Living Out and Working Out the New Jersusalem

In Remembrance of Brother Liu Suey

Memorial Meeting August 11, 2023, 10:00 am Church in Taipei Hsin-ji Building

Hymns

What Miracle! What Mystery!

- 1 What miracle! What mystery!

 That God and man should blended be!
 God became man to make man God,

 Untraceable economy!

 From His good pleasure, heart's desire,

 His highest goal attained will be.
- 2 Flesh He became, the first God-man,
 His pleasure that I God may be:
 In life and nature I'm God's kind,
 Though Godhead's His exclusively.
 His attributes my virtues are;
 His glorious image shines through me.
- 3 No longer I alone that live,
 But God together lives with me.
 Built with the saints in the Triune God,
 His universal house we'll be,
 And His organic Body we
 For His expression corp'rately.
- 4 Jerusalem, the ultimate,
 Of visions the totality;
 The Triune God, tripartite man—
 A loving pair eternally—
 As man yet God they coinhere,
 A mutual dwelling place to be;
 God's glory in humanity
 Shines forth in splendor radiantly!

Lo, the Holy City!

1 O Lord Jesus, Thy redeemed ones / Are Thy Body and Thy Bride; As Thy fulness, Thine expression, / In her Thou art glorified. Thou, her all in all forever, / She Thy riches doth declare; Thou dost fully saturate her / And Thy glory with her share.

Chorus:

Lo, the holy city,
Full of God's bright glory!
It is God's complete expression
In humanity.

- 2 God with man completely blended, / Mystery of godliness, God in glory, full, resplendent, / Man, His dwelling, doth express. 'Tis a vessel universal / All God's fulness to express; All His beauty manifesting, / Mingled with His holiness.
- 3 'Tis a living composition / Of the saints He hath transformed;
 As the pearls and stones most precious, / To His image they're conformed:
 - From the throne of God, its center, / Flows the living water free; Christ the tree of life doth flourish, / Bearing fruit abundantly.
- 4 'Tis th' eternal golden lampstand, / Holding Christ, the lamp of light;

God in Christ the light of glory / As the Spirit shineth bright! 'Tis the ultimate expression— / Man in God and God in man; 'Tis their mutual habitation, / Goal of God's eternal plan.

Perfecting the Saints and Building up the Body of Christ

Brother Liu Suey (April 23, 1925—July 30, 2023) was originally from Changle, Fujian. He went to Shanghai for school at the age of eleven. In 1944 when he was in college, he was led to believe in the Lord by his Christian classmates in Chongqing and began to fervently love the Lord. In 1945, he returned to Shanghai along with the relocation of his school and came into contact with the church in Shanghai, where he heard Brother Witness Lee's speaking and was deeply attracted. He was baptized in Shanghai in March 1947.

In July 1947, Brother Liu graduated from college and was introduced to work in Taiwan. Upon his arrival in Taiwan, he began to meet with the saints who were in Taipei in those early years. In 1949, Brother Liu took up a teaching job in Pingtung. In August of the same year, Brother Lee officially began the work in Taipei. Prior to that, Brother Lee took a round-the-island trip to visit the saints. During the trip, Brother Lee purposely made an appointment to see Brother Liu, and through that fellowship with Brother Lee, Brother Liu was firmly established in his knowledge and belief concerning the ground of oneness of the church.

In January 1951, Brother Liu and Sister Ruth Chen got married in Taipei. While he was working in Pingtung, whenever there was a training or conference in Taipei, he would always travel to Taipei to attend and receive the perfecting. In February 1952, upon hearing Brother Lee's message on being called by God (CWWL 1952, vol. 1, pp. 17 ff.), he was greatly enlightened in the matter of serving the Lord full time and, together with eighty brothers and sisters, he consecrated himself to serve the Lord full time. In the fall of the same year, Brother Liu dropped his job to serve the Lord.

In 1953, Brother Liu was assigned to serve in Taipei. He first served in hall three, mainly doing campus work and ministering the word in the Lord's Day meetings in coordination with others. Later, he was assigned to other halls in Taipei and received more perfecting in life and service. During the early years of 1950s, because of the one accord among the churches in Taiwan, there was a revival with much increase. However, during the latter years of 1950s, the spiritual condition of the churches in Taiwan declined because of the dissension

among some of the co-workers. In the early 1960s, because Brother Lee began to minister in the U.S., the churches in Taiwan fell into a difficult trial. Then, in the mid and late 1960s, after the divisive situation was cleared up, the one accord was restored; moreover, by Brother Lee taking the brothers from the U.S. to visit Taiwan, the churches in Taiwan were brought into the blessing of the blending in the Body of Christ. Throughout all those years, Brother Liu was never affected by the negative situations; instead, with clean hands and a pure heart, he always followed the ministry of the age closely and served in coordination in the Body of Christ, pressing on positively and aggressively.

Brother Liu's close coordination with the ministry is especially seen in his faithful service in Taiwan Gospel Book Room for nearly seven decades. In 1954, under the arrangement of Brother Lee, Brother Liu not only served among the full-time co-workers but also participated in the editorial work in the Book Room. Under Brother Lee's guidance, his gift in the literature work was manifested, and soon after, he was entrusted by Brother Lee to be responsible for the editing and publishing of ministry messages. From 1951 to 1984, the Gospel Book Room published monthly issues of *The Ministry of the Word*, which became an important channel of spiritual supply to the churches in Taiwan and Southeast Asia. Brother Lee was the chief editor for that publication for the first few years, and starting from 1957, that publication was mainly taken care of by Brother Liu. After Brother Lee began the work in the U.S. in 1962, Brother Liu bore the main responsibility for all the Chinese ministry publications in close fellowship with Brother Lee. During 1986 to 1987, Brother Lee, while leading the churches in Taiwan to take the God-ordained way, led the translation of the New Testament Recovery Version in Chinese. Brother Liu was helping by Brother Lee's side. After Brother Lee passed away, Brother Liu began in the summer of 1998 to lead the editorial section of the Gospel Book Room in the editing work of the Old Testament Recovery Version in Chinese, which was completed in the fall of 2005.

In addition to bearing editorial responsibility, Brother Liu was also entrusted to administrate the Gospel Book Room. In 1978, the Gospel Book Room was incorporated according to government regulations. Brother Lee asked Brother Liu to be the legal representative of the Gospel Book Room. This important responsibility became Brother Liu's life-long commission. In recent years,

although Brother Liu lived in Hualien, he still kept close contact with the serving ones in the Book Room and often had fellowship with them in person. He cared for the going on of the Book Room in all aspects and often mentioned all the serving ones by name before the Lord in prayer. He not only oversaw but even more shepherded the serving ones and infused an indispensable life supply into the literature work.

In 1977, under Brother Lee's arrangement, Brother Liu moved with his family to Berkeley, California, in the U.S. to take care of the Chinese-speaking saints. In 1978, he was sent to serve in the Philippines. In 1979, he returned to serve in Berkeley, and in 1983, he returned to serve in Taipei. In 1986, he went to serve in San Francisco. In 1991, Brother Liu actively led the church in San Francisco to practice district meetings and take the God-ordained way of having everyone function. He even personally visited the saints from house to house to minister life to them. The church was thus healed from the wounds caused by the turmoil at that time and had an increase in number.

In 1999, Brother Liu moved to Fremont and served there until 2006. During this time, his leading in the church included the spreading of the gospel work, the building up of a life of morning revival, an in-depth study of the Bible, the practice of shepherding, the practice of prophesying, the training for church service, and so on, covering every aspect of the building up of the church. On the intrinsic side, he was always leading the saints to touch the Spirit and life and developing their organic function. Brother Liu often conducted trainings for the seeking saints during the weekends and also helped the churches in the Bay Area practice blending and exhibiting the riches of the Body of Christ by everyone prophesying.

In 2006, Brother Liu moved back to Taiwan. After staying in Taipei for a short while, he went to serve in Taichung, leading the saints to practice organic shepherding and perfecting the saints to prophesy, thus enriching the practice of begetting, nourishing, teaching, and building in the church. In 2009, he moved to Hualien and shepherded the saints in the church life. From 2014, he began to accompany the saints in pursuing corporate morning prayer, helping the saints to digest the Holy Word and ministry messages through prayer, so as not only to receive vision through revelation but also to gain experience in the Spirit. Such a practice was six days a week, half an hour each day, persisting over the

years without ever slacking off for a single day, until the end of his life. This practice helped the saints greatly in being constituted with the word of the ministry. Not only so, in Brother Liu's later years, he highly regarded the importance of having the saints enter into the burden and practice of the vital groups, and he perfected the saints every week to practice a vital-group living. Such perfecting has had a long-lasting influence.

In addition, throughout the years, Brother Liu was often sent or invited to Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia to serve in special meetings to bring a timely supply to the churches there.

As we review Brother Liu Suey's entire life of service, we could say that his starting point was meeting and recognizing the ministry of the age; his pathway was following the speaking of the New Testament ministry; his practice was carrying out the God-ordained way; his principle was absolutely submitting to the leading of the ministry; and his goal was building up the Body of Christ for the fulfillment of God's New Testament economy. Those who have been acquainted with Brother Liu can all testify that in his coordination and service, always showing forbearance and never hurting others, he was as meek as a lamb; but in dealing with the enemy in spiritual warfare, being strong and uncompromising, he was as brave as a lion.

Brother Lee said, "I am burdened that all the co-workers in the Lord's recovery would realize that we need to do a work of three sections. We should not only be able to do the work of the first section, the section of incarnation, to produce redeemed people, but we should also be able to do a work that can serve the purpose of the second section, the section of inclusion, to produce churches...We should be able to do a work to build up the Body of Christ consummating the New Jerusalem. This is the work of the stage of intensification" (CWWL 1994-1997, vol. 4, *Incarnation, Inclusion, and Intensification*, p. 195). In his full-time service for more than seven decades, Brother Liu has endeavored to do a work of these three sections. May such a wonderful pattern encourage us all to pursue to live out and work out the ultimate goal and consummation of God's economy—the New Jerusalem.

Respectfully,

The co-workers of the gospel work in Taiwan and the serving ones in Taiwan Gospel Book Room

The Shepherding of a God-man Father

Our father consecrated himself to the Lord from his youth, and after marriage, he and our mother served the Lord with one accord and raised us eight children up by God's grace. He consecrated all of us to God and cast all the family burdens to God. He sought first God's kingdom and God's righteousness, and God also cared for his needs. It is truly a great blessing to be raised up in the family of such a God-man.

We remember that in our childhood our father once snatched from our hands the "lucky money" (i.e., money given to children as a Chinese New Year gift) given by our neighbors and returned it to them. Ever since then, there had never been any trace of worldly holiday celebration in our family. Beginning from the first child, our father would not allow birthday celebrations; so naturally, the other seven children never had birthday celebrations either. The New Jerusalem has a great and high wall for separation, and this wall was conspicuous in our family.

When we were young, whenever we made mistakes, we would never escape our father's spanking, but we also knew that in the same evening we would always be called to the bedside to pray and repent together to God, and he would even repent for having acted in the flesh. If we had offended others, we also had to apologize to them. These were not merely topics from *Lessons for New Believers*; he meant business with these matters.

During our school years, our father never demanded high academic achievements from us. What he cared the most was whether we regularly attended the church meetings, whether we participated in the cleaning service for the meeting hall, and whether we were in the brothers' or sisters' houses to pursue the Lord. This laid a solid foundation for our church life.

When we were considering getting married, he only cared about whether the persons we wanted to marry were Christians. Among the eight wedding meetings of his children, he could only attend five. He gave priority to serving the Lord and the church, but we deeply know that his intercessions for us before the Lord were never lacking. Whenever we had arguments with our spouses and asked for his intervention, he would have only one response—asking us to bring everything to the Lord together and repeatedly exhorting us to maintain a proper

meeting life and prayer life. Actually, the pattern of he and our mother loving and honoring each another and serving the Lord with one accord was the greatest enlightenment to us.

Later, some of us were doing business. Our father never asked if we had made profits or not: it seemed that the word "money" did not exist in his dictionary. Whenever he had a chance to visit the company, he would not ask anything but would only fellowship with the saints who worked in the company to enjoy the Lord with them. He only had the Lord in his heart and the Lord's sheep in his hands.

When we participated in the church service, what our father cared about the most was whether we were really coordinated with others to feed the Lord's sheep, and had a clear understanding of God's words. Sometimes we would debate with him about some interpretations of God's words, and his answers and illustrations were always so simple and easy to understand. We found out that our father was most energetic when we talked with him about God's words. If we were attending the same meeting with our father and he found out that we were late, later we would certainly be rebuked for being loose in our character.

After getting married, we lived separately from our parents, but as our parents grew older and needed more care, we had more opportunities to go back to be with them, and some of us were even able to live with them as their caretakers. Apparently it was we who were taking care of their daily living, but actually it was they who were shepherding us by their living. Our father's living was very disciplined. Whenever he was not shepherding the saints in small or big gatherings, he would be praying and reading the Bible in his room in intimate fellowship with the Lord. In Chinese there is a saying: "Three minutes of speaking on the podium require ten years of labor off the podium." While the brothers and sisters mostly saw him on the podium, we mostly saw his true labor off the podium.

After our mother had a stroke, she needed long-term care and was in and out of the emergency room many times. Every time when something happened to her, we were all very nervous, but our father would always just go to his room to pray. We would ask him, "Are you not worried?" He would always calmly reply, "Don't be afraid. It will be okay." Sure enough, his faith was always turned to sight, and time after time our mother would recover and be discharged

from the hospital. The last time when our mother was sent to the emergency room, all of us surrounded her by her bedside, and our father changed his tone this time and said to our mother, "Be at peace. You can rest now! We will meet again in eternity!" Our father's love for our mother was in resurrection.

To our father, there was no retirement in serving the Lord. He used the "running green man" in the flashing pedestrian signal as an illustration to remind the brothers and sisters that time is short, and he himself was one who seized every opportunity to redeem the time. Even when his body became weaker at his old age, he still would not miss the opportunity to supply the saints in every meeting. When he was accompanying the saints for morning prayer, he would always be in his seat five minutes early, ready to release his spirit. During the pandemic when the meetings were held online, he still would not be loose but would always dress properly and get himself ready before the camera ahead of time.

In recent years, our father often asked us to buy him pens and loose-leaf notebooks for him to record the details of his daily activities. At first, he would write something every hour; later, it would become every thirty minutes; still later, every ten minutes, and even every five minutes, until his pen and paper would not leave his hands. He would write even sitting in the car. Toward the end, his handwriting became less and less legible, and he could not even write in a straight line. On the last page of his notebook, the ink was almost running out, but he still used his trembling hand to complete his record. This was his way of seeking to overcome his degraded memory and diligently running to finish his course.

Dear father, you are now resting in the Cave of Machpelah—the entrance to the New Jerusalem, awaiting the out-resurrection as your reward. Thank you for shepherding us and our descendants by your pattern. We will press on with boldness in your footsteps of "never be weak and never retire."

Respectfully,

Samuel, Hosea, Julius, Lucy, Job, Jane, Jeremy, and Rainbow

Verses

- 1 Therefore having this ministry as we have been shown mercy, we do not lose heart.

 2 Corinthians 4:1
- 2 For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:12

3 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman, cutting straight the word of the truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

4 Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is near.

Philippians 4:5

5 Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among whom the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers to shepherd the church of God, which He obtained through His own blood.

Acts 20:28

6 I have fought the good fight; I have finished the course; I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, with which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will recompense me in that day, and not only me but also all those who have loved His appearing.

2 Timothy 4:7-8

7 He who overcomes, him I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall by no means go out anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

Revelation 3:12

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

We believe that the good shepherding and building work that the Lord has accomplished through Brother Liu Suey in his over seven decades of full-time service has been engraved in the hearts of numerous saints. Whoever is burdened to submit testimonies in the form of articles, photos, or videos for consolation and encouragement to all the saints, please feel free to do so at his memorial website (https://brothersueyliu.org). May the pattern of our brother's God-man living and work in the Body of Christ inspire many more to press on in one accord for the Lord's interests on earth in the building up of the Body of Christ and the preparation of the Lord's bride to hasten His coming.