

The Economy of God

The Economy of the Triune God

- 1 Timothy 1:3-7 contain two very important expressions as indicated in Greek: “God’s economy” and “misaimed.”
 - Paul’s Epistles to Timothy were written at a time when many Christians had missed the mark of God’s economy and were paying attention to something else.

The Distractions from God’s Economy

- In history, Judaism and Gnosticism distracted the early Christians from the right track.
 - Judaizers with their religious doctrines and forms and the Gnostics with their philosophies deterred the Christians from following the Lord in the pathway of God’s economy.
 - It was the “good elements” of Judaism and Gnosticism that sidetracked these early Christians.
- Today the subtle one uses the “good things” to divert believers from following the Lord in the right track.
 - If we spend time with the Lord, we will realize that the enemy is persistent in utilizing even the good things of Christianity to distract the Lord’s children.

The Definition of God’s Economy

- God’s economy is simply His plan to dispense Himself into humanity.
- God’s intention is to dispense Himself to many people in mass production free of charge.
 - Therefore, God requires such a divine arrangement, a divine management, a divine dispensation, a divine economy, in order to bring Himself into humanity.
- God’s substance is Spirit. God is the Manufacturer, and He intends to reproduce Himself as the product; therefore, whatever He reproduces must be Spirit.

The Steps of God’s Economy

- God dispenses Himself into man by the Trinity.
 - The Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—is the very economy of the Godhead.
- 2 Cor. 13:14 – The grace of the lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

- Love, grace, and fellowship are **one** element in **three** stages.
 - Love is the source, grace is the expression of love, and fellowship is the transmission of this love in grace.
- God the Father is the universal source of all things.
 - Through the divine **arrangement** of His economy, He put Himself into His Son, the second person of the Trinity, in order to make Himself **available** to man.
 - The first stage of God dispensing Himself into man is the **embodiment and incarnation of Himself in the Son as a man**—thus, reproducing Himself in man.
- The second step of bringing God into man is through the Son of God.
 - There are **seven** basic elements that make up Christ.
 - Christ is the divine **embodiment** of God
 - In Christ there is not only God but also man (**mingled** divine essence with humanity)
 - Christ experience of **human living**
 - Christ's experience of **death**
 - Christ's **resurrection**
 - Christ's **ascension**
 - Christ's **enthronement**
- The third step is that both the Father and the Son are now in the Spirit.
 - The Holy Spirit, after the Lord's ascension, is no longer the same as the Spirit of God in the Old Testament times.
 - We are **mingled** inwardly and outwardly with the Holy Spirit.
 - The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of **reality**, the full reality of Christ.
- **Eph. 4:6, 2 Cor. 13:5, and Rom. 8:11** reveal that God the Father, the Son, and the Spirit are *in* us.
 - The three persons of the Godhead are not three Spirits but one Spirit.

(The Economy of God – Chapter 1)