Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying

2016 Winter Training: Crystallization-Study of Ezekiel (1)

Message Five: The Wings of an Eagle, the Hands of a Man, and the Feet of a Calf

I. Overview:

The wings of an eagle signify the resurrection power of Christ becoming our grace. It is truly full of grace that how He bore His people on eagles' wings. What we are and what we do should not be according to our own wisdom, strength, and ability but by the grace of God. The spiritual significance of the hands of a man is that a normal Christian should do things exactly like a man, doing things in a human way. The more spiritual we are, the more human we will be. The feet of a calf signify that our walk should be straight but not crooked. The calf's divided hoof signifies in our walk we need discernment of perceptive power. The calf's feet "sparkled like the sight of burnished bronze"; this indicates that we need a walk that has been tested and burned by the Lord so that it will be like shining bronze, enlightening and testing others. A calf signifies freshness, livingness, and vigor.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 ---

A. What do Scriptures in the New Testament indicate the eagle's wings?

Second Corinthians 4:7 says, "We have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power..." In 1:12 Paul says, "Our boasting is...not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, ..." In 12:9a the Lord Jesus said to Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness".

B. What are the two symbols in the Bible to speak about two aspects of the Spirit?

On the one hand, the Spirit of God is the Spirit of power, and on the other hand, He is the Spirit of life. He is the Spirit of power without and the Spirit of life within. Therefore the Bible uses two symbols to speak about these two aspects of the Spirit. It uses the eagle as the symbol of the Spirit when it speaks about the Spirit of power, and it uses the dove as the symbol when it speaks about the Spirit of life.

Day 2 ---

A. Expound Isaiah 40:31.

The wings here signify the resurrection power of Christ. Those who stop themselves and wait on Jehovah will experience this resurrection power, be transformed, and soar in the heavens.

B. Explain Psalm 57:1 about making our refuge in the shadow of God's wings?

The grace, power, and strength of the Lord are both for moving and for covering us. On the one hand, the Lord's grace is the power for us to move; on the other hand, the Lord's power is our protection, our hiding place. We are under the overshadowing of the grace and the power of Christ, and we are under the covering of His power.

Day 3 ---

A. What do we need to be balanced regarding faith in God?

Paul was balanced; he had not only the eagle's wings but also the hands of a man. He conducted himself not in fleshy wisdom but in the grace of God, however he also said that he labeled more than all the other apostles. This indicates that he experienced the eagle's wings, and was still very human in his living, taking the human way to do everything.

B. What is the significance of that the four living creatures's human hands are under the eagle's wings?

This indicates that in doing everything we should be under God's grace, and His covering. In all that we do, we should depend on the Lord and express Him. In this matter we are altogether different from the worldly people, and what we do we should be under the Lord's grace and power, depending on Him and expressing Him.

Day 4 ---

A. What is the Christian humanity?

The Christian humanity does not refer to our natural virtues; rather, it is the Christ who lives in us and out of us. Today our position is in Christ. However, we have to attain to a condition in which we are found in Christ. Moreover, whether by life or death, Christ should be magnified in our body as always.

B. Why can this eternal life work in us in a quiet way?

When He comes into us as the eternal life with the divine nature, the human nature is included. When Christ comes into us as life, He is the eternal life with both the divine life and nature and the human life and nature. It's so that this eternal life can work in us in a quiet way.

Day 5 ---

A. How is that the Spirit in John $\frac{7:37}{:39}$ is related to the humanity of Jesus?

This Spirit, who is the living water flowing from within us, is constituted of the humanity of Jesus. Without the humanity of Jesus, there could never be such a Spirit. Verse 39, which says that the Spirit was not yet because Jesus had not yet been glorified. This proves that the spirit was constituted with the glorified humanity of Jesus.

B. Why should we walk with calf's feet instead of man's feet in our coordination?

We should not walk with the man's feet that are somewhat crooked. Human cleverness is something crooked. This is why Paul said that he did not conduct himself in fleshly wisdom, that is, not in human cleverness. Instead of being crooked or clever, our Christian walk should be straight and frank.

Day 6 --

A. Expound why Paul in Philippians 1:9 said the love needed with discernment?

The Greek word for *discernment* means "sensitive perception, moral tact." Discernment is the ability to sense things. Paul did not want the Philippians to love in a foolish way. On the contrary, he encouraged them to love with a mind full of knowledge and discernment, sensitive perception, and moral tact. When we experience Christ, He becomes our knowledge and discernment.

B. Explain how to apply that what a calf signify?

In the Bible a calf signifies freshness and livingness. A believer in Christ who enjoys grace and lives in the presence of God is always new and fresh, and with him there is no oldness. Sometimes you may meet a brother who is quite young humanly but spiritually is rather old. At other times you may have fellowship with an older brother who is very experienced in the Lord, but you sense something new and fresh.

III. Conclusion:

In Isaiah 40:31 says "Yet those who wait on Jehovah will renew their strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles;..." The eagles signify the Spirit of power; who must very patiently wait until the current rising in the air, then stretch out their wings and soar. Instead, they soar with the assistance of the thermals. Upon detecting a warm updraft, they leave their perch and glide on the air. The hards of a man indicate that we who are living church life need to live in a proper, normal, ordinary humanity and do things in a human way. This is the humanity of Jesus. The calf's feet are spoken of that our coordination should be frank, straight, without guile, nor crooked, as well in full knowledge and all discernment.