International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones, October 2024

WEEK 5

DAY 6

Morning Nourishment

Ephesians 2 4

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us.

Romans 11 32

For God has shut up all in disobedience that He might show mercy to all.

Romans 9 reveals the principle that everything depends on God’s mercy. The apostle applies this principle to the Israelites. He shows us that everything that happened to the Israelites was of God’s mercy.

Zeal and pursuit are of no use. Neither is the absence of zeal and pursuit of any use. Waiting too long, not waiting long enough, being too quick, or not being too quick, none of these is of any use. Everything depends on the mercy of God. Only the Holy Spirit is able to lead men to a proper standing. There must be at least one time that a person sees God’s mercy. Whether we see this matter all at once or realize it through a process, the minute we touch this matter, we touch the fact, not a feeling but the fact, that everything depends on God’s mercy.

Today’s Reading

God’s mercy is a fact. A fact is not dependent on feeling. Take the matter of regeneration as an example. We often tell sinners that they must have a onetime definite experience of repentance and believing in the Lord. It is the same in principle in regard to man’s understanding of God’s mercy. There must be at least one time when a person definitely touches God’s mercy. Three kinds of people need God’s dealings, those who are strong in their will, those who are strong in their emotion, and those who are strong in their mind.

The will, the emotion, and the mind must experience God’s breaking. God deals with man’s strong points more than He deals with his weak points. Man’s strong points often hinder him from spiritual progress even more than his weak points. Unless a man is dealt with in these three areas, he cannot know God’s mercy.

After a man has been dealt with by God, he will be tempered in his spiritual life. Some people wait too long, and others do not wait long enough. Some people are not strong enough in their inner man; their outer man is too strong. Some people are too strong in their mind. Others are too strong in their emotion or their will. These conditions require tempering.

If we want our spiritual life to be well tempered, we need to attune our condition to a proper balance. We must neither be too much nor be too little. This can be compared to shooting on a pinball machine; there are pins to the left and to the right, and the balls must be directed at the optimum angle before they can score. There are many pitfalls in our spiritual journey; our mind, emotion, and will can all become hindrances to us. If we are too much or too little, we fall into danger.

Everything depends on God’s mercy. Before I was saved, I planned to go to America. If I had left two months earlier, I would not have met Sister Dora Yu, and I might never have been saved. Even if I had been given the chance later, I might not have believed. It was God’s mercy that I met Miss Dora Yu at that time. It was neither too early nor too late.

Only God can do things in just the right proportion. We are prone to speak either too much or not enough. No one can preach a message that will meet everyone’s need. Even the apostle Paul and the apostle Peter faced the same problem. When words come out of a person’s mouth, it is difficult for the words to come out just right.

This is why it is easy for people to misunderstand. The way of the church during the past two thousand years is a way of looking to the mercy of God. Only God’s mercy can temper us. I have often told the young people that they may have to wait for five years before they will

realize that everything is of God’s mercy.

This is the end of Today’s Morning Revival