

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Propheying
Message Four : The All-inclusive Christ as the Good Land — a Land of Waterbrooks, of Springs
and of Fountains, Flowing Forth in Valleys and in Mountains

I. Overview:

The physical aspect of the blessing that God promised to Abraham was the good land, which is a type of Christ; since Christ is eventually realized as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, the Spirit as the realization of Christ is the good land as the source of God's bountiful supply for us to enjoy. The waterbrooks, springs, and fountains signify Christ as the flowing Spirit, and the valleys and the mountains signify the different kinds of environments in which we may experience Christ as the flowing Spirit. The valleys are the experiences of the cross, the experiences of the death of Christ, and the mountains are the experiences of Christ's resurrection. The indwelling Christ as the treasure in us, the earthen vessels, is the divine source of the supply for the Christian life and the excellent power for us to live a crucified life. The death operates in us, but life in you; when we are under the killing of the Lord's death, His resurrection life is imparted through us into others. We need to build up the habit of drawing water from the springs of salvation in order to drink and flow the water of life. We need to draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation by speaking to the Lord, in the Lord, and with the Lord; thus, the Father as the fountain, the Son as the spring, and the Spirit as the river flow into us and with us to become the New Jerusalem.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Expound that we have received the greatest blessing in the gospel.

In the gospel we have received not only the blessing of forgiveness, washing, and cleansing; even more, we have received the greatest blessing, which is the Triune God—the Father, Son, and Spirit—as the processed, all-inclusive life-giving Spirit dwelling in us in a most subjective way for our enjoyment. Oh, what a blessing that we can enjoy such an all-inclusive One as our daily portion!

B. Explain the words in Galatians 3:14.

This verse indicates that the Spirit is the blessing that God promised to Abraham for all the nations and that has been received by the believers through faith in Christ. The focal point of God's promise to Abraham was that Abraham's seed would inherit the land. inherit the land. According to Galatians 3, Christ is this seed, the unique seed. Furthermore, as we have often pointed out, the good land is a full type of the all-inclusive Christ.

Day 2 —

A. State that the good land of Canaan is a type of the all-inclusive Christ.

The good land, the land of Canaan, is a full, complete, and consummate type of the all-inclusive Christ who is the embodiment of the Triune God realized as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit, as the inheritance allotted to God's people for their enjoyment. The riches of the good land in Deuteronomy 8:7-9 typify the unsearchable riches of Christ in different aspects as the bountiful supply to His believers in His Spirit.

B. Expound Revelation 22:1, "a river of water of life".

The redeeming God sitting on the throne dispenses Himself into all His redeemed...by means of the river proceeding out of the throne. This river is called "a river of water of life". The river, typified by the rivers in Genesis 2:10-14, Psalm 46:4, and Ezekiel 47:5-9, signifies the abundance of life in its flow.

Day 3 —

A. Expound there being a kind of suffering that can make us to be renewed.

In our experience there is a kind of suffering, persecution, or dealing that comes upon us for the sake of Jesus, the Body of Christ, and the new covenant ministry. This does not refer to sufferings and troubles that are common to all human beings in the old creation, or discipline suffered because of sins. This putting to death of Jesus consumes our outward man, so that our inward man may have the opportunity to develop and be renewed.

B. Explain the words in 2 Corinthians 4:10-11 and its application.

The title Jesus in 2 Corinthians 4:10-11 implies that the apostles lived a life like the one the Lord Jesus lived on earth. The Lord's life was a life under the killing of the cross for the manifestation of the resurrection life, a life lived in such a way that His person was one with His ministry and His life was His ministry.

Day 4 —

A. State God's intention in His economy.

God's intention in His economy is to be the fountain, the source, of living waters to satisfy His chosen people for their enjoyment. The goal of this enjoyment is to produce the church as God's increase, God's enlargement, to be God's fullness for His expression. This is the heart's desire, the good pleasure, of God in His economy. The full development of this thought is in the New Testament.

B. Explain in 1 Corinthians 10:3-4, Paul, using the Old Testament types, speaks of drinking and eating. Paul, using the Old Testament types, speaks not only of drinking but also of eating. "All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink." The spiritual food refers to manna, typifying Christ as our daily life supply; the spiritual drink refers to the living water that flowed out of the cleft rock, typifying the Spirit, who flowed out of the crucified and resurrected Christ as our all-inclusive drink.

Day 5 —

A. Explain the difference between the words fountain and springs in Isaiah 12.

The fountain is the source, the spring is the issue of the source, and the waterbrook, or the river, is the flow. The source of the Jordan River is in Mount Hermon. In its verbal form spring means to gush up. Exodus 15 speaks of the children of Israel arriving at Elim on their journey in the wilderness. At Elim there were twelve springs of water. The springs of salvation implies that salvation is the source. The source of the springs of salvation is a fountain, and that fountain is salvation.

B. Fellowship the words in John 7:38 and what the significance of that is.

Out of the fountain of salvation come the springs. This salvation is Jah Jehovah. In John 7:38 the Lord Jesus said that out of our innermost being would flow rivers of living water. Not just a river, but rivers flow out of us...The rivers, which are plural, refer to the one Spirit. Revelation speaks of the seven Spirits. God's one Spirit has been intensified sevenfold.

Day 6 —

A. Explain the words in Jeremiah 17:7-8 and how to experience them.

According to God's economy, the one who trusts in God is like a tree planted by water, signifying God as the fountain of living waters. The tree grows beside the river by absorbing all the riches of the water into it. This is a picture of God's dispensing. In order to receive the divine dispensing, we as the trees must absorb God as the water. We all need absorbing God as the living water that we may be constituted with His element and essence.

B. Testify whatever our inner condition is, we should come to God "Just as I am".

We should lay our inner condition before God and even tell Him that we are short in every matter. No matter what our inner condition is, we should bring it to God. There is a hymn that says, "Just as I am". This means that we should come to God just as we are without trying to improve or change our condition. Even if we are weak, confused, sad, and speechless, we can still come to God.

III. Conclusion:

If you could experience Christ in times of trouble and trial, how much would flow out of you to others! This cannot be done in the time of peace and joy. It is in the day of sorrow, in the day of sickness, in the day of difficulty that you will have a living stream of water to nourish others by experiencing Christ in such times. Actually each situation of death brings forth a greater stream of refresh water, because there are not only mountains, but also valleys in it. We need to have much experience of the Lord's death with much experience of the Lord's resurrection, then we could be filled with the source, the spring, and the river. When God in Christ flows into us as the Spirit, He also flows with us; He will gush up rivers of living water with us into the New Jerusalem to become the New Jerusalem, which will be the destination of the flowing Triune God.