

Message Four

The Contents of the New Covenant (3) - Enjoyment and Living

Scripture Reading: Heb. 8:10b-11; 1 John 1:3, 7; Eph. 1:11, 14, 18;, 3:21; 1 John 2:27; John 17:3; Rom. 8:6

- I. The enjoyment of the new covenant – “I will be God to them, and they will be a people to Me” – Hebrews 8:10b**
 - A. In the new covenant we have the privilege of having God as our God and of being His people – the enabling of life for us to participate in the enjoyment of God in fellowship with Him that He may be known by us, understood by us, and lived by us – 1 John 1:3, 7
 - B. In the new covenant God is God to us in the law of life, and He wants us to be a people to Him in the law of life.
 - C. For God to be our God means that He is our inheritance – Eph. 1:14
 - D. For us to be God’s people means that we are God’s inheritance – Eph. 1:11, 14, 18; 3:21
- II. The living of the new covenant—“They shall by no means each teach his fellow citizen and each his brother, saying, Know the Lord; for all will know Me from the little one to the great one among them”—Heb. 8:11:**
 - A. In the Old Testament time, man could know only God’s doings and God’s ways (Psa. 103:7); in the New Testament time, we can know God Himself.
 - B. We can know God subjectively from within by the sense of life, which is the feeling, the consciousness, of the divine life within us—Rom. 8:6; Eph. 4:18-19; Phil. 3:10a:
 - 1. The sense of life comes from the divine life (Eph. 4:18), the law of life (Rom. 8:2; Heb. 8:10), and the anointing of the Spirit (1 John 2:27).
 - 2. The sense of life on the negative side is the feeling of death and on the positive side is the feeling of life and peace (Rom. 8:6; Isa. 26:3).
 - 3. The sense of life makes us know whether we are living in the natural life or in the divine life and whether we are living in the flesh or in the spirit.
 - C. We should live according to the sense of life in the principle of life, not according to the principle of right and wrong, the principle of death: