

## **Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Two : The Joy of the Triune God Becoming Our Joy**

### **I. Overview:**

The Triune God is a God of joy; this indicates that joy is one of God's attributes. God is the God of enjoyment. In our experience, if we enjoy God as grace, we will have peace, and if we have peace, we will have joy. Christ is also joy to the believers. 4. Our joy always comes from our abiding in the Lord, from our abiding in His 5. It is in this kind of life that we are full of joy. The secret to the Christian life is not how much we work for Him but how much we absorb Him and enjoy Him. This joy is Christ Himself; when He abides in us, His joy abides in us to be the source of our joy that our joy may abound and become full and that we may live our days with joy. We must learn to directly use our spirit and let the soul be a follower of the spirit. Our spirit must take the lead aggressively in enjoying the Lord. In His prayer to the Father, the Son said, "Now I am coming to You, and these things I speak in the world that they may have My joy made full in themselves". In the church as the kingdom of the Son of God's love, we experience and enjoy Christ in His all-inclusiveness. joyful, and any difficulty deepens our joy in the Lord. The Holy Spirit is a Spirit of joy. If we are joyful, this indicates that the Holy Spirit in us is also joyful. There may be nothing in the outward environment to make us joyful, but the Lord who lives in us is our joy.

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

Day 1 —

A. Expound in John 15:11 that believers' joy may be made full.

In John 15:11 the Lord's word concerning the vine and the branches are an organism to glorify the Father by expressing the riches of the divine life. For us to be branches of the divine vine and to bear fruit to express the divine life is a matter of joy, a joyful life. If we abide in the Lord by abiding in His love so that we may bear much fruit for the glorification of the Father, we shall be filled with joy.

B. Explain in John 17:13 concerning His joy being made full in the believers.

In John 17:13 the Lord Jesus again speaks concerning His joy being made full in the believers. In His prayer to the Father, He said, "Now I am coming to You, and these things I speak in the world that they may have My joy made full in themselves." The fullness of joy is in the real oneness. When we are one in the Father's name by the Father's life, enjoying the Father together, we shall have the Lord's joy made full in us.

Day 2 —

A. Explain the basis of the believers' joy.

Romans 14:17 says that the kingdom of God, which is the reality of the church life, is joy in the Holy Spirit. First Thessalonians 1:6 tells us that the believers "received the word in much affliction with joy of the Holy Spirit." Furthermore, Galatians 5:22 indicates that joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. As Christians, we have joy when we are filled with the love of God and the divine life.

B. Describe in Romans 14:17, the joy of the kingdom life.

The overcoming life that we live in the church today is the kingdom life, which is constituted of the joy of the Holy Spirit with righteousness and peace. If we are righteous and right toward others and toward God, we will have a peaceful relationship with others and with God. Thus, we will have joy in the Holy Spirit, proving that we are living in the reality of God's kingdom and are under God's rule and thereby have the practical church life.

Day 3 —

A. Expound that there is a very important principle in the Bible.

In the Bible there is a very important principle related to the first mention of a matter that sets an eternal governing principle for that matter throughout the rest of the Bible. In the first reference to God's relationship with man in the Bible, God presents Himself to man as food. This shows that God wants man to enjoy Him. After God created man, He placed him in front of the tree of life so that man would enjoy the fruit of that tree.

B. Explain what the Lord Jesus being on earth revealed to man.

When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He repeatedly revealed that He was food for man to eat and enjoy. He pointed out that they were seeking for food that perishes, food that is of no eternal value. He did not come to give man

corruptible food, but He came to give man incorruptible food from heaven. The Lord explained that He is the food; he who eats His flesh and drinks His blood has eternal life.

Day 4 —

A. Expound what the focus of our remembrance of the Lord is.

The focus of our remembrance of the Lord is our eating and drinking of Him. Every time we come to remember the Lord, we should not remember Him merely by meditating in our mind. We need to receive Him and all that He has accomplished in our spirit as our inward enjoyment and allow Him to mingle more with us. This is the true remembrance of the Lord.

The Christian living is a life of eating, drinking, and enjoying the Lord day by day in order to allow Him to mingle with us.

B. Explain the secret of the Christian life.

The secret of the Christian life is not how much we work for Him, but how much we enjoy Him. We must learn this secret.. We need to learn to simply turn our inner being to enjoy God. When we pray, there is no need for us to be concerned about our difficulties and burdens. We need to learn to come to God to enjoy and absorb Him, and forget about everything, even a child's illness. If we forget, the Lord will not forget.

Day 5 —

A. Explain in Luke 1:47 that our spirit needs to take the lead in enjoying the Lord.

Luke 1:47 is describing the enjoyment of the Lord, and in the enjoyment of the Lord, our spirit has to take the lead. First, Mary's spirit exulted in God; then her soul magnified the Lord. Her praise to God issued from her spirit and was expressed through her soul. But today we mostly use our soul first. We must learn to directly use our spirit and let the soul be a follower of the spirit.

B. Expound the words in Colossians 1:12 and how to experience them.

Colossians 1:12 says, "Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light." The allotted portion of the saints refers to Christ. Just as the good land of Canaan was the portion allotted to the children of Israel in the Old Testament, Christ is the allotted portion of the New Testament believers. Thus, we need to possess Him and partake of Him as our heavenly allotment, our heavenly portion.

Day 6 —

A. State the words in Matthew 28:20.

The Lord is with us today but in a hidden, veiled way. His coming back will be His revelation, when He will be seen openly by all. Although we have never seen the Lord Jesus, we love Him. At present we cannot see Him, yet we believe in Him. We love Him whom we have not seen because of believing, that is, because of the faith that has been infused into us through our hearing of the living word.

B. Explain the word in 1 Peter 1:8 and how to apply it.

According to 1 Peter 1:8, the believers "exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory." This joy is immersed in the Lord as glory; thus, it is full of the expression of the Lord. This joy is also unspeakable; it is a joy that is beyond our ability to utter. By believing into the Lord and loving Him, we obtain great joy. The normal condition of a Christian is to "exult with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory."

### III. Conclusion:

Jeremiah 15: 16, "I have thy words as food, thy words are the joy of my heart." When we receive the word of the Lord, we should not only understand it but eat it, so that the word of the Lord becomes our gladness and joy of my heart. Rejoicing means singing; there is joy within us, and there is joy singing out. Christians must be joyful; they must be people who are full of joy every moment. Sometimes we are so full of joy that we feel that if we did not shout Hallelujah, Praise the Lord, or Amen, we would not be able to bear. Sometimes we are so full of joy that we have to stop being silent and speak out. As Christians, we should not be so silent. Because we are filled with the flow, the gushing and the overflow of divine life, we cannot be silent, but must cry out and speak.