

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying

Message Nine: The Rainbow - the Consummation of the Experience of the Christian Life and the Church Life

I. Overview :

The rainbow is a sign of God's faithfulness in keeping the covenant. Ezek.1 revealed that as a result of having a clear sky with the throne and of experiencing the man who has the appearance of electrum and a consuming fire, we will have the appearance of a rainbow. Being produced from three colors of blue and red and yellow, a rainbow signifies God's three divine attributes. The sinner was unable to fulfill the requirements of God's attributes; until Christ was through death and resurrection, He is our righteousness, holiness, and glory. The colors of the twelve layers of the foundations of the New Jerusalem have the appearance of a rainbow, surrounding the eternal God as His testimony. When this rainbow appears, God will have the fulfillment of the desire of His heart.

II. Truth and Enlightenment :

Day 1 --

A. What does it signify for the rainbow as a sign in the Scriptures?

The rainbow is first mentioned in the Scriptures as a sign that the very God of life and redemption is the One who establishes and keeps His covenant. The rainbow declares to us that God will keep His covenant for the sake of the earth. In order to assure mankind that there would never again be a flood to destroy them and the earth, God made a covenant with Noah, with his seed, and with every animal.

B. Why do we say our Christian life and church life being absolutely a covenant life?

We are under the covenant. I Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has taken you expect that which is common to man; and God is faithful, will not allow that you be tempted beyond what you are able, but will, with the temptation, also make the way out, that you may be able to endure it. This is a verse for every circumstance that you face.

Day 2 --

A. What does it reveal in Revelation 4:3 "...a rainbow around the throne...."?

The rainbow around His throne signifies that God is the covenanting God, the faithful God, who will keep His covenant while executing His judgment upon the earth. The rainbow indicates that God is faithful in His administration toward mankind. God is about to judge mankind, but in exercising His judgment, He will remember His covenant with Noah.

B. What does it mean for the rainbow being like an emerald in appearance?

An emerald has a grass-green color, which signifies the lives on earth. This indicates that while God executes His judgment upon the earth, He will still remember His covenant and spare some of the lives on earth as indicated in Genesis 9:11. An emerald, being a precious stone, is solid. God's reminder to keep His covenant is solid.

Day 3 --

A. Describe the main content of the New Testament.

The main content of the New Testament is that the Triune God dispenses Himself in His life and nature into His chosen and redeemed people, thereby making them His duplication so that they may express Him. We also become the New Jerusalem through the process of God's organic salvation; the ultimate consummation of God's organic salvation is the universal incorporation of the union and mingling of God with man.

B. In the vision in Ezek.1, how are things in the natural realm used to describe things in the spiritual realm?

In the vision in Ezek.1, the spiritual things revealed begin with the wind and end with the rainbow. As a result of having a clear sky with the throne and of experiencing a man who has the appearance of electrum and a consuming fire, we will have the appearance of a rainbow. The rainbow is the brightness around the man who is sitting on the throne. This brightness signifies the splendor and glory around the Lord.

Day 4 --

A. What is the significance of the primary colors of the rainbow being red, yellow, and blue?

The rainbow's primary colors are red, yellow, and blue; the throne looks like a blue sapphire stone, the electrum is yellow, the fire is red. These three colors combine to make a rainbow. The blue throne signifies the righteousness of God; fire signifies the sanctification; yellow signifies God's glory in the glowing electrum. God's righteousness, holiness, and glory, signified by the colors blue, red, and yellow.

B. How should we, as former sinners, bear the testimony of such a rainbow?

As sinners, we were unable to meet these requirements of God's attributes. The Lord Jesus came, died on the cross to satisfy the requirements of God's righteousness, holiness, and glory. He is now our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. We need to experience Christ in such a way that when others contact us, they can sense righteousness, holiness, and glory.

Day 5 --

A. Explain the meaning of sanctifying mentioned 1 Thes. 5:23.

Holiness is neither sinlessness nor perfection. Holy not only means sanctified, separated unto God, but also different, distinct, from everything that is common. Only God is different, distinct, from all things in His nature. Hence, He is holy; holiness is the distinct quality of His nature, as one of His attributes.

B. Expound what the significance of God's righteousness is.

Another attribute of God is righteousness. God is righteous as well as holy. Whereas holiness is related to God's inward nature, righteousness is related to God's outward acts, ways, actions, and activities. Everything God does is righteous. The righteousness of God is what God is in His action with respect to justice and righteousness.

Day 6 --

A. Expound the New Jerusalem has the appearance of a rainbow.

The foundation stones of the New Jerusalem are of twelve layers, with each layer being a different color. The twelve layers of the foundation stones have the appearance of a rainbow in color. This rainbow signifies that the city is built upon and secured by God's faithfulness in keeping His covenant.

B. How can we be full of the spiritual reality of the rainbow in the church today?

In the church life we need to allow God to work in us to order to make everything pure, just, and holy. God's holy fire must burn away everything that does not match God so that God's nature is manifested as bright gold in and through the humanity of the brothers and sisters. Then the church will be filled with God's righteousness, holiness, and glory.

III. Conclusion :

As we have seen according to God's plan, the spiritual things revealed in Ezek.1 begin with the wind and consummate with the rainbow. The rainbow is a sign of God's faithfulness in keeping the covenant, and the brightness around the Man sitting on the throne. A rainbow is produced from the combining of three basic colors--blue, red, and yellow. Blue signifies God's righteousness; red, the color of fire, signifies God's holiness; and yellow, the color of electrum, signifies God's glory. Christ died on the cross and resurrected for us to satisfy the requirements of God's three attributes, moreover to make us becoming God's righteousness, holiness, and glory. The New Jerusalem with the colors of the twelve layers of the foundations, has the appearance of a rainbow as His testimony. Oh, how we need to have the transforming work of that Spirit.