

The Processed Triune God, His Work, and the Result of His Work

Message 4 - Week 1

Friday

Acts 16:1-2

Nothing from the world, no technique, no worldly practice, works in the church. But one may say, “We need to attract the young people. You know how easily the young people get distracted by the world. Let’s do something in the church to attract them.” In the church we have three substances for the whole world: (1) prayer, (2) Spirit, and (3) the Word. Don't think that the world at the time of the Lord Jesus was different from our time. Who invented drama? The Greeks. Who invented the Olympic games? The Greeks. Who invented the circus? The Romans. Don't think that all of these entertainments are different; they are the same because man is the same. None of the apostles practised these things. They only practised prayer, the Spirit and the Word. Then what about the young people? John the disciple was very young when he followed the Lord. He would recline on the breast of the Lord Jesus. If I were to recline on brother Eric’s breast, someone would say, “What is wrong with brother Victor?” But if a young child were to recline on you, one would say, “How sweet.” What the young people need is our prayer, the Spirit and the Word! The majority of the disciples were young adults or in other words, young working saints. The Lord called them while they worked their secular jobs. The Lord never called a slothful person. He always called those who were working. In the book of Acts, when they were stoning Stephen, it says that the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a “young man” called Saul. This means that Paul was a young person. He was called when he was young. Don't think that we need techniques to reach the young people. We just need prayer, Spirit and the Word. The last young person is seen in Acts 16, Timothy. The Word says that he had a good testimony with the church in Lystra and Iconium (v. 2). Brothers, what we need is the fire of God. Prayer, Spirit and the Word. All of this was manifested on the day of Pentecost. They were praying, the Spirit came as the tongues of fire, and Peter spoke the word of God. So never forget these three substances.

The title from message three is *The Processed Triune God, His Work, and the Result of His Work*. We already covered Roman numerals I and II. We cannot summarize it in one word, but rather as the following expression: The Triune God, processed and consummated, compounded as the life-giving and sevenfold intensified Spirit. This is a marvellous picture of who God is. Why? Because in Leviticus 26:1 the Lord told the people of Israel, “You shall not make for yourselves idols.” We saw in the last message that we must not have any idols because the Triune God is wonderful; He should be our only goal. An idol is anything that is our goal which is not God. It doesn't matter how good it is. If God is not our goal, if what we want does not lead us to God as the goal, that is an idol. Therefore, idols are more than what our eyes see. The most dangerous idols are not the outward idols, but rather the ones that are within us. We saw lots of examples concerning this. We saw the processes of God and how they reached a consummation. What was the consummation? The Spirit, the consummated and compounded Spirit. This Spirit contains all the processes of God: His incarnation, human living, death, resurrection, burial, ascension, and exaltation. All the human experiences of Jesus in His uplifted human living are also in the Spirit.

This Spirit is a sphere; it is a realm in which we can live and walk. The Lord illustrated this in the Gospel of John when He was speaking with Nicodemus. Nicodemus asked a few questions regarding earthly things, but the Lord Jesus tried to bring him into another realm: “You must be born anew to enter into the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). Nicodemus did not understand and asked whether he needed to enter once again into his mother womb to be born (v. 4). The Lord said, “No, you need to be born of water and the Spirit” (v. 5), but Nicodemus still didn't understand. So the Lord told him in verse 12, “If I told you of the things on earth and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you of the things in heaven?”