

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying
Message Seven: The Eternal Blessing of the Triune God

I. Overview:

In the entire universe the unique blessing is the Triune God, and this blessing comes to us through the dispensing of the Divine Being into us in His Divine Trinity; Ephesians 1 gives us a record of how the Triune God blesses His people in His Divine Trinity, issuing in the church as the Body of Christ. The New Jerusalem is the very God mingled with His people as their eternal blessing; such a blessing is the ultimate fulfillment of God's blessing to Israel in Numbers 6. In Numbers 6 we see a pattern of blessing by the priests, which is the eternal blessing of the Triune God dispensing in His Divine Trinity into us for our enjoyment. 2 Corinthians 13:14 the blessing of the apostle Paul is the Triune God coming to people for their enjoyment. The divine revelation of the Divine Trinity in the holy Word is not for theological study but only for His dispensing. Sometimes when we consider our situation, we may be disappointed and feel vanity of vanities. We should turn to the Triune God and realize that He is our real blessing and portion.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Why is the unique blessing in the whole universe God Himself?

Anything besides God is vanity. The entire universe was created by God, yet without God, apart from God, even the universe created by God is vanity. The existence of the universe is a great miracle, but without God the miraculous existence of the universe is vanity. Apart from God, everything is vanity of vanities. Only God Himself is real.

B. How can we consider the meaning of "eternity" in Ecclesiastes 3:11?

Eternity in man's heart is a divinely implanted sense of purpose working through the ages. God put eternity, an aspiration for something eternal, in man's heart so that man will seek God, the eternal One. Hence, temporal things can never satisfy man; only the eternal God, who is Christ, can satisfy the deep sense of purpose in man's heart.

Day 2 —

A. Explain Numbers 6:24, "Jehovah bless you and keep you."

The Father blesses us in every way and in every aspect in His love, and He keeps us in every way and in every aspect in His power. While the Triune God is dispensing Himself into us, we are kept in the dispensing One. When we are kept in the dispensing Triune God, there is nothing left for the hand of the enemy.

B. Explain how believers in the world are kept to become one as Triune God is one.

The Son prayed that the holy Father would so keep them. To be kept in the Father's name is to be kept by His life, because only those who are born of the Father and have the Father's life can participate in the Father's name. The Son has given the Father's life to those whom the Father has given Him; hence, they share the Father's name by being kept in it, and they are one in it.

Day 3 —

A. Expound what the spiritual meaning is in Luke 1:78, "The rising sun will visit us."

This rising sun is the Son in the Divine Trinity. This implies God's incarnation to show Himself to us in a shining way. No one has ever seen God, but through His incarnation we have seen His face and have beheld His glory, and He has been shining upon us continually. He was a great light shining upon the people sitting in darkness.

B. What does the word "face" in Num 6:25 signify?

It signifies presence. As the One whose face shines upon us, Christ the Son is the visible presence of the invisible God. God and His presence are invisible, but through His incarnation He became the shining sun. This shining sun is God's invisible presence becoming visible. God's presence not only became visible but also shining.

Day 4 —

A. What's a difference between "face" and "countenance" in blessings of Num.6?

The face denotes the presence of the person; the countenance denotes the expression of the person. To lift up your countenance upon a person means that you confirm, assure, promise, and give everything to that person. Jesus came as the face of God, and the Holy Spirit comes as the countenance of God. Ephesians 4:30 says, "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God." If we grieve Him, His countenance will drop. If we obey Him, He will lift up His countenance upon us.

B. Explain the third blessing in Numbers 6.

The third blessing is the blessing of the Spirit: the Spirit lifts up His countenance upon us and gives us peace; the Spirit is the presence of God with us, bringing with Him peace. This blessing of the Divine Trinity is not related mainly to material things; it is related mainly to the Triune God being gracious to us, appearing to us, and being seen by us.

Day 5 —

A. Explain the blessing in 2 Corinthians 13:14.

The blessing here is actually the same as that in Numbers 6:23-26. The grace of the Lord is the Lord Himself as life to us for our enjoyment, the love of God is God Himself as the source of the grace of the Lord, and the fellowship of the Spirit is the Spirit Himself as the transmission of the grace of the Lord with the love of God for our participation.

B. What is the difference between the Old Testament and New Testament blessing?

In the Old Testament the basic thought with respect to blessing is that of bringing people into God's presence. But in the New Testament the apostle, coming with God, not only brought people into the presence of God; he also brought God into them. There is a great difference between the Old Testament by the priests and the New Testament pattern of blessing by the apostle. The New Testament blessing is much higher and deeper.

Day 6 —

A. What should we do if we consider our situation and feel everything is vanity?

We should turn to the Triune God. He is our real blessing and portion. What a blessing it is to have Him as the blessing, to have His face, to have His presence, and to enjoy Him daily as grace! The more we suffer, the more we enjoy Him as grace. And what a blessing it is to have His countenance smiling upon us, assuring us, and confirming us!

B. What do we need to apprehend of the trinity of Godhead in the Bible?

The divine revelation of the trinity of the Godhead in the holy Word, from Genesis through Revelation, is not for theological study but for the apprehending of how God in His mysterious and marvelous Trinity dispenses Himself into His chosen people, that we may participate in, enjoy, and possess the Triune God now and for eternity.

III. Conclusion:

In Hebrew the word "blessing" denotes giving very valuable and precious gifts to others or bringing others great benefits. Generally we think they are outward, material blessings. In Ephesians 1 Paul reviews how the Triune God blesses His Church, in Numbers 6 we see a pattern of blessing by the priests, and in 2 Corinthians 13 Paul unveils the proper blessing is to bring God into others as grace, love, and fellowship that they may enjoy the blessing of the Triune God; these are the eternal blessing of the Triune God. When we enjoy these divine blessing and provision, we should become the channel of blessing and also others' blessing. Because many God's children do not see, enjoy, and experience this blessing, we must have our home meetings to dispense and flow such a blessing into them to make them be blessed as well.