

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying
Message One : God Training His People to worship and
Partake of Him and to Live a Holy, Clean, and Rejoicing Life

I. Overview :

The entire book of Leviticus is a record of God's speaking in the tabernacle, which is a building. God trained His people to worship and partake of Him through the offerings and the priesthood. Christ is the reality of the offerings; we need to experience Christ as the reality of the offerings. God trained His people to live a holy, clean, and rejoicing life; because God is holy, charging His people to live according to His holiness. We need to be cleansed from the human impurity by birth, cleansed from leprosy, and cleansed from all unclean discharges from the human being. In order to live a rejoicing life, we have to enjoy God as weekly enjoyment, monthly enjoyment, seven annual feasts, the Sabbath year, and the jubilee. All these items typify the New Testament enjoyment.

II. Truth and Enlightenment :

Day 1 --

A. How does God speak in the books of Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus?

In Genesis God was speaking in the heavens. At times He came to earth for a visit, but then He returned to the heavens. In Exodus God was on Mount Sinai to do a work to build up His habitation on earth. In Leviticus God is in the tabernacle, in the Tent of Meeting. In Genesis God was in the heavens. In Exodus God came down to stay on Mount Sinai to do a work to build up His habitation on earth. In the last chapter of Exodus, the tabernacle was erected, and God came into the tabernacle to dwell in it. In Leviticus God is in the tabernacle, and speaks in the Tent of Meeting.

B. How is the most precious in the church God's speaking?

The preciousness of the tabernacle was not the gold in it. There was more gold in Egypt than in the tabernacle. The preciousness of the tabernacle was God's speaking. The same is true of the church today. The preciousness of the church is God's speaking; in the church we have God's speaking, which is a treasure to us.

Day 2 --

A. Explain the type and meaning of the burnt offering.

The burnt offering typifies Christ as God's pleasure and satisfaction. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He made God happy and satisfied Him because He always did God's will and sought His glory. Whatever God wanted, Christ did. Therefore, He pleased God and satisfied Him. As the fulfillment of the type of the burnt offering, Christ is God's food. Christ has been "burned" to feed God and satisfy Him.

B. Explain the drinking's type and meaning. offering.

In the Old Testament a drink offering was poured out on one of the basic offerings, which are types of various aspects of what Christ is to God on our

behalf. The drink offering typifies Christ as the One poured out as real wine before God for His satisfaction. Furthermore, the drink offering typifies not only Christ Himself, but also the Christ who saturates us with Himself as heavenly wine until He and we become one to be poured out for God's enjoyment and satisfaction.

Day 3 --

A. What are the functions of Christ as the tabernacle and offerings?

As the tabernacle, He has brought God to us. As the offerings, He is now bringing us all to God. Christ's being the tabernacle is a matter of incarnation. Christ's being the offerings is a matter of crucifixion and resurrection. Christ came in incarnation and He went through crucifixion and resurrection. This is the two-way traffic that brings God to us and brings us to God, making God one with us and us one with God.

B. How to say Christ being the reality and content of the universe?

Jesus Christ is both God and man. As the God-man, He is the tabernacle to be the dwelling place for God and man. He is also the offerings for man to enter into God. This One, who is both the tabernacle and the offerings, is the reality and content of the universe. If there is no Christ, the whole universe is empty, lacking of the reality and content.

Day 4 --

A. Explain the meaning of the holiness and its significance.

Leviticus 18-20 emphasised that God wanted His people to live a holy life, because He is holy. 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. Hence, He is holy; holiness is His nature.

B. How does God make us to be holy?

The way God makes us holy is to impart Himself, the Holy One, into us so that our whole being may be permeated and saturated with His holy nature. For us, God's chosen ones, to be holy is to partake of His divine nature and to have our whole being holy, like God Himself in His nature and in His character.

Day 5 --

A. How to be cleansed from all unclean discharges in Lev. 15?

Leviticus 15 shows that we need to be cleansed from all unclean discharges from the human being. Anything discharged out of us, including our words, is unclean. This is why we need the cross of Christ to end our old life, and we need the resurrection of Christ to have a new beginning. Also we need the water of life, which is the washing, cleansing Spirit of life embodied in the word.

B. How does God want His people to live a rejoicing life?

The weekly Sabbath was the principal denotation of all the annual feasts. All the annual feasts were a Sabbath, which was for God's redeemed people to rest with God and with one another. There were not only weekly and monthly feasts but also annual feasts. In our Christian life we need a weekly, monthly, and annual enjoyment of Christ.

Day 6 --

A. What kind of people, as New Testament believers, should we be?

As New Testament believers, we should be a holy people, a clean people, and a happy people who are always rejoicing. In God's history among His people, He trained them to worship and partake of Him and to live a holy, clean, and rejoicing life. Who could invent all these most wonderful feasts, but God? We have also seen what kind of God our God is.

B. Why do we all have to be "hallelujah hallelujah people"?

We all have to be "hallelujah people," who rejoice in the Lord always. Singing a hymn fills us with joy and helps us to enjoy Christ as our rest. A rejoicing life is a life of enjoying God in Christ as everything; this enjoyment makes us happy and causes us to exult all the day. The Christian life should be a rejoicing life.

III. Conclusion :

Exodus 25:8 revealed that Jehovah wanted His chosen people to make a sanctuary for Him to let Him dwell in their midst. The situation of them was affected by the cultures of the Egypt and Canaan. In order to let God dwell in their midst, they have to be trained. In Leviticus God spoke in the Tent of Meeting, which was training them how to worship and partake of Him through the offerings and the priesthood. They also need to be trained to live a holy, clean, and rejoicing life. Especially in the worshipping God, we have to know that Christ is the reality of all offerings by our entering into them, applying them, and presenting them properly through the priests according to the ordinances concerning offerings. All of these need learning and to be trained.