

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying**

### **Message Five : The Recovery of the Church Life**

#### **I. Overview :**

Before the Lord Jesus comes back, He will fully recover the proper church life. The church life is Christ lived out through us in a corporate way. The way to practice the church life is to put ourselves and everything on the cross and take Christ as life; then we will be permeated and saturated by Christ and with Christ. The genuine experience of Christ always issues in and requires the church life. The church life is a life of being headed up under the unique headship of Christ, the continuation of the divine glorification, the corporate expression of Christ; the church life must be filled with the aroma and flavor of Christ and with the character of God.

#### **II. Truth and Enlightenment :**

Day 1 --

A. Why's said "the Lord will fully recover the proper church life before He's back"?

Many Christian teachers do not believe that we can have the church life in this age. However, in this present age, before His coming back, the Lord must have the church life to shame the enemy. For centuries Satan, the enemy of God, has been challenging Christ concerning the church. The local churches are testifying that it is possible to have the church life in this age; they are in the church life in a practical way.

B. How to prove that the Lord's word is faithful and will be fulfilled?

Concerning the recovery of the church life, the Lord Jesus cannot be defeated. No matter what Satan does to damage the church, the Lord Jesus will return, and His church will be waiting for Him. It would be a shame to the Lord Jesus to come back without having a church in Jerusalem ready for Him. The Lord will not suffer such a shame. Today the Lord's recovery has spread to Jerusalem.

Day 2 --

A. Why's said, "The church life is Christ lived out by us in a corporate way."?

Christian life is not a religious life; it is a life that is Christ Himself lived out through us. We must take Christ as life and live by Him day by day. We need to love Him and be willing to be regulated, governed, and ruled by Him. You live Christ and I live Christ, and this very Christ unites us together in oneness. Then together we have the corporate life of Christ expressed.

B. Which are the three ways to practice the church life?

We all have to see that the practice of the church life is not by bringing everyone into agreement with one another through discussions, talks, and negotiations with certain terms or conditions. Rather, the way to practice the church life is to put everyone and everything on the cross and to have everyone take Christ as life. Then we will be permeated and saturated by Christ and with Christ.

Day 3 --

A. Why must we go to the cross and take care of Christ for having the church life?

This is what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:2 that he did not determine to know anything among them except Jesus Christ and this One crucified. The church life is a transformed life, not

a natural life. It is Christ Himself, not as an objective doctrine but as the subjective Spirit living within us.

B. How does the genuine experience of Christ always issue in the church life?

The more you experience Christ, the more something within requires that you live in the proper church life. Satan is subtle. Throughout the centuries he has concealed the real experience of Christ, making Christ altogether objective, an object of human belief and worship. But once we experience Christ in a genuine and living way, He will require us to get into the church life.

Day 4 --

A. How is the church as a pioneer taking the lead to be headed up?

Today we in the church are taking the lead to be headed up in Christ. If we are not willing to be headed up in the church life, we shall delay the heading up of all things. When the church takes the lead to be headed up in Christ, God has a way to head up all other things. The church as a pioneer is taking the lead to be headed up. The

B. Explain the meaning of the fellowship of the Son of God.

This fellowship involves not only the oneness between us and the Triune God, but also the oneness among all the believers. Furthermore, it implies our enjoyment of the Triune God, and also the enjoyment which the believers have with one another. In this fellowship we enjoy the Triune God, and the Triune God enjoys us. Moreover, among all the believers have a mutual enjoyment.

Day 5 --

A. In the New Testament, how does fellowship describe both the flowing between us and the Lord and between us and one another?

First John 1:3 says, "That which we have seen and heard we report also to you that you also may have fellowship with us, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ." In 1 John, there is life first, then fellowship. There is a flow, a current, vertically between us and the Father and the Son and horizontally between us and other believers.

B. Describe how this flow crosses space and time after the day of Pentecost.

Since the day of Pentecost a current has been flowing horizontally among the believers. This flow crosses space and time. As far as time is concerned, this fellowship has been flowing from generation to generation. As far as space is concerned, this fellowship is worldwide; it flows among believers throughout the globe. Because we are in this one flow, we cannot be separated by space.

Day 6 --

A. How is the church life a continuation of the divine glorification?

The church life is actually the multiplication, the propagation, of Christ. This kind of church life is the divine glorification. Whatever the church does in the matter of fruit-bearing is a continuation of the divine glorification. As the church spreads, this spreading is the fruit-bearing. The number of saints in the Lord's recovery in Europe has increased. This increase is a matter of fruit-bearing, and fruit-bearing is the divine glorification.

B. Why is the key to the church life the spirit of the mind?

If we live according to the spirit of the mind, there will be in the church life the expression of the divine character. Then we shall be a corporate people with the flavor of Christ and the expression of God. The church life must be filled with the aroma and flavor of Christ and

with the character of God. Such a living is the living of the Triune God through our humanity. For centuries, God has been longing for such a church life.

### **III. Conclusion :**

Nothing touches the Lord's heart as much as the recovery of the church life. God's enemy, Satan, through many levels of class, worldly, idol, and organisation, made it impossible for the saints to practice the meetings and services according to the Bible. The organic functions within the saints were replaced, annulled to make many Christian teachers think that it is impossible to have the church life in this age. The church in the Lord's recovery is recovering the proper church life; this kind of living is to live out Christ in a corporate way, issuing in experience of Christ, being headed up under the unique headship, realizing it by fellowship, the continuation of the divine glorification, the corporate expression of Christ.