

## Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day prophesying

### Message Four: The Heart and Spirit of a Leading One

#### I. Overview:

God's promise to His chosen ones was that He would give them a new heart and a new spirit. We all need a new start to maintain the newness of our heart and our spirit. A thoroughly repentant heart will become a softened, transformed, and renewed heart. As a leading one, he must have an enlarged heart, with which being able to embrace all believers. We need a pure heart in order to see God, and we need a spirit that is emptied in order to receive the kingdom of the heavens. We need to be strengthened into our regenerated spirit so that Christ may make His home in our hearts. We need to be in our spirit in order to see the visions in the book of Revelation. A renewed, purified heart and a renewed, strengthened spirit make God have a way, and the recovery be prevailing.

#### II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. How does the Lord renew our heart and enliven our spirit?

Our heart is our loving organ, and our spirit is our receiving organ. While we are in a fallen or backslidden state, our heart toward the Lord is stony and hard, and our spirit is deadened. When the Lord saves us or revives us, He renews our heart, making our stony heart a heart of flesh. Furthermore, He enlivens and renews our spirit with His divine life.

B. Why does a thorough repenting heart become a new heart?

When we repent, something marvelous happens in our heart. The wonderful God gets into us and transforms our heart. We may not have any consciousness that God is doing this marvelous work, but soon after we repent to Him, we discover that our heart is changed. It was previously hardened, but after we repent, we find that it has been softened.

Day 2 —

A. Explain God gave Solomon largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore.

1 Kings 4:29 says, "And God gave Solomon wisdom and very much understanding and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the seashore." The largeness of heart is like the sand on the seashore; a Chinese proverb speaks of the heart being as large as the capacity of the sea, but here the heart is as large as the sand on the seashore. The seashore encloses the sea. The Scriptures say that God has set the sand as a boundary for the sea; Solomon's heart was larger than the sea.

B. Why is a person narrow, it is easy for him to be proud and foolish?

We have to know that all wise ones have large hearts, and everyone with a narrow heart is a foolish person. If you enlarge your heart, you will become the wisest person. You cannot separate a large heart from wisdom and prudence. Pride is an expression of foolishness. But from where does pride come? It comes from being narrow. When a person is narrow and his heart is narrow, it is easy for him to be proud.

Day 3 —

A. How would we be wise as walking and conducting in the church life?

If you would only enlarge your heart, immediately you would become a person of wisdom. So you must learn to enlarge your heart in all things. Whether in learning the truth, in seeking to be spiritual, in contacting the brothers and sisters, in discerning others, or in managing affairs, we must learn to be

large. Whenever we touch the affairs of the church and whenever we touch any spiritual matter, we have to learn to be large in our heart. Largeness can solve many problems.

B. In what things could we learn to enlarge our heart?

In order to enlarge our own heart, we need the Lord's abundant grace. Being able to forgive others is a matter that has to do with the largeness of heart. The ability to bless the ones who curse us also has to do with a large heart. Your heart must be so large that whenever others offend you, you can forgive them as soon as they confess to you. Though others may persecute you and inflict harm on you, you can still love them. To be able to forgive others when they have offended you is something that has to do with a large heart.

Day 4 —

A. How do we have a proper heart, which is a new heart?

John the Baptist began to preach the gospel by calling men to repent in their heart. A good heart is a repenting, renewed, softened heart. When we repent, God comes in to touch our heart. We need to repent in order to have a new heart. God does not take away our old heart and replace it with a new one but transforms our old heart into a new one.

B. How do we have a proper spirit, which is a new spirit?

A proper spirit is a regenerated spirit. We need to believe into the Lord Jesus so that our spirit will be reborn to become a new spirit. He does not take away our old spirit and replace it with a new one. Instead, when we believe into the Lord, God as the Spirit comes into our spirit to beget our spirit by bringing His life element into our spirit. In this way, our old spirit becomes a new spirit.

Day 5 —

A. What does to be poor in spirit differ from to have a poor spirit?

To be poor in spirit does not mean to have a poor spirit but to not be filled with things other than God. We need a pure heart in order to see God, and we need a spirit that is emptied in order to receive the kingdom of the heavens. We need to be emptied in our spirit so that our spirit will have more capacity for God to come in.

B. What does it mean to be pure in heart? How to apply in our experience?

To be pure in heart is to be single in our goal and aim. Our goal should be God alone. If we are aiming at anything other than God, our heart is not pure but complicated. We need to be simplified in our heart by seeking after nothing but God. For our Christian walk, we need to be pure in our heart, not having any goal besides God.

Day 6 —

A. What is the purpose of being strengthened into the inner man and Christ making His home in our heart?

Ephesians 3:16-17 speaks of being strengthened into the inner man and Christ making His home in our heart. Being strengthened into our spirit and Christ making His home in our heart are for the church. When we are strengthened through the Spirit into our spirit and when Christ makes His home in our heart, God is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think concerning the church life.

B. Describe the four visions John saw, when he was in spirit.

The apostle John was in spirit when he saw each of these four visions. In 1:10-12 John saw seven golden lampstands. He saw the second major vision in 4:2, concerning the destiny of the world. In 17:3 was the the third major vision—Babylon. In 21 & 22 was the New Jerusalem, the fourth and final major vision. Being in spirit is the way to see the churches.

**III. Conclusion:**

As a leading one in the Lord's recovery, he must have a proper heart and spirit. When the Lord saves us or revives us, He renews our heart, making our heart soft and loving toward Him; He enlivens and renews our spirit with His divine life. So we can love the Lord and desire Him with our renewed heart, and contact Him by exercising our renewed spirit. We can maintain the newness of our spirit by serving in newness of spirit and by exercising our spirit of faith. We need to be pure in heart and poor in spirit; to be pure in heart is to be single in our goal and aim. To know the church is not outward but absolutely inward; that the highways to Zion are in our heart means that we need to take the way of the church internally, not merely externally. When we are strengthened through the Spirit into our spirit and when Christ makes His home in our heart, God is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think concerning the church life; if all the saints pray daily for this, the glorious church life will spread and be prevailing throughout the United States and the whole world.