

# The HEARING OF Faith

LIVING STREAM MINISTRY RADIO NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 19, NOVEMBER 1999

"He therefore who bountifully supplies to you the Spirit . . . does He do it out of the works of the law or out of the hearing of faith?" Galatians 3:5

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### Life-Study of the Bible

W E L C O M E S

AUGUSTA, GA  
WRDW 1480 AM  
9:00 A.M. SUNDAY

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Dear Listeners,

Recently the world has seen several devastating earthquakes. It is comforting to remember that we believers in Christ have received "an unshakable kingdom" (Heb 12:28). We have appreciated the fresh light from *Life-study of Exodus* on Exodus 35:9, "And onyx stones and stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate." We believers, as the precious stones, are "set" on the ephod and the breastplate of the high priest, a picture of Christ. The onyx stone could never fall off of the ephod of Christ our heavenly High Priest. Nothing can shake us from Christ. We are set!

We will conclude *Life-study of Exodus* on December 3. From your comments, we believe those of you who have stayed with us in Exodus throughout this year have received much light, revelation, and life supply. Included in this issue of *The Hearing of Faith* is a final excerpt from this momentous life-study. We will begin broadcasting *Life-study of Matthew* on December 6. Matthew, which speaks of the gospel of the kingdom, promises to be full of enlightenment and God's rich speaking.

Have "The Path of Life" articles each month helped you to know Christ as life? If so, we would love to hear from you what your experience has been. By providing excerpts of ministry concerning matters and practices of life as revealed in God's Word, we hope to help the Lord's seekers into the daily experience of Christ and growth in the divine life.

If you are able to listen to *Life-study of the Bible* over the Internet, you will want to visit our web page, [www.lsm.org/radio](http://www.lsm.org/radio). We have fixed the problems we had in the past, and we are keeping the Internet broadcasts current with what you are hearing on the radio.

*Living Stream Ministry Radio*

## WHAT IS THE NEW COVENANT? PART 1

The revelation concerning the new covenant, or the new testament, is one of the greatest truths presented to us in the Scriptures. Sadly, very few believers have been adequately enlightened concerning this truth. As a result, many are not enjoying the marvelous spiritual blessings and benefits that are ours in the new covenant.

In order to begin to grasp the meaning and significance of the new covenant, we need to know the difference between a promise, an oath, a covenant, and a testament. A promise is an ordinary word by God in which He tells us that He will do a certain thing. That promise is strengthened by an oath in which God Himself swears by His immutable Godhead that what He has promised will be fulfilled. Once a promise has been strengthened by an oath, it can become a covenant. A covenant is somewhat like a contract in which two parties agree to fulfill certain conditions. A testament is a much stronger form of a covenant. A testament means that the person who has entered into a

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## NEW COVENANT

*(continued from page 1)*

covenant has died, and the death of that person now makes that covenant a testament. As a result, the parties involved no longer need to do something in order to fulfill the requirements. Rather, the beneficiaries of the testament need to realize that everything has been done for them. All the items in the covenant have become bequests in the testament, or will, and these bequests are for them, the recipients.

Our Lord Jesus, through the shedding of His redemptive blood on the cross, has enacted a new covenant (Matt. 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20). This new covenant in actuality is a testament. The whole New Testament is such a covenant, such a testament, containing countless items concerning the person and work of Christ that are available to the believers in Christ for their continual experience and enjoyment. This may be comparable to a person being designated an heir in someone's will and testament. Once that person has died, the will, the testament, is enacted, and now the heir simply receives the relevant bequests.

Our eyes need to be opened to see that in Christ, God has made a new covenant, which is a testament enacted in the blood of Jesus (Heb. 9:15-23). According to the terms of this covenant, this testament, God in His righteousness wants to give us in Christ countless bequests. He simply wants us in faith to open our being and to see and receive all that God in Christ has for us as bequests in the testament.

The Lord Jesus, the very One who enacted the new testament in His blood, is now interceding on our behalf, praying that we would be enlightened to realize what is in this covenant. He is also executing, enforcing, carrying out, applying all the bequests of this new testament (Heb. 9:15). He has enacted the new testament, and now He is executing the new testament, praying for us that we will see it, believe it, receive it, experience it, and enjoy it for the carrying out of God's New Testament economy. May our eyes be opened to see this marvelous revelation and may our faith be strengthened to enter into it and to experience it.

*For further reading on this subject please see Life-study of Hebrews, messages 36 and 41 and the footnotes for the above referenced verses in the New Testament Recovery Version, published by Living Stream Ministry.*

## Highlights

### FROM THE LIFE-STUDY OF EXODUS

*“Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.”*

*Exodus 40:34*

#### A SKETCH OF GENESIS AND EXODUS

I believe it would be helpful to present a brief sketch of Genesis and Exodus. In Genesis 1 we were created by God, and in Genesis 3 we became fallen. Then, after Babel, we were called with Abraham and became river-crossers, Hebrews. Although we were called with Abraham, we became dead and also enslaved to serve Satan's purpose in the world. Then one day we were saved. The calling was with Abraham in Genesis, but the saving was through Christ as the Passover lamb in Exodus.

Having been redeemed by the Passover lamb, we traveled through the wilderness and experienced Christ as the heavenly manna and enjoyed Him as the living water out of the cleft rock. Eventually, we were brought to Mount Sinai, and it is here that we have the church life, typified by the living of the children of Israel around the tent of meeting. Even if not all of us have entered into the tabernacle, we all are gathered around the tent of meeting, and we can see the cloud on the tent of meeting. Here there is no sin, no death, and no world. Here at the tent of meeting we have God in His presence and glory. Here we become His dwelling, and He becomes our dwelling. This is a mutual abode. With the tent of meeting what we have is not merely an individual expression; we have a people as God's corporate expression. The goal of God's purpose is to have such an expression through His redeemed people. This expression is the goal not only of God's redemption, but also of His eternal purpose. What God desires is to have a corporate expression of Himself through His called and redeemed people.

#### THE RECOVERY AND GOD'S PURPOSE

We need to be deeply impressed that the Lord's recovery is a great matter. We are here in the recovery not merely for spirituality, holiness, victory, or blessing. Rather, we are here for God's eternal purpose. The books of Genesis and Exodus consummate with God's tabernacle, His dwelling place, filled with glory. In like manner, the entire Bible will consummate in the New Jerusalem as the eternal tabernacle, a tabernacle filled with glory. In the church life as God's dwelling place we have the leading and guidance of our God. He is one with us, and we are one with Him. How wonderful! Now we are in the proper position to hear the Lord's voice, His speaking, as recorded in Leviticus.

We thank the Lord for what we have seen in the books of Genesis and Exodus. I have the full assurance that those who have been with us throughout the years can never be the same. Eternity will reveal what the Lord has been doing within us and among us for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose. Praise Him for the glorious conclusion of the book of Exodus!

*Life-study of Exodus, pp. 1956-1957*

# RESPONSE *from* LISTENERS

The following are responses from listeners of our broadcast *Life-study of the Bible with Witness Lee*. We invite you to write to us to share your comments with us and other listeners so that we all may be encouraged in the Lord. All responses should be addressed to *Hearing of Faith*, "Response from Listeners," 2431 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801; via fax (714) 765-8024; email [radioresponses@lsm.org](mailto:radioresponses@lsm.org). Responses are subject to editing for the sake of space and clarity.

*I listen to your ministry on WFAX. It's truly been a blessing. I know that it was by the leading of the Lord. Your ministry on the tabernacle has really been a blessing to me. It has affirmed some things, but also gave deeper meaning to what I'm learning in Bible college. To God be the glory. The teaching by Witness Lee last week about the ephod is wonderful. I shared everything with my sister in another part of Virginia. It makes things so clear and gives you understanding. Then it even changes the way you pray. I began to bless the Lord and thank Him for being the ephod for me. It really got into my spirit and it has opened things up to me. I just thank God.*

**B.J., Oakton, VA**

*Concerning "The Fellowship of Life" [in The Hearing of Faith, number 17], God has done an awesome thing through Brother Lee. My wife and I are very excited about the truths and understanding from Life-study of Exodus. God bless you and keep you. Praise God for Brother Lee's obedience in listening to the voice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

**W.L., Jackson, MS**

*The life-study program is enlightening and edifying. The ministry therein enables me to let the word of Christ dwell in me richly. Many thanks for your continued faithfulness.*

**T.S., Jackson, MS**

*Thank you for your September Living Stream Ministry Radio newsletter. Praise the Lord for showing me the way how to grow more deeply in the Lord. Day by day I pray that my love for the Lord will get deeper and deeper. Lord, capture my heart, make me a crazy lover of Jesus, and change my appetite for the worldly things to spiritual things that Christ may have His way in me and be my constitution in my being. I have to be very sensitive to my inner anointing because through the anointing I'll know I am wrong in my attitude and even my tone of*

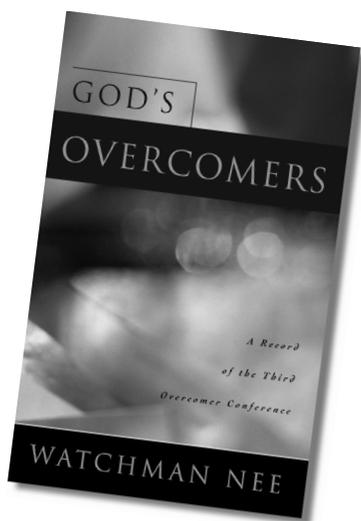
*voice. By knowing this, I will confess and ask the Lord for His cleansing. This brings me to have more fellowship with Him in Bible-reading and praying. Then from here I will receive more light, then I apply the blood more, and I have more anointing. Hallelujah! I yearn for stronger anointing within me.*

**D.C., Vancouver, B.C., Canada**

*There are many ministries that take you up to God; this ministry takes you into God! Brother Lee's teaching is truly answered prayer. I prayed that the Lord would provide me with an older, wiser brother to teach me the deep things in the Lord. Shortly after this prayer, I came across your radio program. Prayer answered! The Lord dearly bless all your spirits.*

**J.P., Winnetka, CA**

## *New Book Announcement:* GOD'S OVERCOMERS



PLEASE SEE INSERT

# THE Path OF Life

*Below are excerpts focused on matters and practices of the spiritual life as revealed in God's Word. May the Lord show us "the path of life" (Psa. 16:11) that we may have a daily living of enjoying, experiencing, and gaining Christ.*

## THE SPIRIT WITH THE FACULTIES OF THE SOUL

### DENYING THE SOUL

Matthew 16:24-26 shows us that the soul is something we have to reject, to deny. "Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me" (v. 24). The self has to be denied, renounced, rejected. "For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever loses his soul-life for My sake shall find it" (v. 25). If you gain the whole world and lose your soul, what is the profit? . . .

### DENYING THE MIND, EMOTION, AND WILL

The soul is comprised of three parts—the mind, the emotion, and the will (see *The Economy of God*, pp. 54-56). If you deny your mind, your emotion, and your will, there is nothing left but the spirit. The self is gone. To give up your mind, emotion, and will simply means to give up yourself. To deny yourself is to deny your own thought, your opinion, your idea, your concept, your love, your wish, your will, your decision, and your choice. To deny all this means to deny the self. . . .

### GIVING UP THE NATURAL LIFE

The natural life, the life of the soul, has been crucified on the cross (Gal. 2:20). Now we have to take the Lord as our life. We must give up the natural life, the life of the soul, and take the Lord in the spirit as our life. This does not mean, however, that we must give up the faculties of our soul, but the life of the soul. All the faculties of our soul still remain as the organs to be used by the Lord in the spirit. . . .

### UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE SPIRIT

We must learn the lesson to deny the natural mind, emotion, and will, and to put them under the control of the spirit. We deny the life of the soul and take the Lord as our life in the spirit to control and direct all the parts of the soul in order that they might be used to express the Lord Himself. . . .

### TAKING THE LORD AS LIFE

As Christians we have to reject our mind, emotion, and will. We must reject ourselves and take the Lord Jesus as our life. This is done by returning to our spirit and sensing what is there in our spirit. Suppose a brother comes to talk with you. While you are listening, you must reject yourself. You must reject your natural thinking, your emotion, and your will. You have to take the Lord Jesus as your life in this particular matter by returning to your spirit, your innermost part, to sense what is there. This is the right way for us to act as a Christian, but most of us do not act in this way. Whenever a brother comes to talk with us, we exercise our mind independent of the spirit. We sometimes forget about the Lord Jesus and forget that we have a spirit. The way for a normal Christian to act, though, is to always deny the natural mind, will, and emotion, and take the Lord Jesus as his life. In everything we should return to the innermost part of our being to sense what is there.

### THE INNER ANOINTING

If you do this, your spirit, in which the Holy Spirit dwells, will rise up to impress you with something. Then you will have a clear understanding. You will understand this brother thoroughly. Your spirit will rise up and spring up, and some living water will flow out to others. We must continually learn to take care of the inner anointing, the inner registration, the inner sense, the inner feeling, the inner consciousness. If we go along with this anointing, we will be a person walking in the spirit. Then all the faculties of our soul will be renewed, transformed, revived, strengthened, and improved. The life of the soul will be crucified and renounced, but the faculties of the soul will be ennobled. . . .

*Basic Principles of the Experience of Life*, pp. 88-95, by Witness Lee

## THE HEARING OF FAITH

is a publication of Living Stream Ministry. All subscriptions are free. In addition to portions of ministry, this newsletter features broadcast updates and other items of interest. We hope that this newsletter will not only inform you of current news but will also nourish and refresh your spirit. Please be sure to read our reply card and feel free to use it to make comments or ask questions.

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According to the revelation of the Scripture, we believe that any ministry that comes from God should trust in God for all its needs. Therefore, we have made it our policy not to solicit donations or contributions. However, if any one of our listeners is led by the Lord to give, we will accept offerings as from the Lord and will use them for the furtherance of His truth.

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