

The Consummation of Revelation

In the activities of the Spirit among the believers in the Church, the Spirit is the manifest Agent, but at the same time, He incorporates the mutual operations of God the Father and God the Son. This incorporate operation can be seen in the Spirit's operation to grant revelation in general and in the content of the book of Revelation in particular. God's operation to reveal the things that He has prepared is different from mere mental teaching; it depends on His inward operation, which is incorporated into the Spirit's work within our regenerated human spirit. God operates through His Spirit within the believers to reveal Christ to them so that the believers can enter into the incorporation of the operations of the Divine Persons in their own life, living, and service in the church, becoming, in reality, the manifestation of God's activity in His Trinity on the earth.

God's activity involves administration, which is at the center of the book of Revelation. God's sovereignty, His unlimited authority, power, and capacity to carry out every desire of His heart, is the basis of His government. From His throne the sovereign God rules over everything and everyone in the universe so that He can accomplish His eternal purpose to produce and build up an eternal dwelling place—the New Jerusalem—for His satisfaction, expression, and administration. Through this divine administration, Christ will gain the first place, the preeminence, in all things. He administrates as a Lamb with the seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, for the accomplishment of God's eternal economy, and as a Lion fighting against God's enemy, Satan. He directs world events as the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He supplies and cares for the local churches as the Son of Man walking in the midst of the golden lampstands. And He preserves the believers throughout all tribulations and directs other angels to carry out His judgment on earth as another Angel.

His judgment will be upon the world and upon Babylon in its religious and material aspects. His judgment involves spiritual warfare, in which the human will stands with the divine will to oppose and subdue the satanic will. Through this administrative exercise, the millennial kingdom will be inaugurated, final judgment will be carried out, and the New Jerusalem will be manifested as the eternal, mutual dwelling place of the redeeming, life-dispensing God and His redeemed, regenerated, and glorified people. In this age, we should cooperate with Christ by exercising our regenerated human spirit to realize and respond to God's

move, to place ourselves absolutely under His rule and authority, to give Christ the preeminence in our personal universe, to experience the sevenfold intensified Spirit of God, to worship Him, to cooperate with Him through prayer, to have the heart and spirit of a martyr, and to live in the practical local church life.

Through God's administration, the revelation of Jesus Christ, which is contained in the word of God, is unveiled and imparted in order to manifest the economical being and work of the Triune God, which is the testimony of Jesus. Revelation, thus, unveils the economical Trinity in His operation to impart Himself into the believers in the local churches to produce overcomers, who can usher in the fullness of the testimony of Jesus as the Body of Christ, which is signified by the golden lampstands in time and the New Jerusalem in eternity. Each of the designations given to the Triune God—the Father, as the One who is and who was and who is coming; the Spirit, as the seven Spirits burning before the throne; and the Son, as the faithful Witness, the Firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth—reinforces the specific functions that the Father, Son, and Spirit carry out and the economical content of the Father, Son, and Spirit that is imparted to produce the testimony of Jesus.

All of God's people will have a part in the eternal, economical manifestation of the Triune God, the New Jerusalem, but not all will assume their rightful responsibility in ushering in this dispensational reality. Before God, the church should be responsible to Him, fulfilling the work committed to her and standing in her proper position. As a whole, however, the church has failed and is still failing. She is not according to God's original intention, having become degraded and destitute of the divine realities. Therefore, God will empower a group of people from among the totality of His people. This group is the overcomers, the man-child in Revelation 12, who take the position which the whole church should take and do the work for the church. The work of the overcomers is to bring in God's kingdom. The Lord's work has been accomplished, and He is on the throne. With the rapture of the overcomers, the Lord's accomplished judgment will be carried out, and the consummation of God's purpose, as seen in the book of Revelation, will be realized. **AFC**

by the Editors