

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying
Message Three : Enjoying the All-inclusive Christ as the Good Land—Our Allotted Portion

I. Overview:

The allotted portion refers to the lot of the inheritance, as illustrated by the allotment of the good land of Canaan given to the children of Israel for their inheritance. The New Testament believers' allotted portion is not a physical land; it is the all-inclusive Christ as the life-giving Spirit. By enjoying the riches of the land, the believers in Christ are built up to be His Body. Milk and honey, which are the mingling of both the animal life and the vegetable life, are two aspects of the life of Christ. The redeeming aspect of Christ's life is for our judicial redemption, and the generating aspect of Christ's life is for our organic salvation. By enjoying Christ as the land of milk and honey, we will be constituted with Him as milk and honey. Colossians 2:8-15 presents a full description and definition of Christ as the soil, in which we do not lack anything; as we take time to absorb Him as the all-inclusive land, the facts in these verses become our experience. Christ as the soil is the One in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily. The If we would absorb the riches of Christ as the soil, we need to have tender, new roots. We need to forget our situation, our condition, our failures, and our weaknesses and simply take time to absorb the Lord.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Exound that as Paul was writing Colossians 2, he was considering the good land in the Old Testament. As Paul was writing Colossians 2, he was considering the picture of the good land in the Old Testament as a type of the all-inclusive Christ.

in 2:7 also indicates that he was thinking of the good land. In order to be rooted in Christ, He must be our land, our soil. All of these are

indications that the Christ revealed in Colossians is our good land.

B. Explain the purpose of God wanting His children of Israel entering into the good land.

Paul was aware that God's chosen people in Old Testament times enjoyed the good land as their portion. Furthermore, he realized that the good

land was everything to them. It was through the good land that they could worship God and build the temple for God's testimony and for His unique dwelling place. It was through the good land that God's purpose could be fulfilled through the children of Israel.

Day 2 —

A. Why do we say that the good land has become a table, a feast, for our enjoyment?

Whenever we come to the Lord's table to enjoy Christ as the all-inclusive One, in our experience we are in the good land enjoying the riches of the

land. This means that the good land has become a table, a feast, for our enjoyment. At this table, this feast, we are satisfied, and God is satisfied also.

B. Present the meaning of the phrase in the light of Colossians 1:12.

Christ, our portion, is to be enjoyed by us in the light. In John 8:12 the Lord Jesus said that He is the light of the world and that whoever follows Him will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life. First John 1:5 says that God is light. He alone is the source of light. The Word of God, Christ, the life of Christ, the believers, and the church can all be light because they have God as their source.

Day 3 —

A. Exound the meanings of the plant life and the animal life.

The barley loaves of the plant life signify the generating aspect of Christ's life, and the fishes signify the redeeming aspect of His life. As the generating life, Christ grew on the land, on the God-created earth. As the redeeming life, He lived in the sea, the Satan-corrupted world. In order to regenerate us He grew on the God-created earth for producing life, but in order to redeem us He lived in the satanic and sinful world.

B. Explain Song of Songs 4:11 saying, "Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb."

Song of Songs 4:11 says, "Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb: honey and milk are under thy tongue." Honey is sweet, and it restores the stricken ones. But this sweetness is not produced overnight. It

comes from a long period of gathering, inward activity, and careful storage. This is the unique possession of one who is taught by God.

Day 4 —

A. Exound what the significance of the expression having been rooted in verse 7 is.

The expression having been rooted in verse 7 implies that there is soil. Having been rooted in the soil, we grow with the elements that we absorb from the soil. We know that Christ as the soil is in our spirit. Now we must go on to see, from verses 8 through 15, a description of the very soil in which we have been rooted. These verses present a full description and definition of the soil.

B. Explain the words in Colossians 2:9, and what its revelations is.

Colossians 2:9: "In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." We should not allow anyone to carry us away from such a soil. The believers had been rooted in Christ as the good land, as the One in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells. Instead of allowing anyone to carry us away from this soil, we must stay rooted in it.

Day 5 —

A. Explain what the riches includes in Colossians 2:11-12.

Verse 11 says, "In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, in the putting off of the body of the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ." The soil also includes the circumcision of Christ, which denotes cutting and killing. Verse 12, which says that we were buried together with Christ in baptism, indicates that the soil also contains the element of burial. After burial we are raised up.

B. Exound the items of the riches in Colossians 2:14-15.

In Colossians 2:14 and 15, we have more elements that are found in Christ as the soil. The wiping out of the handwriting in ordinances is an element in the soil. The same is true of the stripping off of the rulers and the authorities, the making of a display of them openly, and the triumphing over them in the cross. Praise Him that He is such a rich soil! We have been rooted in this soil.

Day 6 —

A. Exound in the soil there being an element that strips off the evil spirits.

In the soil there is also an element that strips off the rulers and authorities and triumphs over them. This element is victorious over the evil spirits in the atmosphere. As we stay rooted in the soil and absorb its rich elements, the rulers and authorities in the heavenlies will be stripped off. There is an element in the soil that strips off the power of darkness.

B. Explain having been rooted in Him, we should go on to absorb His riches.

We are rooted in Christ, who is the rich, fertile soil. Having been rooted in Him, we should go on to absorb His riches. As a tree absorbs nourishing elements from the soil through its roots, we also should absorb the riches of Christ into us. A tree's growth depends upon the nourishment it absorbs through its roots.

III. Conclusion:

In the morning many saints spend a certain amount of time with the Lord, but they may not absorb much of His riches. The reason is that they are in too much of a hurry. If we would absorb the riches of Christ into us as our nourishment, we should not be rushed. We need to spend sufficient time each morning absorbing the Lord. We should not be idle in this matter. We should not only spend time with the Lord in the morning but also throughout the day. We should always absorb the Lord; we must learn to continually enjoy Christ. We should make all material things reminders of Christ. The clothes we wear each day should remind us of Christ, and even drinking water should serve as a reminder to drink Christ through spiritual practices. This way of living is rooted in Christ and allows us to absorb His riches. To absorb the richness of Christ, which serves as nourishment for the soil, requires tender new roots. Do not allow yourself to become old; instead, renew yourself daily.