The Practice of Prophesying for the Building Up of the Church as an Exceedingly Great Army (The bird's eye view, Hymn:864)

Overview: In the outline I,provides the definition regarding prophesying. II is speaking of prophesying life with loving the Lord. III is speaking of nourishing with unsearchable riches of Christ by PSRP and IVis speaking about the importance of the opening fellowship of an bird's eye view and the closing fellowship in the church meetings. Vis about three constituting elements of prophesying, VI is about the important points that we need to note when we are ready with three constituting elements of prophesying and VIII is about the things we need to be aware of in the training of prophesying practically. Prophesying can build up the Church as the Body of Crist, the exceedingly great army which is the goal of God's economy. Thus it can make the ones who prophesy excel.

I. Prophesving (speaking for the Lord and speaking forth the Lord into one another) in the meetings of the church fulfills the greatest prophecy in the Bible, which is to build up the church (in oneness as an exceedingly great army)

- II. We need to live a prophesying life by loving the Lord to the uttermost:
- A. The more we love the Lord, the more we are qualified, perfected, and equipped to speak for the Lord.
- B. Our love for the Lord is the factor, the element, and the very basic essence of our having the authority and impact and of our being powerful in our speaking for the Lord
- C. If we love the Lord, we will be filled with Him; whatever fills us within will come out of us; the overflow comes from the infilling
- D. When we love the Lord to the uttermost, we must speak; we must release the One who has filled us within
- V. We must see the three constituting elements of prophesving
- A. We must possess knowledge of the Word of God—the human element of learning.
- B. We must have the instant inspiration of the Holy Spirit—the divine element of inspiration.
- C. We must have a vision concerning God's interest and economy, concerning the church as the Body of Christ, concerning the local churches, concerning the world, concerning the individual saints, and even concerning ourselves—the view through the enlightening of the divine light:
- 1. In beseeching the saints to walk worthily of God's calling, Paul spoke from his status as a prisoner of Christ Jesus and a prisoner in the Lord 2. Sooner or later, every steward of God, every minister of God's riches, every faithful lover of Christ, will be imprisoned not only by Christ but also in Christ: the more we love Him, the more we will be in Him to such an extent that He will become our prison for us to enjoy Him to the uttermost so that we may have a walk that is worthy of God's calling. The more freedom we have, the more blind we are, but if Christ is our prison, our eyes will be opened to see the heavenly vision, and we will receive the highest revelation of God's economy

- III. By taking the way of PSRP (pray-reading, studying, reciting, and prophesying), we will be able to nourish people with the unsearchable riches of Christ:
- A. Pray-reading is a very important part of PSRP; we study the Bible by pray-reading the Bible.
- B. Prophesying requires a lot of prayer: 1. To pray is not only to entreat the Lord to do things for His move but also to cause our spirit to be exercised and strengthened. 2. Hence, prayer should precede the ministry of the word, just as the apostles practiced; without such prayer the ministry of the word will not be enlivened and empowered . "This is the boldness which we have toward Him. that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him"; these verses are an encouragement to pray back to the Lord the things that are according to His will in the Bible.

His testament. His covenant.

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 m I\!V}$. The opening and closing words of the prophesying meetings are very mportant:
- A. Both the opening and closing words should be approximately five to eight minutes long.
- B. The opening word ensures that the meeting starts in a strong way with a definite direction and burden from the Lord.
- C. The closing word ensures that the meeting does not end in emptiness and that the meeting concludes with the fullness of the supply of reality, so that the saints are filled with the pleasantness of the Lord's presence and the satisfaction of the Lord's words of spirit and life; never let a meeting end in emptiness and without the supply of reality.
- D. We must compose our prophecy with the main points and the subpoints
- E. What the Lord is mainly concerned with in the prophesying meeting is not the quantity of saints who share but the quality of what they share
- F. On the day of the prophesying meeting, we should prepare our being for the meeting (focusing on what we will prophesy) and not be distracted by other things, even spiritual things.
- VI. We must learn and be perfected to organically prophesy (to speak the Lord into others) with the constituting 🕅 . We must speak with the elements of prophesying for the building up of the church as the Body of Christ
- A. We need to redeem our time and spend our energy to be saturated and soaked with the holy Word to be equipped to
- . We need to be revived by the Lord every morning by enjoying Him in a portion of the Word: a) The Lord's lovingkindness and compassions are new every morning b) The path of the righteous is like the rising sun c) Our inner man is being renewed day by day d) We should anticipate the dayning of the morning with our hope in God's Word, that we might muse upon His word, that is, that we might receive His word with much reconsideration e) We should find God's words and eat them for them to become the gladness and joy of our heart . We must study the Word by using A. Prophesying is a miraculous the best help to open it, expound it, and release its unsearchable riches—the Life-study messages, the books of the ministry, and the Recovery Version footnotes . We must read the Bible ("all Scripture is...profitable" and man shall 'live… on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God") regularly from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 🧸 We must write down daily the spiritual enlightenment, inspiration, and enjoyment received from the Lord in His Word and at the end of the week put these points together to compose a prophecy of no longer than three minutes to speak in the church meeting. The knowledge of the Word becomes the constant element for our prophesying.
- B. We must be ready in the spirit to receive the instant inspiration of the Spirit: 1. The spirits of the prophets are the most preeminent part of their being . Whenever we speak for the Lord, we must exercise our spirit to speak with the Spirit and with Christ as all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge 3. We must pray ourselves into God to receive the unsearchable riches of the Holy Spirit in order to be fed ourselves so that we can feed those under our care . We must abide in fellowship with the Lord by walking according to our spirit, serving in our spirit, ministering the Spirit, and serving by the Spirit of God . The Lord Jesus, as today's Moses and Elijah, is the real Prophet in our spirit, speaking for God and speaking forth God within His believers 6. The inspiration of the Holy Spirit is the instant element for our prophesying.
- C. We must have a clear view with the insight to see through all things in all situations through the enlightening of the divine light: We can receive revelation only in our spirit 2. We must have not only the dove's eyes but also, and even more, eyes like pools a) Dove's eyes signify the insight and realization of the Spirit b) Eyes like pools signify the enlarged and broadened vision full of light to cover the whole universe. 3. We must have a clear view of the entire universe to see the real situation of the world, of the churches, of our fellow believers, and of ourselves. 4. We must have the heavens opened to us to see visions of God by receiving the express word of the Lord (special fresh, and vivid words that convey divine revelation) with the hand of the Lord upon us a) The hand of the Lord follows the word of the Lord; if what one ministers is truly God's word, God's almighty hand will follow to accomplish what He speaks, b) God's hand upon man is also for leading man and for causing one to take action; after the Lord's hand came down upon Ezekiel, he did not act according to his own choice but according to the leading and directing of the Lord's hand.

- elements constituting prophesying—speaking what we have seen and heard with the living words of this life under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and with enlightenment
- normality: It is normal because it requires us to learn the Word and be trained to speak. 2 It is miraculous because it is speaking with the divine element, the divine light. and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
- B. To prophesy is to have the oracles of God (God's speaking, God's utterance, that conveys divine revelation)
- C. When we have the human learning of the Word, the divine inspiration of the Spirit, and the clear view, we will be able to prophesy.
- D . Prophesying is always composed of the living words of this life, the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and the clear view through the enlightening of the divine light.
- E. What a great thing it is that "he who prophesies builds up the church'

Experience 1: Function as a member by prophesying for building up the Body. 1Cor 14:4 ...he who prophesies builds up the church.

<u>31</u> For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged. <u>39</u> So then, my brothers, desire earnestly the prophesying...<u>40</u> But all things must be done becomingly and in order.

Eph 4:11 And He Himself gave some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as shepherds and teachers, 12 For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ, 16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

We must endeavor to have church meetings with many speaking and without speaking by only one person. Some of us, however, still like to be spectators in the meetings. All of us should get ourselves prepared to speak in any meeting that we attend.... The practice of Christianity has annulled the functions of the members of the Body of Christ and has choked them. This practice has delayed the Lord's return....But we must realize that the truth overcomes. Nothing in this universe can do anything against the truth. We need to labor in the scriptural way with endurance.... Eventually, what we have been speaking concerning the scriptural way of meeting and serving for the building up of the Body of Christ will be very prevailing on this earth. The Lord has to fulfill His word. He has to do something on this earth, not to build up Christianity as a kind of "church," an organization, but to build up His Body as an organism.

For Young Working Saints

You are a member of the Body of Christ. In order to build up the Body, you need to function as a member. When you are going to function in the Body for the building of the Body, you need to realize your own position in the Body. In a similar way, in your company, you need to understand your place, position and fulfill your own function.

A passive employee does not wish to function actively but only does what he is instructed to do. Such person cannot become a competent employee. And, the other may be active, but does not understand his own place, position, so he decides what he is not allowed to decide, or he gives instruction to the others around overstepping his allotted authority. These kinds of people need to learn to function normally.

The Body of Christ has the Head, joints, and all the members. Every brothers and sisters need to hold fast the Head, Christ. And also, every brothers and sisters need to be perfected by the gifted members. Therefore, you need to be connected with the Head and to be helped by the gifted members. In the same way, in your company, you should understand the company policy and work positively under the instructions of your boss.

There are two important matters. One is to learn by functioning actively. The other is to understand authority or discretion you are given at your position or place while functioning. If you fail to do so, the more you function, the more you bring chaos. In the church, you function for building. In the company, you drive a project forward and fulfill your own role for your company to gain profit. Therefore, living a proper church life will help you to live a proper business life. Amen.

Experience②: Construction of prophecy - Learning the truth, growing in life and the instant speaking of the Spirit

<u>1 Cor 14:24</u> But if all prophesy and some unbeliever or unlearned person enters, he is convicted by all, he is examined by all;

<u>25</u> The secrets of his heart become manifest; and so falling on his face, he will worship God, declaring that indeed God is among you. <u>26</u> What then, brothers? Whenever you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

If we desire to prophesy, we must learn the holy Word in the Bible.... We need to be soaked in the holy Word so that we can be knowledgeable of the holy Word. In Luke 1 there is a record of the Lord's mother, Mary, visiting Elizabeth. Both of them prophesied to one another. Nearly every clause and every phrase of Mary's prophecy was a quotation from the Old Testament. This proves that Mary as a young woman was very knowledgeable of God's Word....If we do not have the holy Word, we do not have the expressions with which to speak. We may have the feeling and the inspiration within, but we will not have the utterances and the wording.

We also learn to prophesy in the growth of life. A person who has only been saved two months should not expect that he will be able to speak that much. In order to do things properly even in our human life, we have to grow. In the spiritual life it is the same.... How much we can prophesy depends upon the degree of our growth in life.

We also learn to prophesy in our contact with God. We have to contact God, to fellowship with God. If we get into the Lord's Word, pursue the growth in life, and keep ourselves in contact with God, we will learn to prophesy.

For junior high and high school students

Train yourself to prophesy from your junior high and high school days. In order to prophesy, you first need to learn the word of God. Enjoy every day of the weekly outline, the Word, and the excerpts of messages of "The Holy Word for Morning Revival", and summarize it into a 3-minute short message. When constructing a short message, you need to train to capture the bird's-eye view and the crucial points from the bird's eye view of the whole message.

Also, you need to apply the truth you learned to your real life and experience Christ as life. Truth is not doctrine, but the reality. Truth has a positive influence on your real life and can supply Christ to you as your life. In other words, the truth you learned in the church life can help you in your studies and human relations in your school life. Experience the growth of life in your daily life in this way. This application of truth's crucial points in real life should also be included in the short message.

Furthermore, when prophesying, the instant feeling which comes from the flow of the Spirit in the meeting, and your personal fellowship with the Lord should be blended in the prepared short message. If there is no fresh, instant speaking of this life-giving Spirit, your prophecy will not be lively, you can only provide knowledge for the listeners; you cannot provide spirit and life. Construct your prophecy by learning the truth, the growth in life with application of the truth to your real life, and the instant speaking of the Spirit. Prophesying is the function of an overcomer, the training of prophesying can make you an outstanding student.

<u>2 Cor 3:6</u> ...God, Who has also made us sufficient as ministers of a new covenant, ministers not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Scriptures:

I. Prophesying (speaking for the Lord and speaking forth the Lord into one another) in the meetings of the church fulfills the greatest prophecy in the Bible, which is to build up the church (in oneness as an exceedingly great army)—Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 14:4b; Ezek. 37:4-10.

<u>Matthew16:18</u> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

<u>1 Corinthians14:4</u> He who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but he who prophesies builds up the church.

Ezekiel37:4 Then He said to me, Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of Jehovah.37:5 Thus says the Lord Jehovah to these bones: I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.37:6 And I will put sinews on you and bring flesh back on you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you will know that I am Jehovah.37:7 So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone.37:8 And I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh came back, and skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.37:9 Then He said to me, Prophesy to the wind; prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.37:10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them; and they lived and stood up upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

- II. We need to live a prophesying life by loving the Lord to the uttermost:

 1 Corinthians2:9 But as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard and which have not come up in man's heart; things which God has prepared for those who love Him."2:10 But to us God has revealed them through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.
- III. By taking the way of PSRP (pray-reading, studying, reciting, and prophesying), we will be able to nourish people with the unsearchable riches of Christ:

Acts6:4 But we will continue steadfastly in prayer and in the ministry of the word. 1 John5:14 And this is the boldness which we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.5:15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

IV. The opening and closing words of the prophesying meetings are very important:

John6:63It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

Deuteronomy17:18 And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write out for himself a copy of this law in a book, out of that which is before the Levitical priests. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, in order that he may learn to fear Jehovah his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes and doing them, 20 So that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers and he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right or to the left; that he and his sons may extend their days over their kingdom in the midst of Israel.

V. We must see the three constituting elements of prophesying—cf. Acts 5:20; 1

<u>Acts5:20</u> Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.

1 Timothy4:6 If you lay these things before the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, being nourished with the words of the faith and of the good teaching which you have closely followed.

<u>1Peter4:11</u> If anyone speaks, as speaking oracles of God; if anyone ministers, as ministering out of the strength which God supplies; that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom is the glory and the might forever and ever. Amen.

<u>1 Timothy4:7</u> But the profane and old-womanish myths refuse, and exercise yourself unto godliness.

<u>Ephesians3:1</u> For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you, the Gentiles –

VI. We must learn and be perfected to organically prophesy (to speak the Lord into others) with the constituting elements of prophesying for the building up of the church as the Body of Christ—1 Cor. 14:4b:

<u>Proverbs4:18</u> But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, Which shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

<u>2 Timothy 3:16</u> All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, <u>3:17</u> That the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.

<u>Lamentations3:22</u> It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, For His compassions do not fail;23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

2 Timothy4:16 At my first defense no one was with me to support me, but all abandoned me. May it not be counted against them.

<u>Luke24:27</u> And beginning from Moses and from all the prophets, He explained to them clearly in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

<u>Acts8:35</u> And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he announced Jesus as the gospel to him.

<u>Song of Songs1:15</u> Oh, you are beautiful, my love! Oh, you are beautiful! Your eyes are like doves.

7:4 Your neck is like a tower of ivory; Your eyes, like the pools in Heshbon By the gate of Bath-rabbim; Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon, Which faces Damascus.

VII. We must speak with the constituting elements of prophesying—speaking what we have seen and heard with the living words of this life under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and with His enlightenment—1 John 1:3; Acts 22:13

1 John1:3 That which we have seen and heard we report also to you that you also may have fellowship with us, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 14:24 But if all prophesy and some unbeliever or unlearned person enters, he is convicted by all, he is examined by all;14:25 The secrets of his heart become manifest; and so falling on his face, he will worship God, declaring that indeed God is among you.

624 集会 — キリストを展覧する

- 1 すべてのしゅうかい, 主と主のゆたかを, みかみの一かてとし, 展覧しよう, 主を。 (復)
 - 展覧しよう、主を、展覧しよう、主を、 主のとみを持ち来て、展覧しよう、主を。
- 2 主により生き、また 主によりたたかわん; 主により一むすばれ、 展覧しよう、主を。
- 3 わがあゆみすべて、主を実際となして、 しゅうかいーたびごと、展覧しよう、主を。
- 4 かみのためつどい、 手に主、持ち寄らば、 かみと主一たのしまん、 展覧しよう、主を。
- 5 復かつ、しょう天の主、 薫香としささげる; みかみ満一ぞくする、 展覧しよう、 主を。
- 6 しゅうかいのちゅう心, ほう仕, ふん囲気も, 主を展覧一するため, 展覧しよう, 主を。
- 7 あかしもいのりも、おしえ、まじわりも、 たまもの一すべてで、展覧しよう、主を。
- 8 ちちにえい光帰し、 御子をたかく上げ、 ひつ要満一たすため、 展覧しよう、主を。

624 聚会一展览基督

- 每逢聚集带来基督,将祂所赐有余丰富, 同来献上作神食物,如此展览基督。 (副)前来展览基督,前来展览基督; 共同带来祂的丰富,前来展览基督。
- 2. 凭祂生活,靠祂争战,在祂身上经营无间; 藉祂丰富彼此结联,为要展览基督。
- 3. 凡我所是、所行、所历,都是基督作我实际, 好使我们每逢聚集,都能展览基督。
- 聚会为神带来基督,彼此享受祂的丰富, 且得与神同享基督,如此展览基督。
- 复活基督作神馨香,升天基督向神举上, 使神满足供神欣赏,如此展览基督。
- 6. 聚会中心、聚会实际、所有服事、所有空气, 除此之外别无目的,全为展览基督。
- 7. 所有见证、所有祷告、所有灵中彼此相交、 恩赐运用、一切教导,都为展览基督。
- 8. 为使父神得荣称许,为使基督得到高举, 并使聚会应付所需,必须展览基督。

864. Meetings - Exhibiting Christ

- 1 Whene'er we meet with Christ endued,
 The surplus of His plenitude
 We offer unto God as food,
 And thus exhibit Christ.
 (Chorus)
 Let us exhibit Christ,
 Let us exhibit Christ;
 We'll bring His surplus to the church
 And thus exhibit Christ.
- 2 In Christ we live, by Christ we fight, On Christ we labor day and night, And with His surplus we unite To thus exhibit Christ.
- 3 Our life and all we are and do Is Christ Himself, the substance true, That every time we meet anew We may exhibit Christ.
- 4 In meetings Christ to God we bear And Christ with one another share, And Christ with God enjoying there, We thus exhibit Christ.
- 5 The risen Christ to God we bring, And Christ ascended offering, God's satisfaction answering, We thus exhibit Christ.
- 6 The center and reality,
 The atmosphere and ministry,
 Of all our meetings is that we
 May thus exhibit Christ.
- 7 The testimony and the prayer, And all the fellowship we share, The exercise of gifts, whate'er, Should just exhibit Christ.
- 8 The Father we would glorify, Exalting Christ the Son, thereby The meeting's purpose satisfy That we exhibit Christ.