

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Two : The Gospel of the Glory of the Blessed God**

### **I. Overview:**

Glory is an attribute of God; glory is the expression of God, God expressed in splendor. God created us as vessels unto honour, prepared unto glory; we were predestinated in His sovereignty to be His vessels to express what He is in glory. Through the gospel of the glory of Christ, God has called us by and into His eternal glory. The god of this age has blinded the thought of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ might not shine on them. If we drop our concepts and turn our heart to the Lord, the veils will be taken away, the god of this age will have no ground in our being, and the gospel of the glory of God will shine in our hearts. The glory of God is involved with Christ's incarnation, human living, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, and coming again. The gospel of the glory of Christ shines into us, and then it shines out from within us. Those who receive the gospel of the glory of Christ through our shining will have Christ as the precious treasure dispensed into them; then, like us, they will be earthen vessels containing this priceless treasure.

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

Day 1 —

A. Expound the meaning of the God of glory appearing to Abraham.

The God of glory called Abraham, and Abraham was attracted and caught by that glory. The principle is the same with us today. To be attracted by the God of glory means that God transfused Himself into His called ones without their realizing it or being conscious of it. Once God has transfused Himself into us, we cannot escape; we must believe in Him.

B. Explain that we might become vessels of His glory.

God created man as a vessel to contain Him, and out of the many vessels He chose us to contain Him, the God of honor, that we might be vessels of honor. Finally, He makes known His glory upon us, the vessels, that we might become vessels of His glory. All this is out of His mercy and according to His mercy; it cannot be obtained by our efforts.

Day 2 —

A. Describe that the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of man.

In Corinthians 4:4 Paul says, "The god of this age is Satan, the deceiver, the ruler of this present age. He dominates today's world and hunts for man's worship by blinding his mind and his thoughts. In this verse blinded means to veil a person's understanding. Furthermore, the thoughts here denote "the understanding" or "the mind."

B. Explain what we should do if we would receive the revelation of the Son of God.

We need to drop our concepts. Every concept, whether spiritual or carnal, is a veil. With respect to receiving revelation, there is no problem on God's side. The problem is altogether on our side. We need to drop the veils, that is, to drop our concepts. It is important for us to pray, "Lord, help me to drop everything that is a veil."

Day 3 —

A. Explain His flesh concealing His glory.

For John 1:14 tells us that the very God became flesh. This flesh, this humanity, became a shell to conceal the glory of Christ's divinity. Christ's divinity is itself the divine glory. Just as God is light, divinity is glory. When Christ was in the flesh, in His humanity, His flesh was a shell that concealed His divinity and thereby concealed His glory.

B. Expound the basis of His being glorified.

Because the divine glory was concealed within the shell of His flesh, it was necessary for Christ to be glorified. In John 12:23 He said, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." In 17:1 He prayed, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son that the Son may glorify You." In verse 5 He went on to say, "Now, glorify Me along with Yourself, Father."

Day 4 —

A. Fellowship how the god of this age to blind the thoughts and the minds of man.

Satan, the god of this age, has blinded the thoughts and the minds of the unbelievers so that the illumination of the gospel of Christ's glory might not shine into their hearts. This is similar to covering the lens of a camera so that the light cannot shine into the camera. When the shutter is pressed, there is a way for the light with the object, the figure, the image, to shine into the camera and be impressed on the film.

B. Describe that in the church we are practicing such a heavenly photography.

As light shines into us, it brings in the image of Christ. This illumination shines into our spirit through our mind. Our spirit can be compared to the film. When the shining comes into us through our open mind, it reaches our spirit and brings the figure of Christ, the image of God, into us.

Day 5 —

A. Explain the word in Second Corinthians 4:4 and its application.

Second Corinthians 4:4 indicates that the terms God, image, Christ, glory, gospel, and illumination are all in apposition to one another; thus, they all refer to the same wonderful person. God is the image, the image is Christ, Christ is the glory, the glory is the gospel, and the gospel is the illumination. If we see the image of God, we see God; the image of God is God Himself.

B. Expound that when the gospel came to us, it came to us by shining.

The gospel is the illumination, the enlightenment. The gospel is the gospel of the glory of Christ, which illuminates, radiates, and shines in the heart of man. When the gospel came to us, it came to us by shining, and this shining brought into us Christ, who is the image of the processed Triune God. As a result, Christ, the living person, was illuminated into our being.

Day 6 —

A. State how to experience the gospel of the glory of Christ.

The gospel of the glory of Christ first shines into us, and then it shines out from within us. The more the glory shines within us, the more it penetrates into our being and saturates it. Eventually, the inner glory will consume, swallow up, our entire inward being. Then the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ will shine out through us.

B. Expound the words in 2 Corinthians 4:6, and how we can carry it out.

God's shining in our hearts in 2 Corinthians 4:6 results in the illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, that is, in the shining in the universe produced the old creation. His shining in our hearts has made us a new creation, because this shining brings into us, earthen vessels, the marvelous treasure of the Christ of glory.

### **III. Conclusion:**

In principle, anything that hinders people from understanding the gospel of Christ, such as philosophy, religion, and cultural traditions, is a veil. Therefore, we need not only to have an unveiled face, but also to have an open mind. Then, when the light shines into us through our open mind, it penetrates our spirit and shines Christ, the image of God, into us. The old creation came out of God's outward shining out of darkness; the new creation is accomplished by God's inward shining in our hearts. Whenever we call on the Lord in a loving, intimate way, we are in His presence, and God shines in our hearts. This is how we receive the inward shining. Shining again what we have received, we walk to shine the gospel of the glory of Christ.