

Introduction

The Full Ministry of Christ

The New Testament unveils the full ministry of Christ, revealing that His ministry is in three divine and mystical stages—incarnation, inclusion, and intensification. The first three articles in this issue cover, in the way of an overview, these three stages of Christ’s ministry for the fulfillment of God’s economy, His administrative arrangement and plan to dispense Himself in His Divine Trinity into His chosen and redeemed people in order to produce and build up the Body of Christ, which consummates in the New Jerusalem as the consummate, eternal, corporate expression of the Triune God. The first stage of Christ’s full ministry—the stage of incarnation—the stage of Christ in the flesh, is recorded in the Gospels. Four great matters were accomplished in this stage of Christ’s ministry: the infinite God was brought into the finite man; the Triune God was united and mingled with a tripartite human being; the unsearchable rich and bountiful Triune God was expressed, with His attributes, through Christ’s humanity, with its uplifted human virtues; and, by fulfilling all the requirements of God’s righteousness, holiness, and glory, Christ accomplished an eternally efficacious judicial redemption. In the second stage of His ministry—the stage of inclusion—covered in Acts and in the Epistles from Romans through Jude, Christ became the life-giving Spirit in order to impart the divine life into the believers for the carrying out of God’s organic salvation, an organic process in which we are saved in the divine life through a marvelous sequence involving regeneration, sanctification, transformation, conformation, and glorification. In this stage of inclusion, with its focus on His resurrection, Christ was begotten in His humanity to be the firstborn Son of God. Furthermore, in and through Christ’s resurrection, God in Christ regenerated the believers to be the many sons of God, who are the many members of the Body of Christ. In the third stage—the stage of intensification—presented in the

book of Revelation, Christ is the sevenfold intensified Spirit to produce the overcomers, to build up the Body of Christ, and to consummate the New Jerusalem. The third stage is actually the sevenfold intensification of the second stage, an intensification which is required because of the degradation of the church and God’s need to produce overcomers for the fulfillment of His economy.

We include here a chart (adapted from the Recovery Version of the New Testament) depicting God’s New Testament economy. The first section—initiation—corresponds to the stage of incarnation; the second section—development—to the stage of inclusion; and the third section—finalization—to the stage of intensification. In the stage of incarnation, or initiation, we have the Son with the Father and by the Spirit. In the stage of inclusion, or development, we have the Spirit as the Son with the Father. In the stage of intensification, or finalization, we have the seven Spirits out from the Eternal One and of the Redeemer. In summary, regarding God’s New Testament economy, we have embodiment, consummation, and intensification, and regarding the three stages of Christ’s full ministrations, we have incarnation, inclusion, and intensification. Many of the crucial details are covered in the articles that follow.

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GOD'S NEW TESTAMENT ECONOMY		
1 MATTHEW ← → JOHN	2 ACTS ← → JUDE	REVELATION
<p>INCARNATION</p> <p>↙ The Son ↘ With the Father By the Spirit</p> <p>The Embodiment of The Triune God in Jesus Christ as God's Tabernacle God's Temple Living the Life of God To Develop into The Kingdom of God</p> <p>Gospels (Initiation)</p>	<p>INCLUSION</p> <p>↙ The Spirit ↘ As the Son With the Father</p> <p>The Consummation of The Triune God in The Church as The Body of Christ The Temple of God The Kingdom of God The House of God Living Christ unto The Fullness of God</p> <p>22 Books (Development)</p>	<p>INTENSIFICATION</p> <p>↙ The Seven Spirits ↘ Out from the Eternal One Of the Redeemer</p> <p>The Intensification of The Triune God in The Overcoming Church Consummating in (1) The Golden Lampstands (2) The New Jerusalem</p> <p>Revelation (Finalization)</p>