

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S DIVINITY**

Message One

Participating in God's Life

Scripture Reading: Eph. 4:18; John 3:15-16; 4:10, 14; 11:25; 19:34; 1 Cor. 12:13; Heb. 7:16

I. The divine life—the life of God—may be considered as the first and basic attribute of God—Eph. 4:18:

- A. According to the divine and eternal nature of the life of God, God's life is the unique life; only the life of God can be counted as life—John 3:15
- B. Life is the content of God and the flowing out of God; God's content is God's being, and God's flowing out is the impartation of Himself as life to us—Rev. 22:1.
- C. The life of God is divine, having the nature of God, and is eternal, being uncreated, without beginning and ending, self-existing, ever-existing, and never changing—John 3:15-16; 2 Pet. 1:3; 1 John 2:25; 5:13, 20:
 - 1. The word *divine* means being of God, having the nature of God.
 - 2. The word *eternal* means being uncreated, without beginning or ending, existing by itself, and ever, unchangeably existing.
 - 3. The life of God is uncreated, without beginning or ending, self-existing, ever-existing, and never changing.
 - 4. The life of God is immortal and unchangeable; it remains the same and continues living even after passing through any kind of blow or destruction—Acts 2:24.
- D. The eternal life of God is indestructible, indissoluble, and incorruptible, and it is resurrection life that passed through the test of death and Hades, conquered death, and will swallow up death—Heb. 7:16; Acts 2:24; Rev. 1:18.
- E. Life is Christ, and life is Christ living in us and lived out from us—John 14:6; Col. 3:4; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 1:21a.
- F. Life is the Holy Spirit—John 14:16-17; 1 Cor. 15:45b; Rom. 8:2; 2 Cor. 3:6,
- G. Life is the processed and consummated Triune God dispensed into us and living in us—Rom. 8:6, 10-11.

II. God wants us to take Him as the fountain, the source, of our life and being—Jer. 2:13; Psa. 36:9:

- A. God's intention in His economy is to be the fountain, the source, of living waters to His chosen people for their enjoyment.
- B. We need to drink of God as the fountain of living waters so that He may increase for the fulfillment of His economy to have His expression through His counterpart—Jer. 2:13; 1 Cor. 12:13:
 - 1. When we drink of God as the fountain of living waters, He becomes one with us, and we become one with Him—Psa. 36:8-9.
 - 2. The more we drink of God, the more He is one with us, and the more we are one with Him and constituted with Him in His life and nature.

III. As believers in Christ, we need to drink of the water of life in resurrection—Exo. 17:6; 1 Cor. 10:4:

- A. The spiritual drink in 1 Corinthians 10:4 refers to the living water that flowed out of the cleft rock; this water typifies the Spirit as our all-inclusive drink—Exo. 17:6; John 7:37-39; 1 Cor. 12:13:

1. Through incarnation Christ came to earth as the rock—Exo. 17:6; John 1:14.
 2. At Calvary He was crucified, smitten by God's law with its power and authority; His side was cleft, and living water flowed out for us to drink—19:34:
 - a. This living water is the Spirit, the ultimate issue of the processed and consummated Triune God—7:39.
 - b. This spiritual drink quenches our thirst and fully satisfies our being—4:13-14; 7:37-38.
- B. The spiritual drink, the living water, is the water of life in resurrection—1 Cor. 10:4; John 4:10; Exo. 17:6:
1. Resurrection denotes something that has been put to death and is alive again; resurrection also denotes life that springs forth from something that has passed through death—John 11:25; Acts 2:24; Rev. 1:18.
 2. Because the water of life is in resurrection, it is victorious and transcends every negative thing—Eph. 1:19-22; 2:5-6.
 3. When we drink of the water of life in resurrection, we become persons in resurrection and of resurrection—1 Cor. 10:4; 2 Cor. 1:9; 4:14.