

Guidelines for the exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying
Message Seven: Christ — the True Prophet Typified by Moses

I. Overview:

Prophets are God's spokesmen; the function of the prophets is to speak for God. God is hidden, but through the speaking of the prophets, God Himself and His intention are made known. Moses was a prophet, and as a prophet, he typifies Christ. In Deuteronomy, Moses repeatedly spoke God's words to the children of Israel, and he, as the spokesman of God, was like an aged, loving father speaking to his children with much love and concern. Moses prophesied, saying, "A Prophet will Jehovah your God raise up for you from your midst, from among your brothers. In His first coming, Christ ministered as the Prophet raised up by God; Christ is the Word of God and the speaking of God. Moses' speaking in Deuteronomy was like Paul's speaking in 1 Corinthians 7. In 1 Corinthians 7:25 and 40 we see the highest spirituality—the spirituality of a person who is so one with the Lord and permeated with Him that even his opinion expresses the Lord's mind.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Expound the proper meaning of prophesying in the Bible.

Prophets are God's spokesmen. They speak for God and speak forth God; sometimes they also predict. According to the Bible, the main function of a prophet is not to predict the things to come but to speak for God. In the whole Bible, to prophesy is mainly to speak for God and to speak forth God; this is the proper meaning of prophesying in the Bible.

B. Explain the meaning of the words in 2 Peter 1:21, "being borne by the Holy Spirit."

By the Holy Spirit men were carried along, as a ship by the wind, to speak out the will, desire, and wish of God. Because the prophets were carried along by the Holy Spirit, what they uttered was not of their own interpretation or will. On the contrary, what they spoke was the will of God, the concept of God uttered by a prophet who was carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Day 2 —

A. Describe in Deuteronomy Moses like an aged, loving father speaking to his children.

Moses as the spokesman of God was like an aged, loving father speaking to his children with much love and concern. This book contains God's word more than any other book of the Bible; the word that proceeded out of his mouth was the word of God spoken through this one spokesman.

B. Expound Moses and Christ as God's Prophet speaking for God.

In leading the children of Israel, Moses was God's spokesman, speaking for God to them all that God commanded him. Likewise, when Christ was on the earth, He spoke to His disciples for God; His teaching was not His but was according to what the Father had taught Him. He did not speak from Himself; as the Father said to Him, so He spoke.

Day 3 —

A. State the Lord Jesus never speaking His own word in His earthly ministry.

Whatever He spoke was the Father's speaking. In not speaking from Himself the Lord did not seek His own glory. Instead of speaking His own words, He spoke God. When He spoke God's word, God was expressed through His speaking. God came forth from Him through His words. He lived a life of speaking God, a life of expressing God for His glory.

B. Expound the Lord Jesus revealing the Father to the disciples in His ministry.

Matthew 11:27 says, "No one fully knows the Son except the Father; neither does anyone fully know the Father except the Son and him to whom the Son wills to reveal Him." This indicates that to know the Father requires the Son's revelation. This the Lord did in revealing the Father to the disciples. John 17:6, in His prayer to the Father before His crucifixion the Lord Jesus manifested Father's name to the men.

Day 4 —

A. Explain the speaking of Moses and Paul becoming God's speaking.

Every word spoken by Moses in Deuteronomy was God's word. Moses' speaking was like Paul's speaking in 1 Corinthians 7:25. Because Paul was a man constituted with God, his opinion became a part of God's word as the divine revelation in the New Testament. In his speaking he was one with God; therefore, what he spoke was God's speaking.

B. Expound the meaning of that God is always in our circumstances.

We may say that the circumstances are actually God coming to us in disguise. Apparently we are in a particular circumstance; actually that circumstance is God coming to us and God with us. Paul in 1 Corinthians 7:24 says, "... in this let him remain with God." The words "with God." indicate that when we take our circumstances, we take God. Both within the circumstances and behind them, God is present.

Day 5 —

A. Expound 1 Corinthians 7 being mysterious and deep.

In the New Testament the apostles' teaching is altogether based on the principle of incarnation. According to this principle, God speaks in man's speaking. Thus, while He was speaking, God spoke also. Actually, His speaking was God's speaking. God spoke with Him. This means that in the Lord Jesus God and man spoke together as one.

B. Explain the importance of Paul's spirit in 1 Corinthians 7.

Paul certainly was absolutely for the Lord and one with Him. Even in expressing his opinion, he had the feeling that he also had the Spirit of God. This is the New Testament teaching, and the way we should follow today to touch the depths of the New Testament mystery. This mystery is that the Lord and we, we and the Lord, have become one spirit.

Day 6 —

A. Explain the principle in 1 Corinthians 7:10 being the same as that in Galatians 2:20.

In both verses we see the principle of incarnation; two persons living as one person. In 1 Corinthians 7:10 we have two persons, the Lord and Paul, speaking as one. What he spoke was the Lord's word. Even when he did not claim to have a word from the Lord, because he was one with the Lord, whatever he said was the Lord's word.

B. Expound what the highest spirituality is.

The spirituality of a person who is so one with the Lord that even his opinion expresses the Lord's mind. Paul was absolutely one with the Lord and thoroughly saturated with Him. Because his entire being was permeated with the Lord, even his opinion expressed the mind of the Lord. For this reason, we say that verse 25 expresses the highest spirituality.

III. Conclusion:

In order to be prophets of the Lord, we should pay attention to the two sections of "abiding in you" in 1 John 2. The first is in verse 14 that John said to the young men, "Because you are strong, the word of God abides in you and you have overcome the evil one." In this case, the word of God refers to Logos, the words of knowledge. We need to read the Word of God in the Bible, and also the ministry of the unveiled word of Scriptures. If we do not study the books of ministry or the books of Life-study, we will not have the extra riches to supply others. In the meanwhile, verse 27 reveals that the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and teaches you concerning all things. This anointing is true, that is, the Holy Spirit operating in us. We must have these two sides of the word, the words of Logos outside and the Holy Spirit inside as the anointing spirit instantly speaking to us; which is the prophesying needed to pay attention to.