

**Banner for the 2014 International Chinese-speaking Conference**

**The issue of the experience of the Triune God as life is the church  
as the Father's house for His dwelling, as the Son's vine for His spreading,  
and as the Spirit's child for His moving;  
the oneness of the church is the oneness of the believers in the Triune God,  
and the building up of the church requires that we take the shepherding way  
to have a life of ministering Christ to others in love.**

**Outline of the Messages  
for the International Chinese-speaking Conference  
February 14-16, 2014**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
THE INTRINSIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CHURCH**

Message One

**The Father's House**

Scripture Reading: John 14:1-3, 6, 10-11, 20, 23; 1:4, 14, 16; 11:25

- I. According to the revelation in the Gospel of John, the issue, the divine result, of the experience of the Triune God as life is the church—10:10b; 11:25; 14:2-3; 15:1; 16:20-21.**
- II. The central thought of John 14 is that we must believe into God and thereby enter into God—v. 1:**
  - A. To believe in God is objective, but to believe into God is subjective; it is the subjective believing that brings us into God.
  - B. It is by believing into the Lord that we enter into Him to be one with Him, to partake of Him, and to participate in all that He has accomplished for us—3:15.
  - C. Through believing into Christ we have an organic union with Him, and our being is merged into His so that we two may be one organically—15:4-5.
- III. The Father's house is a matter of the Triune God—through incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection—working Himself into the believers in order to be fully mingled with them so that He may build them up as an organism for His dwelling and expression—14:2-3, 23:**
  - A. In 2:16 “My Father's house” refers to the dwelling place of God on earth, the temple; the temple is a type, or figure, of the body of Jesus, which in resurrection has been enlarged to be the Body of Christ—vv. 19-22.
  - B. “My Father's house” in 14:2 is the Body of Christ, the church as the house of God—Eph. 1:22-23; 1 Tim. 3:15; Eph. 2:21-22.
  - C. The Father's house is a divine and human incorporation of the processed and consummated God constituted with His redeemed, regenerated, and transformed elect—John 14:20.
  - D. In the Father's house are many abodes—v. 2:
    1. The many abodes are the many members of the Body of Christ, which is God's temple—Rom. 12:5; 1 Cor. 3:16-17.
    2. All the believers in Christ are the abodes in God's building, the Father's house; this building is the Body of Christ, and all the abodes are members of the Body of Christ—Eph. 1:22-23; 2:21-22; 5:30; 1 Cor. 12:27.
  - E. “I go to prepare a place for you” means that the Lord would prepare a place, accomplish redemption, open up the way, and make a standing for us to enter into God—John 14:2-3, 6:
    1. By death and resurrection the Lord Jesus paved the way and prepared the place so that we might be brought into God—v. 20.

2. By His death and resurrection the Lord Jesus prepared a standing for us before God and in God; in this way He prepared a place for us in God—vv. 2-3, 6.
3. The standing in God, being enlarged, becomes the standing in the Body of Christ—Rom. 12:4-5; Eph. 5:30; 1 Cor. 12:27:
  - a. Anyone who does not have a standing, a place, in God does not have a place in the Body of Christ, which is the Father's house, the dwelling place of God—Eph. 1:22-23; 2:21-22.
  - b. As believers in Christ, we all have a place in God and a place in the Body, and now we should live in the place prepared for us through the death and resurrection of Christ—John 14:2-3, 20; 1 Cor. 12:27.
- F. The Lord's coming brought God into man, and His going brought man into God; by this coming and going, He builds up the house of God by building God into man and man into God—John 1:14; 10:10b; 14:2-3.
- G. By the Spirit and through His death and resurrection, the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, is building an organism, the church, which is His Body and the Father's house, produced by the mingling of the Triune God with His chosen and redeemed people—vv. 7-24.
- H. The Father's house is built up by the constant visitation to the redeemed elect of the Father and the Son with the Spirit—v. 23.
- I. The Father's house is in three stages: the stage of God incarnate, the stage of Christ resurrected with His believers to be built up as the church, and the consummate stage—the New Jerusalem—2:19-21; Rev. 21:2-3, 9-10.

**IV. We need to see the intrinsic significance of the living in the church as the Father's house—John 14:2-3, 23:**

- A. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in the Triune God as life—1:4; 5:26; 6:53; 11:25; 14:6.
- B. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in the light—1:4; 8:12.
- C. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in resurrection—11:25.
- D. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in grace and reality—1:14, 16-17; 14:6; 16:13.
- E. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in the divine glory—17:22-23.
- F. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in a house of prayer and worship—14:13; 15:7, 16; 16:23-24; 4:23-24.
- G. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live a life of shepherding—10:10-11, 15-17; 21:15-17.
- H. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in and for God's building—2:19-21; 14:23.
- I. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in the divine and mystical realm of the consummated Spirit for the keeping of oneness—7:39; 14:16-20; 16:33; 17:11, 21, 23.
- J. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in the divine and human incorporation of the processed and consummated Triune God with the redeemed and regenerated tripartite believers—14:10-11, 20.