

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Four : Solomon's Splendid Kingdom Typifying Christ's Kingdom in the Millennium

I. Overview:

Solomon's splendid kingdom, with his prosperity under the rich blessing of God, is a type of Christ's kingdom in the millennium. At His second coming Christ will take possession of the earth, and will establish God's kingdom on the whole earth, thus recovering God's right over the earth. Psalm 72 is actually a psalm on King Solomon, who is a type of Christ as the reigning One. The kingdom of the world becomes the kingdom of Christ at His coming back after He executes His judgment upon the nations. All the overcomers will reign with Christ for a thousand years, and all the saved ones will reign forever and ever in eternity. Matthew 17 is a miniature of the manifestation of the kingdom of the heavens in the millennium. The center of this miniature is the glorified Jesus, and with Him are Moses and Elijah, representing the Old Testament overcomers, and Peter, James, and John, representing the New Testament overcomers. The transfiguration, the shining, of the Lord Jesus was His coming in His kingdom. In the millennium the overcoming believers will be with Christ in the bright glory of the kingdom, and then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Portray in First Kings 9 and 10 the Solomon's glory among the nations. Solomon was glorified in the kingdom of Israel with the splendor of that kingdom. This is a prefigure of Christ in the millennium. Christ, as the Son of David, as the King, is more than Solomon the king. Solomon built the temple of God and spoke the word of wisdom. To him the Gentile queen came. This too was a type of Christ, who is building the church, making it the temple of God, and is speaking the word of wisdom. To Him the Gentile seekers turn.

B. Compare the difference between the two of us and Solomon.

Yet no matter how much God did for Solomon and how much He gave him, Solomon did not have God Himself wrought into him. But we have God in Christ wrought into us that we might be the same as God in life and in nature. We may not have what Solomon had outwardly as a type, but within us there is a reality—the very God in Christ who has wrought Himself into our being.

Day 2 —

A. Expound what the spiritual meaning explains in Psalm 22-24.

In Psalm 22 Christ is the Redeemer and the Regenerator, in Psalm 23 He is the Shepherd, and in Psalm 24 He is the King who will regain the entire earth through the church, His Body, the people whom He has redeemed and regenerated and is shepherding today. At His second coming Christ will take possession of the earth, which has been given to Him as His possession, and will establish God's kingdom on the whole earth.

B. Explain Psalm 24 revealing Christ as the King in God's kingdom.

This will be in the coming age. In Psalm 24:1-2 we see the realization of the earth and the fullness thereof, and the habitable land and those who dwell in it, founded by God upon the seas and established by Him upon the streams, as God's kingdom. Verses 7-10 show us the victorious Christ as the coming King in God's eternal kingdom. This indicates that the people of the earth have been waiting and expecting Christ's second coming.

Day 3 —

A. Explain the kingdom of Christ as the King composed of Abraham's descendants.

The kingdom, of which Christ is the King, is composed of Abraham's descendants, including both his descendants in the flesh and those in faith. Hence, the genealogy of Christ in Matthew begins with Abraham, the father of the called race, not with Adam, the father of the created race. God's kingdom is not built with the created race of Adam but with the called race of Abraham, which includes both the real Israelites and the believers in Christ.

B. Expound Psalm 72 is on the reigning Christ.

After His life of suffering on earth, typified by the sufferings of David, Christ ascended to the heavens, where He is now reigning as the King, typified by Solomon. First, we see that He will reign with righteousness and justice, by which peace will be ushered in. When Christ returns, He will be the King, ruling over the entire earth with righteousness and justice.

Day 4 —

A. Explain Ephesians 5:5 speaking of the kingdom of Christ and of God.

The kingdom of Christ is the millennium; it is also the kingdom of God. The believers have been regenerated into the kingdom of God and are, in the church life, living in the kingdom of God today. Not all believers will participate in the millennium; only the overcoming ones will. The unclean, defeated ones will have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God in the coming age.

B. Expound that Christ reigns with God in the kingdom.

In the aspect of the kingdom as the kingdom of Christ and of God, Christ reigns with God. We may also say that Christ reigns as God. Hence, it is the kingdom of Christ and at the same time also the kingdom of God. It will be a reward to His faithful believers, who pursue the growth in His life unto maturity and the development of the virtues of His nature so that they may participate, in the millennium, in His kingship.

Day 5 —

A. Expound after the Lord dealing with the all negative things, He will bring in the millennial kingdom.

After the Lord deals with the believers, the Jews, the nations, and the all negative things, He will bring in the millennial kingdom. The millennium refers to the time between Christ's second coming as a King to rule the earth and the new heaven and new earth. This time will last for one thousand years. There are many verses in the Old Testament concerning the millennial kingdom. In the New Testament, the millennium is referred to in Revelation 20:4.

B. Describe the situation of the millennium of the restoration.

The sun and the moon will be restored to their original condition. Furthermore, all creatures will be restored to their original condition. The beast and the cattle will be restored to such an extent that the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid. This will not be miraculous; rather, it will be normal and common. When Christ comes again, everything will be restored. The trees will flourish, and the flowers will blossom abundantly.

Day 6 —

A. Explain the significance of the Lord Jesus to be transfigured.

For the Lord Jesus to be transfigured meant that His humanity was saturated and permeated with His divinity. This transfiguration, which was His glorification, was equal to His coming in His kingdom. Where His transfiguration is, there the coming of the kingdom is also. The coming of the kingdom is the Lord's glorification, His transfiguration; and His glorification is the saturation of His humanity by His divinity.

B. Expound the miniature of the manifestation of the kingdom in Matthew 17.

In Matthew 17:3, Moses and Elijah represent the Old Testament overcomers in the manifestation of the kingdom. Both of them appear in the coming of the kingdom, that is, in the manifestation of the kingdom, In this miniature of the manifestation of the kingdom we have not only the Old Testament overcomers, but also New Testament overcomers, represented by Peter, James, and John. The miniature assures us that the full manifestation will come.

III. Conclusion:

The kingdom is the actual illumination of the Lord. Whenever He shines on you and you are under that shining, you are in the kingdom. The kingdom is not merely a dispensation, a sphere, or a realm. It is the realization of the reality of the Lord Jesus. Whenever He is spreading by shining over you, you are in the kingdom. The kingdom is the shining of the Lord Jesus, and the Kingdom is His spreading by shining on you. Look at the evolution of the world, Israel was restored, Jerusalem was returned to the Israelites, and this generation should end. But it seems that the Lord has not yet been able to end this age. The reason is that he is still waiting for the overcomers. He is waiting for a group of overcomers to live in His Body in the resurrection as the means to bring in His kingdom age. We are living in the Lord's recovery, and every one of us in His recovery must be an overcomer.