

<p>I. "Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir, and prophesy against it" (Ezek.35:2):</p>	<p>A. That the judgment on Edom is repeated here indicates that in the process of God's recovery by life, there is still the need of God's judgment, particularly on Edom, who typifies the old man: <u>Ezek.25:12</u> Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Because Edom has acted full of vengeance against the house of Judah and has incurred serious guilt by taking vengeance on them, <u>FI</u> The Edomite was the descendant of Esau, the older brother of Jacob. Therefore, Edom and the sons of Israel were cousins. Edom signifies the old man who is not being regenerated, and Israel signifies the new man who was regenerated. Edom was full of hatred against Israel and constantly aimed at retaliation and vengeance.</p>	<p>1. The old man refers to the natural life in our soul; the old man is our very being, which was created by God but became fallen through sin, and it is the same as the first "I" in Galatians 2:20. <u>Galatians 2:20</u> I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I clive in faith, the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.</p> <p>2. Formerly, our soul acted as an independent person, with the old man as its life and personality; now, since the old man has been crucified, our soul should act only as an organ of Christ and should be under the control of our spirit, having Christ as its life. <u>Rom.6:6</u> Knowing this, that our old man has been crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;</p> <p>3. Because the old man is very difficult to deal with, the judgment on the old man must be repeated again and again, until the day of the redemption of our body. <u>Eph.4:30</u> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption.</p>
<p>B. In order to recover us and make us the new man, God must judge our old man, our old creation.</p>		
<p>II. For the inward recovery of His people, God acts on behalf of His holy name: <u>Ezek.36:21</u> But I had regard for My holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations where they went. <u>22</u> Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, I am not doing this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. <u>23</u> And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations will know that I am Jehovah, declares the Lord Jehovah, when I am sanctified in you in their sight.</p>		<p>A. In His recovery God acts on behalf of His holy name. B. We have been recovered and revived not because of any merit in ourselves but because God did something in us for His own name.</p>
<p>III. For the inward recovery of His people, God applies His judicial redemption to them for their being cleansed with the precious blood of Christ: <u>Ezek.36:25</u> And I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you will be clean; from all your filthiness and from all your idols I will cleanse you.</p>		<p>A. The clean water in Ezekiel 36:25 refers to the redeeming and cleansing blood, which is a cleansing and opened fountain for sin and for impurity. B. The Lord washes us from all our filthiness, including all kinds of sinful things, unjust things, unrighteous things, and dark things. C. The Lord cleanses us from all our idols.</p>
<p>IV. For the inward recovery of His people, God applies His organic salvation to them to give them a new heart and a new spirit so that they may be deified to become a new creation, the New Jerusalem: <u>Ezek.36:26</u> I will also give you a new heart,</p>	<p>A. While we are in a fallen or backslidden state, our heart toward the Lord is stony and hard, and our spirit is deadened: B. The Lord gives us a new heart to love Him:</p>	<p>1. When the Lord saves us or revives us, He renews our heart, making our stony heart a heart of flesh, a heart that is soft and loving toward Him. 2. Furthermore, He enlivens and renews our spirit with His divine life. 3. As a result, we love the Lord and desire Him with our renewed heart, and we can contact Him, receive Him, and contain Him by exercising our renewed spirit.</p> <p>1. Our heart represents us with regard to our inclination, affection, delight, and desire. 2. Our heart is our representative in action, our acting agent. 3. God gives us a new heart because He wants us to incline toward Him, adore Him, desire Him, and love Him. 4. In order to maintain the newness of our heart, we must keep our heart turned to the Lord and seek purity, loving Him with our whole heart: a. Our heart needs to be soft. b. Our heart needs to be pure. <u>Matthew 5:8</u> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. <u>2 Timothy 2:22</u> But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. c. Our heart needs to be loving. d. Our heart needs to be at peace.</p>

<p>and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take away the heart of stone out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.</p>	<p>C. The Lord gives us a new spirit to receive and contact Him: <u>John4:24</u> God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truthfulness.</p>	<p>1. The heavens are for the earth, the earth is for man, and man was created by God with a spirit so that he may contact God, receive God, worship God, live God, fulfill God's purpose for God, and be one with God. <u>Rom.8:16</u> The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God. <u>1 Corinthians 6:17</u> But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.</p> <p>2. For us to have a new spirit means that our old, deadened spirit has been enlivened through regeneration. <u>Eph.2:1</u> And you, though dead in your offenses and sins, <u>John3:6</u> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.</p> <p>3. In his subtlety Satan has hidden the matter of the human spirit from most Christians; the spirit is an overlooked part of man. <u>Genesis2:7</u> Jehovah God formed man with the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. <u>Proverbs20:27</u> The spirit of man is the lamp of Jehovah, Searching all the innermost parts of the inner being. <u>Zechariah12:1</u> The burden of the word of Jehovah concerning Israel. Thus declares Jehovah, who stretches forth the heavens and lays the foundations of the earth and forms the spirit of man within him, <u>Jude19</u> These are those who make divisions, soulish, having no spirit.</p> <p>4. In order to maintain the newness of our spirit, we must continually exercise our spirit to contact the Lord so that we may walk, live, and have our being in and according to the spirit:</p> <p>a. We must call on the name of the Lord.</p> <p>b. We must pray-read His word as the Spirit.</p> <p>c. We must rejoice always, pray unceasingly, and give thanks in everything. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)</p> <p>d. We must fan our spirit into flame, not quenching the Spirit. <u>2 Timothy1:6</u> For which cause I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. <u>7</u> For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.</p> <p>e. We must practice prophesying for the building up of the church, not despising prophesying.</p>
<p>V. "And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and My ordinances you shall keep and do"(Ezek.36:27):</p>	<p>A. For the inward recovery of His people, God not only gives us a new heart and a new spirit but also puts His Spirit within us, in our spirit, making the two spirits one mingled spirit and causing us to be one spirit with Him.</p> <p>B. God's Spirit within us contains God's nature, and God's nature corresponds to God's law; because we have God's nature within us, we are able to keep His law spontaneously by walking according to our regenerated spirit, which is indwelt by the Holy Spirit. <u>Rom.8:4</u> That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.</p> <p>C. The Lord's causing us to walk in His statutes refers to the law (the automatic principle; the innate, automatic function) of the Spirit of life; this is the Lord's guiding us to walk on the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. <u>Rom.8:2</u> For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.</p> <p>D. The righteous requirement of the law is spontaneously and automatically fulfilled in those who walk according to the spirit.</p> <p>E. The Spirit with our spirit is the key, the secret, to God's organic salvation.</p>	
<p>VI. As a result of the inward recovery by life, the desolate and waste places will become like the garden of Eden: <u>Ezek.36:34</u> And the land that was desolate will be tilled instead of being desolate in the sight of all who passed by. <u>35</u> And they will say, This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are fortified and inhabited. <u>36</u> Then the nations that are left all around you will know that I, Jehovah, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted that which was desolate. I, Jehovah, have spoken, and I will do it.</p>	<p>A. The Lord's recovery should come to the point where it is like the garden of Eden.</p> <p>B. In "the garden of Eden" we have Christ as the plant of renown, Christ as the tree of life with the rich food supply.</p>	
<p>VII. In His recovery by life, the Lord desires to increase us "with men like a flock": <u>Ezek.36:37</u> Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Moreover for this I will be inquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock. <u>38</u> Like the holy flock for sacrifices, like the flock of Jerusalem in her appointed feasts, so will the waste cities be filled with flocks of men; and they will know that I am Jehovah.</p>	<p>A. The Lord has promised to increase us, filling the waste cities "with flocks of men", but we still need to inquire of Him, asking Him to do what He desires to do. <u>Luke10:2</u> And He said to them, The harvest is great, but the workers few; therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest that He would thrust out workers into His harvest.</p> <p>B. We should not say that numbers do not mean anything and that we do not care for numbers; we need to pray for the increase, claiming the Lord's promise in Ezekiel 36; we need to remember that quality comes out of quantity.</p> <p>C. We need to pray that the Lord will give us the increase and that He will bring in flocks of men. <u>Luke 19:10</u> For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which is lost.</p>	

Experience: ①The blood of the Lord cleanses us from filthiness and idols:

The Lord washes us from two categories of dirty things—from filthiness and from idols....[Filthiness] also includes hating others, doing wrong to others, and indulging in worldly amusements. When we were saved, we felt ashamed of these filthy things. When we are revived, we also have such a feeling of shame, not wanting to recall the sinful and worldly things that we were once involved with. The Lord's blood as the clean water washes us from all our filthiness. Perhaps today we need to be washed from gossip, rumors, jealousy, criticism, and unkindness.

Before we were saved,...we also had many idols. ...Once while Brother Watchman Nee was ministering in Shanghai, he suddenly pointed to a certain sister and asked, "How many chapters are there in Matthew?" She answered, "Twenty-six." Then Brother Nee asked her how many buttons were on her long gown, and without hesitation she told him the correct number. ...This simple illustration shows us that we may love an article of clothing more than we love the Lord Jesus. Anything that we love more than the Lord is an idol.

Some Christians have never shed a single tear for the Lord Jesus, but they have shed many tears for their clothing. This proves that they love clothing more than the Lord Jesus. Others may care for things such as a doctoral degree or a high position. ... All these things are idols. We need the Lord's redeeming blood to cleanse us ... from all our idols.

Junior high/senior high student model:

You are now junior high or senior high school students and the majority of you were baptized and saved either before or after becoming a sixth grader in the elementary school. To be saved means that your dead spirit was regenerated and began to bear the life of God in your spirit. Therefore, you should be different from your unsaved classmates. Especially, you have the disliking of filthiness and the idols in you. For example, a classmate likes to speak ill of or gossip behind someone's back. But as you participate in it, your inner self becomes dark and filthy immediately. You call upon the Lord's name, confess your sins in what filthiness you involved, and need to have yourself cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Actually, not even the people of this world would like such gossipmonger. It is because their usefulness will be impaired by the filthiness. You thank the Lord for the effectiveness of the His blood, and confess your sins by discipline. By doing this, you can definitely move forward.

Also, you need to deal with idols and the things you love more than the Lord. For example, there is a game of smartphone called "Pokémon Go". Because this game is very well made, it is globally popular. However, some people were immersed so much in this game, they even played it while driving and caused serious traffic accidents. You need to concentrate on driving while driving a car. Similarly the Lord is the source of blessings for junior high and senior high school students, so you need to love the Lord, enjoy the Lord, and be connected to the Lord. As in such case, it is not a question of whether Pokémon Go is bad or not, but being immersed yourself in or occupied by it, is making it an idol and keeping your Christian life away from the Lord's blessing. Away from the idol, take the Lord's blood and be cleansed by it.

②In the eyes of God our spirit is equally positioned as the heaven and the earth:

Zechariah 12:1 says clearly that God stretched forth the heavens, laid the foundation of the earth, and formed the spirit of man within him. The heavens are for the earth; the earth is for man; and man has a spirit to contact God.

Our human spirit is important in our contacting God, and our contacting God is our worship to God. We cannot contact God without worshipping Him....John 4:24 [says] that God is Spirit and that we must worship Him in our spirit. We worship Him by exercising our spirit. If we are going to live a meaningful life, we should contact God. He is our source, and our spirit is our spiritual organ for us to contact Him.

In our Christian walk, we need to walk according to our spirit (Rom. 8:4b). When you ask me a question, I should not answer you from my soul. I should answer you from my spirit....We are spiritual men who walk, live, and have our being according to our spirit.

Working young saints model:

Young workers are having the most important period in their career plan. Between 25 and 35 years of age, you need to decide which field to develop and to earn your living. If you do not set a solid foundation at this time, you cannot establish a good home and a good career plan, because there is no foundation. Also, during this time the inner person is still flexible; so many new things can be learned and absorbed. A brother's testimony: :I want to testify the following important points of my business life.

- i) Utilize the spirit in the church life, put the mind in the spirit and enjoy the Lord, the function of the soul (mind, emotion, will) is normally adjusted and uplifted. In particular, love the Lord continuously with the first love.
- ii) Follow strictly the sense of conscience, the primary part of the spirit, confess your filthiness and idols, and cleanse by Jesus' blood.
- iii) Renew the consecration, dedicate the job to the Lord, and ask the job to be blessed for the interests of the Lord. Specifically speaking, income is not a responsibility to support the family but also a responsibility to meet the economic needs of the church. For that reason, never seek anything for yourself but pursue all things for God's economy.

In regard to the improving of my career, I was promoted in a totally different way from the gentiles. By pursuing the Lord and the church instead of pursuing the status, honor and money, as a result, I was able to succeed in life by the Lord's blessing. By trusting the Lord thoroughly in my working life, of all the days in my business life, the Lord's goodness and mercy came to me, bless me and helped me to gain the high status and income that I could never have dreamed of. If you trust in the Lord, the Lord will take the responsibility. Lord, I praise you and I thank you.

③ Milestone (BSG) in Gospel of John Chapter 2: by God BSG OB / OG

John 2:3 And when the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, They have no wine.

7 Jesus said to them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.

8 And He said to them, Draw some out now and take it to the master of the feast. And they took it to him.

9 And when the master of the feast tasted the water which had become wine and did not know where it came from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew, the master of the feast called the bridegroom. 10 And said to him, Every man sets out the good wine first, and when they have drunk freely, then that which is worse; you have kept the good wine until now. 11 This beginning of signs Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed into Him.

16 And to those who were selling the doves He said, Take these things away from here; do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise.

19 Jesus answered and said to them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.

21 But He spoke of the temple of His body.

The milestone of the Gospel of John, Chapter 2,

i) principle of life: turn water into wine, which is to turn death into life,

ii) purpose of life: cleanse God's temple, the dwelling place of God, and build it.

The first milestone is the principle of life turning death into life. No matter what is mentioned, its principle shall be determined by the very first thing that is set forth in the Bible. The principle of "turning death into life" applies to every story or example in the following chapters of John. Thanks be unto the Lord. In the first chapter the word of God became flesh and became a life-giving spirit in His resurrection after dying on the cross for human sin. The Lord Jesus is now the life-giving spirit; He visits people and can enter into them as life. The Gospel of John is the Gospel of life, life is its subject. In Chapter 2, the principle of life and the purpose of life are revealed.

Principle of Life: In campus life, there will be negative situation in friendship, school work, club activities, and etc. For example, classmates you have trouble with, classmates and predecessors who trouble you, and there may be circumstances not matching with teachers. Also, in school work, the major is different from what you expected; the degree of difficulty is too high to keep up with and so forth. With this situation, people may be uneasy and overcast. The situation of death is anxiety, overcast, sighing, no vitality, and not motivated.

But thanks be unto the Lord. The Lord will visit you, as the shepherd to His sheep. That is because you may have life and may have it abundantly. Once you have the life, the major principle of life is then applied to the principle of turning death into life. Anxiety can become satisfaction, sighs can change into songs, a state without spirit can be turned into a state of full of vitality. Hallelujah!

Let us examine death from another viewpoint. No one can turn death into life. Not even Money, honor or authority can do it. Great historical kings thought they could escape from death by making use of their authority and financial strength, and they struggled, however not one of them could effectively countermeasure against death.

But when the Lord comes into you as life, this life can turn all kinds of water, the state of death into wine, the state of life. The reason is that the life given by the Lord is eternal, a life of

God that is not created. As we saw in the first chapter, we cannot buy this life by money nor have it by authority of any person. For a man to have the life of God, "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name, Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1: 12-13). What you need is to only read and open to the Word of God, and accept it.

Purpose of life: The purpose of life is to build up the dwelling place of God. It needs to be cleansed for building. According to the Bible our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, therefore, our body is the dwelling place of God.

1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 . . . So then glorify God in your body.

The church is also the dwelling place of God.

1 Timothy 3:15 But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

If you have life from the Lord, you can have the blessing of turning death into life. But be sure you understand, the purpose of life is to cleanse and build God's dwelling place. In the mind in your body, "Let all bitterness and anger and wrath and clamor and evil speaking be removed from you, with all malice." (Eph.4:31) 、 "That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love," (Eph.3:17).

Christ builds His dwelling place in your heart means that eventually it leads to the building up of the church, the corporate dwelling place of God. You gain life from reading the Bible is not for the sake of your school work, occupation, and marriage but for the building up of God's dwelling place. But if you gain life and build the dwelling place of God, your school work, occupation, marriage will be greatly blessed in the blessing of God's dwelling place. You need to understand and keep this priority without fail.

841. The Church - Her Building (Jap 381)

1 Thou art all my life, Lord,

In me Thou dost live;
With Thee all God's fulness
Thou to me dost give.
By Thy holy nature
I am sanctified,
By Thy resurrection,
Vict'ry is supplied.

3 Thy anointing Spirit
Me shall permeate,
All my soul and spirit
Thou wouldst saturate;
Every part transforming
Till conformed to Thee,
Till Thy life shall bring me
To maturity.

4 Lord, Thy life abundant,
Flowing, rich and free,
Constantly refreshes
And empowers me.
Death by life is swallowed,
Weakness is made strong,
All my bonds are broken,
Gloom is turned to song.

6 I would cease completely
From my efforts vain,
Let Thy life transform me,
Full release to gain;
Build me up with others
Till in us Thou see
Thy complete expression
Glorifying Thee.