

Message Four

The Kingdom of God as the Kingdom of the Son of God's Love

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:13; 1 Pet. 2:9; 1 John 1:5; 5:11-12; 4:8, 16

I. The Father has "delivered us out of the authority of darkness"—Col. 1:13:

- A. The authority of darkness denotes the authority of Satan—Matt. 12:26:
 - 1. Darkness is Satan as death—Heb. 2:14.
 - 2. Light is God as life—1 John 1:5-6.
- B. To be delivered out of the authority of darkness is to be delivered from the devil, who has the might of death—Heb. 2:14; John 17:15.
- C. We have been delivered from the devil, Satan, by the death of Christ and by the life of Christ in resurrection—Col. 2:14-15; John 5:24.
- D. The Father has delivered us out of Satan's authority of darkness into God's marvelous light—1 Pet. 2:9.

II. The Father has "transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love"—Col. 1:13:

- A. The kingdom of the Son is the authority of Christ—Rev. 11:15; 12:10.
- B. The Son of God is the embodiment and expression of the divine life; therefore, the kingdom of the Son is a realm of life—1 John 5:11-12:
 - 1. To be transferred into the kingdom of the Son of the Father's love is to be transferred into the Son, who is life to us—Col. 3:4.
 - 2. The Son in resurrection is now the life-giving Spirit, and He rules us in His resurrection life with His love—1 Pet. 1:3; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 15:45b.
 - 3. When we live by the Son as our life in resurrection, we are living in His kingdom, enjoying Him in the Father's love—John 6:57.
- C. The fact that we have been transferred into the kingdom of the Son of God's love indicates that this realm of life is in love, not in fear—Col. 1:13:
 - 1. The kingdom in which we find ourselves today is a realm full of life, light, and love—1 John 1:1-2; 5, 7; 4:8, 16.
 - 2. The Son as the object of the divine love becomes to us the embodiment of the divine life in the divine love with the authority of resurrection; this is the kingdom of the Son of God's love.

3. The Father has transferred us into a realm where we are ruled in love with life:
 - a. Here, under the heavenly ruling and restriction, we have genuine freedom in love, with life, and under light—Matt. 7:13-14.
 - b. Here in this kingdom we enjoy Christ and have the church life—Col. 1:12; 4:15-16.
- D. In the kingdom of the Son of God's love, the will of God is carried out—Rev. 4:11; Eph. 1:5, 9, 11; Col. 1:9; 4:12.