

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying**

### **Message One : The Faithful Witness of God for the Testimony of Jesus**

#### **I. Overview:**

Christ is the Witness of God, the testimony and expression of God; the church is the testimony and expression of Christ; as such, the church is the reproduction of the testimony and expression of God in Christ. The golden lampstand symbolizes the Triune God; the Father as the substance is embodied in the Son, the Son as the embodiment is expressed through the Spirit, the Spirit is fully realized and expressed as the churches, and the churches are the testimony of Jesus. The beating of the gold to form a stand signifies the believers' participation in Christ's sufferings; everything that goes on in our environment is for the producing of the beaten lampstand. The testimony of Jesus is the great multitude serving God in the temple, the whole Body of God's redeemed, who have been raptured to the heavens to enjoy God's care and the Lamb's shepherding with all the spiritual blessings in the heavenlies and in Christ. The blood of the Lamb answers before God all the accusations of the devil against us and gives us the victory over him. Those of the great multitude are standing before the throne and before the Lamb with palm branches in their hands, which signify our victory over tribulation. Our service in time today is a preparation for our service in eternity; God's only goal in time is to dispense Himself into us day by day. The days of sorrow and the things of sorrow will not last; the world is passing away, and we are blessed to drink of the flowing Triune God until we become the totality of eternal life, the New Jerusalem.

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

Day 1 —

A. Expound in Revelation the churches being unveiled as lampstands.

As the lampstands, the churches shine in the darkness. The word lampstand enables us to understand much about the church and its function. The church is not the lamp; it is the lampstand, the stand that holds the lamp. God is the light, and the Lamb is the lamp. God is in Christ, and Christ as the lamp is held by the stand to shine out God's glory. This is the testimony of the church.

B. Explain the local churches being the lampstands.

As the local churches, the lampstands are golden in nature. In typology, gold signifies divinity, the divine nature of God. All the local churches are divine in nature; they are constituted with the divine nature of God, and they are constructed out of pure gold. This means that all the local churches must be divine. Without divinity, there can be no church.

Day 2 —

A. Explain that the lampstand implies the significance of the Triune God.

The lampstand implies the significance of the Triune God. Gold is the substance with which the lampstand is made, the stand is the embodiment of the gold, and the lamps are the expression of the stand. The gold signifies the Father as the substance, the stand signifies the Son as the embodiment of the Father, and the lamps signify the Spirit as the expression of the Father in the Son.

B. Expound the meaning of the one and seven of the lampstand.

Substantially, the lampstand is one, but expressively, it is seven because it is one lampstand with seven lamps. In substance the lampstand is one piece of gold, but it holds seven lamps. This mysteriously indicates that substantially the Triune God is one. In substance He is one, but in expression He is the seven Spirits. The Father as the substance is embodied in the Son as the form, and the Son is expressed as the seven Spirits.

Day 3 —

A. Why did we need God's seven Spirits?

Even though we may have the gold and are beaten together and are built into one as a lampstand, we still need the seven lamps, the seven Spirits of God as the expression. If we do not have the seven Spirits of God, we will be unable to shine to express God. Whether we are young or old, we daily need to be filled with the sevenfold Spirit of God. Whenever we are filled with God's sevenfold Spirit, we are living and shining.

B. Explain in order to function, we must be filled with the Spirit.

We have a “station” in the third heaven, and we can always be filled with the heavenly pneuma. When we are filled with the Spirit, we can function at any time. This function is not a performance—it is our living. When we all are filled with the sevenfold Spirit of God in the built-up church, this sevenfold Spirit of God will become the very expression of God in Christ.

Day 4 —

A. Explain what we should do to encounter darkness.

Those among us who fear God, hear His voice and encounter darkness, should remember not to do anything but trust in God, rely on God, look wholeheartedly to Him, wait quietly on Him, and seek His mercy once more. Whenever God comes, whenever God bestows mercy, the light of His countenance is our light, His appearing is our vision, and His presence is our gain.

B. State in order to be enlightened, we need to receive the light and open ourselves to the Lord.

First, we must want the shining. The light depends upon our receiving. Second, we should open ourselves to the Lord. The Lord is light, so if our whole heart is turned toward Him, we definitely will have light; but if our heart is not turned toward the Lord, the veil is there; but when it turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Then he can see light.

Day 5 —

A. Explain the words in Revelation 7:9-17.

According to the record of chapter 7, this great multitude is the whole Body of God’s redeemed ones, having been redeemed out of every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues. This great multitude has come out of tribulation in a victorious way, for they all hold palm branches, which signify their victory over tribulation. Eventually, in eternity, they will be overshadowed by God as the tabernacle.

B. Describe the rapture of the believers to their enjoyment in eternity.

The great multitude consists of the redeemed ones from the nations throughout all generations, who are innumerable and who constitute the church. Their standing before the throne indicates that they have been raptured to the heavens, to the presence of God. All of God’s redeemed people have passed through certain tribulations, sufferings, persecutions, and afflictions. No Christian can avoid these things.

Day 6 —

A. Expound that who are the ones who will not hunger and thirst.

To hunger and thirst is to have a hope that is not yet satisfied. Who are the ones who will not hunger and thirst? “Jesus said to them, who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst”. “But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life”. Christ promises that everyone who believes into Him will be satisfied and receive a satisfying life.

B. Explain we experience His overshadowing as a kind of shelter.

The Bible mentions God’s overshadowing as a kind of shelter. There is one kind of life that is under God’s overshadowing; it is a life that is hidden in God. In spiritual warfare, we have the helmet of salvation. Our life is a hidden life. We are hidden under God’s wings on earth today as little chickens are hidden under the wings of their mother.

### **III. Conclusion:**

The Lord has brought us to the churches, and we must praise Him. There is a fountain of spring, God Himself as the source of living water. This living water gushes out, filling us and enabling us to overcome all things. In the church life, we find a secure and endless supply. In this fountain, we experience joy and delight, which are boundless! How wonderful it is that the Lamb, through His heavenly ministry, leads us to such a wonderful spring! Today, Christ is the glorious Son of God, walking among the golden lampstands, which are the local churches. If we were within any denomination, we would still be in captivity. Where there are local churches, there is Christ walking among them. For us to have Christ walking among us is the greatest blessing in the church life. Having Christ walk among us is truly an indescribable glory!