

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophecy

Message Nine : Doing the Will of the Father So That We May Enter Into His Kingdom on " That Day, " the Day of the Judgment Seat of Christ

I. Overview:

Revelation 4:11, " You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created." God is a God of purpose, having a will according to His own pleasure. He created all things for His will that He might accomplish and fulfill His purpose. The book of Revelation, which unveils God's universal administration, shows us the purpose of God. The will of God is concentrated in Christ and Christ as God's will is to have the church as the Body of Christ. To live the Body life, we must be under the Head and take the Head as our life, the principal object, and the center of our whole being. Whoever does the will of the Father is a relative of the Lord Jesus. The ultimate issue of the constitution of the kingdom of the heavens is the will of the Heavenly Father. To call on the Lord suffices for us to be saved, but to enter into the kingdom of the heavens, we also need to do the will of the heavenly Father. There are two principles in the universe—the principle of God's authority and the principle of Satan's rebellion. We must turn away from the principle of lawlessness and reject the way of rebellion.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Explain the worship of both the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders in Revelation 4. In Revelation 4:8-11 we see the worship of God by the four living creatures representing all the creatures and by the twenty-four elders representing all the angels. In the praises of the four living creatures, the last item is thanks, because they are redeemed and are grateful for the redemption of God's grace, whereas in the praises of the twenty-four elders, the last item is power, because they appreciate the power of God by which they rule.

B. Expound God being a God of purpose.

God is having a will of His own pleasure. He created all things for His will that He might accomplish and fulfill His purpose. This book of Revelation, which unveils God's universal administration, shows us the purpose of God. People can easily realize the creation of God, but they scarcely know the will, the purpose, of God's creation. This is the holy city, New Jerusalem.

Day 2 —

A. Explain Colossians being a book concerning God's will.

Wisdom is in our spirit for us to realize, sense, and perceive the spiritual things, and understanding is in our mind to interpret what we perceive. We need all spiritual wisdom and understanding in order to have the full knowledge of the will of God. The will of God mentioned here is the eternal will of God, the great will of God. It is related to God's purpose, God's intention.

B. Expound both Colossians 1:9 and 4:12 talking about the will of God.

In the first chapter of Colossians the apostle Paul and his co-workers prayed that the Colossians would know the will of God, and in the last chapter Epaphras as a slave of Christ struggled fervently in prayer on behalf of the church concerning the same thing. Therefore, this is a book which reveals to us the eternal will of God in the universe. Colossians speaks of the mystery of God in relation to the will of God.

Day 3 —

A. Expound Romans 12 revealing the will of God.

A great revelation in the New Testament is the Body of Christ. The first mentioning of the Body is in Romans 12:5. We must present our physical bodies for the mystical Body of Christ. When we present our bodies and are renewed in our mind, we see, discern, and prove by testing that the will of God is to obtain a Body for Christ.

B. Explain the words in Romans 12:2.

Romans 12:2 speaks of “the” will of God. God does not have many wills but only one will. Strictly speaking, God’s will is nothing less than to have the church, that is, to have a Body for His Son. If we are not in the church, if we do not practice the church life and live for the church, we are not in the will of God. Even though we do something for God, we still have nothing to do with God’s will.

Day 4 —

A. Expound the words in Matthew 12:46-47, and its significance.

As the Lord Jesus was speaking to the crowds, His mother and His brothers stood outside, seeking to speak to Him. The Lord said, “Who is My mother, and who are My brothers?” And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, “Behold, My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of My Father who is in the heavens, he is My brother and sister and mother.”

B. State in Matthew 12 seeing a dispensational turn.

In Matthew 12:46-50 we see a great turn, even a dispensational turn. From this point onward, Jesus’ relationship with people was not based upon the natural birth but upon the spiritual birth. Whoever does the will of the Father who is in the heavens is a relative of Jesus. In other words, at the end of chapter 12, the Lord indicated strongly that He had given up the entire race of Israel.

Day 5 —

A. Explain Matthew 7:21 referring to the manifestation of the kingdom.

Matthew 7:21 does not refer to the reality of the kingdom of the heavens today but to the coming manifestation of the kingdom in the future. To enter into the kingdom of the heavens we need to do two things: call on the Lord and do the will of the heavenly Father. To call on the Lord suffices for us to be saved, but to enter into the kingdom of the heavens we also need to do the will of the heavenly Father. Entering into the kingdom of the heavens requires us through the living of the divine life.

B. Expound the words in Matthew 7:22-23, and how to apply it.

In Matthew 7:22, the words that day refer to the day of the judgment seat of Christ. On the day of judgment, when all the believers will stand before the judgment seat of Christ, many will say to the Lord that they prophesied, cast out demons, and did works of power in His name, but they will be rejected by the Lord. Continuing in verse 23 says, “Then I will declare to them: I never knew you.”

Day 6 —

A. Explain the words in Matthew 7:21-23, and its significance.

In Matthew 7:21-23 the Lord rebuked those who prophesied, cast out demons, and did works of power in His name. Why were they rebuked when they were doing these things in the Lord’s name? They were rebuked because they were doing these things out of themselves, not out of obedience to God’s will. This is the reason the Lord said that only “he who does the will of My Father who is in the heavens” can enter the kingdom of the heavens.

B. Expound that there are two principles in this universe.

One is the principle of God’s authority, and the other is the principle of Satan’s rebellion. We cannot serve God on the one hand and take the way of rebellion on the other hand. We have to ask ourselves if we are under God’s authority. As servants of God we have to have a fundamental revelation, a revelation of His authority. We have to face our pathway accurately and squarely. We have to know that any kind of rebellion is from Satan.

III. Conclusion:

We go out to serve on campus, but we need to ask ourselves what kind of work we are doing and whether we are fulfilling the will of our heavenly Father. Whatever we do, we must be certain that we are carrying out the will of our heavenly Father. Otherwise, the Lord Jesus will say to us, “A lawfulness worker.” Even prophesying in the name of the Lord without following the Father’s will is considered lawfulness. In any race, the runner must run on the correct track. How can we know the will of the Father? We can know it through the life and nature of the Father within us. The Father’s nature always tells us yes or no. But if you do not run according to the divine nature or step out of bounds, the divine nature will say, “Do not run here.” No one needs to tell you what to do, because the divine nature is within you. This nature tells you where you are.