

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Six : Attaining to the Out-resurrection**

### **I. Overview :**

The out-resurrection refers to the outstanding resurrection, the extra-resurrection, which will be a prize to the overcoming saints. The out-resurrection is actually the dear, precious, excellent person of Christ. In order to attain to the out-resurrection, we need to know Christ in the power of His resurrection, know Him in the fellowship of His sufferings, and know Him by being conformed to His death. Our Christian life has a goal, and this goal is the out-resurrection, the extraordinary resurrection. Death is the condition for our attaining to the out-resurrection. If we remain in Christ's death, allowing ourselves to be molded into its likeness, the outcome will be that every part of our being will be gradually resurrected. We should endeavor to arrive at the out-resurrection during our lifetime. Romans 8:11 reveals that we can attain to the out-resurrection in this age. If we are conformed to Christ's death, every part of our being will be gradually resurrected; thus, the Christian life is a process of resurrection.

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

Day 1 —

A. Expound what the out-resurrection is.

The out-resurrection from the dead denotes the outstanding resurrection, the extra-resurrection, which will be a prize to the overcoming saints. All believers who are dead in Christ will participate in the resurrection from the dead at the Lord's coming back. But the overcoming saints will enjoy an extra, outstanding portion of that resurrection. This is the "better resurrection" mentioned in Hebrews 11:35.

B. Explain pursuing toward the goal of the out-resurrection.

One day the Son of God came into the old creation. When He was crucified, He brought the entire old creation to the cross and nailed it there. When He was buried, He brought the old creation with Him into the tomb. When He was resurrected, He was a person absolutely out of the old creation and in God. This is the meaning of the expression the out- resurrection. Christ attained to this out-resurrection through crucifixion and resurrection.

Day 2 —

A. Expound death is the condition for our attaining to the out- resurrection.

The death in Philippians 3:10 is the lovable, all-accomplishing death of Christ. Death is the condition for our attaining to the out- resurrection. Paul desired to arrive at a certain goal, the goal of the out-resurrection. When we were baptized, our old life, our natural human life, was terminated and buried, and a new life, the divine life, which is Christ, rose up from within. At that time we began our Christian life and walk.

B. Explain that the baptism is the beginning of entering the process of the resurrection.

Between baptism and the goal there is the long process of arriving at the out-resurrection. Although our baptism signified that our old man had been buried, most of the time we lived by our natural life, not by Christ. Because we still live so much by our natural life, the process of resurrection must continue.

Day 3 —

A. Expound Paul's words in Philippians 3:11.

In Philippians 3:11 Paul says, "If perhaps I may attain to the out- resurrection from the dead."...Paul was desperate. He was like a runner in a race who is desperate to be first. Paul's concept was that he wanted to arrive at the goal of the out- resurrection. We all need to have this sense of desperation infused into us. We need to be desperate to attain to the out-resurrection.

B. Fellowship Paul's pursuing Christ becoming our pattern.

Even though Paul was a matured saint and a very experienced apostle, he tells us that he had not already obtained and had not yet been perfected. He was still pursuing Christ in order to gain Him. The first aspect of the way to pursue Christ is that we do not consider ourselves to have gained. Following this, we need to do one thing: forget the things which are behind and stretch forward to the things which are before.

Day 4 —

A. Why must we endeavor to arrive at the goal during our lifetime?

For Paul, to live was the goal—Christ as the out-resurrection. Furthermore, for us, to live should also be the out-resurrection, for the very Christ whom we should live is Himself the out-resurrection. This means that day by day we should live the out-resurrection. This shows that to live Christ is to live the out-resurrection, to live a life absolutely out of the old creation and in God.

B. Explain that the natural life frustrates us most in running the race.

Having encountered many hindrances in the Christian race, I have learned that the greatest hindrance is the natural life with its thoughts and habits. The natural life frustrates in running the race toward the goal. Although you may not speak in an evil, slanderous way, your talk may be natural. You may speak many positive things, but your words may be spoken in a natural way, not in resurrection.

Day 5 —

A. Expound Romans 8:11 indicating that we can attain to the out-resurrection in this age.

Romans 8:11 indicates that we can attain to the out-resurrection in this age. Here Paul says that the Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead will give life to that part of our being which is dying, our mortal bodies. We have seen that the Spirit is the reality of Christ's resurrection, the reality of the out-resurrection.

B. Fellowship needed to be conformed to Christ's death both in church and family life.

We need to be conformed to Christ's death both in the church life and in our family life, dying to the old creation that we may live the new creation. By being conformed to the death of Christ, we experience the power of His resurrection and enter into the fellowship of His sufferings. It is in this way that we attain to the out-resurrection and reach the goal of being fully out of the old creation and wholly resurrected into the new creation.

Day 6 —

A. State how God has resurrected our three parts.

To arrive at the out-resurrection means that our entire being has been gradually and continually resurrected. God first resurrected our deadened spirit. Then from our spirit He proceeds to resurrect our soul and our mortal body, until our entire being—spirit, soul, and body—is fully resurrected out of our old being by His life and with His life.

B. Why do we say as long as we are not in resurrection, we cannot experience Christ?

As long as we are not in resurrection, we cannot experience Christ, because Christ today is in resurrection... But when you are willing to be conformed to Christ's death and are spontaneously brought into resurrection, you will meet Christ in resurrection. Here, in resurrection, Christ becomes our experience. If you are being conformed to His death, you will be in resurrection.

### **III. Conclusion:**

If we are conformed to the death of Christ, the out-resurrection is our portion. When we die, the resurrection power of Christ rises to lift us up into the out-resurrection. By being conformed to the mold of Christ's death, the resurrection power arises to bring us into the outstanding resurrection. Thus we live a life of death and resurrection. Through death and resurrection we experience Christ, and the riches of Christ become our portion. Then we experience Christ through death and resurrection and enjoy Him in our daily living. From now on we should not only remain in the death of Christ but also be conformed to His death. The more we are conformed to His death, the more we shall know the power of His resurrection. The more we realize the power of His resurrection, the more we shall be conformed to His death. This is how we pass through the process of resurrection and move on to the out-resurrection.