

Message Six

**Living a Church Life in the Triune God  
by Walking in a Manner Worthy of God**

Scripture Reading: 1 Thes. 1:1; 2:12; Phil. 1:20-21a; Rom. 8:4

**I. The Epistle of 1 Thessalonians is addressed to “the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”—1:1:**

- A. On the one hand, the church of the Thessalonians was of the Thessalonians; on the other hand, this church was in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
  - 1. Such a church is born of God the Father with His life and nature and is organically united with the Lord Jesus Christ in all that He is and has done—John 1:12-13; 1 Cor. 1:30; 6:17.
  - 2. We need to see that the church is composed of human beings who are in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ, those who have the life of God and who are in the organic union with Christ—John 3:15; 15:1, 5.
- B. When Paul speaks of the church in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, he actually means that the church is in the Triune God—1 Thes. 1:1; 1 Cor. 1:2; 12:4-6.
- C. For the church to be in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ means that the church is in the processed Triune God—Matt. 28:19; Eph. 4:4-6.
- D. If we see the vision of the church in the Triune God, this vision will control our thinking, our activities, and our entire life—Prov. 29:18a; Acts 26:19.

**II. As believers in Christ and children of God, we should walk in a manner worthy of God—1 Thes. 2:12:**

- A. First Thessalonians 2:12 is an explanation of 1:1; in order for the church to be in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ in a practical way, the believers must walk in a manner worthy of God—Eph. 4:1, 17; 5:1-2, 8; 2 Cor. 5:7; 1 John 1:7; 2:6.
- B. To walk in a manner worthy of God actually means to live God—Phil. 1:20-21a:
  - 1. Our daily life should actually be God Himself—John 5:26:
    - a. Only God is worthy of Himself, and only God can be compared with Himself and match Himself—1 Pet. 1:15-16.
    - b. Since only God is worthy of Himself, to walk in a manner worthy of God is to live God, that is, to express God in our daily living—1 Cor. 10:31:
      - (1) As children of God with the life and nature of God, we can walk in a manner worthy of God by living God—John 1:12-13; 1 John 3:1.
      - (2) To live God’s life means to live by God and even to live God Himself.
      - (3) Only a life that lives God is worthy of God; when we live God, we walk in a manner worthy of Him—Phil. 1:20-21a; 1 Thes. 2:12.
  - 2. God’s economy is a matter of having God as life and living Him; according to His economy, God’s intention is to impart His element, His substance, and the ingredients of His nature into our being so that we may live Him—1 Tim. 1:4; Eph. 3:16-19; Phil. 1:20-21a.

3. God's aim in His economy is that we, His chosen and redeemed people, have His life and nature inwardly and His image and likeness outwardly and live Him for His corporate expression—Gen. 1:26; 2:9; Eph. 4:4-6.
  4. To walk in a manner worthy of God by living God is to live the life of a God-man; a God-man lives God and expresses God; the living of a God-man is the living of God in man—Phil. 1:20-21a.
- C. To walk in a manner worthy of God is to walk according to the mingled spirit; this is to live, move, have our being, and do everything according to the Spirit in our spirit—Rom. 8:4; Gal. 5:16, 25:
1. Walking according to the mingled spirit allows the processed and consummated Triune God—the Spirit—to gain the full ground in us so that we may be one with Him for His corporate expression—Eph. 3:16-21.
  2. To walk according to the mingled spirit is to let the processed Triune God fill and saturate us until He permeates our whole being to be expressed through us in a corporate way as the Body of Christ consummating in the New Jerusalem—Eph. 3:16-21; 4:4-6, 16; Col. 1:27; 2:19; 3:4, 10-11; Rev. 21:2, 10-11.