeds from the Father, He will testify concerning Me;
- John 16:7 But I tell you the truth, It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Comforter will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.
- John 16:8 And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and concerning righteousness and concerning judgment:
- John 16:13 But when He, the Spirit of reality, comes, He will guide you into all the reality; for He will not speak from Himself, but what He hears He will speak; and He will declare to you the things that are coming.
- b. In resurrection Christ was transfigured into the Spirit, and it is as the Spirit that He was breathed into His disciples so that He can live in the disciples and they can live by Him and with Him and so that He can abide in them and they can abide in Him—20:22; 14:19-20; 15:4-5.
- John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
- John 14:19 Yet a little while and the world beholds Me no longer, but you behold Me; because I live, you also shall live.
- John 14:20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.
- John 15:4 Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.
- John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.
- c. By breathing the Spirit into the disciples, the Lord Jesus imparted Himself into them as life and everything.
- d. The Holy Spirit in 20:22 is actually the resurrected Christ Himself, because this Spirit is His breath; the Spirit is the breath of the Son.
- John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
- e. The Lord is the Spirit who gives life, and this Spirit is our breath.
2. The consummated Spirit as the breath is everything to us in living the Christian life; only the breath, the Spirit, can be a Christian, and only the breath, the Spirit, can be an overcomer—Gal. 3:2-3, 14; Phil. 1:19; Rev. 2:7.
- Gal 3:2 This only I wish to learn from you, Did you receive the Spirit out of the works of law or out of the hearing of faith?
- Gal 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?
- 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.
- Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
- Rev 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.