

**Guidelines for the exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Seven: The Intrinsic Divine Revelation concerning the Move of God with and among Men in the Old Testament and concerning the Move of God in Man in the New Testament to Accomplish God's Heart's Desire and to Meet Man's Need before God**

**I. Overview:**

The move of God with men and among men is in the Old Testament; God's move with men and among men was the indirect move in His old creation for the preparation of His direct move in His new creation. As a fallen man needed to receive Christ for his redemption that he might be justified by God in Christ. God regarded man and was pleased with man in the burnt offering as a satisfying fragrance to God. The move of God in man is in the New Testament; man needs to believe into Jesus Christ, who is the incarnated God, who lived a human life, died, resurrected, and ascended for them and with them, and who became the life-giving Spirit as the pneumatic Christ to them, that He may be their salvation, life, and everything. As believers in Christ, we need to grow in the divine life, then to be renewed, transformed by Him, and to be stripped, consumed by the Holy Spirit in our environments, putting us into His death for our fellowship of His sufferings, which work out for us an eternal weight of glory.

**II. Truth and Enlightenment:**

Day 1 —

A. State what the difference God's move between the Old and the New Testament.

God moved with men and among men in the Old Testament, but He never moved in man. It was not until the age of the New Testament that God came to move on this earth in man. His first step to move in the New Testament age was to enter into man. God took a definite step to enter into man, and this laid a foundation for His move in man throughout the New Testament.

B. Explain what significance of the phrase 'in Christ' in the New Testament is.

Beginning from His incarnation, God moved mainly in man. In the New Testament whatever God did was mainly in man. The phrase 'in Christ' may be considered as the greatest words in the New Testament. If we were not in Christ and Christ were not in us, there would be no Christian life or church life.

Day 2 —

A. Explain in some dispensations God regarding man in the burnt offering.

Genesis 4:4 speaks of the burnt offering, a type of Christ. God regarded man and was pleased with man in the burnt offering. This is why Abel came to offer the burnt offering to God, and God regarded both him and his offering. God promised Abraham that as a continuation of the previous dispensation, God again regarded man in the burnt offering.

B. Briefly state the truth about a fallen man needing to receive Christ for his redemption.

As a fallen man, man needed to receive Christ for his redemption that he might be justified by God in Christ. Fallen man also needed to receive Christ as the seed of the woman that he might be delivered from Satan the "serpent's" death-power. All these matters—the sacrifice with its blood, the coats of skins, and the seed of the woman—are found in Genesis 3.

Day 3 —

A. Explain Job and his friends receiving divine revelation being in the primitive stage.

Job and his friends probably lived in the age of Abraham. At that time the Pentateuch of Moses was not yet written. Surely what they had received of their forefathers could reach, at most, only the level of the revelation in the age of Abraham. Hence, in their debates concerning God's relationship with man, they were in the primitive stage of the divine revelation.

B. Expound the purpose in God's appearing to Job.

God appeared to Job in order to help him to realize that God is unlimited, unsearchable, and untraceable. God asked Job many questions about the universe and about the animals to impress him with the fact that He is unlimited. God's intention in His appearing to Job that needed the entire Bible, especially the New Testament. God wanted to give Himself to Job.

Day 4 —

A. Explain that the real tabernacle is enterable.

The tabernacle in the Old Testament is a type of Christ's incarnation. The real tabernacle is God Himself embodied in Christ. This tabernacle is a dwelling place not only for God but also for God's chosen people. This means that, after the incarnation, God is enterable. To be in Christ means to enter into God to enjoy God.

B. Expound the five steps that God took in His move in man on this earth.

He was incarnated in man, and He lived in man. In incarnation He entered into the womb of Mary and remained there for nine months. After His birth He passed through a human living of thirty-three and a half years. Then He went to the cross to be crucified in man. Then He was resurrected and ascended to the heavens in man. These are the five steps of His move.

Day 5 —

A. Fellowship what the spiritual meaning of the processes Jesus gone through signifies.

Jesus' incarnation made Him a man, His human living on earth qualified Him to be man's Saviour, His crucifixion accomplished full redemption for man, and His resurrection vindicated His redemptive work. His sovereign ruling causes and leads God's chosen people to repent, and His salvation, which is based on His redemption, affords them forgiveness of sins.

B. Expound what Christ has accomplished in His resurrection and ascension.

In resurrection Christ also became the life-giving Spirit for the producing and the constituting of the Body of Christ. Next, Christ accomplished the all-transcending ascension to the heavens and was made Lord, Christ, Leader, and Saviour for His propagation and for the building up of the church as His kingdom. In His death, resurrection, and ascension Christ made all His believers one with Him.

Day 6 —

A. Explain what coming of the Spirit of reality brought to the believers.

John 14:16-20 reveals that God the Father is embodied in God the Son, that God the Son is realized as God the Spirit, and that God the Spirit comes to indwell us to be the reality of the Triune God. Concerning the mystery of the Triune God being the reality in the believers, they had to wait until the Spirit of reality came to reveal these to them, that is, the divine revelation regarding Christ as the mystery of God and the church as the mystery of Christ.

B. Expound that God's move on earth in man is always in the principle of incarnation.

Our salvation is the move of God in man and is the move of God to be a part of man. If God had never become us, we could never have been saved. Salvation brings God into man and brings man into God. Salvation makes God man so that man may be made God (but not the Godhead). This is incarnation, and the principle of incarnation.

### **III. Conclusion:**

The move of God in the Old Testament is that God is moving with and among men, so whether for the created, for the fallen, for the sacrificed, for the called, for the law-keeper, or for the move toward Job is His indirect move in His old creation for the preparation of His direct move in His new creation for His eternal economy. And the move of God in man in the New Testament was first in Christ Himself to make a model, a prototype, and then reproduced Himself in believers. Therefore, we need to cooperate with the work of the Spirit of the consuming in the outward environment, and the dispensing of operation inwardly. Whereas our old man like Job, our regenerated new man just like Paul. Our life should be a life of living through death, that is, toward the old man, toward ourselves, and toward the natural soul life is dead; in this way we shall experience that it is life of living for Him.