

Guidelines for the exercise of the Lord's day Prophecy Message Two : Seeing a Vision of the Throne of God, the Spiritual Scene behind the World Situation, and Christ as the Center of God's Administration

I. Overview:

We need to see a spiritual vision of the throne of God as the center of God's administration throughout the universe. The book of Daniel shows that all the kings and kingdoms of the world are under God's administration. The ruling of the heavens by the God of the heavens over all human government on earth matches the eternal economy. Daniel 10 presents a vision of the spiritual scene behind the world situation. In the spiritual world Christ is the preeminent One; the spiritual scene includes both good and evil spirits that are engaged in an invisible spiritual war. Christ is the center of God's administration according to God's eternal economy. Christ in His ascension has been enthroned to execute God's administration, His governmental operation. The enthroned Christ, the heavenly Administrator in God's universal government, is the worthy Lion-Lamb, the overcoming Redeemer. In His ascension and enthronement Christ is the Ruler of the kings of the earth. Christ carries out God's administration as the Ruler of the kings of the earth by the seven Spirits of God burning before the throne of God.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Explain the throne of God in heaven ruling over all men and all things.

The throne of God in Revelation is the center of God's administration. Whatever Satan does in the air and whatever man does on earth is under God's throne in heaven. Today, man may do anything he likes, but the throne of God in heaven is still the authority over all men and all things. Apparently, this throne is invisible and is not realized by man, but actually it is behind the scene ruling over everyone and everything.

B. How do we see all kings and kingdoms being under God's administration in Daniel?

God used the Babylonian Empire for the purpose of carrying His corrupted and defeated elect into captivity. After the seventy years of their captivity, God caused the Medes and the Persians to become one for the purpose of ending the Babylonian Empire and of releasing His people from their captivity in Babylon. This is an illustration of how all kings and kingdoms are under God's administration.

Day 2 —

A. Expound what the central thought of Daniel is.

The central thought of Daniel is that the ruling of the heavens by the God of the heavens over all the human government on earth matches God's eternal economy for Christ to terminate the old creation for the germination of the new creation and to smash and crush the aggregate of human government and establish the eternal kingdom of God.

B. Explain the world situation being under the rule of the heavens to match His economy. Today the world situation, especially in Europe and the countries around the Mediterranean Sea, has been balanced and brought into a condition which is ready for Christ's return. He is at the door and the time is near. As we see this situation, we must wake up and realize that the world is not for us. We are for Christ, and every day we must prepare ourselves to meet Him. Then we will receive a reward from Him.

Day 3 —

A. Expound Daniel 10-11 showing us a particular vision and the excellent Christ.

Daniel, a man on the earth, set his heart to understand the future, the destiny, of Israel. This he did for twenty-one days. After those twenty-one days, Daniel saw a particular vision. The excellent Christ, the centrality and universality of God's move on the earth, appeared to Daniel for his appreciation, consolation, encouragement, expectation, and stabilization.

B. Explain that the excellent Christ appeared in His priesthood in Daniel 10.

His priesthood is signified by the linen robe. In typology, linen signifies humanity. The fact that Christ is clothed in linen signifies that His humanity is His priestly robe. At the time of Daniel 10, Christ Himself, God's centrality and universality, was a Priest taking care of the children of Israel in captivity. He is a Priest in His humanity taking care of God's captive people.

Day 4 —

A. Explain that we see the spiritual struggle in the air from Daniel 10:10-17.

The evil prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood the sent angelic messenger for twenty-one days. Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help the sent angelic messenger, and the sent messenger remained there with the kings of Persia. The evil prince of the kingdom of Persia must have been an evil spirit, a rebellious angel, who followed Satan in his rebellion against God and who was commissioned by Satan to help Persia. Behind the scene a spiritual struggle is taking place.

B. Expound Daniel 10:10-17 something regarding the spiritual struggle in the air.

The angelic messenger would return to fight with the evil prince of Persia. The evil prince of Greece was then about to come. No one would hold with the angelic messenger against these two evil princes except Michael, the prince of Israel. In this spiritual scene Christ is preeminent. This scene also includes both good and evil spirits, spirits that are engaged in an invisible spiritual war.

Day 5 —

A. Explain the meaning of that Christ is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God in Hebrews 12:2.

Christ to be seated at the right hand of the throne of God does not mean that He is seated next to the throne of God, at God's right hand. In Revelation we see that there is only one throne of both God and the Lamb; that one throne is for God and for the Lamb. Christ has been enthroned in His ascension. His ascension was for His enthronement for God's administration.

B. Expound in the divine administration Christ being the Lion-Lamb.

In the divine administration Christ, as the Lion-Lamb, the overcoming Redeemer, opens the scroll of God's economy. In Revelation 5:1 the One sitting on the throne has a scroll in His hand sealed with seven seals. These seven seals are the contents of the scroll, and the scroll itself is the new covenant, enacted with the blood of the Lamb. The new covenant covers the redemption of the church, Israel, the world, and the universe.

Day 6 —

A. Expound what the name Jesus, Christ implies.

The name Jesus implies the incarnation, and the title Christ indicates that the Lord Jesus is God's anointed One. He was the faithful Witness in His human living, and He is the Firstborn of the dead in His resurrection. In His ascension and enthronement He is the Ruler of the kings of the earth, for He is now Lord and Head of all. Furthermore, He will rule over all nations when He comes to reign in His kingdom.

B. Explain according to history, the one whose calendar we use is the one to whom we are in subjection.

If a person used the calendar of a certain king, he would be under the rule of that king. In like manner, even the ungodly are under Jesus Christ because they use His calendar. Jesus' birth has become the landmark of the calendar of all the peoples on earth. To use His calendar is to acknowledge that He is the King. In the universe there is one unique Ruler.

III. Conclusion:

We need to see a spiritual vision of the throne of God as the center of God's administration throughout the universe. And realize that the Sovereign God is ruling over everyone and everything in the world, and that He has the full capacity to carry out what He wants according to the desire of His heart and according to His eternal economy. On the one hand, Jesus, the God-man has all the authority in heaven and on earth, He is on the throne, the Ruler of the Kings of the earth, carrying out His commission by the seven spirits of God burning before the throne of God. On the other hand, the church is His Body and must submit to the authority of God's throne even more. By raising up the prayer ministry of the church, cooperating with His heavenly ministry, so that God's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. For the building up of the Body of Christ, whether the gospel is preached or not, the home meeting is shepherding or not, the small group gather is perfecting saints or not, and the district meeting is practicing prophesying or not, all is a battle.