

WCCC 2025
Brother Godwin Sun

The Measuring Line Stretched Out Over Jerusalem (1)

We thank the Lord for this opportunity to gather before Him before He returns. We know that He does not delay, but He is patient with us for He knows we are not prepared. He affords us this opportunity. May it be as we gather that our spirits be quickened, so that we may be once again strengthened to stand up from our lax environments. We know that the Lord's return is imminent.

In my personal feeling, our Lord's return is also the coming of His coming. Today we seem to have come to the gates of heaven. Yet a few more steps, and we enter into His kingdom. Brothers and sisters, we must have this urgency in our hearts. I hope we have this heart's posture to enter the kingdom of heaven. We know that the consequences are dire should we fail to enter in.

Today, the Lord affords us this opportunity. In our lives and living, there is nothing more important. We can lose everything else, but we must enter into the kingdom. In my own personal heart, I believe that whether in good or bad times in life, whether in health or sickness, whether we like or dislike it, none of this matters so long as we enter the kingdom of heaven. It is then we have reached our goal.

I hope that as we gather in this time, our Lord will encourage us to rise up and prepare well. We hope to all be in the kingdom on that day. What a great day of rejoicing that would be! If anyone is left outside the door, it would cause us great sadness. I hope we are all encouraged in this way.

I thank the Lord that we have a very important theme this conference. Let us turn to the Word of God together.

*"every one that is called by my name, and whom I have created for my glory:
I have formed him, yea, I have made him."
Isaiah 43:7 DARBY*

*"Therefore thus saith Jehovah: I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my
house shall be built in it, saith Jehovah of hosts, and the line shall be
stretched forth upon Jerusalem."
Zechariah 1:16 DARBY*

This is what I will share upon, this phrase "the line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem."

"And the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle. And Moses could not enter into the tent of meeting, for the cloud abode on it, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle."

Exodus 40:34-35 DARBY

"And it came to pass when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of Jehovah, and the priests could not stand to do their service because of the cloud; for the glory of Jehovah had filled the house of Jehovah."

1 Kings 8:10-11 DARBY

"These things Jesus spoke, and lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son may glorify thee;"

John 17:1 DARBY

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and to-day, and to the ages to come."

Hebrews 13:8 DARBY

In Isaiah 43:7, it reads,

"every one that is called by my name, and whom I have created for my glory: I have formed him, yea, I have made him."

Isaiah 43:7 DARBY

The last two lines in this verse are very important. Not only did God create us, He formed us and He has made us. Why did God form and make us after creating us? Not only did He create us for His glory, He also desires for those whom He created to manifest His glory. Therefore, He must fashion and form us. This is a very precious matter.

In the Bible, it speaks of our God as the God of glory. In fact, when we speak of glory, we speak of God Himself. Only God Himself is glory. Brothers and sisters, in all of creation, only God has this glory. Apart from Him there is no glory.

Even though there is the distinction of Father, Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead, we know that there is only one God. This is the great mystery, beyond comprehension by finite human minds. The Bible has not fully explained this to us, so let us not speculate or explain it in human ways. On that day when we come before the Lord, we will understand.

So there is only one God, and He is glory. In scripture, whenever God appears, there is glory. We thank God that He has such a glorious thought: that He would create man to share in His glory. He desires for man to manifest His own glory. This is a glorious vision He has given us. Therefore our Lord Jesus is the Word made flesh in bodily form come on this earth. Our Lord Jesus stands in the position as man to manifest the glory of God, bringing all glory to God.

This is the priestly prayer of our Lord in John 17. If God does not give us this glory, we would have no glory. It is God who first gives us this glory, and we are able to give this glory back to God. When the Word became flesh, He was able to explain and perfect the glorious will of God in the position of man. He is our model and example, for God desires to form us to be like Him.

Brothers and sisters, this is such a precious thing. We thank God that He has created all things unto His glory. His ultimate purpose is glory. Therefore it is glory unto glory. In the beginning is glory, and the ultimate purpose is glory. This is the case in our individual selves and also corporately.

We are familiar with Romans 8. There are 3 important experiences for the Christian. We are justified, sanctified and lastly, glorified. This comes upon each individual saint. And God brings us all together to form the Church. The Church is the body of Christ, so we are completely in union with Christ. Through this universal man, we will display even more the glory of God.

We have heard so much preaching all these years. We are filled with thanksgiving to God. Each one of us saved by grace ought to understand God's heart. We know that God has set this eternal will, and in His perfect wisdom He has brought forth this perfect, infallible plan. Through all creation God works according to His standard. Ephesians 1 tells us this. We see the work of God the Father, the Son and the Spirit. The ultimate purpose of the work of the Father is to the praise of His glory. This too is the work of the Son. And it is also the same of the work of the Spirit. Everything to the praise of His glory.

Brothers and sisters, we know how our God has His work, but we know very watchfully that He works according to His standard. The standard that God has is what the prophet sees here as the measuring line. The scriptures show us clearly that if our work is not done according to God's measuring line, there will be no glory. Dear brothers and sisters, we must know that God works and has His own standard.

Whether in the Old Testament or New, we see that God's work, whether great or small, God only minds whether it is done according to His standard. This is an important reminder for us: that unless we work according to His standard, we will not manifest the glory of God. Times may change, the ways in which we meet may change, but the principles can never change. They must be according to the standard of God. The standard of God never changes.

In Hebrews 13:8, it writes that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Dear brothers and sisters, God does not change His standard depending on the times. No man can change God. Unfortunately, we see the failure of God's people through history. Even today on earth, we see that there are but a few who pay attention to the standard of God.

When we serve, some are diligent, and that is good. Some are zealous, that too is good. Some are willing to sacrifice, others willing to suffer, some are gentle and others humble. But unless they adhere to the standard of God, all those become very small in value.

Some preachers and pastors whom I know, I respect in my heart. They are very gentle and kind. They have clean hands and pure hearts. They are not after fame or fortune. Yet their service goes according to the traditions of Christendom, rather than the standard in the Scriptures, the standard in which God is after. I am often saddened that they do not see the vision.

We must understand that if it is not according to God's standard, we will not reach the purpose of God, and we will not manifest the glory of God.

Let us reflect and look at the history of the Old Testament. The measuring line first appears on Mount Sinai. The eternal will of God expressed on Mount Sinai has given us a very complete revelation. We know this is the most important revelation in the Old Testament. When God delivered the people of Israel out of Egypt, they arrived at the foot of Mount Sinai after a little more than 2 months. God brought Moses up to the top of Mount Sinai. We see that God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses. He gave the law. We know today that the law shows us the nature and character of God. At that time our Lord Jesus had not come to bring the life of God to the earth, so the law foretold the life and nature of God. In the Old Testament, this is a shadow and a type. Even so, this is an important revelation.

God told Moses that he is to give the law of life to His people. And it is through this law of life that He would govern all. We know that the law is very important. In the Bible it tells us that if we walk according to this law, we would be blessed by God. If you break the law, it would bring curses.

People today have an understanding of the natural law. Whenever the law is broken, disaster follows. We can see that God has set His law in the universe. This law manifests the glory of God. God carved this law on two tablets of stone, and God had Moses build an ark and placed the two tablets therein. We know that the ark in the Old Testament represents Christ. It is the place the glory of God is received.

Then God began the building of the tabernacle. We know that the tabernacle was made to exercise the law of God. The ark resided in the Most Holy Place within the tabernacle, and the glory of God was there. We know that the tabernacle is not a very grand place, but God severely warned Moses to follow exactly according to the pattern and standard He lay.

We are familiar with this account of the pattern given on the mount. The pattern given on the mount must be strictly adhered to. We thank God that He gained a very faithful servant. We know that before God expressed His heart, He brought Moses to the wilderness and worked on him for 40 years. This great, eloquent and brilliant Moses had to be formed into what looked like a useless, old man. God used him when he was 80.

I am over 80 today, and able to understand this in a way. It is not easy. But it is here that God says, “now I can use Moses”. Were it not for the 40 years of God working on Moses, the pattern of the tabernacle would have been ruined in the hands of Moses.

Dear brothers and sisters, as we follow the Lord today, time is of the essence. In the Church, when we serve, we cannot casually hand service over to our younger brothers and sisters. Their natural life is still very strong - their thinking and opinions. God cannot use people like these. So God must do His work upon us. We must redeem the time. We would desire for our young ones to follow the Lord well in their youth and accept the work of God upon them, so that one day they can be useful to God.

God took Moses to this point where his natural life is no longer of any use. Then God is able to show the pattern of the mount to Moses. According to the fullness of God, he built the tabernacle. In Exodus 40, it is mentioned 8 times that “Moses did according to the commandment of God”. Each point was done according to what God had commanded him.

When the tabernacle was built, the cloud covered the tabernacle and the glory of God appeared. Moses had done the thing that fully satisfied the heart of God. Whenever God’s heart is fully satisfied, His glory is displayed. My dear brothers and sisters, these are important reminders for us today.

So when we see Moses coming down from the mountain, we see him faithfully building the tabernacle as God commanded him. We know that Moses isn’t a simple man. God brought him to the top of the mountain for 40 days and nights. He did not eat or sleep. God revealed to Moses every small detail of the tabernacle. I believe that Moses did not carry a notebook with him. He had to memorize all of the details. It is no wonder it took 40 days and nights. How long would it take you or I to memorize every aspect of the tabernacle?

Moses was a brilliant man, but now he needs the wisdom of God. At 80, his memory is starting to fail him. God gave him this memory. This is the wonderful work of God. Many in their old age are able to do things that amaze others. The Apostle John was able to write the gospel according to John at a hundred years old. Each time I read the gospel of John I am in awe. This great prayer in John 17 - he remembered every single word. He had heard this prayer more than 60

years ago, and was able to write down each word. And then there is the complex book of Revelation, given to this man of a hundred years to write.

Brothers and sisters, sometimes I can't even remember all the precious stones in Revelation. But the Apostle John wrote all of it down very clearly. This tells us that upon the children of God, in the life of the Lord, there is another wisdom. This is a mysterious wisdom that enables us to know the things of God.

In 1 Corinthians 2, Paul tells us, and John also captures in the gospel of John, that the Lord said to them, "when the Holy Spirit comes, He will bring to remembrance every word that I have spoken to you." A Christians, we have this wonderful experience. We thank the Lord. To God, it matters not whether you are young or old, so long as He can use you. He will tell you what is needed.

So Moses, in 40 days and nights, wrote down all the patterns for the tabernacle revealed on the mount. Let me quickly share with brothers and sisters. Each item must be done as the Lord commanded Moses. Each detail, even the smallest, has the standard of God.

First, we see the standard for the materials. We speak of the quality of the materials. When God wanted to build the tabernacle, He told Moses to go to the people for gifts. This is such a precious thing, that God would consider the offering of the people as gifts. Brothers and sisters, do you realize that when we are moved to give an offering, our Lord receives it as a gift. Do you know who the Recipient of this gift is? This is so important. Today, our Lord has exalted us. We have nothing good to offer to God, but He receives them all as gifts.

We know that our consecration is a matter of such great blessing.

We read of the materials for the tabernacle, the gold, silver and bronze. And then there are threads and cords of different colors – gold, purple, scarlet. We see all the different skins - the ram and the badger. We see the acacia wood. We see the oil and incense. We see all the precious stones. God told Moses all of these things in fine detail. We know today that there is a symbolic meaning behind all of these things. Later on, we will share that this is a manifestation of the life and quality of Christ.

In the building of the tabernacle, God has hand-picked these materials. You cannot add anything to it. Not only is there a standard for the material, there is also a standard for the form and pattern of the tabernacle.

Brothers and sisters, we thank the Lord that the tabernacle looks very simple externally. The outer layer is the badger skin. It does not look very nice. The tabernacle reveals to us that while the outward is very simple, that which is within is very beautiful and majestic. This is also the requirement of the Lord upon the Church today.

Many centuries ago, in the time of the Catholic Church even to the Protestant Church, a lot of emphasis was placed on the outward form of the cathedral. It had to be big and grand. Yet the focus was not on the condition within. We thank the Lord that the Brethren movement brought about a revival, where the outward form is simple, but that which is within is beautiful. Today we do not look at the Church outwardly. We must look at the inner condition of the Church.

So we see this tabernacle, built completely according to the pattern that God desires. There is the pattern for the altar, and the brazen censer. There is the requirement for the bread and the golden lampstand; the incense and the altar for the incense. Then we see the ark and the requirement for the ark.

Therefore we see how God has such specific requirements for each instrument within the tabernacle. Everything has to be according to His standard. Not only that, there are specific measurements for each item. At that time, they would measure everything according to a hand's breadth. We do not have the time to go into each measurement tonight, but we know that there are specific measurements.

There are also standard measurements for where things are to be placed. For example, on the outer court, there are places for the bronze altar and brazen laver. In the Holy Place, there is the table for the shewbread and the golden lampstand. The table is to be placed on the north side and the golden lampstand on the south. The censer, the altar of incense to be placed right outside the veil. The ark of the covenant is to be placed in the Most Holy Place. Not only this, when Moses made all these articles, even the gold and silver used is to be measured to its exact quantity.

When we reflect on all these things relating to the tabernacle, we see that it is but a small tabernacle, but it is exceedingly complex. It is not easy for Moses to remember all these details. God said that this is the pattern on the mount, and repeatedly warned Moses that he had to do exactly to the pattern shown to him, to the standard of God.

This shows us one revelation - that in the house of God, each and every item must be according to the standard of God. You cannot put your own thoughts and opinions in it. Brothers and sisters, this is not easy at all. We thank the Lord that when Moses went down the mountain, he faithfully carried out everything that God commanded Him. Therefore Moses was called one who was faithful in all of God's house.

There is a very clear explanation of what it means to be faithful. It is not only to be faithful to what God has entrusted to you, but also to the standard of God. If it is not according to God's standard, God cannot accept it. Because these are vessels made to manifest the glory of God.

Brothers and sisters, we may feel troubled when we hear of these things, but let us remember that God is God, and God is not man. We need to have a heart of reverence unto God. This is very important. Things must be done according to His standard.

We have shared how on this earth, there are many services and assemblies, but not many who do things according to the standard of God. After Moses built the tabernacle according to what God has shown him, immediately the glory of God appeared. This tells us that there is no glory if things are not done according to the standard of God.

This is a very important test, dear brothers and sisters. We can see how God, for the first time in history, set His standard for us on Mount Sinai. This is the measuring line for everything to come. It is the measuring line for Israel to come. When we read the history of Israel, we see how they forsook God's measuring line and lost the glory of God. The glory of God left Israel. God cannot dwell in places that are not according to His standard.

I know among the children of God today, there are not many who pay attention to these things. I feel that these are of utmost importance. I remember when I was young and saved by grace, and how God called me out to serve Him. We thank God that so many saints before us have faithfully followed the Lord, strictly adhering to the Word of God. And this brought forth great blessing. This left a deep impression on me. Through these years, I feel that there has to be a standard when we serve God. We should not do anything against the standard of God. All those efforts will be in vain. As I shared earlier, you could be very faithful and diligent, preaching a lot, but if it is not according to God's standard, it is as Paul says: you have labored and run in vain. All that is done has come to naught. As far as God's work is concerned, His requirement is very strict.

Dear brothers and sisters, how small and minute man is! And how great God is, that heaven and earth cannot contain Him! Paul says, "who can be God's counselor?" Yet today, we see so many children of God giving Him ideas, doing things according to what we want. We do these as if we love God and are serving Him. Our brothers have earlier told us that there is a big difference between "working for God" and "working with God".

If you want to work with God, it has to be according to the standard of God. On Mount Sinai, He has given us that great and stern revelation. It is a good example for us. We see how Moses has done everything according to the pattern on the mount, as God commanded him.

Now, in these last days, how our Lord desires for His glory to be manifest in our midst. He desires to return to His people. Therefore we cannot only be mindful of ourselves. We look to the Lord and His mercy. We see in the history of the

Jewish people that there were some good times where individuals rose up to the standard of God and brought about revival. We know that Joshua followed Moses, and they had some glorious days. God's glory was in the midst of them. Then we enter into the time of the Judges, where the people of God lost the measuring line, destroying the standard of God. They lived in pitiful days.

Until God brought up Samuel and once again restored the standard of God. The Scripture tells us that none of Samuel's words fell to the ground. That tells us that everything Samuel spoke was the Word of God. God gave Samuel a hearing ear. Only when you learn to listen can you learn to obey. It was not easy to turn those years of devastation around, leading to the time of King David on the throne.

David was one who loved God, and it was in his heart to build the temple for God. God, long ago, had this heart. David truly loved God. We do not love God as much as David to be so mindful of the heart of God. David loved God and was able to touch that which God was after - the building of the temple.

Firstly, David took Jerusalem, and then built the temple in the city. From that time on, there was no more tabernacle. We know that this transition has spiritual meaning behind it. Jerusalem is the greater representation of the heart of God.

From the Bible we can see that although the method has changed, the principle has not. The temple is merely an expansion of the tabernacle. When we read 2 Chronicles, we see that the altar is now bigger. The laver is much bigger. We see all the smaller pools around the lavers. The table holding the shewbread has become 10 tables. There are now 10 golden lampstands. Only the ark remained the same.

My dear brothers and sisters, this tells us that the form and ways may change, but the standard of God does not change. In the temple, there is still the outer court, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. It is still according to the standard of God.

In 1 Chronicles 28, it tells us that God drew the blueprint of the temple with His finger, revealing it to David. So David remembered this blueprint very carefully. We know that God did not allow David to build the temple because he had shed much blood. And it was Solomon whom God allowed to build the temple. The Bible records that David, before he passed, instructed Solomon to build the temple carefully according to God's command.

We see the pattern and standard set on Mount Sinai. The standard remains. When Solomon built the temple according to the standard his father showed him, we thank the Lord that the glory of God once again appeared. The glory was so great that even the priests could not stand before it. We know that this is the appearing of God Himself. That God has returned! Due to the people's rebellion,

they had cast God away, and now, there is an individual who built according to the will and heart of God. And God's heart is fully satisfied. So God appears and His glory filled the temple.

Once again this tells us that there is a measuring line, there is true building work, and a standard. Only then there is true glory. Dear brothers and sisters, do not think today that we can bumble our way into serving the Lord. This will not be brought into the glory of God.

In the Old Testament, we see that the standard of God has not changed from Mount Sinai to Mount Zion. The methods may have changed, but God's standard has not changed. Even when the Israelites were in captivity in Babylon for 70 years, it may have seemed to the Israelites that they had lost everything - there no longer was a temple nor was there worship. They tried to resuscitate that with the synagogues. At that time the condition of the Israelites had fallen to the utmost. 70 years is not a short period of time. If an assembly today is weak for 70 years, would it be able to rise again? 70 years later, all the hearts of the people would have been scattered.

We thank the Lord that there is a remnant who answered the call of God. Once again they returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt the temple. At this time, they were in such a weak condition. The times have changed and the kingdom of Israel is destroyed. If it were up to us, we might have lowered the standard. It is already great that they show up on Sundays.

Let us remember that God is God. Regardless of the condition on the earth, of how man is, He still requires things according to His measuring line. The prophet Zechariah delivered this message to the Israelites even though their number was small: that the standard of God has not changed.

Let us remember that however weak we may be, how desolate the condition in our assemblies, that God's standard never changes. Especially in these last days, the principle of the remnant must be an encouragement to us. When all of this world cares not for the standard of God, you rise up to care for the standard of God. Brothers and sisters, you are blessed. Only such people can bring forth the glory of God. This is such an important reminder to us.

Of course the work of God does not end at Mount Zion. After Mount Zion, there is the Mount of Calvary. The Son of God has come, the Word become flesh. On the cross He finished the plan of God. When He declared, "it is finished!", all the entrustment of God is complete. It is finished! He has become the reality of the standard of God. Only Christ is the measuring line.

Dear brothers and sisters, this is a very important reminder. Perhaps we have heard the name of Christ for so many years. But we must focus on His name. Christ is the measuring line of God. We have learned from Mount Sinai, that

when God built the tabernacle, it is the will and standard of God. Every item, every detail is His standard. This is a type. Now we are in the new covenant, and the will of God is Christ. We are very clear on this.

After Paul was saved by grace and his eyes opened, he clearly understood the meaning of Christ. So there are these important words he wrote in Colossians 3:11,

"wherein there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bondman, freeman; but Christ is everything, and in all."

Colossians 3:11 DARBY

That everything must be Christ. In Colossians 2:2,

"to the end that their hearts may be encouraged, being united together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the full knowledge of the mystery of God;"

Colossians 2:2 DARBY

We cannot go according to tradition, or our own feelings. We must go according to Christ. Also in Hebrews we read that Christ Jesus is the same yesterday, today, forever. The standard for building the Church is Christ. God treasures this vessel which is able to manifest His glory. Only Christ can manifest the glory of God.

Brothers and sisters, we need so much for the Lord to show us Christ in everything. We thank the Lord, that the typology in the Old Testament has been made reality in the manifestation of Christ. Because we know Christ, we understand how each item and detail in the tabernacle represents Christ. So when we build the tabernacle, the required quality of the material is so strict. In the building of the Church, the quality and nature God requires is Christ.

Therefore when we are saved, God has given us this new life. Brothers and sisters, God desires for us to have this new life as the foundation for our life and service. All these years, I have been saddened in my heart that many say they believe in Jesus. They know that there is eternal life in believing in Jesus. But when I ask if they have felt this new life, I see the confusion in their eyes. They know that believing in Jesus brings eternal life, but they have no feeling or sensation of this life. This is such a serious matter. We have the life of the Lord, yet we do not have the feeling of this life. How do we live out the nature and quality of this life? Each Christian ought to follow the guidance of His life within.

When I was young, the brethren before us gave us such good examples. I was saved in my teens, and I knew to follow the guidance of that new life. There are many things that need not be taught to you by others. The guidance of this life

is very clear. We were young then, and had many bad habits that would not be changed no matter how teachers tried. The Holy Spirit would lead us, and immediately there is a great transformation. Many of you know my story, so I will not go into too much detail. In those days, we felt the guidance of the life of Christ.

When Adam and Eve fell, Satan put this nature in our life. This nature refuses to admit wrongdoing. I find so many today who make mistakes and are unwilling to even apologize. The devil does not repent. Many ask why God does not save the devil. But he won't repent. He put this corrupt nature in all of us. God has mercy upon us. We can repent. But so many do not live in grace and blessing. This brings much difficulty to the Church because we all think we are right. We do not have the guidance and feeling of Christ's life. We still live in our natural life.

When God asked Adam about his sin, he blamed the woman who asked him to eat of the fruit. The woman blamed the serpent. Nobody was able to admit they were wrong. Today, if you live in the guidance of God's life, it is a beautiful life.

Recently we have been sharing with brothers and sisters the portion of scripture of Christ on the cross. Jesus was crucified in such agony, but from His life the radiance of God's glory is manifested. He uttered, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." We can see how magnanimous our God is. Even as those mocked and ridiculed Him, we see the capacity of His love for them. We know that Christ spoken 7 words on the cross, and it manifested the radiance of God's glory in His life.

Brothers and sisters, I often say that if you feel like you are bearing the cross, the true experience of the cross is the spiritual response of our lives. When we encounter these things, what is our spiritual response? If your response is spiritual, it is the bearing of the cross. Because the cross is the place you manifest the life of Christ. How precious this is! Today, in the church, you and I are saved by grace and have life. We must live under the guidance of this life. Our living is according to this life. Our service is according to this life. Whatever we want to do, we must touch the guidance of the life.

In recent years, it feels like this is a truth the Church has lost. May the Lord restore the feeling of the life within us. When Christians walk according to the guidance of this life, only then can we manifest the quality of Christ. This is the material used for the building of the Church.

Not only is the nature and character of the life of Christ, each item in the tabernacle has to be according to the standard of Christ. We know each item has a typology that speaks to the nature and character of our Lord. We know as Christians we need to be conformed to the image of the Son of God. There is no other image within the Church. We thank the Lord that we inherited this from

the Brethren movement - all the removal of these images. But we are seeing these images coming back slowly. How we need the mercy of the Lord.

We cannot explain each and every item tonight, but please understand the meaning that the pattern on the mount speaks to Christ Himself. How important this is! Not only this, but each item in the tabernacle has its own measurement. Today, in our Church life, the measurement is also Christ. He must be all and in all. He is in the grand scope and also in the minute detail. When we read the epistles of Paul, many Bible scholars tell us that the epistle to Ephesians has its first half in the heavens, and the second half on earth. They do not understand that the second half is the working out of the first half. It comes down to great detail - you shall not lie; you shall not steal. God is concerned even in the smallest detail of our speech.

When I read Paul's epistles before, I always wondered why he went into the minute detail of daily living. Now I understand that each and every detail must manifest Christ. When I was in high school with other teenagers, there was cursing and foul language. I joined them. One day when I spoke, there was a clear voice within. The Lord said, "you are a Christian. This is not appropriate for you. You cannot speak such words again." From when I was 16 to today, I have not uttered any foul language.

The Lord will clean you out once and for all. Before I didn't understand if God was into such detail. But yes, each and everything must be in Christ. The Bible tells us that even our jesting will be recorded. When we come before the judgement, all these things will be made public. Let us consider this, that God has recorded everything that we have said. If the Lord enlightens us, let us come before Him, that His blood may cleanse us.

How much we need to know the standard of God clearly. One who understands the standard of God will have speech that edifies others, not saying things that do not matter. The measurement is very fine. God is mindful of everything. There is a certain weightiness to things. Every item, in the tabernacle, is made according to its weight in silver and gold.

Today when we read Romans 12, we serve according to the new measurement of our new life in the Lord. It is not easy to balance that in our life, but God will lead us.

Even where each item is placed has a set place. In 1 Corinthians 12, it tells us that we are members of the Body of Christ. Some are the mouth, some are hands, some are feet. We are all different.

I remember a co-worker who wasn't eloquent. He couldn't speak on the pulpit, but was very capable in many other things. When we asked him to speak on the pulpit, we were all anxious 20 minutes in. After a while, he stood there, unable

to speak. And then he walked off. He went home and his wife scolded him for not being capable. But God did not make him a mouth. God made him a hand.

Today, we see an abnormal growth in the Church. We feel that the one on the pulpit is the most important person; that preaching is the most important. This is a great misunderstanding. God wants the service of the body. Every member is important. God has placed each of us in different positions. Wherever we are placed, be faithful.

Dear brothers and sisters, in the New Testament, Christ is the standard when God builds the Church. When we come before the judgement seat of Christ, we must know that when we live according to the standard of Christ, only then is there glory. Throughout time, God is manifested in our testimony. He knows that we cannot be complete and perfect. Just as in the Old Testament, those individuals who can hear the Word of God and are willing to do, live and walk in His will, they are able to welcome in the glory.

How important this is for us! Today, in time, this is partial and imperfect. We thank the Lord that one day when we enter into eternity, the will of God will be perfect and complete. John wrote in Revelation about the New Jerusalem descending from heaven. That great city which has every part according to the standard of God, and is filled with the glory of God. That is our glorious hope.

Today when we follow the Lord, it is our hope to glorify our Lord here on earth. Our Lord said on earth, "on earth I have already glorified You." He is able to enjoy the glory of God with God Himself.

We are in the last days. There is but a little while before our Lord returns. May He give us a heart that desires to walk according to God's standard, no matter how others may view us, what they may say, or what temptations are placed before us. May we walk forward according to the heart and will of God, holding fast to His standard. That we may obtain His praise upon His return: "well done, good and faithful servant!". That we are found faithful to that which He has entrusted to us, and faithful to His standard.

Brothers and sisters, we see that these requirements are clear in His Word. There is a standard in our church life. This is the measuring line to measure each and every one of us. Our differences in service depend on this measuring line. I have mentioned that you may be zealous, willing to suffer, gentle and humble, all these are good. But what is even more important is that these are according to the standard of God. May God remind us through His Spirit, for only by having the standard can we have His glory. The standard is the measuring line to test us. God never lowers His standard, so may we walk according to His standard.

In the days when they returned from captivity, the prophets rose up to remind the children of Israel that God wants to manifest His mercy and rebuild Jerusalem, but the measuring line must be over Jerusalem.

May the Lord bless His own Word.

Lord, our hearts are filled with thanksgiving unto You. Before Your return, You are patient with us. You are giving us opportunities to adjust our life and service. Lord, we want to walk according to Your standard, especially in these last days. When all spiritual matters lose their normal condition, may there be individuals here willing to rise and walk according to Your standard. That we may be people who are faithful. Through Your Spirit of Truth, may You lead us into the reality of Your Word. We thank You for Your grace and mercy. Hear our prayer. In the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen