

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Ten : Governing Principles That We Need to See and Experience in Order to Possess Christ as the Good Land

I. Overview:

As we have received Christ, we should walk in Him; to walk in Him is to live, to act, to behave, and to have our being in Christ so that we may enjoy His riches, just as the children of Israel lived in the good land, enjoying all its rich produce. The good land today is Christ as the all-inclusive Spirit, who dwells in our spirit to be our enjoyment. The central revelation of God is the progressive revelation of God in the Bible—the "bachelor" God, the incarnated God, the redeeming God, the compounded God, the intensified God, the indwelling God, and the incorporated God, the New Jerusalem. The Lord's recovery is the recovery of Christ in His full ministry of three stages. In Exodus 33:15 Moses bargained with God and God responded by saying, "My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest." The presence, the smile of the Lord, is the governing principle for us to enter into Christ as the good land. The wisdom for the noble work of building up the church must be God Himself as the Spirit to us; only the Spirit of God can build His own dwelling place through us. If all the saints in all the churches persevere in prayer; all day long they will enjoy the smile of the Lord's face.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Explain the words in Colossians 2:7 and how to apply them.

In Colossians 2:7 to walk is to live, to act, to behave, and to have our being. We should walk, live, and act in Christ that we may enjoy His riches, just as the children of Israel lived in the good land, enjoying all its rich produce. The good land today is Christ as the all-inclusive Spirit, who dwells in our spirit to be our enjoyment.

B. Expound the difference between walking by the Spirit and by the flesh.

In Galatians 5, the Spirit must be the Holy Spirit, who dwells in and mingles with our regenerated spirit. To walk by the Spirit is to have our walk regulated by the Holy Spirit from within our spirit, in contrast to having our walk regulated by the law in the realm of our flesh. The flesh is the uttermost expression of the fallen tripartite man, and the Spirit is the ultimate realization of the processed Triune God. We can walk by the Spirit instead of by the flesh.

Day 2 —

A. Explain an illustration of the believers' union with the Lord.

"Joined to the Lord" refers to the believers' organic union with the Lord through believing into Him. This union is illustrated by that of the branches with the vine. It is a matter of life. Such a union with the resurrected Lord can only be in our spirit. One spirit indicates the mingling of the Lord as the Spirit with our spirit. Our spirit has been regenerated by the Spirit of God, who is now in us and is one with our spirit.

B. Expound the revelation of the Bible as the love story of a universal couple.

That is, the sovereign Lord, who created the universe and all things, who went through the processes of incarnation, human living, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, and who ultimately became the life-giving Spirit, is joined in marriage to the created, redeemed, regenerated, transformed, and glorified tripartite man—composed of spirit, soul, and body—who ultimately constitutes the church, the expression of God.

Day 3 —

A. Expound there being a wonderful progression in the Bible.

In Genesis 1:1 God was alone. Of course, God by Himself was rich, perfect, and complete, but He was a God without someone to match Him. God realized that it was not good for Him to remain alone, for He said that it was not good for the man whom He had made in His image to be alone. It was not good for God to remain as a "bachelor." He desired to obtain a match, a counterpart.

B. Explain that He is the redeeming God.

The incarnated God went to the cross. By passing through crucifixion, He became the redeeming God. He conquered death, subdued death, and walked out of death. This was the resurrection of Christ, the incarnated God and the redeeming God. disciples in a wonderful way. When He came and stood in their

midst, He breathed into them. At that point He was no longer only the redeeming God; He became the indwelling God.

Day 4 —

A. Explain "The Christ" in 1 Corinthians 12:12.

"The Christ" in 1 Corinthians 12:12 refers] to the corporate Christ, composed of Christ Himself as the Head and the church as His Body with all the believers as members. All the believers of Christ are organically united with Him and constituted with His life and element and have thus become His Body, an organism, to express Him.

B. Why do we need to care for both Christ and the church?

Many Christians today would say that they care only for Christ and not for the church. We can gain much more of the riches of Christ when we care for both Christ and the church. In order to know that He is the Head and the church is His Body, I cannot have the Head without the Body." Today He is no longer only the individual Christ but also the corporate Christ, the Head with the Body.

Day 5 —

A. Expound God by the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire to guide His people.

In typology the cloud signifies the Spirit, and the fire, for enlightening, signifies the Word of God. Hence, the instant, living leading from God comes through either the Spirit or the Word. The two pillars symbolize God Himself, for He is both the Spirit and the Word. Furthermore, the Word is also the Spirit. Thus, God, the Word, and the Spirit are one to lead and guide us continually, whether by day or by night.

B. Explain the first governing principle being the presence of the Lord.

The first governing principle is the presence of the Lord in the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire. In these pillars, the presence of the Lord is the first governing principle. This factor relates to the gathering and to the activity or movement of the Lord's people. When, how, and where the Lord's people should move and act depends on the presence of the Lord revealed to them in the pillar of cloud and in the pillar of fire.

Day 6 —

A. Explain the building of the tabernacle involving the infilling of the Spirit of God.

The record in Exodus stresses strongly the infilling of the Spirit of God. The tabernacle was designed by God Himself. Yet the tabernacle was not built by Him directly. It was built by His people who were filled with Him, that is, with His Spirit. The Spirit of God is God Himself. The Spirit of God is God reaching us. When He reaches us, the very reaching God is the Spirit.

B. Expound how God builds His dwelling place.

God cannot build His dwelling place by Himself; He can do it only through willing and empty vessels. Whether the church is living and fresh and enriched depends on this one thing: that we are being filled continuously with the Triune God. For this, dear brothers, we need first the willingness and second the emptiness. The third thing that we need is the instant, constant prayer. We must pray.

III. Conclusion:

Every day and every moment we are led by this Spirit, the Spirit of divine sonship. But we need to know that this guiding is God Himself. When He anoints us, He as the anointing One is our guide. When Abraham was called, God did not tell him where he went. God's guidance to Abraham was His presence. If Abraham turned to a certain path and lost God's presence, he knew it was not the right path. Abraham traveled with God's presence as his map, thus God's presence was his guidance. Today our guidance is the anointing Spirit. The leading we receive from the Lord must be in the organic union. Since the all-inclusive Spirit is mingled with our spirit as one, we should set our mind on this mingle spirit.