

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Propheying Message Three : The Goodness of the Land—Its Food**

### **I. Overview:**

Christ, as the preeminent and all-inclusive One, is the allotted portion of the saints. The purpose of God's calling is to bring God's chosen people into the all-inclusive Christ, typified by the good land. The goodness of the land is on its food and the good land is a land of wheat, typifying the limited Jesus, the One who was incarnated, crucified, and buried. The good land is a land of barley, typifying the resurrected Christ, and it is the firstfruits of the harvest as food to us. The good land is a land of vines, typifying the sacrificing Christ, and out of His sacrifice He produced new wine to cheer God and man. The good land is a land of fig trees, signifying the sweetness and satisfaction of Christ as our supply. The good land is a land of pomegranates, typifying the fullness of life, the abundance and beauty of life. The good land is a land of olive trees, typifying Christ as the One who was filled and anointed with the Spirit.

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

Day 1 —

A. Expound the allotted portion in Colossians 1:12.

The allotted portion in Colossians 1:12 refers to the lot of the inheritance, as illustrated by the allotment of the good land of Canaan given to the children of Israel for their inheritance. The New Testament believers' inheritance, their allotted portion, is not a physical land; it is the all-inclusive Christ. He is the allotted portion of the saints as their divine inheritance for their enjoyment.

B. Explain the good land being a land flowing with milk and honey, and how honey is produced.

For the most part, honey has to do with the plant life. It is derived mostly from the flowers and the trees. A part of the animal life is involved, for example, the bee. Without the flowers we cannot have honey, and without the bees we cannot have honey either. We must have flowers, and we must have bees. These two cooperate; these two lives are mingled together, and honey is produced.

Day 2 —

A. What aspect of Christ does wheat represent?

From John 12:24 we can see that the Lord is a grain of wheat falling into the earth to die and to be buried. The wheat represents Christ incarnated. Christ is God incarnated as man to fall into the earth, to die and to be buried. This is the wheat. It typifies the Christ who was incarnated, the Christ who died, and the Christ who was buried.

B. State the spiritual experience of wheat.

Whenever you are put into a situation by the Lord's sovereignty in which you are limited, in which you are pressed, you may experience the Lord as wheat. When in the midst of that limiting and pressing situation you contact the Lord, He is just as a grain of wheat to you. Immediately upon contacting Him, you can be completely satisfied with your situation and your limitation.

Day 3 —

A. Expound that barley represents the resurrected Christ.

In the land of Canaan the barley always ripens first. When the harvest time came, the firstfruits of the harvest had to be offered to the Lord, and the firstfruits were clearly the barley. The firstfruits of the harvest typify Christ as the firstfruits of resurrection. Barley represents the resurrected Christ. Jesus fed the five thousand with five loaves made of barley.

B. Explain when you come to the meeting you must realize your responsibility.

You must share in the meeting with others. You must give some thanks and praise; you must offer some prayer. This is your responsibility. In yourself you are weak, but in Christ you are not weak. You are poor in yourself, but you are not poor in the resurrected Christ. Christ is the barley in you.

Day 4 —

A. Explain what the vine represents, and how we experience it.

The vine depicts the Christ who has sacrificed everything of Himself. By sacrificing Himself, He produced something to cheer God and man, new wine. Sometimes under the Lord's sovereignty we are put into a certain situation in

which we must sacrifice ourselves to make others happy and the Lord happy. At this moment, we experience Him as the wine-producing vine.

B. Why do you say that the most happy person is the most unselfish one?

The most selfish people are always the most miserable. The sacrificing one is the happy one. How can we sacrifice? We have no energy to sacrifice, for our life is a natural life, a selfish life. Only the life of Christ is a life of sacrifice. If you contact this Christ and experience His sacrificing life, He will strengthen you to sacrifice for God and for others.

Day 5 —

A. Explain what the fig tree represents from Judges 9:11.

Judges 9:11 tells us that the fig tree represents sweetness and good fruit. It speaks of the sweetness and satisfaction of Christ as our supply. The sweetness and satisfaction of the Lord is our supply. The more we are pressed, we may be sure, the more we will be satisfied. The pressure only causes us to realize His sweetness and His satisfaction. This is Christ as the fig tree.

B. Why is that in the Body life there is the urgent need of certain ones to function as channels of supply?

In the Body life there is the urgent need of certain ones to function as channels of supply. We need members like Paul. As long as such ones are with us, the transfusion continues unabated, and we can boast in them in Christ. The leading ones in all the local churches should be such channels, such means of supply.

Day 6 —

A. Why is the olive tree the last item of the foods that we may classify as vegetables?

The olive tree is the tree that produces olive oil. Christ is the man anointed with the Holy Spirit of God. God poured upon Him the oil of gladness. He is a man who is full of the Holy Spirit; He is the olive tree, the Son of oil. If we enjoy Him as the wheat, as the barley, as the vine, as the fig tree, and as the pomegranate, we will certainly enjoy Him as the olive tree.

B. For what purpose is the oil of the olive tree used?

We are told in Judges 9:9 that it is used to honor God and honor man. If we would serve the Lord, if we would help others, we must do it by the Holy Spirit. We must be a man filled with the Spirit, an olive tree, a son of oil. We can never serve the Lord or help others without the Holy Spirit. We will be filled with the Holy Spirit. We will be truly able to honour God and others.

### **III. Conclusion:**

In the Bible there are many types of Christ, such as the lamb, the manna, and the bronze serpent. Of which the good land of Canaan is the most significant, complete, perfect, all-inclusive, ultimate, and consummate type to Christ. The riches of the good land typify the unsearchable riches of Christ in different aspects as the bountiful supply to His believers in His Spirit. This message talks about the goodness of the land. On its food, the good land is a land flowing with milk and honey, which are two aspects of the life of Christ, the life of redeeming one and the life of generating one. Wheat typifies the limited Jesus Christ; barley typifies the resurrected Christ. The vine typifies the sacrificing Christ; fig tree signifies the sweetness and satisfaction of Christ; pomegranates typify the fullness and abundance of life. The good land is a land of olive trees, typifying Christ as the One who was filled and anointed with the Spirit.