

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying
Message One : Seeing God's Eternal Purpose concerning the Church and
Enlightening All concerning the Economy of the Mystery Hidden in God

I. Overview :

In order to participate in the recovery of the church, we need to see God's eternal purpose concerning the church. The determined will of God became the purpose of God to gain the church. Ephesians 3:10-11 reveals that the existence of the church is according to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus. The existence of the universe is also according to God's eternal purpose to have the church. God's intention concerning the church is threefold: to express Himself through the sonship, to make His multifarious wisdom known to the enemy, and to head up all things In Christ. Today we must announce the gospel concerning the mystery hidden in God In order to enlighten all so that they may see what is the economy of the mystery hidden in God.

II. Truth and Enlightenment :

Day 1 --

A. Explain what the word God's "purpose" mean.

In Ephesians the word purpose is used three times, twice as a noun and once as a verb. God is purposeful, and He has a purpose. A purpose is a strong intend to do something or to gain something. The eternal economy of God is of God's determined intent to have the church. With a definite and strong determination. God intends to have the church.

B. Explain what the God's will is and whose relationship with God's purpose.

Three times in Ephesians 1 Paul speaks of God's will: the good pleasure of His will, the mystery of His will, and the counsel of His will. God has an economy because in eternity God had a will which was hidden in Him, so it was a mystery. God's eternal, determined intent is to have something. This intent, this purpose, plan, is of God's will, which is the source, and the purpose is the outcome.

Day 2 --

A. What are the three different beginnings that we need to know?

John 1:1 says, "In the beginning was the Word." The beginning here is the beginning in eternity. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." In this verse the beginning denotes the time of creation. Finally, the beginning also refers to the start of the church life. Therefore, to go back to the beginning is to go back to the beginning in eternity, to the beginning in God's creation, or to the beginning of the church.

B. How does Ephesians 3:10-11 unveil the church?

Ephesians 3:10-11 unveils the fact that the existence of the church is according to eternal purpose of God which He made in Christ. In eternity past and for eternity to come, God planned and purposed to have a church in Christ and for Christ. The church is in this age and throughout this age, yet it is from eternity past and for eternity future and it is the centre, the subject of God's eternal plan.

Day 3 --

A. How is the existence of the universe according to God's purpose?

Heaven, earth, millions of items, and the human race are all according to God's purposed desire. Eventually, all these things will issue in God's desire. Everything that takes place on earth is for this purpose. We, the sons of God, in whom God's grace abounds, are the focal point of His purpose, and everything is working for us.

B. Why's that God must be in 3 persons for church's producing and existence?

The three persons of the Godhead are for the divine purpose of having a church to fulfill God's eternal plan. God the Father is the source of the heavenly electricity, God the Son is the current, and God the Spirit is the application. Thus, God Himself can be dispensed into us and applied so that the church may be produced and exist.

Day 4 --

A. What are the three main items of God's purpose for the church?

The first is that the church must have the full sonship. The second is that God may show His wisdom to the enemy through the church. Third, God's purpose is to head up all things in Christ through the church. This utterance is brief, clear, effective, and full. These are the three main items of God's purpose concerning the church.

B. Show from the view of the Bible what a mystery is?

According to common understand, a mystery is something hidden and generally unknown to people. However in the Bible a mystery not only refers to things that are incomprehensible and unknown to men but also to things that are hidden in God's heart. It is impossible for man to touch God's purpose and plan hidden in His heart. Hence, it is a mystery.

Day 5 --

A. How are God's mystery seen in Zechariah 12:1 and Ephesians 3:9?

Zechariah 12:1 says that the Lord stretched forth the heavens, laid the foundations of the earth, and formed the spirit of man within him. This indicates that the heavens are for the earth, that the earth is for man, and that man with the human spirit is for God. God's marvelous creation, focused on man, is for the purpose of producing the church. Therefore, Ephesians 3:9 speaks of the mystery hidden in God, who created all things.

B. What are the eternal economy of God that we need to see?

We need to see the eternal economy of God, which is God's eternal intention with His heart's desire to dispense Himself in His Divine Trinity as the Father in the Son by the Spirit into His chosen people to be their life and nature that they may be the same as He is for His fullness, His expression.

Day 6 --

A. How to use Col. 2:2 and Eph. 3:4 to explain the two mysteries in the universe?

According to Eph. 3:4 the church has a particular title -- the mystery of Christ. God is a mystery. He is real, living, and almighty, but invisible. No one has ever seen God, and therefore God is a mystery. This mysterious God is embodied in Christ; hence, Christ is the mystery of God. This is what Paul reveals to us in Col. 2:2.

B. What is the highest gospel and how should we preach it?

The highest gospel is the gospel of Christ with the church. Paul preached the divine economy as the very gospel. Ephesians 3:8 reveals the gospel of the unsearchable riches of Christ, while verse 9 reveals the gospel of the economy of the mystery hidden in God throughout

the ages. We must realize, experience, and preach this economy to the new ones as the highest standard of the gospel.

III. Conclusion :

We must see that the church is the eternal purpose of God and the mystery of Christ, of which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, to enlighten all that they may see. How much we can enlighten others, depending on how much we have seen. The mystery not only refers to things that are hidden and unknown to people but also to things that are hidden in God's heart. This requires us with a spirit of wisdom and revelation, as well as the ministry of the age to unveil the mysterious things to us. Today, we preach the gospel not only of the unsearchable riches of Christ, but also of the church that what the economy of the mystery being hidden in God. This is the highest gospel of Christ with the church.