

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message One : God's Move in Man's History for the Carrying Out of His Eternal Economy**

### **I. Overview:**

We must link the twelve books of history to God's eternal economy, which is based upon His good pleasure, the desire of His heart; these twelve historical books were written in God's divine revelation for our admonition and enlightenment. The carrying out of God's eternal economy to prepare us to be His bride to bring Him back is the only way to solve the problems of today's world situation. The book of Zechariah reveals that the crucial point and major content of God's move in man's history are the two comings of Christ for the testimony of Jesus, the building of God. Ephesians 5 and 6 reveal that the church is both the bride and the warrior. To be the bride, we need the beautifying word of God, and to be the warrior, we need the slaying word of God. The way to fulfill God's move is by exercising our spirit to experience the sevenfold intensified Spirit. Zechariah 1:3 establishes the principle that we must exercise our spirit to return to the Lord with all our heart. We need to enjoy Christ as the sevenfold intensified Spirit; Christ is a man with a measuring line in His hand, measuring God's people. Christ will shine through the transparent wall of the city to be its protection of fire. Christ came as a Shepherd, shepherding the flock with two staffs—one is called Favor (grace), and the other is called Bonds (binding); grace is for our being mingled with God, and binding is for our being bound into oneness.

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

Day 1 —

A. Expound what the central thought of 1 and 2 Chronicles is.

First, to give us a full chronology of God's move in man's history by including the genealogy from Adam to Samuel, indicating that God's move in man's history to prepare the way for God to carry out His eternal economy in humanity by becoming a man that man may become God is not a matter that concerns only the history of God's elect but a matter that concerns the history of the entire race of mankind.

B. Explain God's move in man's history.

We need to see that God's move is in man's history. We need to believe that. I can testify from my observation of the world situation since 1918 and from my study of the prophecies in the Bible that God surely moves in man's history. God is the landlord of Palestine, and only He can solve the problem concerning this land.

Day 2 —

A. Expound Christ unveiled in the book of Zechariah.

The Christ unveiled in the book of Zechariah is a Christ who is intimately involved with human history. The first six chapters reveal that He is involved with the Persian Empire, and the last six chapters reveal that He is involved with the Grecian Empire and the Roman Empire. The center of the prophecies in chapters 9 through 11 is Christ as the rejected Messiah. In chapters 12 through 14 unveiled Christ returning to be enthroned as the King.

B. Explain the words in Zechariah 11:12-13 being fulfilled in the Gospels.

The Messiah, as the proper Shepherd of Israel, was detested, attacked, rejected, and sold for thirty pieces of silver, the price of a slave. What is prophesied here was fulfilled in the Gospels. The Lord Jesus was sold under the reign of the Roman Empire, and He was judged by the Roman rulers. In order to understand these, we need to study the four Gospels.

Day 3 —

A. Testify the Lord's coming involved with human history, in particular with the Roman Empire.

Christ was born under the Roman Empire. He grew up, carried out His ministry, was crucified, resurrected, and ascended under the Roman Empire. Christ's death for the accomplishment of God's eternal redemption was consummated under the Roman Empire. The formation of the church and the preaching of the gospel also took place under the Roman Empire.

B. Explain how Christ will rescue Israel during the great tribulation.

During the great tribulation Israel will be trampled underfoot by Antichrist and his army. Furthermore, the principal calamities of the great tribulation will occur in that land. At the end, Antichrist will kill many of the Jews and will

besiege them on the Mount of Olives. However, at the very moment of peril, Christ will come on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory, and all Israel will look upon the One whom they have pierced.

Day 4 —

A. Expound the meaning of this man in Zechariah 1:8.

This man in Zechariah 1:8 is Christ in His humanity. The man here is the Angel of Jehovah. The Angel of Jehovah is Jehovah Himself as the Triune God. The Angel of Jehovah is also Christ as the embodiment of the Triune God and as the sent One of God. The Angel of Jehovah is also the Angel of God who escorted and protected Israel on their way from Egypt to the promised land.

B. Explain the man in this vision riding on a red horse.

Here the red horse signifies Christ's swift move in His redemption by the shedding of His blood. These myrtle trees signify the humiliated people of Israel in their captivity. Captured Israel was in the lowest part of the valley, and Christ was ready to do anything for them swiftly. Christ, the One on the red horse, was their patron taking care of them in their captivity.

Day 5 —

A. Expound in Revelation 19, the church is both the bride and the warrior.

According to Revelation 19, the church is both the bride who is presented to Christ and the warrior who fights with Him against God's enemy. At His coming again, the Lord Jesus first will meet His bride. After receiving the bride, Christ and the overcomers will enter into battle against the enemy. The Lord will ride on a white horse [v. 11], and the armies which are in heaven will follow Him on white horses, dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

B. Explain how to experience God's word with its killing power.

Because the self is the greatest enemy, we need to experience the killing power of God's word. As we pray-read, we are nourished on the one hand, but certain elements are killed on the other hand. Perhaps you are troubled by doubts, hatred, jealousy, pride, or selfishness. Actually these things can be killed through pray-reading the word. By pray-reading, the inward adversary is slain.

Day 6 —

A. Explain the words in Zechariah 12:1 and how to apply, experience them.

The heavens are for the earth, the earth is for man, and man was created by God with a spirit that he may contact God, receive God, live God, fulfill God's purpose for God, and be one with God. Christ is wonderful, but if we did not have a spirit, how could we receive Him? If we neglect our human spirit, there is no way for us to contact God.

B. State the prophecy in Zechariah 10 concerns the Lord's loving visitation to Israel.

Zechariah 10:1, "Ask rain of Jehovah / At the time of spring rain, / Of Jehovah who makes the lightning, / And He will give them showers of rain, / To everyone herbage in the field". To ask for more rain is to seek more blessing. Thus the Lord is encouraging the children of Israel to seek more blessings while He would be favorable to them. While the Lord is so favorable to us, we should ask Him to send us even more favour.

### III. Conclusion:

We are all born in human history, but regenerated in divine history. Now we need to ask ourselves the question: Are we living in divine history, or only in human history? If we live in this world, we are living in the history of mankind. But if we live in the church, we are living in the divine history. In the church life, God's history is our history. Now these two parties - God and us - have the same history, the divine history. This is the church life. We need to receive the Word of God in a living way, which is to receive the Word as the Spirit. Then the spirit will become the killing sword. It kills us directly first, and then indirectly, the dark authorities in the air. Then we can live a healthy proper church life. This is the way to be kept in the church life.