

**Guidelines for the exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying**  
**Message Eleven : The Intrinsic Significance of Fearing the Lord in the Economy of God**

**I. Overview:**

The first principle for man to live a proper human life is for him to fear the Lord, to be in fear of offending Him, of losing His presence, and of not receiving Him as our reward in the next age. Fearing the Lord is to reject the self, to fear that what we are doing is not out of the Lord. Isaiah prophesied that the Spirit of Jehovah and the Spirit of the fear of Jehovah would rest upon Christ. Jesus lived a life in which He did everything in God, with God, and for God; God was in His living, and He was one with God. Blessed is the man who trusts in Jehovah, and whose trust Jehovah is. And he will be like a tree transplanted beside water, which sends out its roots by a stream, and will not be afraid when heat comes. For its leaves remain flourishing, it will not be anxious in the year of drought, and will not cease to bear fruit. We must honor the Lord with our substance and with the firstfruits of all our produce; the holy fear of the Lord is actually a source of joy. God promised to give us, His people, one heart and one way, which are the one accord. Proverbs 31 presents to us two models of those who fear the Lord; in the aspect of overcoming, we should be like a king and in the aspect of loving the Lord, we should be like a worthy woman. If we are like this, that will cause us to have value and glory before the Lord.

**II. Truth and Enlightenment:**

Day 1 —

A. State the branching out of Jehovah being altogether a matter of the Spirit.

The branching out of Jehovah is altogether a matter of the Spirit. Christ was born of the Spirit, that is, He was constituted of the Spirit as His divine essence. The Spirit was with Him all the time and was one with Him. He walked by the Spirit and lived a life in, with, by, and through the Spirit.

B. Expound that the first principle for man to live a proper human life is revering God.

To revere God is to consider and regard Him in everything, never forgetting that He is the wonderful God who has created us. When we are about to lose our temper, we should revere God. Revering God stops us from doing evil. Revering God also causes us to be touched by the sufferings of others and to show mercy and compassion to them; that will make a great change in my life.

Day 2 —

A. Explain Proverbs 3:5-8 charging us to trust in Jehovah with all our heart.

To revere God is also to trust in Him. Proverbs 3:5-8 charges us to trust in Jehovah with all our heart and not to rely on our own understanding. In all our ways we should acknowledge Him, and He will make our paths straight. We should not be wise in our own eyes; we should fear Jehovah and depart from evil. This will be healing to our body and refreshment to our bones.

B. Expound the spiritual implications of that the one who trusts in God is like a tree planted by water.

According to God's economy, the one who trusts in God is like a tree planted by water, signifying God as the fountain of living waters. A tree grows beside a river by absorbing all the riches of the water. This is a picture of God's economy, which is carried out by His dispensing. In order to receive the divine dispensing, we as the trees must absorb God as the water. In this way we and God become one.

Day 3 —

A. Expound honoring God with our substance and with the firstfruits of all our produce.

To revere God means that we also honor God. Proverbs 3:9-10 says that we must honor Jehovah with our substance and with the firstfruits of all our produce.... If we make more money to lay up treasure for our future, that is pitiful. At least one tenth, the firstfruits, of our produce must be given to God. We should always be very generous in giving of the things that God has given us. This honors God.

B. Explain God demanding that His children be holy.

In 2 Corinthians 7:1, Paul says, "Therefore since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and of spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." This verse shows us that our holiness is very much related to our fear of God. God is holy, and the more we draw near to Him, the more we feel our uncleanness. The more we serve God, the more we fear ourselves.

Day 4 —

A. Expound that day God making us explain our words of criticism for our brother.

Each one of us will come under God's great judgment. Today we may criticize and judge our brothers, but in that day God will make us explain our words of criticism and judgment. In Matthew 12:36, the Lord said that we will render an account of every idle word on the day of judgment, for by our words we will be justified or condemned. The day of judgment is awesome.

B. Explain God being the judging God who is not mocked.

He is judging us in the course of our life in order to give us new opportunities and new beginnings before His consummate judging. This is His mercy; otherwise, we would be condemned along with the world. In this process every judgment is a reminder. May the Lord have mercy on us so that we would know Him as the judging God who is not mocked.

Day 5 —

A. Expound what the meaning of the one heart and one way given by God.

We, the chosen people of God, should all have one heart, to love God, to seek God, to live God, and to be constituted with God that we may be His expression; and one way, that is, the Triune God Himself as the inner law of life with its divine capacity. This one heart and one way are the one accord.

B. Explain how we can truly know and understand God's covenant.

The Lord gives His intimate counsel only to those who fear Him and His covenant to those who fear Him. To fear means to magnify, to exalt, Him. A person who fears God is one who seeks God's will with a full heart, with the intention of completely submitting to God's way. Those who are lazy, careless, double-minded, proud, and complacent can never expect God to reveal His intimate counsel to them.

Day 6 —

A. Expound what he should learn in Proverbs 31:3 to 9 speaking of a reigning king.

These verses speak of a reigning king, the one who is not licentious and does not drink wine but who speaks for the rights of others and ministers justice. This typifies Christ and His overcomers. Only this kind of person can reign. Many brothers cannot restrict themselves; therefore, they cannot reign as kings. Our Lord was fully under God's restriction; hence, He could reign for God. We should conduct ourselves and handle our affairs like royal princes.

B. Explain that Proverbs 31:10-31 describes a worthy woman.

Proverbs 31:10 through 31 describes a worthy woman—one who is wise, kind, diligent, and capable and who can take care of, arrange, manage, and provide for her household. "Her price is far above corals" (v. 10); her glory surpasses all her peers. This worthy woman typifies the church and the saints who love the Lord. We should all be like this worthy woman in loving the Lord.

### **III. Conclusion:**

Proverbs 31 presents to us two models of those who fear the Lord; on the one hand, we should be like a king, a royal man like the Lord, having the authority to rule; on the other hand, we should be a worthy woman, knowing how to manage in the house of God. Proverbs 31:3 through 9 speaks of a reigning king—one who is not licentious and does not drink wine but who speaks for the rights of others and ministers justice. When we read the four books of Gospel, we have seen that the Lord was completely bound by God. He did not speak His own word, He did everything not by His own will, and He did not seek His own glory. Therefore, He is able to reign for God. In Deuteronomy 17: 14-20, when the king governs the people, he shall make a copy of the book of the law for himself, and he shall read it all his life, keeping doing all its words. Brothers, we should learn to be bound before God that we may reign for Him. At the same time, we need to be constituted with the divine word of God and the Ministry's word, which is governed by God.