

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying

Message Twelve : Living a Life of Enjoying Christ as the Good Land with the Temple, the Dwelling Place of God, and the City, the Kingdom of God, as Its Issue

I. Overview:

First Corinthians takes the history of the children of Israel in the Old Testament as a type of the New Testament believers. Spiritually speaking, the reality of the good land is in 2 Corinthians; in 2 Corinthians is Christ Himself as the divine grace. Christ is rich beyond measure, but the church today is grovelling in poverty because the Lord's children are indolent. When we come to the meetings to worship the Lord, we should not come with our hands empty; our hands must be full of the produce of Christ. The land with its temple and city is the center of God's plan. The land is Christ Himself, the temple is for the expression of God, and the city is for the dominion of God. The God's house, His dwelling place for His expression, speaks of God's presence. God's house is the place of springs. The God's city is His kingdom for His dominion, is a strong city, is a terror to the enemy, is the perfection of beauty, and is the goal of God's good pleasure.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. What reveals to us putting 1 Corinthians 15:10 and Galatians 2:20 together.

Not I but the grace of God equals no longer I, but Christ in Galatians 2:20. The grace that motivated the apostle and operated in him was not some matter or some thing but a living person, the resurrected Christ, the embodiment of God the Father who became the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, who dwelt in the apostle as his everything.

B. Expound the books of Corinthians referring to the matter of the good land.

In 1 Corinthians Paul likened the Corinthians to the children of Israel. They had left Egypt by experiencing Christ as the Passover. But there is no reference in 1 Corinthians to the good land of Canaan. Although the term of the good land is not used in 2 Corinthians, spiritually speaking, we can see the good land in this book is Christ Himself as the very embodiment of the processed Triune God given to us as the divine grace for our enjoyment.

Day 2 —

A. Expound that the allotted portion of the saints in Colossians 1:12 is experienceable.

God the Father has qualified us by the redemption of God the Son and through the sanctification of God the Spirit for a share of the all-inclusive Christ, the very embodiment of the processed Triune God, as the allotted portion of the saints illustrated by the allotment of the good land of Canaan. The good land is a type of the all-inclusive Christ. God's food is the riches of Christ, typified by the produce of the good land.

B. Fellowship that no matter what status you are, your real career is Christ.

You who are students must realize and experience even while studying that you are working upon Christ. You who are truck drivers must realize that truck driving is not your real occupation; your real business is Christ; you must be working on Him continually. You who are housewives must know that your real work is not caring for your home and your family, but Christ!

Day 3 —

A. Expound how we live a life of laboring on Christ.

From the moment you awake in the morning, from this moment on, to experience and apply Christ in every situation. Moment by moment through the whole day you will maintain your communion with the Lord. You will live practically in the Lord, laboring upon Him, applying Him, and enjoying Him. If you do this, consider how fruitful and how beautiful your "farm" will be.

B. Explain Second Corinthians 2:10 mentioning "in the person of Christ."

Paul forgave a brother in the person of Christ. This Greek word means the face, the part around the eyes, which is the index of all the inward thoughts and feelings to signify the presentation of the whole person. The part of the face around the eyes is the index of all the inward thoughts and feelings, signifying what a person is thinking and how he feels within. Paul forgave that brother in the person of Christ, according to the index of His whole person expressed in His eyes.

Day 4 —

A. Explain that speaking in the meetings, we must accumulate the experiences of Christ day after day. Paul was pursuing Christ. Because he sought after Christ in such a way, he accumulated the experiences of Christ continually. This is why Paul had so much to say about Christ. Many times when we come to the meetings, we do not have much experience of Christ as a base, or a foundation, for our speaking. We are short of experiences of Christ.

B. Expound how to keep a rich storage of the Lord's word.

If we would just practice to pray-read two to four verses from the Word every morning, and we do this week after week and month after month, we will gain a rich storage of the living word. The word will not be just in our memory, but it will be something stored within us...The riches of Christ are embodied in the holy Word. This is what makes the Bible different from all the other books.

Day 5 —

A. Explain that Israelites must worship God in the place of His choice setting His name.

The children of Israel were not allowed to worship God and enjoy the offerings they presented to God in the place of their choice. They were to worship God in the place of His choice, the place where His name, His habitation, and His altar were, by bringing their tithes, offerings, and sacrifices to Him there. To fulfill these requirements was to have a unique center of worship, as Jerusalem would be for the keeping of the oneness.

B. Expound concerning the worship of God in the four ways.

First, the people of God should always be one; there should be no divisions among.

Second, the unique name into which God's people should gather is the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Third, in the New Testament God's habitation, His dwelling place, is particularly located in our spirit. Fourth, in our worship of God we must worship God with Christ and Christ alone.

Day 6 —

A. State what their meetings would be if they meet in a proper way.

When we enjoy Christ in a corporate way to a certain extent, God, in a certain and real sense, will be localized. He will have a definite address on this earth. The home of God is the very place where "Christ Incorporated" is. This habitation, this home of God, is built of Christ mingled and blended with so many believers. He is the all-inclusive land to them. Christ is what they eat, Christ is what they drink—Christ is everything to them.

B. Testify the life of a proper Christian should have.

A Christian is something of Christ. This morning he eats a little of Christ, and this evening he eats a little of Christ. Day by day he eats Christ and drinks Christ. Christ is gradually digested by him and mingled with him so that he and Christ become one. Then when he comes together with other Christians, he brings Christ and they too bring Christ. When they meet together, they offer Christ to God, they also exhibit Christ.

III. Conclusion:

God would not allow the children of Israel to eat the top tithes of the harvest in their homes. They had to keep this portion until they went to worship God at the appointed time in the place of God's choice. At that time, they brought the top tithes of their harvest to the place God had chosen. They enjoy this portion of Christ before God and with God and with one another. This enjoyment produces the worship that God desires. This also constitutes the church life and establishes the kingdom. This top tithe of Christ supplies us with minerals to make us stones, irons, and bronzes. When we have these minerals, we will be qualified to build the temple, defeat the enemy, and bring in the kingdom. Wherever we live, among us God is seeking His home and His kingdom; that is His temple and His city.