

**All Canada Brothers Conference  
November 7, 2020**

**Special Fellowship**

**All Ages for the Lord's Move**

Scripture Reading: Exo. 30:12-16; Lev. 27:2-8; Num. 1:3; 3:28, 30-31; 4:3, 30, 46-49; 8:24-26, Psa. 84:1-5; Eph. 4:3-6; Rom. 15:5; 12:6-8; 1 Tim. 1:3; 1 Cor. 1:10; 12:23-26; 11:19; 1 John 5:16a

**I. Going on with the Lord according to our age for the building up of the church:**

- A. In the Lord's move there are two main types of service:
  - 1. The service for the tabernacle is needed to maintain a strong and living testimony.
  - 2. The fighting of the army is needed to fight the battle and gain ground for the Lord.
  - 3. For the fighting of the battle there is the need for young people under the age of thirty and for maintaining the testimony there is the need of the middle-age saints, those thirty and over.
- B. Various portions of the Old Testament speak of the different age groups among the Lord's people:
  - 1. Exodus is a book of redemption; as such, it makes no distinction among the age groups because in redemption everyone had the same value—Exo. 30:12-16.
  - 2. Leviticus is a book of consecration; in consecration there are different evaluations for different ages: those from twenty to sixty; those from five to twenty; those from one month to five years; and those over sixty; those from twenty to sixty had the highest value because the testimony of the Lord depends mainly upon this age group—Lev. 27:2-8.
  - 3. Numbers is a book of service; in Numbers God viewed the children of Israel in the wilderness as an army fighting for His testimony—Num. 1:3; 3:30-31:
    - a. In the warfare there were two main functions: fighting the enemies and maintaining the tabernacle, which represented God's testimony in the universe.
    - b. Those from thirty to fifty had the privilege of doing the work in and around the tabernacle.
    - c. Those from twenty to thirty were qualified for military service, for fighting the enemy.
- C. We need to see the importance of maintaining the Lord's testimony:
  - 1. Those between the ages of twenty and thirty were the fighting ones, and those between the ages of thirty and fifty were the ones to maintain and carry the tabernacle—Num. 4:3.
  - 2. If there is no testimony, the young people are fighting in vain.
  - 3. The middle-aged brothers and sisters must be those who set up the testimony, maintain it, and carry it from place to place.
- D. We need to see the need for an apprenticeship; in order to learn how to minister in the tabernacle, it was necessary to pass an apprenticeship of several years in length because a great deal of learning was necessary for this ministry—Num. 8:24.
- E. We also need to see the usefulness of the youngest ones; Numbers 3:28 strangely mentions the male Levites 'from a month old and upward,' indicating that they also were to keep the charge of the sanctuary:
  - 1. The church service depends mainly on those from one month to twenty years, the apprentices, and those from thirty to fifty.
  - 2. We need more young ones to help keep the testimony and older ones to take care of them.
- F. Let us drop the preoccupation with leadership, put aside ambition to be someone and instead learn to care for the young ones among us and to train the apprentices; apprentices need the training to learn the lessons and to be perfected; the elders should always have some learners under their care.

- G. In serving we should not organize or try to select ones according to our concept but take the way of a shepherding and ministering life, using every opportunity to shepherd others and to minister Christ to them.
- H. A great many people are needed for the Lord's testimony, all of whom are for the tabernacle either directly or indirectly; presently we are seriously lacking those who know how to care for the tabernacle in a fine way in order to carry the Lord's testimony.

**II. The young people fighting the battle, the new ones keeping the tabernacle, and the older ones caring directly for the tent of meeting:**

- A. For the keeping of the Lord's testimony there is the need for a peaceful realm:
  - 1. The children of Israel were formed into an army because they were surrounded by enemies; this army was necessary for the protection of God's testimony.
  - 2. The army does not take care of the tent of meeting directly but was encamped around the tabernacle to protect the sphere, the realm, in which the tabernacle was erected.
  - 3. We need the young people to be an army encamped around the church life.
- B. In the church life we need more young ones and new ones to help keep the testimony and older ones to take care of them, raise them up and perfect them in the home meetings so that they can come to the meetings to speak in a living way; the more spiritual babes and young ones there are in the church life, the more there is the keeping and guarding of the tabernacle.
- C. We need to drop our natural concept of leadership and take up the burden to care for the young ones and the new ones; we should not wait for the elders to arrange something but be encouraged to carry out our burden for the new ones.
- D. We need many saints experienced in Christ to take care of different aspects of Christ for the constitution of the church life including: the experiences of Christ as the ark, as the incense altar, as the showbread table, as the lampstand, and as the brass altar; those who have experienced Christ in these ways should convey these aspects of Christ to the new ones—Num. 3:31.
- E. We should serve without rebellion or independence, but have the liberty to carry out our burden in a living way in the church life according to the heavenly vision; under the light of this vision, we should care for a living testimony in oneness; we should be free to set up a Bible study in our home or engage in other spiritual activities to care for others.
- F. The young people are good for fighting, the new ones are good for keeping the tabernacle, and the older ones are good for taking direct care of the tent of meeting.
- G. We should not consider any service as being special, but rather we need to tear down the concept of prestige in the Lord's recovery.
- H. For the sake of having a living testimony, we need many who know Christ in a rich way and in many aspects so that He will be richly manifested among us; We need to have Christ manifested among us in many different aspects and then come together and express Christ in the church meetings and to minister Him to others.

**III. All ages being useful for the Lord's move:**

- A. Those who are over thirty years old are the most useful in caring for the Lord's testimony.
- B. We should not keep affairs in our own hands but help every age to be useful.
- C. Practical fellowship regarding the Lord's present move among the young people:
  - 1. The Lord's move to the campuses is a matter of spiritual warfare.
  - 2. We must walk in the mingled spirit in everything we do or speak.
  - 3. We must also live in the Body of Christ; the Body is the high tower to safeguard us from every attack—Eph. 4:3-6.
  - 4. We need to keep a spirit of harmony between all ages in the Body of Christ
  - 5. We must also learn to pray adequately and not make decisions too quickly.
  - 6. We must also not neglect our environment under the Lord's sovereignty; we must believe in the Lord's sovereignty and submit to it.

7. We should not make anything legal for others, claiming that whoever does not go out for the Lord's move is not properly in the Lord's recovery.

This outline was based on *All Ages for the Lord's Testimony*, Chapters 1-2 and *The Lord's Recovery and the Present situation of Religion*, Chapter 6 by Witness Lee