

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying

Message Sixteen : The God of Blessing and the Blessing of God

I. Overview :

Through His shepherding, the Lord brings us into the enjoyment of His blessing and causes us to become a source of blessing. God is a God of blessing, and God's blessing promised to Abraham consists of the blessings of creation and redemption. We need to treasure God's blessing, especially New Testament blessings, and God's blessing is with the priesthood and the kingship. In Numbers 6, the Divine Trinity is revealed in the threefold blessing of Jehovah and Psalm 133 reveals that we must practice the oneness to bring in God's blessing. The Bible uses the word cup to indicate the blessing, the cup of blessing, in which God and all that is of Him are our portion.

II. Truth and Enlightenment :

Day 1 --

A. How does God cause us to become a source of blessing?

In Ezekiel 34:26 the Lord promised not only that His people would receive His blessing but also that He would make them a blessing. If there is the peace which is the peace of the covenant, the Lord's blessing will follow. First, we ourselves will enjoy the Lord's blessing, and then He will cause us to become a source of blessing to others so that they may be supplied.

B. What things does the blessing in Genesis 12 consist of?

The blessing consists of the blessings of God's creation and redemption, including all that God wants to give man—God Himself and all that He has in this age and in the age to come. This blessing would come to all the nations through Abraham's seed, who is Christ. God's blessing to Abraham, which made him a blessing to others, implies the tents of Shem.

Day 2 --

A. Why do we say that all the work is dependent on God's blessing?

We, who serve God sooner or later, must be brought to the point of expecting God's blessing. Without God's blessing, our faithfulness, diligence, faith, and prayers will be to no avail. However, if we have God's blessing, there will be fruit even if we seem to be wrong or hopeless. It is not a matter of how many loaves we have in our hand, but whether or not God has blessed them.

B. How do we learn about not to hinder God's blessing?

Some habits force God to withhold His blessing, and these must be eliminated. Some temperaments keep God from blessing, and these must be done away with. We must learn to believe in God's blessing, rely on it, and eliminate the barriers that prevent us from receiving it. The normal life of a Christian is a life of blessing; if I do not receive blessing, that perhaps I am the problem.

Day 3 --

A. What are the New Testament blessings? Explain them.

The first item of the blessings of the New Testament is regeneration. The second blessing is the divine life and the divine nature. The indwelling Spirit is another New Testament blessing. Transformation, which is the metabolic change of our being, is the fourth blessing of the New Testament. Our natural being is being transformed into a divine being not by outward change but by an inward, metabolic change by the divine life. Another New Testament blessing is that we human beings can be mingled with God and can be joined to Him as one. Finally, we will be like God and have the same image as God to enter into God's glory.

B. How can we come to people with the fullness of the blessing of Christ?

If we have the reality of Christ, we shall pour ourselves out as an expression of our love toward the needy saints. Paul was very wise, giving us a picture of the proper practice of the church life in experience, not in doctrine. With Paul we see the experience of all the riches of Christ. When he came to people with the fullness of the blessing of Christ, it meant that he came to them ministering all the riches of Christ.

Day 4 --

A. What are the threefold blessings in Numbers 6?

Numbers 6:23-27 says, "Thus you shall bless the children of Israel; you shall say to them, Jehovah bless you and keep you; Jehovah make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; Jehovah lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace..." Jehovah charged the priests to bless His people in His name in a threefold way. This was the threefold blessing of Jehovah the Triune God to His people.

B. Explain that the unique blessing in the whole universe is God Himself.

The unique blessing in the whole universe is God Himself. Anything besides God is vanity. Only God Himself is real. Only He is the blessing to us. If we gained the entire universe yet missed God, we would be the most pitiful persons. God Himself is our blessing, and this blessing comes to us through His Divine Trinity.

Day 5 --

A. Explain that the one accord is the master key to every blessing.

Without the one accord all our doings will be in vain. You have to see what the landmark was of the one hundred twenty in the book of Acts. The landmark was the one accord. If you really want to practice the proper way to preach the gospel, you need the one accord. Without this key, no door can be opened. The one accord is the master key to every blessing in the New Testament.

B. How to reach the real one accord?

Philippians tells us that this matter starts from our spirit, yet we must realize that we are not persons of spirit only. We are persons also of the mind, will, purpose, soul, and heart. For us to be in the same one spirit with the same one soul, one mind, and one will is to have the one accord.

Day 6 --

A. Why do we say that the greatest blessing is Triune God?

In the gospel we have received not only the blessing of forgiveness, washing, and cleansing; even more, we have received the greatest blessing, which is the Triune God—the Father, Son, and Spirit—as the processed, all-inclusive life-giving Spirit dwelling in us in a most subjective way for our enjoyment. Oh, what a blessing that we can enjoy such an all-inclusive One as our daily portion!

B. What is the blessing that God promised to Abraham for all the nations?

The Spirit is the blessing that God promised to Abraham for all the nations and that has been received by the believers through faith in Christ. The Spirit is the compound Spirit mentioned in Gal. 3:5, and actually is God Himself processed in His Trinity through incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, that we may receive Him as our life and our everything. This is the focus of the gospel of God.

III. Conclusion :

We need to see that God is a God of blessing, to treasure God's blessing, and even to look up to God's blessing. Brother Watchman Née said that we lived on the earth, not merely for the right things, but for the things which God will bless. David did something wrong; Abraham also made mistakes; Isaac seemed of no much use; Jacob was very cunning; yet God blessed them all. So it is not a matter of how mistaken we have made, but whether God has blessed it or not. We should be a person whom God can bless. It is no use as long as God does not bless though you may fight, or you may be right. The future of all work is in God's blessing; brothers, we must learn to live in the blessing of God.