

**Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying**  
**Message One : Fighting for the Good Land**

**I. Overview:**

We can see that there is a battle for the good land. Satan is doing his utmost to keep God's people from taking possession of and enjoying Christ as the good land. All the battles in the Old Testament were concerned with the good land. In order to understand the significance of the Israelites entering Canaan, we need to know that Canaan has a twofold significance in typology. On the positive side, Canaan typifies the all-inclusive Christ with His unsearchable riches. On the negative side, Canaan signifies the aerial part, the heavenly part, of the dark kingdom of Satan, the heavenlies that are full of Satan's forces. The gods of the pagan tribes, with the demons behind them, represent the spiritual forces of evil and direct the aspects of our natural life to frustrate us from taking possession of the all-inclusive Christ and enjoying His riches. If we would possess the good land, we must engage in spiritual warfare. In order for the Israelites to enter into the good land, they had to pass through the territory controlled by these kings and had to fight against them, and take over their territory. If we would take possession of Christ for our enjoyment, we must be a corporate warrior, defeating the satanic forces, setting up the kingdom of God.

**II. Truth and Enlightenment:**

Day 1 —

A. Expound the works of being spoiled by Satan.

Satan will do whatever he can to spoil the enjoyment of Christ as the land. Not long after God created the heavens and the earth with the intention of giving the earth to mankind as an enjoyment, Satan did something to frustrate Him. Because of Satan's rebellion, God had to judge the universe, and due to that judgment the earth was buried beneath the waters of the deep. Then God came in to work and recovered the land from the waters of the deep.

B. Explain the battles of the enemy against God after the waters of the flood.

The recovered earth was once more put under the waters of the deep; the flood came and covered the whole earth, and typically speaking, man was separated from the enjoyment of the land, which is Christ. But through the redemption of the ark, Noah and his family obtained the right to possess the land and enjoy all its riches. The ark brought them back to the enjoyment of the land.

Day 2 —

A. Explain the land being a picture of Christ.

Christ is the good land. The land that came out of the death water on the third day was a type of the resurrected Christ who came out of death on the third day. All the life, including the vegetable, animal, and human life, came out of the land. Even man was made from the dust of that land. Mankind came from the land, and the land is a figure of Christ. This signifies that Christ is the source of all kinds of life.

B. Expound the good land being a type of Christ.

Because Deuteronomy describes the good land, we may say that the good land is revealed in the Old Testament. But because the meaning and significance of the good land are concealed, we may also say that the land is concealed in the Scriptures. As the Lord's children, supplied by His mercy and grace, delved into the Word, they began to realize that the good land promised by God to His chosen people is a type of Christ.

Day 3 —

A. Explain the heavenlies in Ephesians 2.

Ephesians 2 indicates that in the heavenlies there are different layers. Christ is in the highest layer, the third heaven, to be our everything as our good land. But there is a lower layer of the heavenlies—the air, where Satan as the ruler of the authority of the air is frustrating the people on earth from contacting God and from receiving Christ. This is typified by the Canaanites, who were frustrating Israel from entering into the good land.

B. Fellowship there being evil forces in the heavenlies, needing us to fight the battle.

We must remember that there are evil powers in the heavenlies. We must fight the battle with the enemy. We are enjoying a portion of the all-inclusive Christ, yet the enemy and his evil forces in the heavenlies are still

usurping and occupying the land. As soon as we enjoy Christ in such a way, we realize in our spirit the reality of the evil forces in the heavenlies.

Day 4 —

A. Expound the various pagan tribes, occupying the land, who frustrated us.

There are frustraters which keep us from possessing the land. These frustraters, the various pagan tribes occupying the land, signify different aspects of our natural life. For example, one of the tribes was the Canaanites. The word Canaan means “merchant.” In our natural life there is a Canaanite, one who aspires to make money. Other tribes signify the lust of the natural man and the greed of the natural life.

B. Explain that the various pagan tribes signify different aspects of our natural life.

Behind our natural life are spiritual forces. Within our natural life there is an evil temper, which we despise. But behind this evil temper there are spiritual forces, demons. There was something, some that the aspects of our natural life are utilized, manipulated, and directed by spiritual forces behind the scene. The aspects of the natural life with the spiritual forces behind them frustrate us from the enjoyment of the riches of the all-inclusive Christ.

Day 5 —

A. Expound that Canaan signifies the aerial part, the heavenly part, of the dark kingdom of Satan.

In typology, Canaan signifies the aerial part, the heavenly part, of the dark kingdom of Satan. As the ruler of this world and as the ruler of the authority of the air. Satan has his authority and his angels, who are his subordinates as principalities, powers, and rulers of the darkness of this world. Satan and his kingdom are at war, at enmity, with God and His kingdom.

B. State the children of Israel defeated the three kings in order to enter the good land.

Numbers 21:1-3 reveals that the children of Israel defeated the kings of Arad, of the Amorites, and of Bashan. In order for the children of Israel to enter into the good land, they had to pass through the territory controlled by these kings who were guarding the land of Canaan for Satan. These kings, therefore, were gate guards of the kingdom of darkness, and they had to be defeated before the children of Israel could enter into the land usurped by Satan.

Day 6 —

A. State higher part of the spiritual warfare is the fighting in the spiritual realm against evil spirits and demons.

When we think of spiritual warfare, we may have in mind the warfare between our spirit and our flesh or the struggle against sin and worldliness. However, the war against sin, the world, and the flesh is the lower part of the spiritual warfare. The higher part of the spiritual warfare is the fighting in the spiritual realm against evil spirits and demons. Now we need to learn about this spiritual reality.

B. Expound Satan’s kingdom as the kingdom of darkness.

Within this kingdom there are the fallen angels and the demons. Whereas the fallen angels are in the air, the demons are in the water. Both the angels and the demons, as followers of Satan, are working on fallen human beings to make them subjects in Satan’s kingdom. The fallen angels in the air—the rulers, powers, and authorities of the kingdom of Satan—rule the entire world.

### **III. Conclusion:**

From experience we know that in our Christian life we must allow Christ to increase. This increase will replace the natural life. We should not expect God to drive out every part of our natural life at once. God drives the pagan tribes out from us on the basis of the growth of our life, that means the increase of Christ within us. If the natural life driven out by God does not match the increase of Christ, we shall become a vacuum. Then the worse beasts and demons will come in and possess us. Concerning the matter of spiritual warfare, it is entirely a matter of the church as God’s corporate army. If you separate from the church, you will lose the battle. Satan’s strategy is simply to isolate you from the church as God’s army. It is extremely crucial for us to realize that spiritual warfare is a matter of the Body of Christ.