Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's Day Prophesying Message Nine: Christ as the Resurrection and the Grain of Wheat

I. Overview:

In order to live in resurrection, we must see the unveiled truth concerning Christ's resurrection. Without these major items of the Lord's resurrection, there would be no church, no Body of Christ, and no economy of God. The principle to every service lies in the budding rod. What we can do belongs to the natural realm, and what is impossible for us to do belongs to the realm of resurrection. A man must come to the end of himself before he will be convinced of his utter uselessness. Although the living God can perform many acts on man's behalf, the life and nature of the living God are not wrought into man; when the God of resurrection works, His life and nature are wrought into man. The glory of Christ's divinity with His divine life was concealed in Him as in a grain of wheat. While the glory of His divinity was concealed by the shell of His humanity, He was pressed and constrained, longing to be baptized with the baptism of His death for the release of the glory of His divinity with the fire of His divine life. Through His life-releasing death and life-dispensing resurrection as the grain of wheat, Christ brought all His believers into an incorporation with the processed Triune God.

II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Expound regarding the truth of the resurrection.

In the same resurrection Christ was born to be the firstborn Son of God, and we, the God-chosen people, were born to be the many sons of God, who are the "twins" of Christ. Also, in this same resurrection Christ became a life-giving Spirit. Without these major items of the Lord's resurrection, there would be no church, no Body of Christ, and no economy of God.

B. Explain the reality of the Body of Christ being in the Spirit of the reality.

Triune God is His consummated Spirit of reality.

The Body of Christ is the church today, and all of its reality is the Spirit of the reality of the consummated Triune God. The reality of the processed

Triune God is His consummated Spirit of reality. The reality of all that the Triune God is, has, and can do is simply this Spirit of reality. The reality of the death and resurrection that the Triune God passed through is also this Spirit of reality.

Day 2 —

A. Explain that resurrection is the basis of God's selection.

God commanded the twelve leaders to take twelve rods according to the twelve tribes of Israel and put them in the tent of meeting before the Ark.

Then He said, "And the rod of the man whom I choose shall bud". All twelve rods were leafless, rootless, dry, and dead. Whichever one budded was the one that was chosen by God. Here we see that resurrection is the basis of God's selection.

B. Expound what effect of the budding rod to produce.

First, a budding rod humbles the owner of the rod. Second, it shuts up the mouth of the owners of the other rods. What would our reaction be if we took a dry rod, which was dead and had no hope of budding, and found to our surprise that it had budded, blossomed, and borne fruit. We would confess to God in tears that this was His doing. It would have nothing to do with us. It would be His glory, not our glory. Spontaneously, we would be humbled before God.

Day 3 —

A. Fellowship the distinction between the living God and the God of resurrection.

While the living God can perform many acts on man's behalf, the nature of the living God cannot blend with the nature of man. When, on

the other hand, the God of resurrection works, His very nature is wrought into the nature of man. Even when the living God has performed some act on your behalf, after that act as before it, He is still He, and you are still you. On the other hand, when the God of resurrection works, He communicates Himself to man by that which He does for him.

B. Explain the case of experience of the living God.

A brother becomes seriously ill. His case is considered hopeless, but God has mercy on him and works a miracle on his behalf so that he recovers. Thereafter, he testifies to the fact that God is the living God. Yet within a short time of his recovery, he plunges right into the world. Even when he is living in the world, he still remembers that God is the living God and that God preserved his life from death. But he has experienced no increase of divine life; he has experienced only a miracle of healing.

Day 4 —

A. Explain when God's divine element is increasing within us, He renews us.

After we have been regenerated, we have God, but we do not have much of God. This is why Colossians 2:19 says that we need to grow with

the growth of God. When we have God in us to the fullest, we will have the full growth. When God is increasing within us, His new element is being added into us. When the divine element comes into us, it renews us regardless of whether we are slow or quick in our natural disposition.

B. Expound that God desires to add Himself into our being, but we must contact Him.

God desires to add Himself into our being, but He does not increase in us when we do not contact Him. Our calling on the Lord is our spiritual breathing. We have to contact God by praying to Him and calling on Him. Then He adds Himself into us. When we contact Him, He is adding more and more of the divine element into our being.

Day 5 —

A. Expound Christ's incarnation becoming a shell to conceal His divinity.

Christ's humanity through His incarnation became a shell to conceal the glory of His divinity. Christ's divinity is itself the divine glory. When Christ was in the flesh, in His humanity, His flesh was a shell that concealed His divinity and thereby concealed His glory. Because the divine glory was concealed within the shell of His flesh, it was necessary for Him to be glorified.

B. Why was the Lord Jesus pressed and constrained, longing to be baptized with the baptism of His death? While the glory of His divinity was concealed by the shell of His flesh or humanity, the Lord Jesus was pressed and constrained, longing to be

baptized with the baptism of His death for the release of the glory of His divinity. If the Lord Jesus as a grain of wheat had not died, He would have

remained the same. But through His death His glory was released for the producing in His resurrection of the many grains as the expression of His glory.

Day 6 —

A. Explain the words in John 14:2 and 23.

John 14:2 tells us that in the Father's house there are many abodes, and in verse 23 we see that these abodes are built up by the Father and the Son's visitation to those who love Him. The abode is a mutual dwelling place for the Triune God and for us. This is the building up of the Father's house through the constant visitation of the Triune God.

B. Expound the words in John 15:1 and what the significances are.

The vine tree I have seen is Christ as the true vine. This vine needs the entire globe for its spreading. In John 15 the Lord said, "I am the true vine". Only one vine is uniquely true. This is Christ spreading around the globe. Christ as the true vine has spread Himself from America to places such as Russia, Poland, Romania, South Africa, South America, New Zealand, and Australia.

III. Conclusion:

The Lord is like a grain of wheat that falls into the earth and loses its soul life through death, so that He may release His eternal life to many grains in the resurrection. We are these many grains, and we must also lose our soul life through death in order to enjoy this eternal life in the resurrection. Moreover, these many grains need to be crushed and ground into flour so that they can be mixed together to make bread. Many times the environment affects us like death, but everything is a test, because these things prove whether or not the Lord is resurrected. Nothing can restrain us because we have the Lord as our resurrected life. No matter how much pressure or difficulty we carry, we can endure it because we have the resurrected life. This will be the greatest victory in the whole universe, and this victory will testify that the Lord is the resurrection.