

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Seven : Nehemiah—a Pattern of One Who Has Dispensational Value to God

I. Overview:

Having dispensational value to God, we need to come forward to three things: to the Holy of Holies, to the throne of grace, and to God Himself; do not shrink backward—come forward. The rapture of the man-child to heaven, the casting of Satan to earth, and the declaration in heaven that the kingdom has come signify that God's gaining of the man-child is His greatest dispensational move. The Lord as the leading Overcomer is the Head, and the man-child as the following overcomer is the Lord's Body. The man-child consists of the overcomers who stand on behalf of the church; the Lord's economy can be carried out only by the man-child. Nehemiah is a pattern of someone who has dispensational value to God. In relation to the mocking, despising, and reproach of these opposers, Nehemiah was very pure and aggressive. In his relationship with God, Nehemiah was one who loved God to contact Him in fellowship, trusted in God and even became the representative of God. In his relationship with the people, Nehemiah was unselfish, without any self-seeking or self-interest, and was always willing to sacrifice what he had for the people and for the nation. Nehemiah was the perfect leader, the best leader in human history.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Expound the seed of the woman in Genesis 3.

According to the Bible, the seed of the woman will bruise the head of the enemy. The seed of the woman in Genesis 3 primarily refers to the Lord Jesus, but the overcomers also have a part in this seed. The seed of the woman bruising Satan can be seen in the man-child in Revelation 12. The only Overcomer includes all the overcomers.

B. Why is the rapture of the man-child the greatest move of all the dispensational moves?

The rapture of the man-child brings an end to the church age and introduces the kingdom age. The man-child enables God to move. He waits for man in all of His moves. We need to see of what value the rapture is to the Lord. Of all the dispensational moves, the man-child is the greatest because it removes man's power and the devil's power, and it brings in the kingdom.

Day 2 —

A. Expound the significance of the seed of the woman in Genesis 3:15.

The woman in Genesis 3:15 first is Eve and second is all the people of God, including the virgin Mary, as signified by Eve. However, the seed of the woman depicted in Revelation 12 and signified in Genesis 3:15 is a universal woman, and within her is a part called the man-child. In a biblical sense, woman represents weakness and man represents strength. Therefore the man-child is also a part of the seed of the woman.

B. Explain the spiritual significance of the man-child in Revelation 12:5.

This corporate man-child includes the Lord Jesus as the Head, center, reality, life, and nature of the man-child. In Revelation 12:5 we are told that the man-child will rule all nations with a rod of iron. Thus, the man-child includes both the Lord Jesus and the overcomers in the churches. Christ Himself is the foremost overcomer. Among the people of God on earth there is a stronger part which includes the Lord Jesus and the overcomers.

Day 3 —

A. Expound where the man-child is, there is no ground for the enemy.

Satan has been judged on the cross of Christ, but this judgment needs to be executed. The church should carry out this judgment, but it has failed, so the overcomers must rise up to take the position of the church to execute God's sentence on Satan. After the overcomers are raptured and caught up to God's throne, there will be no more place there for the enemy.

B. Explain the fighting of the man-child with the dragon.

The rapture of the man-child is not just a matter of some individuals being caught up, but more than that, it is to bring to an end the warfare which has been going on for ages and generations. The old serpent, the enemy of God, has been fighting against God for several thousand years. When this warfare takes place in heaven, Michael and his

angels fight against the dragon. Once the man-child is caught up, not only is the dragon unable to be enlarged any further, but he is cast down from heaven.

Day 4 —

A. Why did God gain Nehemiah to make a dispensational move?

When Israel was taken into captivity for seventy years, God still had dispensational move for Israel because of Nehemiah; he was a true overcomer. Even as he was serving a foreign king, he was preparing to go back to Jerusalem. Because God gained Nehemiah, He could make a dispensational move.

B. Expound the difference of the two history between the book of Ezra and the book of Nehemiah.

The book of Ezra is a history of the return of Israel's captivity and the rebuilding of the house of God as the initiation of God's recovery among His elect for His testimony on the earth according to His economy. The book of Nehemiah is a history of the rebuilding of the wall of the city of Jerusalem as a continual recovery among His elect for His testimony for the accomplishment of His economy.

Day 5 —

A. Expound regarding Nehemiah's aggressiveness.

In our reading of the book of Nehemiah, we need to pay attention to Nehemiah's aggressiveness. Although he was a common man, a servant of the king, he was aggressive to volunteer himself to God and to his burden concerning the building up of the city. He was also aggressive in making his requests known to the king. When the king asked him about his sad face, he spoke to the king in a bold, aggressive way about his burden for the city of Jerusalem.

B. Explain Nehemiah's aggressiveness being in resurrection.

Nehemiah's aggressiveness was a virtue in his human conduct. All our natural virtues and capacities should be put to the cross and crossed out. The real significance of the cross of Christ does not mean merely that something is put to an end but that the natural things are crossed out in order to be brought into resurrection. The cross of Christ brings all natural things to death and burial, which is followed by resurrection.

Day 6 —

A. Expound what the characteristics of Nehemiah's aggressiveness is.

Nehemiah was one who lived not in his natural man but in resurrection. He was aggressive, but his aggressiveness was accompanied by other characteristics. First, he loved God. He also loved the holy land, Christ, the holy temple, church, and the holy city, God's kingdom. As a person who loved God, Nehemiah was one who contacted God. Furthermore, Nehemiah trusted in God and even became the representative of God.

B. Describe what the Nehemiah's good examples are in Nehemiah 5:14-19.

Nehemiah and his brothers did not eat the food appointed for the governor for twelve years because of the fear of God. Nehemiah applied himself to work on the city wall. He, his brothers, and all his servants, who were gathered there for the work, did not acquire fields. This means they did not receive any kind of payment. Rather, he fed richly at his table one hundred fifty Jews and rulers.

III. Conclusion:

If we would be aggressive in the service for the Lord, we must be absolute, must labor and struggle, and must deal with the Lord and be dealt with by Him. Dealing with the Lord will become our capital, so that we will be aggressive in our services and work. We must also realize that man-child enables God to move. We should never forget that God could be limited. In all His move, God waits for man. Whatever we bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever we loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens. Today, God is waiting for man-child. This is God's greatest move in this age. Only the rapture of man-child can carry out the things in Revelation 12: 10. We must see that God has an order, and He works according to that order. Now His eyes have transformed from the church to the kingdom.