

Overview: After we are measured by God's building, we minister to the Lord. When we preach the gospel or help the saints, we look to the Lord and do things for the Lord, thus it is to minister to the Lord. When we minister to the Lord, we need to exercise our spirit to come forward to the Holy of Holies, come before God and enjoy Christ as the hidden manna, the budding rod and the law of Life.

I. "The Levites who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who went astray from Me after their idols, shall bear their iniquity. Yet they shall minister in My sanctuary, having oversight at the gates of the house and ministering in the house. They shall slaughter the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them... But the Levitical priests, the sons of Zadok, who kept the charge of My sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near to Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to present to Me the fat and the blood, declares the Lord Jehovah. It is they who will enter My sanctuary, and it is they who will come near to My table to minister to Me, and they will keep My charge" (Ezek. 44:10–11, 15–16) :

- A.** In God's eyes, not only is there the ministry to the house; there is also a better ministry, the ministry to the Lord.
- B.** God has only one goal: to have men who belong absolutely to "Me"; in other words, He wants us to be before "My" presence and minister to "Me"; God's unique goal is not in so many things; rather, it is in "Me"
- C.** To minister to the Lord does not mean that we neglect the house; those who minister to the Lord will also preach the gospel to save sinners and help the brothers and sisters to make progress, but their one goal is to be for the Lord, and their focus is the Lord Himself; they treasure men absolutely for the Lord's sake.
- D.** If we come to the Lord's presence, focusing only on Him, we will spontaneously be able to minister to the brothers and sisters also; the question of whether or not we are ministering to the Lord hinges on whether or not the Lord occupies the first place in our heart. (Day 1 and day 2)
- E.** Whatever we do in the Lord's service should be for the Lord's sake; it should be for His satisfaction, His heart's desire, His happiness, His goal, His pleasure, and His glory.
- F.** In the Lord's work there are areas that are appealing and attractive to our flesh because they are solely for the pleasure and glory of our self.
- G.** No one can minister to the Lord without drawing near to Him, approaching Him in prayer; spiritual power is not in the power of preaching but in the power of praying; how much we pray indicates how much inner strength we really possess.
- H.** If we want to minister to the Lord in the Holy of Holies, we must spend time before the Lord and pray more; we need to draw near to Him, stand before Him, and wait for His will.
- I.** To pray is to stand before God; it is to seek His will before Him in order to be saved from the sin of presumption.
- J.** Those who ministered to the Lord had to present to Him the fat and the blood:
- 1.** Whereas the fat of the offerings typifies the preciousness of the person of Christ, the blood signifies the redemptive work of Christ.
 - 2.** In our service to God we must present both to Him; the blood is for God's holiness and righteousness, and the fat is for God's glory.
- K.** Those who ministered to the Lord had to be clothed with linen material, not with woolen garments or with anything that caused sweat:
- 1.** Linen garments signify a daily living and walk in the life-giving Spirit by the life of Christ; such a living and walk is pure, clean, and fine.
 - 2.** Woolen garments would cause the priests to sweat (v. 18), a sign of fallen man laboring under God's curse, without God's blessing, by his own energy and strength.

II. After the second veil, a tabernacle, which is called the Holy of Holies, having...the Ark of the Covenant covered about everywhere with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna and Aaron's rod that budded and the tablets of the covenant (Heb. 9:3–4) :

A. The hidden manna is the portion of Christ that we enjoy in the presence of God when there is no distance between us and Him; when there is no distance between us and the Lord, we enjoy Christ in the most intimate and hidden way; this is the enjoyment of the

hidden manna, the hidden portion of Christ—:

- 1.** To overcome the condition of the church in Pergamos is to separate ourselves from the general practice of today's Christianity and to remain in the presence of God ministering directly to Him, not to anything else; here we enjoy something of Christ that all those who are far off from His presence cannot taste.
 - 2.** If we want to enjoy the hidden manna, there must be no distance between us and God; all the distance between us and the Lord must be eliminated.
 - 3.** When we are ministering to the Lord and enjoying Him as the hidden manna, we have direct fellowship with Him and know His heart and His intention; it is in the presence of the Lord that we can be charged with Him, with His intention, and with all that He wants us to do.
 - 4.** When we are ministering to the Lord, we will have God's commitment because we are in His presence, realizing that there is no distance between us and God.
- B.** The budding rod signifies that Christ, the resurrected One, should be our life, our living, and the resurrection life within us and that this life should bud, blossom, and bear fruit to maturity:
- 1.** After the children of Israel rebelled, as recorded in Numbers 16, 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 Testimony; then He said, "The rod of the man whom I choose shall bud"
 - 2.** All twelve rods were leaf less, rootless, dry, and dead; whichever one budded was the one chosen by God; here we see that resurrection is the basis of God's selection and that the basis of service is something apart from our natural life; thus, the budding rod signifies our experience of Christ in His resurrection as our acceptance by God for authority in the God-given ministry.
 - 3.** The principle to every service lies in the budding rod; God returned all the eleven rods to the leaders but kept Aaron's rod inside the Ark as an eternal memorial; this means that resurrection is an eternal principle in our service to God:
 - a.** Resurrection means that everything is of God and not of us; it means that God alone is able and that we are not able.
 - b.** Resurrection means that everything is done by God, not by ourselves; all those who know resurrection have given up hope in themselves; they know that they cannot make it.
 - c.** As long as the natural strength remains, the power of resurrection has no ground for manifestation; as long as Sarah could conceive a child, Isaac would not come.
 - d.** 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.
 - e.** If a man has never realized his own inability, he can never experience God's ability; resurrection means that we cannot make it and that God is the One who has done everything.

3. The work that causes sweat is the work that comes out of human effort without the blessing from God the Father; everyone ministering to the Lord must do a work that causes no sweat, a work without human effort and fleshly strength.

4. If we spend an adequate amount of time in God's presence and deal properly with Him, there is no need to sweat before man; we can accomplish the most amount of work with the least amount of strength.

L. "Now there were in Antioch, in the local church, prophets and teachers...As they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, Set apart for Me now Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" (Acts 13:1-2) (Day 4) :

1. This is the work of the New Testament and the unique principle for the work of the New Testament—the work of the Holy Spirit can be revealed only at the time of ministering to the Lord.

2. Only at the time of ministering to the Lord will the Holy Spirit send some forth; if we do not place ministering to the Lord as the top priority, everything will be out of order; only the Holy Spirit has the authority to commission men to work.

3. To minister to the Lord is not to forsake all the work on the outside; instead, all the work on the outside should be based on our ministry to the Lord.

4. We go forth, out from our ministry to the Lord, rather than out from our own desires, which have no basis in the ministry to the Lord.

C. The tablets of the covenant, which are the tablets of the law, signify the law of the divine life, which is the spontaneous power, automatic function, innate ability, and divine capacity of the divine life :

1. The law, this divine capacity, of life can do everything in us for the carrying out of God's economy :

a. According to this capacity, we can know God, live God, and be constituted with God in His life and nature so that we may become His increase, His enlargement, to be His fullness for His eternal expression.

b. Furthermore, the capacity of the inner law of life constitutes us to be the members of the Body of Christ with all kinds of functions.

2. While the divine life grows in us, the law of life functions to shape us, to conform us, to the image of Christ as the firstborn Son of God :

a. The law of life does not regulate us from doing wrong; it regulates the shape of life. b. The law of life does not primarily function in the negative sense of telling us what not to do; rather, while life grows, the law of life functions in the positive sense of shaping us, that is, conforming us, to the image of Christ. c. Through the function of the law of life, we all shall become the mature sons of God, and God will have His universal expression.

Day 1 : [Ezek 44:10-11, 15](#), Outline I

Day 2 : [Ezek 44:15-16](#) Outline I

Day 3 : [Ezek 44:17](#) And when they enter the gates of the inner court they shall be clothed with linen garments, and no wool will come upon them while they minister in the gates of the inner court and inside it. [18](#) They shall have linen turbans on their heads and have linen trousers over their loins; they shall not gird themselves with anything that causes sweat.

[Gen 3:19](#) By the sweat of your face / you will eat bread / Until you return to the ground, / Because from it you were taken; / For dust you are, / And to dust you shall return. [Isa 30:15](#) For thus says the Lord Jehovah, the Holy One of Israel, / In returning and rest you will be saved; / In quietness and in trust will your strength; / But you were not willing, [Matt 11:28](#) Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest. [29](#) Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30](#): For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Day 4 : [Ezek 44: 16](#) Outline I

[Acts 13:1-2](#) L of Outline I

Day 5 : [Heb 9:3-4](#) Outline II

[Exo 16:33](#) And Moses said to Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omerful of manna in it, and place it before Jehovah, to be kept throughout your generations. [34](#) As Jehovah commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the Testimony to be kept.

Day 6 : [Num 17:8](#) And on the next day Moses went into the Tent of the Testimony, and there was the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi: it had budded; it even put forth buds and produced blossoms and bore ripe almonds.

[Jer 31:33](#) But...: I will put My law in their inward parts and write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

[Matt 19:26](#) And looking upon them, Jesus said to them, With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible. [Mark 10:27](#) Looking upon them, Jesus said, With men it is impossible, but not with God, for all things are possible with God. [Luke 18:27](#) But He said, The things that are impossible with men are possible with God. [II Cor 1:8](#) For we do not want you to be ignorant,

brothers, of our affliction which befell us in Asia, that we were excessively burdened, beyond our power, so that we despaired even of living. [9](#) Indeed we ourselves had the response of death in ourselves, that we should not base our confidence on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead; [4:7](#) But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not our of us.

《 [Composition for prophecy](#) 》

Experience① : Go before the Lord, hear His voice, obey immediately

The basis for the ministry to the Lord, the basic requirement for ministering to the Lord is to draw near to the Lord. It is to be bold enough to come before Him, to sit firmly before Him, and to stand before Him.....No one can minister to Him without drawing near to Him. No one can minister to the Lord without approaching Him in prayer. Spiritual power is not the power of preaching but the power of praying. How much you pray indicates how much inner strength you really possess. No spiritual matter requires more strength than prayer.

What does it mean to stand (before Him)? It means to wait for a command, to wait upon the Lord to speak His will. There are only two types of sin before God. One is rebellion against His command. If He gives an order and you refuse to do it, it is sin. But there is another type of sin, which is doing something without the Lord's command. One is the sin of rebellion, and the other is the sin of presumption. One ignores what the Lord has said; the other does what the Lord has not said.

If we want to minister to the Lord in the Holy of Holies, we must spend time before the Lord and pray more.....We need to pray to be ushered into God's presence and to draw near to Him. Hence, to pray is to stand before God; it is to seek His will before Him.

For young working saints

To stand before the Lord is to come before the Lord and wait for the voice and command from the Lord. Once you hear the command of the Lord, you must take action immediately. Also, if you heard no command from the Lord, you should not act according to your opinion. This is a presumptuous act. A corrupt man reacts slow and hesitates, even if he heard the command of the Lord. Adam and Eve's failure was that they did not execute the command of the Lord "Do not take and eat from the tree of knowledge" immediately after they heard it. If they responded immediately, Satan would have no room to come in.

Gen 2:16 And Jehovah God commanded the man, saying, *Of every tree of the garden you may eat freely, 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, of it you shall not eat; for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*

In the company, you also need to understand clearly how far your authority covers, who has the authority to decide, and who the project leader is. Because every authority is set by the Lord, or because the Lord accepts that authority as it is established for His purpose. Working without understanding this authority would waste a lot of time and lead to confusion. Because people are high-minded, they want to have authority. However, the point here is that we need to understand clearly to whom and to what extent the authority is given to promote things correctly and efficiently. You may wish to have authority; but you cannot exercise it unless you actually have the authority. You need to understand correctly and objectively that the wish and the fact are different. This is a crucial point in determining the success of your business life, and you can never escape it.

A person started to work hard on his business, but he did not have the correct recognition of the authority on business. As a result, everything with much time spent was all in vain. Why? Because he was doing what he was not supposed to. People like this should not make their own decisions on the directions of the work, but should proceed after confirming with their superiors who have the authority. It is not about whether you are knowledgeable or not, but about whether you have the authority or not.

This also applies to the services in the church. Please follow the instructions of the leader and serve in the coordination of the Body. At the same time, you need to exercise your spirit, come forward to the Holy of Holies and listen to God's voice and command. If you heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Follow the leader's instruction" or if you heard the voice saying "Go out and preach the gospel", you need to listen and obey immediately. If you do that, you will be blessed.

Experience② : Admit what you cannot do, experience the resurrection of Christ

The budding rod is related to the building up of God's people....The budding rod signifies that Christ, the resurrected One, should be our life, our living, and the resurrection life within us, and that this life should bud, blossom, and bear almonds.

If a man has never realized his own inability, he can never experience God's ability.....Resurrection means that you cannot make it and that God is the One who has done everything.

All those who know resurrection have given up hope in themselves; they know that they cannot make it. As long as the natural strength remains, the power of resurrection has no ground for manifestation. As long as Sarah could beget a child, Isaac would not come. 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.

For Junior and Senior High Students

College and high school entrance exams are good opportunities for you to experience the Lord practically. The Lord requests you to max out the ability given to you by the Lord when studying for exams. In order to fully bring out your ability, you need to always experience Christ.

Matt. 25:20 *And he who had received the five talents came and brought another five talents, saying, Master, you delivered to me five talents; behold, I have gained another five talents. 21 His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master. 24 Then he who had received the one talent also came and said, Master, I knew about you, that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow. 25 And I was afraid and went off and hid your talent in the earth; behold, you have what is yours. 26 And his master answered and said to him, Evil and slothful slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not winnow. 27 Therefore you should have deposited my money with the money changers; and when I came, I would have recovered what is mine with interest.*

According to Matthew 25: 14-30, those with 5 talents are required to make 5 more talents, those with 2 talents are to make 2 more talents, and those with 1 talent are to make 1 more talent. Furthermore, those who made 5 more talents and those who made 2 more talents are the same in the eyes of the Lord, and the praising words were the same as well. Therefore, it is not about how much you can profit, but you need to pay attention to how much you make the full use of your ability. In other words, it is not required for all to enter Kobe University.

In verse 26, the Lord admits that the demands on us are strict. It seems the Lord is "reaping where He did not sow and gathering where He did not winnow ". But according to the principle of the New Testament, when requested by the Lord, the supply of His grace is richer than what was demanded. Call on the name of the Lord, confess your shortcomings and experience Christ. May your ability be utilized in a full.

In order to fully utilize your abilities in studying the exams, you need to understand that you are short of wisdom, comprehension, good memory, concentration, perseverance, and sustainability. You may have all these abilities but they are not enough.

For example that you may have ability in learning languages such as English. However, your laziness or lack of concentration are preventing you from bringing out this ability fully. You cannot save yourself, because degraded man is unbalanced. In such a case, you should experience Christ as your concentration, perseverance, and sustainability.

Besides that, your high ability in learning languages is damaged by the degradation, so it should be rebuilt by the Lord's life and be enriched further. In this way, your high ability to learn languages can be fully utilized. If you do not admit that you are "not", you cannot experience Christ as the reality of resurrection in a practical way. Exercise your spirit to enjoy Lord's grace, make the breaking through in studying the exams with joy.

2 Tim 4:22 *The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.*

- 1 至せい所に入り, まくのうちで生き,
めぐみの座に触れ, 生けるみず通す。
- 2 わが霊, 至せい所, 主はわが霊に住む;
ただ霊にいるなら, かれにまみえる。
- 3 復かつのかおり, 霊にありはなたれ,
霊にあるいのりで, 主を発びようする。
- 4 ひかりと糧しよく, 主の豊富きょう受し,
復かつのかおりが それにくわる。
- 5 さらに主に触れ, ますます主を得る;
いのちの法そくと, マナとして得る。
- 6 復かつに触れて, 枯れたつえ, 芽吹く;
ここに御座があり, めぐみなされる。
- 7 あつまり, いのり, 霊, 解放し, 調和する,
そこは至せい所で, われ, 主に触れる。
- 8 この至せい所で, 祭司のせいかつし,
御座に多面で触れ, みず, ながし出す。

ymns,#769 Prayer – In The Holiest

- 1 我要进入至圣所, 幔子里面过生活,
摸主施恩的宝座, 让主活水来流过。
- 2 我灵就是至圣所, 主在里面今住着;
只要回到灵里面, 我就与主得相见。
- 3 复活基督的馨香, 调在灵里来发放;
在灵里面我祷告, 祂就藉此得发表。
- 4 摸着灵里的基督, 就必饱尝祂丰富:
生命亮光、生命粮, 加上复活的馨香。
- 5 越摸越深越丰富, 摸着深处的基督:
摸着生命的律法, 摸着隐藏的吗哪。
- 6 摸着复活蒙悦纳, 如同枯杖发了芽;
在此才有施恩座, 恩惠流出如江河。
- 7 我们聚集同祷告, 灵得释放并相调,
也是进入至圣所, 在此能将主摸着。
- 8 我们在这至圣所, 同过祭司的生活,
多方摸主施恩座, 直到活水全流过。

Hymns,#769 Prayer – In The Holiest

- 1 To the holiest place I'd come,
There within the veil to be;
There to touch the throne of grace,
Let Life's water flow thru me.
- 2 Now the holiest place of all
Right within my spirit is;
Here the Lord in me abides,
And my spirit joins with His.
- 3 To my spirit I'd return,
For 'tis here the Lord I'll meet;
O how marvellous it is!
He's within, in me complete.

- 4 Fragrance of the risen Christ
Thru my spirit may be spread;
If in spirit I will pray
Christ will be exhibited.
- 5 If in spirit Him I touch,
With His riches filled I'll be;
Life and light and love and grace
As a stream will flow thru me.
- 6 Touching deeply, richly I
Of Himself experience,
Thus the law of life I touch
And His clear anointing sense.
- 7 In my spirit deeper still
I would touch the Lord I love,
Touch Him in His hidden depth
And His hidden manna prove.
- 8 When the resurrection life
Is made real in pow'r to me,
As the rod with sprouting buds,
I will then accepted be.
- 9 Here I find the throne of grace,
Where the living water flows
As a river full of grace
Into me grace to bestow.
- 10 Then when'er we meet to pray,
All our spirits we'll release;
Mingled will our spirits be,
And we'll serve the Lord as priests.
- 11 This is the holiest place is too,
Where we all may touch the Lord,
Touch His throne in many ways
Till His grace on us is poured.