

Meeting 2

Its Spaciousness

- The All-Inclusive Type of Christ
- The Rest for the People of God
- The Goodness of the Land
- Applying the Spaciousness of Christ
- The Difference Between our Goodness and Christ's

Scripture Reading

Exodus

3:8 And I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.

Ephesians

3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are

Ministry Reading

Now I would ask you, How can you apply this? Can you apply the measurement of Christ? Can you apply the breadth, the length, the height, and the depth? Let me illustrate. One day a sister came to me and said, "Brother, you know my family. You know that my husband is such and such a person." "Yes," I said, "I know, I know." "And you know I have five children, and one more is coming—that will make six. I am still young, and I am afraid that after the sixth there may be more. Brother, I am concerned about this situation." Then I asked her, "Sister, do you know how big Christ is?" She said, "Oh, brother, this is

a strange question. I have never thought about that. What do you mean?" Then I brought her to realize that the Christ whom she had received is an unlimited Christ. But it is not easy to help people realize how great Christ is in a practical way. "Brother," she said, "I know that the Lord is so great; I know it quite well." So I said, "Sister, I am quite familiar with your problem, and I thank the Lord for what you have always experienced. Tell me, how have you been sustained, how have you been able to stand through all these years?" "Oh," she replied, "it is the Lord! Without the Lord I could never have made it." Then I said, "Sister, do you think the Lord is so limited? If the Lord could help you get through in the past years with one husband and five children, can He not help you make it with one or two children more? Is the Lord so small, so restricted?" Then she understood. "Brother, of course, the Lord is unlimited, the Lord is unlimited!" she exclaimed. I said, "Sister, good! As long as you know the Lord is unlimited, that is sufficient. Be at peace and cast all your burden upon Him. Take the Lord as your unlimited help."

Another time a brother came to me and said, "Brother, my wife is such and such a person. I fear that matters will get worse and worse. I have been able to bear it until now, but if something else happens, I am afraid it will be too much for me; I will have a nervous breakdown. The very thought is unbearable." Then I answered him in the same way as I did the sister. "Brother, how have you been able to manage during the past years?" "Oh, it was only by Christ!" he exclaimed. Then I said, "Brother, do you think the Lord is limited to this extent? If you would experience Him in a greater way, if you would experience a greater Christ, you must be ready to encounter a worse situation." "Oh!" he cried, "That's just what I am afraid of. It's bad enough now. I would ask the Lord to stop right now!" "Well," I told him, "if this is good enough, you can only know Christ to this extent. If you want to have an increasing experience of Christ,

you must be ready to meet a worse situation day by day.”

Oh, brothers, by your experience you may realize the extent, the expanse, of Christ. By your experience you may realize the spaciousness of Christ. It is unlimited. Christ is good in His unlimitedness.

I have a handkerchief which is only so big—perhaps twelve inches by twelve inches. It can only cover so much. It can never cover the whole room; it is not big enough. But you must realize that Christ is like a piece of cloth without limit. You cannot tell how broad and how long He is. There is no limit. He can cover anything and everything. No matter how great a problem may be, Christ can cover it. Christ is good in His unlimitedness. Christ is good in His breadth and length and height and depth. Christ is such a spacious land for us to experience and enjoy in every situation. (The All Inclusive Christ, pp. 23-24,26, published by Living Stream Ministry)

Bible Study Questions

What is our patience, and what is the patience of Christ? What is our love, and what is the love of Christ?