

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Five : The God-man Living**

### **I. Overview:**

The desire of God's heart is that the actual condition of the God-man living of Jesus would be duplicated in the many members of Christ's Body by the Spirit of reality to become the reality of the Body of Christ. The four Gospels show the pattern of the life that God desires, the mold of the life that can satisfy God and fulfill His purpose. In His life on earth He set up a pattern, and we believers' life is in Christ as the mold. As we love the Lord to contact Him, we automatically live Him according to the mold. The burnt offering typifies Christ in His living a life that is absolutely for God and for God's satisfaction; the burnt offering also typifies Christ in His being the life that enables God's people to have such a living. By laying our hands on Christ as our burnt offering through the proper prayer, we are joined to Him, and He and we become one; as Christ lives in us, He repeats in us the life He lived on earth, the life of the burnt offering. In God's New Testament ministry the Lord Jesus as the reality of the burnt offering, He did not do His own work, He did not speak His own word because He was satisfied only with God. Christ as the reality of the burnt offering lived in this world a life of God as love, and He is now our life that we may live the same life of love in this world and be the same as He is.

### **II. Truth and Enlightenment:**

Day 1 —

A. Expound the New Testament strongly indicating that we should live Christ.

In Philippians 1:21 Paul declares, "To me, to live is Christ." But here in Ephesians 4:20 we are told that we have learned Christ. Notice that Paul uses the past tense in speaking of our learning Christ. He also uses the past tense in the next verse. This matter of learning Christ as the reality is in Jesus is difficult to comprehend, and we need to consider it very carefully.

B. Explain Christ being not only life to us but also an example.

We learn from Him according to His example, not by our natural life but by Him as our life. According to the New Testament, the Lord Jesus did not come into us as life directly. Rather, during the thirty-three and a half years of His life on earth, He set up a model. He was crucified on the cross and then He entered into resurrection. It is in resurrection that He comes into us to be our life.

Day 2 —

A. Explain that the believers in Christ should imitate Him properly.

After a person is saved, deep within him he desires to live a life in the pattern established by the Lord Jesus. The believers in Christ should imitate Him, but they should not do so according to their natural life. The reality in Jesus is the real situation of the life of Jesus as recorded in the four Gospels. Jesus lived a life in which He did everything in God, with God, and for God.

B. State when we believed in the Lord Jesus and were saved, God put us into the mold.

When we believed in the Lord Jesus and were saved, God put us into Christ as the mold. Jesus according to reality is the pattern in which God has placed us. In this pattern we have learned Christ as the reality is in Jesus. This means that we have learned Christ according to the reality, that is, according to the life of the Lord Jesus.

Day 3 —

A. Expound the burnt offering typifying Christ.

The burnt offering typifies Christ not mainly in His redeeming man from sin but in His living a life that is perfect and absolutely for God and for God's satisfaction and in His being the life that enables God's people to have such a living. It is God's food that God may enjoy it and be satisfied. This offering was to be offered daily, in the morning and in the evening.

B. Explain the burnt offering was gone through the processes that the fragrant steam arising from a burning sacrifice.

After the burnt offering was slaughtered, skinned, cut into pieces, and washed, it was burned on the altar. The Hebrew words translated "satisfying fragrance" in Leviticus 1:9 literally mean savor of rest or satisfaction, that is, a savor giving satisfaction to the Deity, to whom it is offered, and, therefore, received with favor by Him. The phrase

is a technical term for the fragrant steam arising from a burning sacrifice. Such a satisfying fragrance is an enjoyment to God.

Day 4 —

A. Briefly state that for God to accept the burnt offering is for Him to turn it to ashes.

For God to accept the burnt offering is for Him to turn it to ashes. Ordinarily people do not regard ashes as something pleasant. However, to us who offer the burnt offering, ashes are indeed pleasant, even precious, because they are a sign which gives us the assurance that our burnt offering has been accepted by God.

B. Expound in Leviticus 6:11 the meaning of in handling the ashes.

We see here that the ashes were not thrown away. This indicates that we should treasure the result of our offering of the burnt offering to God. We should never throw it away. Verse 11 signifies the stateliness in handling the ashes. In God's eyes, the result of our burnt offering is highly regarded. It is fine, pure, and clean. Thus, in carrying the ashes outside the camp, the priest wore stately garments and carried the ashes in a stately way.

Day 5 —

A. Expound that throughout His life, the Lord took satisfaction in God.

Throughout His life, the Lord took satisfaction in God. He had no hope toward the world and did not expect to receive anything from it...He said that no one knows the Son except the Father, that He did not receive glory from men, that He did not come to do His own will but the will of the One who sent Him, and that He always did the will of the One who sent Him. Our Lord had God's will as His satisfaction all His life. He was satisfied only with God.

B. Explain that the Lord lived as a man of prayer.

The Lord lived as a man of prayer. But in describing the first God-man as a man of prayer, I have avoided using the word spiritual. Instead, I have used the words divine and mystical. Divine is on God's side. Mystical is on man's side. On the one hand, Jesus was a man in the flesh, yet He prayed to the mysterious God in the divine and mystical way and realm.

Day 6 —

A. Expound the meaning of abiding in love with 1 John 4:16.

In 1 John 4:16 to abide in love is to live a life that loves others habitually with the love which is God Himself so that He may be expressed in us. To abide in God is to live a life which is God Himself as our inward content and outward expression so that we may be absolutely one with Him. God abides in us to be our life inwardly and our living outwardly.

B. Explain the word in 1 John 4:17 and its applications.

As in 1 John 3:3, He in 4:17 refers to Christ. He lived in this world a life of God as love, and now He is our life so that we may live the same life of love in this world and be the same as He is now. However, we must see that the law of Christ is the higher and better law of life which works through love.

### **III. Conclusion:**

What God wants is the life of a God-man, the life of God and man living together. Your family life is a living of God with you. As a wife, you are God with you being a wife and as a husband, you are God with you being a husband. As a co-worker, you are God with you working together. Even when you go shopping, God must go shopping with you. Such a life in which we no longer live alone but live with God is the living of a God-man. Today, when we live the life of a God-man, we should also deny ourselves and die to ourselves every day. Doing nothing of our own, nor speaking a word by our own. This kind of living in Galatians 2: 20 is the living of a God-man and the reality of the Body of Christ. The reality of the Body of Christ consists in our living the life of a God-man, being daily conformed to the death of Christ and enjoying the power of Christ's resurrection.