

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying

Message Seven : Practicing the Church Life under the Ministry of Christ as the Minister of the True, the Heavenly, Tabernacle

I. Overview :

The ascended Christ is a Minister of the true tabernacle, who is now in the heavens ministering to us the heavenly life and sustaining us to live a heavenly life. Whatever Christ carries out as the heavenly Minister, He applies to us as the Spirit, and is serving God's people with the bequests, the blessings, of the New Testament. In the Epistle to the Hebrews, various aspects of the church are revealed such as a living composition of the many sons of God, a corporate partnership with Christ, God's Sabbath rest, the heavenly New Jerusalem, the unshakable kingdom of God. Hebrews 13 speaks of the practice of the church life, for example, brotherly love, hospitality, holding on to the Christ, enjoying the heavenly Christ, coming outside the camp to follow the suffering Jesus, offering up a sacrifice of praise to God.

II. Truth and Enlightenment :

Day 1 --

A. How is the Christ revealed in Hebrews?

In Hebrews is the present Christ who is now in the heavens as our Minister and High Priest, ministering to us the heavenly life, Grace, authority, and power, and sustaining us to live a heavenly life on earth. He is the Christ now, the Christ today, and the Christ on the throne.

B. How does Christ apply to us whatever He carries out as the heavenly Minister?

Whatever Christ carries out as the heavenly Minister, He applies to us as the Spirit. Whatever He ministers is transmitted into our spirit. Because the Lord in the heavens and the Spirit in our spirit are one, there is a continual transmission between the heavens and our spirit so that whatever takes place there is immediately applied here.

Day 2 --

A. How does Christ serve us with the bequests of the New Testament?

As our heavenly Minister with a more excellent ministry, Christ is carrying out the better covenant. He does this by making the facts of the new covenant effective. Every fact in the new covenant is made effective by the heavenly Minister with His more excellent ministry.

B. Explain that the church is a corporate composition of the brothers of the firstborn Son of God?

The only begotten Son of God had divinity without humanity. Although He had the divine nature, He did not have the human nature. But the firstborn Son of God has both the divine nature and the human nature. The brothers are not the brothers of the only begotten but the brothers of the firstborn Son of God. We are the same as the Firstborn. He is divine and human, and we are human and divine. The firstborn Son has humanity as well as divinity and all of His brothers are the same as He is.

Day 3 --

A. Why does God want to have a mass reproduction of that standard model?

First, His only begotten Son passed through the process and entered into glory, having been fully perfected to be the standard model, the firstborn Son of God, for God's expression. Since the time of Christ's Ascension, God has been working to have a mass reproduction of that standard model, His firstborn Son then to make every one of us the same as the firstborn Son.

B. What is the real significance of the church?

The church has two natures, which are human nature and the divine. The church has two lives. These lives are not only combined but are also mingled together. The church is an organism with two natures and with two lives combined and mingled together. The church is such an organism. It is the Body of Christ.

Day 4 --

A. Why do we say that the church is a corporate partnership with Christ?

God has a great operation in the universe. The goal of this operation is to accomplish a glorious expression. We need to see that God's operation in the whole universe is to accomplish a glorious expression of Himself. The Son of God was appointed to accomplish God's plan. He has been appointed to run this corporation. He was appointed to this office in eternity past.

B. Explain that God has only one corporation in the universe, Christ & the Church.

God has the biggest corporation in the universe. The name of this corporation is "Christ and the Church." We are the partners in this corporation. In the entire universe God has only one corporation -- "Christ and the Church" -- and this corporation has millions of angels to be the serving ones. The Jews should no longer boast in the angels; the angels are our servants.

Day 5 --

A. Why is the proper church life God's Sabbath?

What is this Sabbath? It is the proper church life. We must enter into the church life so that God may be expressed and represented on earth today, be satisfied, and find rest. When this happens, God and we shall have our Sabbath rest. If we do not get into the proper church life, we shall miss the rest.

B. Why is it in the church that God is satisfied?

There is only one situation that can satisfy God: a situation in which a group of people has been gained by Him to be His expression and representation. We have been destined and ordained to express and represent Him. Therefore, God's satisfaction and rest are in the church.

Day 6 --

A. How to live a true and steadfast church life?

We must hold on to the unchangeable Christ and not be carried away with various strange teachings used by Satan to cause dissension and even division in the church. Because of the dissension and division caused by strange teachings, the apostle, in 1 Tim. 1:3, charged people not to teach different things.

B. How do we offer up through Christ a sacrifice of praise to God continually?

In the church We should praise God the Father through Christ. Then He and we, we and He, praise the Father together in the mingled spirit. Christ, as the life-giving Spirit, praises the Father in our spirit, and we, by our spirit, praise the Father in His Spirit. This is the best and highest sacrifice that we can offer to God through Him.

III. Conclusion :

Christ, as a Minister of the true tabernacle, transmits the heavenly life, grace, and the bequests of the new testament into us by the Spirit, then makes us to live a heavenly life on earth. How we need to know what is He doing? What are those riches He wants to dispense into us? How do we cooperate with Him? It unveils, in Hebrews, that the church is a corporate partnership with Christ. As Christ's partners, we share in His anointing, inheriting not only salvation but also all things with Him, and cooperate with Him to reach the goal of His economy. Entering within the veil enables us to go outside the camp. The more we enjoy the heavenly Christ, the more we may come outside the camp of religion, following the suffering Jesus. The more we enter within the veil, infusing by His resurrection power to be energized, the more we will go outside the camp, taking the narrow pathway of the cross on earth.