

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying

Message Eleven: The Jubilee (2)

I. Overview:

Luke 4:18 shows the freedoms and blessings of the jubilee. The word jubilee means a time of shouting or the trumpeting of the ram's horn, which signifies the proclaiming of liberty in the New Testament jubilee to all the sinners that they may return to God and God's family. Our freedom comes from our enjoyment of God; Paul's cry in Romans 7 is answered in Romans 8:2, which says that the law of the Spirit of life has freed us in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death; this is the freedom of Christ as the jubilee. Christians should not live by the power of his will but by the power of the inner law; we can cooperate with the inner law by exercising our spirit and of our first love for the Lord to switch on this law. The Christian life should be a life full of joy and praises, and live out the tone of an overcoming living; this is today's ministers and witnesses.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Expound as we have God, we have the jubilee, everything to our satisfaction.

We were apart from Christ, having no hope and without God in the world. Today, however, we are in Christ, having God, and we may enjoy God as our possession. When we have God, we have the jubilee; when we have God, everything is to our satisfaction. Our preaching of the gospel is our blowing of the trumpet of redemption to proclaim to the world that now is the well- acceptable year of jubilee.

B. Explain the possession was not returned to its original owner but its owner returned to his possession in the year of jubilee.

In the year of jubilee all those who had lost their possession were returned to it. The possession was not returned to its original owner; it was the owner who was returned to his possession. Therefore, in the year of jubilee we do not have our possession restored to us; rather, we are returned to our possession. Primarily, God is not restored to us; we are returned to God. The greatest blessing in the year of jubilee is that we are returned to God as our possession.

Day 2 —

A. What is the real freedom?

When the year of jubilee comes, we not only are returned to God as our possession, but also obtain freedom and are released from the bondage of slavery. Today many people talk about freedom, but if man doesn't enjoy God, he can't have real freedom. The biblical principle is that we must first be returned to God before we can have freedom. If we are not returned to God, we will not have true freedom.

B. Explain experientially of everything in our life being a bondage to us.

Everything in our life can be a bondage to us, and we can be slaves under any matter. The Chinese expression for miser refers to one who is a slave of money. The jubilee is a matter of possession and also of freedom. The jubilee is to return those who are poor and who have lost God back to God as their possession, and it is also to proclaim release.

Day 3 —

A. Expound the word of John 8:36.

John 8:36 says that if the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed. If we want to be free, do not commit sin, then we must enjoy the Son of God. The Son of God today is the life-giving Spirit. This life-giving Spirit is the Spirit of life, who is in us as the law of the Spirit of life. The law of the Spirit of life releases us from the law of sin.

B. Why is it useless to struggle and strive and only enjoy God is the effective way?

The year of jubilee is for us to be returned to God from the authority of Satan and freed from the slavery of sin. Hence, it is useless to struggle and strive. The only effective way for us is to believe the gospel and enjoy God. We must learn to contact this true and living Lord to enjoy Him. In this way He becomes our release within us and our true freedom.

Day 4 —

A. Explain what the effectiveness of the law of the Spirit of life is.

The law that has freed us from the law of sin is of this Spirit of life. It is this law, not God nor the Spirit, that works in us to deliver us from the working of the law of sin in our flesh and to enable us to know God and gain God and thereby live Him out. This law is the spontaneous power of the Spirit of life. Such a spontaneous law works automatically under the condition that fulfills its requirements.

B. How can we realize the Spirit as a law being a great discovery?

The realization of the Holy Spirit as a law is a great discovery. All victories are unconscious victories. You are in Christ Jesus, and the law of the Spirit of life is in you. Spontaneously, you are free. As long as you do not rely on your own will and effort, the Holy Spirit will bring you into victory.

Day 5 —

A. Explain the importance of our spirit in applying the current of the Triune God.

Our spirit is like a switch. By exercising our spirit, we switch on the heavenly electricity which has been installed into us. If we did not have a switch, we would have no way of applying electricity. In the same principle, apart from the switch of our spirit, we have no way to apply the heavenly electricity. The simplest way to switch on the current is to call on the name of the Lord Jesus.

B. Expound Phil. 2:12, "Work out your own salvation."

Luther's teaching focuses on salvation being by faith, not by works. Yet Paul says to work out your own salvation, which is to switch on. God has installed something, and God is still operating something, but you need to switch on. Romans 8:2 says, "...has freed me in Christ Jesus..." But who is this "me"? It is the switching "me."

Day 6 —

A. What are the three kinds of labor in human life? How to solve them?

The first kind of labor is the labor to be a good person, to have good behavior, and to improve one's character. The second kind of labor is to worry, to be anxious. The only way to escape anxiety is to enjoy the Lord. The third kind of labor revealed in the Bible is suffering. Suffering is a very hard labor. When we enjoy God in the jubilee, there should not be any suffering.

B. How can we have the tone of an overcoming living in our daily life?

The Lord has won the victory, so we are shouting in victory. This is the tone of an overcoming living. Every one of us should have this kind of overcoming tone in our daily life. The overcoming life can only survive in an environment of thanksgiving and praise. If it is placed in an atmosphere of sorrow, it will die. Rejoicing in the New Testament is always rather than occasional. Whenever we lose our joy, we lose our victory.

III. Conclusion:

In the year of jubilee there were two main blessings. The returning of every man to his lost possession, that is to have returned to God as their possession; being freed and returning to one's family, that is to have been released from all bondage, and have returned to the church as their divine family. Today many people talk about freedom, but if man does not enjoy God, he cannot have real freedom. If someone says that he is so free that he can go freely to gamble, he does not realize that he has fallen into the slavery of gambling and is under more bondage than ever. To work out our salvation is to switch on; God has installed something, and God is still operating something, but we need to switch on. Romans 8:2 says, "The law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus..."; the way is by exercising our spirit and of our first love for the Lord to switch on this law.