

## **Guidelines for the exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying Message Three : The Need to Develop Our Faith in the Lord and Our Love for Him**

### **I. Overview:**

We need to develop and perfect our faith in the Lord and our love for Him. Although we have never seen the Lord Jesus, we love Him; at present we cannot see Him, yet we believe in Him to exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory. It is really a wonder and a mystery. Faith operates through love to fulfill God's purpose, that is, to complete the sonship of God for His corporate expression. Faith and love are two inseparable, excellent virtues of the believers in Christ. Through faith we receive the Lord, and through love we enjoy the Lord whom we have received. The more we love the Lord, the more faith operates to bring us into the riches of the all-inclusive Spirit. Love with faith is the means by which we partake of and experience Christ. Faith is for appreciating, substantiating, and receiving the unlimited riches of the Triune God. Love is for experiencing, enjoying, and living out the immeasurably rich Triune God. Our love for the Lord must be absolute. To give the Lord the first place in all things is to love Him with the first love, the best love. God has poured out His love in our hearts with the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us, as the motivating power within us, that we may more than conquer in all our tribulations.

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

Day 1 —

A. Expound it's a wonder, a mystery of the believers loving One they having not seen.

The Lord is with us today but in a hidden, veiled way. His coming back will be His revelation, when He will be seen openly by all. Although we have never seen the Lord Jesus, we love Him. At present we cannot see Him, yet we believe in Him. It is a wonder and a mystery that the believers love One whom they have not seen.

B. Explain what the two aspects of the faith.

Concerning faith there are two aspects, the objective aspect and the subjective aspect. Objectively faith is what we believe. Subjectively faith is our believing. Therefore, faith denotes both the act of believing and that in which we believe. As we hear about those things in which we are to believe, faith is produced within us.

Day 2 —

A. Explain love with faith being the means by which we partake of and experience Christ.

Faith is for receiving Him, and love is for enjoying Him. In Ephesians 6:23 it is love with faith. This indicates that we need faith as a match and support for our love. Love with faith is needed. This is the conclusion of Ephesians, the book on the church. The church needs to enjoy Christ in love with faith, which operates through love.

B. Expound the relationship between the Spirit and faith in Galatians 5:5.

In Galatians 5:5 Paul puts the Spirit together with faith. We have pointed out that the Spirit is typified by the land. We have also seen that faith is the camera which, photographs the scenery of grace. In order to have the proper enjoyment, we need to have the Spirit as the all-inclusive land and faith as the means to enjoy this land. As we enjoy the Spirit by faith, we eagerly await the coming hope of righteousness.

Day 3 —

A. Explain the word in Hebrews 11:6 and how to experience it.

Hebrews 11:6 says that without faith it is impossible to please God. This is a very strong word. To please God is to make God happy. Without faith it is impossible for you and me to make God happy. This shows the importance of faith. Only faith can make God happy, and faith is to believe that God is. It is not I, but Christ.

B. Fellowship how to experience believing that God is.

This is faith—believing that I should be out and believing that He should be in. I must deny myself in everything and trust in Him in everything. To deny yourself and to trust in Him is faith. This is to believe that God is. Speaking to others, I should not be the speaker, but You. I have been crucified, but You live in me. You should be the speaker, that is, to believe that God is.

Day 4 —

A. Explain the meaning of believing in the Lord and how to apply it.

To believe in the Lord means to receive Him. The Lord is receivable. He is now the life-giving Spirit, with His complete redemption, waiting for and expecting us to receive Him. Our spirit is the receiving organ. We can receive the Lord's Spirit into our spirit by believing in Him. Once we believe in Him, He, as the Spirit, enters into our spirit. Then we are one with Him, to partake of Him, and to participate in all that He is.

B. Expound the faith in Titus 3:15 referring to subjective faith.

The subjective faith brings us into an organic union with the Lord and operates through love. It is in the element and operation of this faith that the saints who were one with the Lord in His concern loved the suffering and faithful apostle. Faith is given to us by God that by it we may enter into the Triune God and be appreciating, substantiating, and receiving the unlimited riches of the Triune God.

Day 5 —

A. Testify to realize the deep and hidden things of God, believing in and loving Him are indispensable.

To realize and participate in the deep and hidden things God has ordained and prepared for us requires us not only to believe in Him but also to love Him. To fear God, to worship God, and to believe in God are all inadequate; to love Him is the indispensable requirement. To love God means to set our entire being—spirit, soul, and body, with the heart, soul, mind, and strength—absolutely on Him.

B. Explain love issues out of faith and enables us to live out the Triune God.

Love issues out of such a wonderful faith and enables us to live out all the riches of the Triune God in Christ with those who have believed into Christ with us, that the Triune God may have a glorious expression. Love is for experiencing, enjoying, and living out the immeasurably rich Triune God. Faith is for the believers to be joined to the Triune God; love is for the believers to minister and transmit the Triune God to others.

Day 6 —

A. Expound the word in Romans 5:5 and how to experience and realize it.

The love of God is God Himself. God has poured out this love in our hearts with the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us, as the motivating power within us, that we may more than conquer in all our tribulations. When we were regenerated, God infused us with Himself as love. We love Him because He first loved us. He initiated this love.

B. Testify God's love being the divine essence making believers having a loving heart. From the day we believed in the Lord Jesus, the love of God has been poured out in our hearts. Because something of the divine essence has been poured out in our hearts, the heart of every Christian is a heart of love. This means that, as believers, deep in our hearts we have something of the divine essence, and this is God as love. In other words, God as love is the divine essence that has been poured out in our hearts.

### **III. Conclusion:**

Faith and love are two inseparable, excellent virtues of the believers in Christ; through faith we receive the Lord, and through love we enjoy the Lord whom we have received. Faith is for appreciating, substantiating, and receiving the unlimited riches of the Triune God; love is for experiencing, enjoying, and living out the immeasurably rich Triune God. I Peter 1: 8 says "Whom having not seen, you love; into whom though not seeing Him at present, yet believing, you exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory." It is a wonder and a mystery that the believers love One whom they have not seen. We love Him whom we have not seen because of believing, that is, because of the faith that has been infused into us through our hearing of the living word. The joy here full of glory is the joy immersed in the Lord as glory, thus it is full of the glory, the expression of the Lord. This faith and love need to be developed and be perfected over and over again.