

## Prophet/Prophecy

### 1 Corinthians 12:10 [v 1-11]

- Spiritual gifts were given in the first age to convince unbelievers and spread gospel
- Gifts are meant for others
- The greater the gift, the more exposed the possessor is to temptation and the more grace needed to keep him humble and spiritual. Will have more painful experiences and humbling dispensation (exemption from a rule or usual requirement)
- There's no real reason to be excited about gifts we have or to despise those who don't or do have them

### 1 Timothy 4:14 [v 11-16]

- Your teaching should line up with your life
- Discourse (spoken/written communication ) must be edifying and holy
- No time for worldly pleasures

### 2 Peter 1: 20-21

- Prophecy comes from God and is carried by the Holy Spirit
- Holy Ghost inspired holy men to speak and write: also helped men deliver what was received

**Spirit**-non physical part of a person manifested as an apparition after their death; regarded as a persons true self and capable of SURVIVING PHYSICAL DEATH/separation. Therefore, by definition, the Holy Spirit couldn't be given to us until Christ's death!  
{See Study: Holy Spirit}

### Revelation 1:3

- A blessing is produced on those who hear and read the prophecy
- Must apply what's read (memory, mind, affection, practice - how these are applied) and when that's done we will be blessed.
- There are mysteries and difficulties in the Bible but they are all connected with discoveries of God. The Word is meant to awe the mind and purify the readers soul even if you don't discern the prophetic meaning: so you can completely miss the meaning and still be blessed.

**Blessed**- being in Gods grace and favor. Divine protection. Joy and happiness. Heavenly felicity (intense happiness). Made holy or consecrated. Divine favor.

### Revelation 22:7

- Blessed are those that keep the prophecy of this book
- There's no middle place with believing, receiving, and applying Gods Word
- Anyone that tries to add/take away from the Word of God are condemned

### Joel 2:28

- God promises to pour out His Holy Spirit on all mankind, which will cause sons and daughters to prophesy; old men to dream dreams; young men to see visions

### Matthew 7:22-23

- Not everyone that prophecies will enter the kingdom of heaven. They do works but do not receive and apply. Must do the Father's will. You can do work in Jesus name while your name is blotted out of the Book of Life

### **Character & Christ:**

What you're called doesn't determine where you stand with Christ

It's not WHAT you're called but WHO you are: Not the calling but the character

Must HEAR and APPLY the Word (Hear, Speak, Do or Be- Act on it)

\*Don't be so obsessed with the CALL that you neglect the CALLER

### John 11:51

- Caiaphas (High Priest) is unknowingly used to prophecy about Jesus dying for the nation.
- God will use whomever to prophecy. The body is but a vessel and the mouth a tool.
- \*Your character doesn't determine whether you carry the gift. The gift comes without repentance. It's irrevocable (Romans 11:29). A false prophet can prophecy and be accurate.

**Note:** *Why Jews wanted to kill Jesus>John 5: 16-18>Because He was performing/ working on the day of rest (Sabbath- the day He was a part of creating) and because He called himself the son of God, which made Him the same as God.*

- Jesus is concerned with the WHO not the WHAT. Jews couldn't see Jesus's WHO or His character because they were so focused on what He was doing/saying.

**\*{You knowing whether or not a prophet is real or fake CANNOT stop the Word that God has for you. That's great news! Character (not only theirs, but yours) allows you to see past works/gifts. Can a "WRONG" man carry a "RIGHT" message? ABSOLUTELY! }**

**(Personal Note:** I've witnessed preachers fight with words straight from the pulpit. Filled with pride and arrogance. Check the character!)

### 1 Corinthians 13: 9-10

- The things we [prophet/teacher/evangelist/pastor/apostle] know now are fragmented (broken/ separated/isolated/incomplete) and imperfect. Our prophecy/teaching is also fragmented. But when the Complete and Perfect (total) comes, all that's imperfect and incomplete will vanish or be superseded. That Complete and Perfect is Jesus.
- Prophecy will come to an end. Tongues will come to an end. Understanding will reach its limits. We only know a portion.

### 1 Corinthians 14:1-5

- It's okay to desire the spiritual gifts, but realize that the gifts are for the service of others. The person that prophesies speaks to build up, encourage, and console others. Tongues, on the other hand, is for the building up of one-self.

**Note:** **Tongue's-** Speaking to God and not men unless there is an interpreter to help the people understand. Tongue's is the utterance of mysteries in the spirit.

- Prophecy builds up the church
- All gifts are necessary, but prophecy has a high priority- it proclaims His truth
- Give yourself to the gifts God gives you

- When you prophesy (proclaim the truth) you let others in on truth so they can grow and be strong and experience His presence with you
- What can't be understood, can't edify. There's no advantage or reaping from something that's not understood.
- The value of something is determined by how useful it is. That's why a greater value is placed on prophesy than tongues and other gifts. **If everyone were walking in their value, the body would remain edified** (instruct/improve someone morally or intellectually).

#### Deuteronomy 18: 18-22

- A prophet can be raised up (wasn't born one)
- Some ways to know if what a prophet says isn't from God is if what he says doesn't come to pass and it goes against the Word or encourages sin.

#### Matthew 10:41

- To receive someone sent by God is to receive God. Receive and welcome a prophet because he is a prophet (means you may not have heard the word from God: trust what the prophet says) and you will receive a prophet's reward (fulfillment of prophetic word).

#### *The Call (see study: The Call)*

V.1: Jesus calls the disciples and gives them POWER and AUTHORITY to cast out demons and heal the sick.

How do you know that you're called? God is the one who initially calls.

When God calls, He does so with reason. There's an expectancy so He gives you the power and authority.

#### Matthew 13:57

- Jesus says that a prophet isn't received in his home town. Jesus didn't do mighty works in his hometown because of their unbelief.
- Familiarity breeds unbelief because you begin to look at the physical person and what you know about them. It's hard to see past what you know to obtain what you don't know. This is why "home" doesn't receive the prophet.
- Prophets will walk alone many times because their gift requires separation from the familiar in order for the truth to be made known

#### 2 Peter 2:17-19

- Promise much and delivers nothing (false prophet)
- Brags about themselves with empty and foolish boasting
- Lure back into sin those who just escaped from wicked living
- Promise freedom, but themselves slaves to sin and corruption

#### 1 Corinthians 12:28

- Prophecy is appointed by God for the church

#### 1 Corinthians 14:32

- People who prophesy are in control of their spirit and can take turns: prophets are subject to the prophets
- Everything done in service should be beneficial to the worshipper

- Love should be the motivation of all gifts utilized in service
- Multiple prophets shouldn't be talking at the same time. Should take turns

#### Hebrews 1:1

- God spoke through prophets

#### Deuteronomy 13: 1-3

- A prophet can tell your future and promise signs and miracles that actually happen but if they point you to other gods or away from the Word, do not listen to them.
- Attractive leaders aren't always led by God. Must line up with the Word. Are they telling the truth?

#### Jeremiah 23: 9-14 (Characteristics False Prophets)

- Appear to speak God's message but do not live according to the Word
- Water down God's message to make more palatable
- Subtly encourage listeners to disobey God
- Tend to be arrogant and self-serving, appealing to desires of their audience instead of true to God's Word

#### Matthew 7:15

- Watch out for false prophets who pretend to be sheep (followers of Christ) when they're really wolves. You will know them by their fruit.
- Back in the Old Testament, false prophets prophesied what the king and people wanted to hear
- Today, false prophets are motivated by money, fame, and/or power
- They minimize Christ and glorify themselves

#### Mark 13:22

- Even God's chosen can be deceived by prophets; Therefore try not focus too much energy and time into figuring out who is real and fake, but making sure you have a relationship with Christ that can supersede what the enemy tries to throw at you