

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying
Message Five : The Cause of Our Blamelessness in Holiness and the Cause of Our Complete Sanctification in Our Spirit, Soul, and Body

I. Overview:

The heart is the conglomerate of man's inward parts, man's chief representative, his acting agent. Our heart is a composition of all the parts of our soul—the mind, the emotion, Our heart is a composition of all the parts of our soul—the mind, the emotion, and the will—plus one part of our spirit of the conscience. The exercise of the spirit works only when our heart is active; if man's heart is indifferent, the spirit is imprisoned within and is unable to show forth its capability. The soul is the person himself, but the heart is the person in action; the heart is the acting agent, the acting commissioner, of our entire being. The heart is the entrance and exit of life, the "switch" of life. In God's salvation the renewing of the heart is once for all; however, in our experience our heart is renewed continually because it is changeable. God wants our heart to be soft. God wants our heart to be pure, to be loving, to be at peace, and to be established blameless in holiness. God's dispositional sanctification of our spirit, soul, and body is to "sonize" us divinely, making us sons of God that we can be God's expression. In order to cooperate with God to preserve our spirit in sanctification, we must keep our spirit in a living condition by exercising our spirit.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Explain the importance of the heart from the scriptures.

The New Testament emphasizes the matter of a pure heart. The Lord Jesus in Matthew 5:8 said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Paul exhorted Timothy to be with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. Furthermore, in Psalm 51:10 David prayed that the Lord would create in him a clean heart to establish our heart blameless in holiness.

B. Expound how close the heart to the spirit in Psalm 78:8.

Psalm 78:8 says, "That they might not be like their fathers, / A stubborn and rebellious generation, / A generation that did not set their heart right, / And whose spirit was not faithful to God." The spirit is not faithful whenever the heart is not set right. This verse indicates how close the heart is to the spirit. The soul is the person himself, but the heart is the person in action. This means that whenever you act, you act by your heart.

Day 2 —

A. Explain not having an established heart.

Instead of having an established heart, most Christians have a changeable, movable heart. We need a heart that is solidly established, not a heart that is changeable. According to our natural birth, however, our heart is changeable. Our heart is changeable not only in relation to other people but even in our relationship with the Lord. God is the unchanging One; He never changes.

B. Expound we human beings all being changeable.

As human beings, we all are changeable. Simply because we grow older does not mean that there is a basic change in our nature. The same is true in human life. I urge you, especially those who are not so young, not to have any confidence in your heart. Because our heart changes so easily, it is not at all trustworthy.

Day 3 —

A. Expound the relationship between the heart and life.

Since the heart is so vitally related to life, God has no other alternative but to deal with our heart so that His life might be regulated out from us. Toward God, our heart has four great problems: hardness, impurity, unlovingness, and unpeacefulness. When God deals with our heart, He deals with these four aspects so that our heart may be soft, pure, loving, and at peace.

B. Explain God wanting our heart to be pure.

A pure heart means a heart that sets its mind specifically on God. It is also a heart in which the emotion is exceedingly pure and simple toward God. It only loves God and wants God; besides God, it has no other love,

inclination, or desire. Matthew 5:8 says, "The pure in heart...shall see God." Thus, if the heart is not pure, we cannot see God. If our thought is a little concerned with things outside of God, our heart is no longer pure.

Day 4 —

A. Explain the words in First Thessalonians 5:23.

God not only sanctifies us wholly but also preserves our spirit, soul, and body complete. In quantity God sanctifies us wholly; in quality

God preserves us complete; that is, He keeps our spirit, soul, and body perfect. Through the fall our body has been ruined, our soul has been contaminated, and our spirit has been deadened.

B. State the composition of our spirit.

Our spirit is composed of three parts: the conscience, the fellowship, and the intuition. Our spirit is mainly for us to have fellowship with God. This contact with God spontaneously gives us a sense of God, a consciousness of God. If we are wrong, we will be condemned by our conscience. But if we are right, we will be justified by our conscience.

Day 5 —

A. Explain that our psychological heart has three main arteries.

Our psychological heart has three main arteries. These arteries, which are also the three parts of the soul, are the mind, the will, and the emotion. The way to unclog the three main arteries of our psychological heart is to make a thorough confession to the Lord. From experience I have learned that we need to stay with the Lord for a period of time to confess our defects, failures, defeats, mistakes, wrongdoings, and sins.

B. Expound confessing all the sinfulness and uncleanness in our mind.

As we are making confession in this way, we may confess to the Lord how natural our understanding is concerning many matters. Then you should follow the enlightenment and exposure to confess the problems in your thinking one by one. If the Lord exposes this in you, you should immediately confess and say, "Lord, forgive me. Although I love You, my understanding of married life is altogether natural."

Day 6 —

A. Expound how to preserve our body.

In addition to knowing how to preserve our spirit and our soul, we must also know how to preserve our body. Sin has damaged and ruined our body. Our body is a "body of sin". If we would preserve our body, we should live a life that never follows the old man, that never follows our soul.

B. Explain to preserve our body requiring not living according to our soul.

If we live according to the soul, we will use our body to serve the old man. Therefore, to preserve our body first requires that we do not live according to our soul. Second, to preserve our body requires that we not present any member of our body to anything that is sinful. We need to keep our body from seeing and hearing things that will contaminate and ruin it.

III. Conclusion:

Our hearts are established and blameless in holiness. This includes much more than simply our hearts turning towards the Lord and being pure for Him. It involves turning our hearts for the Lord, being possessed by Him, and being permeated by Him. Such a heart not only turns towards the Lord but also has a pure motivation. This heart is separated to the Lord, completely possessed by Him, and permeated by Him. We find our hearts established in this state. Once our hearts are established, they become stable, no longer wavering or changing. When our hearts attain this state, we are blameless. Due to our fall, our bodies have been corrupted, our souls have been defiled, and our spirits have died. In God's complete salvation, God preserves our spirits from the elements of death, keeps our souls from remaining in their natural and old state, and protects our bodies from the corruption of sin.