

Message Two

Being Saved in Life for the Body of Christ

Scripture Reading: Rom. 5:10, 18; 12:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; 14:17, 19

I. We need to be saved from the independence and individualism of the natural life for the Body life—Rom. 5:10; 12:4-5:

- A. We are independent, separated, and detached because we are short of life:
 - 1. The bones in Ezekiel 37:1-8 were separated, disjoined, detached, and absolutely independent and individualistic because there was no life.
 - 2. The death within us causes us to be independent, individualistic, and unwilling to coordinate with others.
 - 3. Only by being saved in life can we be joined together to be one Body and be built up together into one Body—vv. 9-14; Eph. 4:16; Col. 2:19.
- B. God's salvation in life delivers us from the individualism of our natural life so that can live the Body life and be built up together in the Body—Rom. 12:4-5:
 - 1. Our natural life is individualistic and makes us unwilling to live the Body life—Phil. 2:21.
 - 2. Individualism is the philosophy, thought, and principle of not being one with others; when not going along with others and not being one with others becomes a principle, that is individualism—1 Cor. 12:21-22.
 - 3. We are saved from the individualism of our natural life through our cooperation by presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice and by not thinking more highly of ourselves than what we are—Rom. 12:1-3, 10.
 - 4. When we experience God's salvation in life, we can no longer be isolated and individualistic, but we are saved from the individualism of the natural life, we forget ourselves and care for others, and we can be built up into the Body of Christ—v. 15; 14:19; 15:1-2; 1 Cor. 12:14-27; 10:24; Eph. 4:16.

II. As a result of being saved in life, we are enabled to live the church life in a locality, being saved from our self-view, self-goal, and divisiveness—Rom. 14:1-19; 15:5-7:

- A. Different views and opinions produce different goals, and these different goals hinder the church from being built up; by being saved from our views and goals, we are saved from divisiveness and thus are able to practice the Body life in the church life—12:4-5; 16:1, 4, 16.
- B. Our living of the church life is local, but our fellowship should be both local and universal—vv. 1, 16b, 22-23.
- C. In living the church life, we must receive all believers in Christ according to God's receiving (14:1-3), in the light of the judgment seat (vv. 10, 12), in the principle of love (12:10; 14:15), according to the kingdom life (v. 17), and according to Christ (15:5).