

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying Message Sixteen : Speaking to the rock to drink of the Spirit as the water of life and digging the well to allow the Spirit as the water of life to flow freely within us**

### **I. Overview:**

The striking of the rock is a clear, complete, and full picture of Christ's crucifixion; in Exodus 17:6 Christ was smitten by the authority of God's law so that the water of life could flow out of Him. In God's economy Christ should be crucified only once. Today in order to receive the living water from the crucified Christ, we need only to "take the rod" and "speak to the rock". The well in Numbers 21 typifies Christ within us; the digging of the well signifies the digging away of the "dirt," the barriers in our heart and soul. We need to go to the Lord to be "dug out" all uncleanness within us for the free flow of the living water. We must dig away the many things condemned by the Lord in our heart, the dirt in our mind and the rebellion in our disobedient will; then we need to deal with our emotion so that the Spirit as the living water may spring up within us and flow freely.

### **II. Truth and Enlightenment:**

Day 1 —

A. Explain the word in Exodus 17:6 and its spiritual meaning.

In typology, Moses signifies the law, and the rod represents the power and authority of the law. The rock typifies Christ. The smiting of the rock by the rod signifies that Christ was smitten by the authority of God's law. In the eyes of God, the Lord Jesus was put to death, not by the Jews, but by the law of God. During the last three hours, Christ suffered because He was smitten by the power of God's law.

B. Explain from the whole Bible concerning that God is our rock. Deuteronomy 32:18 refers to God as the rock who begot us. This indicates that as our rock God is our Father. This rock is a begetting rock, full of life. In Psalm 95:1 we see that God is the rock of our salvation. Furthermore, in Psalm 62:7, this rock is our strength and our refuge. This rock, in Psalm 94:22, is our hiding place, protection, covering, and safeguard. Isaiah 32:2 speaks of the Lord as "the shadow of a massive rock in a wasted land."

Day 2 —

A. Expound the spiritual meaning of Christ being the rock.

In the Bible this rock speaks of God's redemption and Christ's incarnation. It also speaks of Christ's humanity and of His death. The water that flowed out of the smitten rock sprang forth after incarnation, human living, and death. It flowed only after these major steps of Christ had been accomplished.

B. Why are the rivers of living water in John 7:38 and 39 related to Christ's resurrection?

Here we see that the Spirit as the living water could be received only after the Lord Jesus had been glorified, that is, only after Christ had been crucified and had entered into resurrection. The glorification spoken of in John 7:39 refers to Christ's glorification in His resurrection. Luke 24:26 indicates that in resurrection Christ entered into His glory. Thus, when He was resurrected, He was glorified. After Christ's glorification in resurrection, the living water flows.

Day 3 —

A. Expound what the implication of "into eternal life" in John 4:14 is.

The Greek preposition translated as "into" is rich in meaning. Here it speaks of the destination. The eternal life is the destination of the flowing Triune God. A fountain is in us springing up as a river into a destination. This destination is the eternal life. The New Jerusalem is the totality of the divine, eternal life. The eternal life eventually will be the New Jerusalem.

B. Explain what the two things of Moses failing to represent God rightly are.

In Numbers 20 the people contended because they did not have water. Because water was a necessity, God was not angry with them. Moses failed to sanctify God in being angry with the people of Israel and in wrongly striking the rock twice. In being angry, he did not represent God rightly in His holy nature toward His people. In striking the rock twice, he represented God wrongly in God's action.

Day 4 —

A. Explain the meaning of coming to Beer to dig a well in Numbers 21.

They came to a place called Beer, which means “a well.” When the children of Israel came to Beer, they came to a well. This is a type of Christ being a well in us. There is the need for us to be dug so that Christ as the well can spring up within our inward being. There is much dirt in our inward being blocking the flowing of Christ. All this dirt needs to be dug away.

B. Expound the words in Numbers 21:18. How do we experience and apply them?

Numbers 21:18 says, “The well, which the leaders sank, /Which the nobles of the people dug, / With the scepter, with their staffs.” A scepter is for authority, and a staff is for guidance. We need to be dug under the Lord’s authority and according to His guidance. All the leading ones have to take the lead to dig away the dirt under the Lord’s authority and according to His guidance.

Day 5 —

A. How do we dig away the dirt in our conscience?

Our conscience is not so pure. Perhaps at this very moment some accusation which we have not confessed to the Lord is still upon our conscience. These accusations are the dirt that needs to be dug away. We do not sense much liberty within because of the accusations in our conscience. When you are not right with others, the accusations persist.

B. How do we dig away the many things condemned by the Lord in our heart?

Not many of us have a pure heart in seeking only the Lord Himself. On one hand, many are seeking the Lord and His way, but on the other, they are still seeking too many things other than the Lord Himself. The heart then becomes complicated and is not free and pure. We must go to the Lord once again to dig away all the things other than Christ in our heart. Our heart is just like the flypaper, so sticky; whatever touched, stuck to it, these things must all be cut off.

Day 6 —

A. How do we dig away the dirt in our will?

We need to be more submissive in our will. How many times we do not submit ourselves to the Lord’s sovereign arrangement! With the saints in the church, you cannot be submissive to them. The Lord especially put you into your local church in order to break your will. If the living water is to flow in us, we must be dug. The flowing is the Lord’s business, but the digging is our business. We have to dig ourselves.

B. How should we be dug in a practical experiences?

We have to spend more and more time with the Lord and pray according to His inner leading. According to that leading, we must confess and dig away all the dirt within us. It is extremely necessary to spend more private time with the Lord. All the dirt within the conscience, heart, mind, will, and emotion must be dug away by our prayers.

### III. Conclusion:

Exodus 17 reveals that the rock has been struck and the living water has flown out. According to God’s economy, today we need only to “take the rod”, that is to identify with Christ in His death, and “speak to the rock”, that is to speak to Christ in faith, then the living water will be flowing out. We also need to experience the digging of the well, digging away the dirt, the barriers in our heart, conscience, mind, will, and emotion so that the Spirit as the living water may spring up within us and flow freely. This digging is accomplished only by prayer in our private time with the Lord; we have to spend more time with the Lord and pray according to His inner leading. The more we dig away the dirt, the more living, strengthened, and victorious we will be as the living water flows freely within us to cause us to grow in life for the building up of the Body of Christ.