

Guidelines for the exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying Message Five : Living with the Divine Trinity (2) God Operating in Us

I. Overview:

God has a move on earth, and He moves by His operating. Whatever Christ is to us is for the operating of God. Everything that is covered in the book of Philippians is under God's operating move; God is operating in us "both the willing and the working for His good pleasure". We need to see that God's operating in us is a miraculous normality. God's operating in us is with "the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ". The Spirit of Jesus refers to the Spirit of the incarnated Savior who, as Jesus in His humanity, passed through human living and death on the cross. The Spirit of Christ refers to Christ going through the process of incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection, imparting Himself into us as resurrection life and power to deal with death in our nature. The Spirit of Jesus Christ is the Spirit of God becoming "the Spirit" mentioned in John 7:39. In the Spirit of Jesus Christ there is the all-inclusive bountiful supply that enables us to meet any kind of environment and thus live Christ, and magnify Christ.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Expound what is covered in the book of Philippians is under God's operating move.

Everything that is covered in the book of Philippians is under God's operating move. God has a move on this earth, and He moves by His operating. Chapter 2 gives us the overall thought, the all-embracing thought, the all-inclusive thought, of the book of Philippians. This thought is that the moving God is operating in us. Whatever Christ is to us is for the operating of God.

B. Explain God's operating just as the current of electricity operates in a building.

When we enter into the building, it may seem that nothing is working there because everything is quiet. However, there is an operating going on, and this quiet operating is vigorous. God's move within us is a very quiet, fine operation. He operates in us quietly and finely.

Day 2 —

A. Expound that we see God's operating in every chapter of the book of Philippians.

Chapter 1 shows us that we need to live and magnify Christ for Him to be our living and expression. Chapter 2 shows that we need to take Christ as our pattern and hold Him forth. In chapter 3 we see that we need to pursue and gain Christ as our goal. Chapter 4 shows us that we need to have Christ as our secret of sufficiency.

B. Explain what the meaning of Paul greeting those who are in Caesar's household.

Caesar's household comprised all who were attached to the palace of Nero. Some of these were converted through contact with Paul and became believers in Christ in Rome. No doubt, some in Caesar's household became Christians because they saw Christ in Paul. God's operating in us is a great matter according to a spiritual sense.

Day 3 —

A. Describe God's operating being with the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. In Philippians 2:12 Paul charges us to work out our own salvation. On the one hand, the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ will turn out to be our salvation, and on the other hand, we have to work out our salvation. Philippians 1 and 2 refer to the same salvation. This salvation is the working out, the issue, of the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, and this salvation is something that we work out in our living.

B. Expound what the spiritual significance of the Spirit of Jesus in Acts 16:7 has.

The Spirit of Jesus is a particular expression concerning the Spirit of God and refers to the Spirit of the incarnated Savior who, as Jesus in His humanity, passed through human living and death on the cross. This indicates that in the Spirit of Jesus there is not only the divine element of God but also the human element and the elements of His human living and His suffering of death as well.

Day 4 —

A. Expound what the spiritual significance of the Spirit of Christ in Romans 8:9 has.

The Spirit of Christ implies that this Spirit is the embodiment and reality of Christ, the incarnated One. This Christ accomplished everything necessary to fulfill God's plan. He includes not only divinity, which He possessed from

eternity, but also humanity, which He obtained through incarnation. He also includes human living, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. This Spirit is Christ Himself dwelling in our spirit.

B. Explain how to experience and enjoy the Spirit of Christ.

The Spirit of Christ is the Spirit of the One who passed through death and entered into resurrection. The Lord's death was an all-inclusive termination, and His resurrection was an all-inclusive germination. The Spirit of Christ, therefore, is the totality, the aggregate, of the all-inclusive Christ with His all-inclusive death and resurrection.

Because we have this Spirit in us, we have the all-inclusive Christ.

Day 5 —

A. Expound that the Spirit of God is now the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

The Spirit of God was there from the beginning, but at the time the Lord spoke this word, the Spirit being not yet; because the Lord had not yet been glorified. After Jesus' resurrection, He as Spirit had been breathed into His disciples. The Spirit is now the "another Comforter". When the Spirit became the Spirit of Jesus Christ through Christ's incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection, He was the living water for us to receive.

B. Explain the relationship between the Philippians 1:19 and John 7:39.

The Spirit of Jesus Christ in Philippians 1:19 is the Spirit mentioned in John 7:39. This is not merely the Spirit of God before the Lord's incarnation but the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit with divinity, after the Lord's resurrection, compounded with the Lord's incarnation, human living under the cross, crucifixion, and resurrection. The holy anointing ointment in Exodus 30 was a full type of this compound Spirit of God.

Day 6 —

A. Explain how Paul experienced the bountiful supply of the Spirit in his imprisonment.

In Philippians 1 the apostle Paul was suffering imprisonment and expecting deliverance. For the suffering he needed the Spirit of the suffering Jesus. For the deliverance he needed the Spirit of the rising Christ. The bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ was all he needed to face his situation at that time. This bountiful supply is for us to magnify Jesus Christ by living Him every day.

B. Expound what the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ includes.

First, the bountiful supply includes the divine life and nature. Thus, the bountiful supply includes an uplifted humanity, all-inclusive death of Christ dealt with every negative thing. Christ's resurrection and ascension are included as well. The bountiful supply of the Spirit also includes the divine attributes and the human virtues. God is love and light, and He is holy and righteous. These are some of His attributes.

III. Conclusion:

We need the operating of God and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. The bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ is the supplying of all needs of food, and the operating of God is God's cooking. We need food, and we also need food to cook. Today we need to see that God's operating in us is a miraculous normality. We also need to learn to cooperate with Him. Our cooperation is our submission. When God is operating, we need to obey. We need to be willing to cooperate with God who operates in us by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ that we may live and magnify Him. First, we have to live in all kinds of complicated situations. Second, we need to preach gospel to unbelievers. Third, we must minister Christ to the believers through shepherding. Fourth, we do everything to God. This is worshiping God in spirit and truthfulness.