



# HOW TO BECOME A BIBLICALLY SOUND PROPHET

**A Practical Guide to Sound  
Prophetic Ministry**

**PROPHET DR. EZRA ANIEBUE**



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This book is dedicated to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



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# INTRODUCTION



**F**rom Genesis to Revelation, the prophetic voice stands as a divine bridge between heaven and earth; the sacred means through which God reveals His mind, His will, and His purposes to humanity. The prophetic office is not a human construct, but a divine calling rooted in the nature of God's self-revelation. As Scripture declares, "Surely the Lord GOD does nothing unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7).

The Hebrew word *nābî'* (נָבִיא), meaning “one who is called or inspired to speak for God,” captures the essence of a prophet's identity — a vessel chosen and consecrated to declare divine truth with accuracy and courage. Similarly, the Greek term *prophētēs* (προφήτης) means “one who speaks forth” or “declares openly” the will and counsel of God. These words together show both the divine origin and sacred function of the prophetic ministry: the prophet hears from God and speaks what God commands - nothing more, nothing less.

The prophetic office must be clearly distinguished from the prophetic gift. While the gift of prophecy (1 Cor. 12:10) is granted by the Holy Spirit to many believers for edification, exhortation, and comfort (1 Cor. 14:3), the office of a prophet (Eph. 4:11) involves a consistent calling, divine commission, and leadership role within the Body of Christ. Those who hold this office are not just casual messengers; they are consecrated vessels who possess divine authority, carry spiritual responsibility, and operate under the weight of heaven's mandate.

Throughout the Scriptures, prophets served as the moral and spiritual conscience of nations. They were reformers and intercessors who proclaimed the Word of the Lord even at great personal cost. From Enoch, who prophesied judgment (Jude 14–15), to Moses, the archetypal prophet who mediates between God and Israel (Deut. 18:15–18), to the succession of prophets who rebuked kings, restored worship, and announced the coming Messiah — the prophetic voice has always echoed God's covenantal heartbeat. Ultimately, the office finds its perfect fulfillment in Jesus Christ, the Prophet greater than Moses

(Deut. 18:18; Heb. 1:1–2), the Word made flesh and the full revelation of God's will.

However, the Bible also warns against false prophets, whose words come from deceit, ambition, or demonic influence (Jer. 23:16–21; Matt. 7:15). Such voices distort God's truth and lead His people astray. The tests for true prophecy remain unchanged.

Below are the test questions:

Does it align with Scripture? (Isa. 8:20)

Does it come to pass? (Deut. 18:22)

Does it produce righteousness and obedience to God? (Jer. 23:14)

Authentic prophetic ministry always exalts Christ, reveals the truth of God's Word, and calls the Church to repentance and holiness. For indeed, “the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Rev. 19:10).

This work seeks to recover the biblical foundations, functions, and character of the prophetic office. It aims to guide believers in distinguishing true prophets from false voices, understanding the differences between prophetic gifts and callings, and recognizing the indispensable role of prophecy in the Church and in God's end-time movement. Above all, it calls the people of God to revere the prophetic word and submit to its purpose - to bring transformation, alignment, and glory to God alone.

True prophets do not follow the crowd; they stand apart,

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as consecrated voices formed in secret, speaking only what pleases the heart of God. Their loyalty is not to applause or human acceptance, but to the Perfect Will of the Almighty.



# How to Become a Biblically Sound Prophet

# CHAPTER

# 1

## UNDERSTANDING THE CALL AND NATURE OF THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY



### I. The Divine Call

Every true prophetic ministry begins with God's sovereign call, not the appointment of men. No human leader can make someone a prophet; only God separates and anoints whom He chooses.

Jeremiah 1:4–5: “Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.”

This shows that prophetic calling is determined before birth. It is divine, not earned or inherited.

Amos 7:14–15: “Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of ycamore fruit: And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.”

Here, Amos testifies that his call came directly from God, not through prophetic lineage or training.

## **II. The Nature and Purpose of the Prophetic Ministry**

Prophets are God's mouthpieces, not self-made voices. They reveal God's heart, share His counsel, and call people to repentance, holiness, and obedience.

2 Peter 1:21: “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Prophets are moved by the Spirit, not emotions or ambition.

Deuteronomy 18:18–19: “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.”

Prophets are entrusted with God's words, not personal opinions or imaginations.

## **III. The Prophetic Role in God's Plan**

Throughout Scripture, prophets played vital roles in

shaping nations, guiding kings, warning about sin, and revealing the mind of God to His people.

Hosea 12:13: “And by a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.”

Prophets are instruments of divine deliverance and preservation.

2 Chronicles 20:20: “And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.”

Faith in God and obedience to true prophetic guidance bring stability and prosperity.

#### **IV. Old Testament vs New Testament Prophets**

Old Testament prophets often served as the primary channel of God revelation, since the Holy Spirit had not yet been given to all believers.

Numbers 12:6–8: “And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold.”

Under the Old Covenant, prophets were mediators of divine revelation.

In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit is given to every



believer (Acts 2:17–18), and the prophetic ministry operates in partnership with the indwelling Spirit within the Body of Christ.

Acts 2:17–18: “And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.”

New Testament prophets do not replace the written Word but confirm and apply it. They equip and edify the Church (Ephesians 4:11–12).

Ephesians 4:11–12: “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.”

## **V. Christ, the Perfect Prophet**

Jesus Christ is the ultimate and perfect Prophet — the full revelation of God's heart and mind.

Acts 3:22–23: “For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.”

John 12:49–50: “For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his

commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”

Every prophetic voice today must reflect the humility, obedience, and purity exemplified by Christ.

## **VI. The Prophetic Burden — Holiness, Humility, and Truth**

True prophets live in holiness, humility, and truth. They speak only what God says and do not manipulate people for personal gain.

Micah 6:8: “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”

2 Corinthians 2:17: “For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.”

Prophets must not sell prayers, charge for prophecies, or build dependence on themselves rather than on God.

Matthew 10:8: “Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.”

## **VII. The Responsibility of a True Prophet**

The prophet must guard his tongue, heart, and motives, understanding that he represents God to the people because God speaks to the people through him .

Ezekiel 33:7–9: “So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt

hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.”

The prophet is accountable to God for what he says — both in words and in silence.

### **VIII. Testing Your Own Prophecy**

Before declaring “Thus saith the Lord,” every true prophet must test the word through Scripture, prayer, and humility.

1 John 4:1: “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”

#### **Five ways to test your own prophecy:**

1. Is it Scriptural? Does it agree with the written Word of God (Isaiah 8:20)?  
*“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”*
2. Does it glorify Christ? True prophecy points to Jesus, not self (Revelation 19:10).

*“For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”*

3. Does it produce godly fruit? True words lead to repentance, righteousness, and peace (Matthew 7:16–20).

*“Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”*

4. Does it witness with the Holy Spirit within? (Romans 8:16)

*“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”*

5. Does it align with love and humility? (1 Corinthians 13:2)

*“And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge... and have not charity, I am nothing.”*

## **IX. Conclusion**

The prophetic ministry is sacred, holy, and weighty. It is not merely a profession or a platform but a divine trust. The Lord continues to raise true prophets today—men and women who love Him, fear Him, and serve Him faithfully.

Revelation 22:6: “And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.”



# CHAPTER

# 2

## THE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROPHETIC OFFICE



### I. The Three Foundational Functions of True Prophets

#### (1) Revealing God's Plans and Purposes

Prophets are chosen vessels through whom God reveals His intentions for nations, churches, or individuals. Their primary purpose is not prediction for curiosity, but offering revelation for divine direction and correction.

#### **Scriptural Foundation:**

Judges 4:4–6 “And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of

Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time. And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment. And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedeshnaphtali, and said unto him, Hath not the Lord God of Israel commanded, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?"

God revealed His battle plan for Israel through Deborah, a prophetess. Prophets unveil God's mind to those who must act on His will.

Amos 3:7 "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." Before God acts, He often reveals His intentions to those He has called as prophetic watchmen.

Acts 11:27–28 "And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar."

Prophets may receive revelations that prepare God's people for seasons ahead. Agabus did not speak from observation but by the Spirit of the Lord.

## **2. Laying Foundations of True Doctrine and Godly Living**

Prophets are also called to establish believers in truth,

teaching sound doctrine and demonstrating practical holiness. The prophetic office is foundational alongside that of the apostles.

Ephesians 2:20 “And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.”

The foundation of the Church rests upon the unshakable truth of Christ, revealed through apostolic and prophetic ministries.

1 Corinthians 3:10–11 “According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master-builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

Prophets, like apostles, labor to establish Christ as the only true foundation of the believer's faith and conduct.

1 Peter 1:10–11 “Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.”

Even Old Testament prophets bore witness to Christ's redemptive work, showing that all genuine prophecy ultimately points to Him.



### **3. Calling People to Repentance and Righteousness**

Prophets are God's instruments of correction and renewal. Their messages pierce the heart, calling people to turn away from sin and return to holiness.

Isaiah 58:1 “Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.”

Prophetic voices must not be silent in the face of sin; they are called to trumpet righteousness with boldness and compassion.

Jeremiah 23:21–22 “I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.”

True prophets lead men to repentance, not indulgence. False prophets comfort sinners who are in rebellion.

Jonah 3:1–5 “And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. So the people of

Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.”

Jonah's obedience led to national repentance — a key sign of true prophetic influence.

## **II. The Heart of a True Prophet**

True prophets reflect the heart of God: compassionate yet unwavering, humble yet courageous. Their aim isn't fame or wealth but following God's will.

Micah 3:8 “But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.”

The power of the Spirit equips prophets to confront sin with truth and courage — not to condemn, but to reconcile people to God.

Lamentations 3:22–23 “It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”

The prophet's heart must mirror God's mercy; correction must always spring from love, not pride or anger.

### **III. Distinguishing Between the Old and New Testament Prophets**

#### **Old Testament Prophets:**

- Functioned as direct mediators between God and man.
- Delivered God's revelation before the written Scriptures were complete.
- Often addressed nations and kings with words of judgment, warning, and hope.

2 Chronicles 36:15–16 “And the Lord God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his people, till there was no remedy.”

Old Testament prophets often stood alone against corruption, bearing the weight of national rebellion.

#### **New Testament Prophets:**

- Function within the Body of Christ to edify, exhort, and comfort (1 Corinthians 14:3).
- Operate under the authority of Scripture, not above it.

- Confirm what the Holy Spirit already witnesses in believers' hearts.

1 Corinthians 14:3–4 “But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.”

New Testament prophecy strengthens and builds the Church; it aligns with Christ's finished work.

Acts 21:10–11 “And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.”

Even in the New Testament, prophets brought direction, yet always under the witness of the Spirit and not to override personal revelation.

#### **IV. The Prophetic Lifestyle — Humility, Integrity, and Purity**

Prophets must live by example, modeling holiness and humility before God and man. They must avoid covetousness and the temptation to commercialize spiritual gifts.

1 Timothy 6:5, 10–11 “Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.”

Prophets who sell prayers or charge for “words” grieve the Spirit and dishonor God's gift.

Matthew 10:8 “Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.”

## **V. The Prophet's Aim — Dependence on God Alone**

Prophets must always direct people to trust in God, not in themselves or in their prophetic gifts.

Jeremiah 17:5–7 “Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.”

True prophets strengthen faith in God, not dependence on their words or ministries.

## VI. Conclusion

Prophets serve three primary purposes:

1. Reveal God's heart and purpose.
2. Establish believers on the foundation of truth in Christ.
3. Call the world and the Church to repentance and holiness.

Their life must reflect God's holiness, their lips must speak only His truth, and their ministry must draw all glory to Jesus Christ.

Revelation 19:10 "For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."





# CHAPTER

# 3

## TESTING AND RECOGNIZING TRUE AND FALSE PROPHETS



**Theme: Discerning the True Voice of God in an Age of Deception**

### **I. The Biblical Command to Test All Prophecy**

God never asks His people to accept every prophetic message without discernment. Scripture commands believers to test, prove, and judge prophetic utterances by the Word of God and by the fruit of the messenger's life.



1 Thessalonians 5:20–21 “Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”

Prophecy must not be despised — yet it must be proven. Every word must be tested against Scripture, the Spirit's witness, and the nature of Christ.

1 John 4:1 “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”

The command is clear: believers are responsible for discerning what is truly from God.

## **II. Characteristics of True Prophets**

A true prophet reflects the nature and character of God. Their words, conduct, and lifestyle align with Scripture, humility, and holiness.

### **(1) A True Prophet Speaks According to the Word of God**

Deuteronomy 13:1–4 “If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the Lord your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.”

Even if a sign or wonder comes to pass, a true prophet will never lead people away from obedience to the Word of God.

### **(2) A True Prophet Glorifies Christ, Not Self**

Revelation 19:10 “And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

All true prophecy exalts Jesus Christ and draws people into deeper fellowship with Him — not with the prophet.

### **(3) A True Prophet's Words Come to Pass Consistently**

Deuteronomy 18:21–22 “And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.”

A true prophet speaks from divine revelation — not personal imagination. God confirms His word in His time.

### **(4) A True Prophet Lives in Holiness and Humility**

Matthew 7:15–20 “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good

tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”

The fruit of a prophet's life — humility, truthfulness, purity, love, and obedience — confirms whether they are truly sent of God.

### **III. Characteristics of False Prophets**

#### **(1) They Speak from Their Own Hearts, Not from God**

Jeremiah 23:16 “Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord.”

False prophets often speak their own imaginations, motivated by ambition, pride, or gain.

#### **(2) They Preach Peace When There Is No Peace**

Jeremiah 6:13–14 “For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely. They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no

peace.”

False prophets avoid confronting sin. They offer comfort without repentance and promise blessings without holiness.

### **(3) They Love Money and Exploit People**

Micah 3:11 “The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the Lord, and say, Is not the Lord among us? none evil can come upon us.”

The true prophet ministers freely, depending on God for provision. False prophets commercialize the anointing.

### **(4) They Seek Popularity and Flatter Kings or Crowds**

1 Kings 22:6–8 “Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the Lord shall deliver it into the hand of the king. And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the Lord besides, that we might enquire of him? And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may enquire of the Lord: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil.”

Micaiah stood alone for truth, while hundreds of false prophets spoke to please men.

### **(5) They Perform Signs to Deceive**

Matthew 24:24 “For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”

Not all miracles confirm divine origin. True prophecy aligns with truth, not simply power.

## **IV. Five Biblical Principles to Test Your Own Prophecy**

Every believer, especially prophetic ministers, must test what they believe God has spoken to them before publicly delivering it.

### **(1) Does It Agree with the Word of God?**

God never contradicts Himself. Any prophecy that conflicts with Scripture is false.

Isaiah 8:20 “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”

### **(2) Does It Exalt Jesus Christ?**

A prophecy that glorifies a person, ministry, or movement rather than Christ is not from God. John 16:13–14 “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth... He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

**(3) Does It Produce Peace, Righteousness, and Fruit of the Spirit?**

James 3:17 “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

**(4) Does It Align with the Witness of the Holy Spirit in Mature Believers?**

2 Corinthians 13:1 “This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.”

**(5) Does It Come to Pass in God's Timing?**

Habakkuk 2:3 “For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.”

If the word truly comes from God, it will be fulfilled — not through human manipulation but divine timing.

**V. The Need for Humility and Wisdom in Delivering Prophecy**

Prophets must deliver God's message with reverence, humility, and discretion - never using prophecy to control, embarrass, or exalt themselves.

Proverbs 15:33 “The fear of the Lord is the instruction of

Dr. Ezra Aniebue

wisdom; and before honour is humility.”

Colossians 4:6 “Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.”

Prophets must learn to speak only when led by the Spirit and in the spirit of love, ensuring that the Word builds up and restores.

## **VI. The Danger of False Confidence and Unchecked Zeal**

Many fall into error by speaking prematurely or interpreting revelation based on personal feelings instead of the Spirit.

Ecclesiastes 5:2 “Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.”

James 1:19–20 “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.”

True prophets strengthen faith in God, not dependence on themselves. False prophets exploit that dependence. Therefore, the people of God must be mature, discerning,

and grounded in the Word.

Acts 17:11 “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

Galatians 1:8–9 “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”

### **Conclusion:**

1. All prophecy must be tested by the Word of God.
2. True prophets exalt Christ and walk in humility.
3. False prophets seek gain, glory, or control.
4. Prophets must test their own words before speaking.
5. The Spirit of prophecy always glorifies Jesus and leads to repentance.







# CHAPTER

# 4

## THE PROPHET'S CHARACTER AND LIFESTYLE— WALKING IN HOLINESS, HUMILITY, AND WISDOM



### 1. Holiness — The Foundation of a True Prophet

Prophets are called to represent God to His people. Their lives must be marked by separation from sin and obedience to God's commands. Holiness is not optional; it is a prerequisite for ministry.

**1 Peter 1:15–16** “But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”

**Hebrews 12:14** “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.”

Prophets cannot lead others into righteousness if their own lives are in disobedience. The foundation of all

prophetic ministry is the pursuit of God's holiness.

## **2. Humility — A Prophet's Heart Posture**

Humility protects the prophet from pride, self-exaltation, and the pursuit of popularity. True prophetic words are delivered with reverence, not self-glorification.

Micah 6:8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”

Philippians 2:3–4 “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”

Pride in prophetic ministry leads to manipulation, exploitation, and error. Humility ensures the focus remains on God and His Word, not on the messenger. Humility in Delivering Words:

Prophets must never speak to draw attention to themselves or intimidate others. Words must be given in meekness, reverence, and love.

Colossians 4:6 “Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.”

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Humility safeguards against manipulation, error, and misuse of God's gift.

### **3. Wisdom — Delivering God's Word with Discretion**

Prophets must speak the truth boldly yet wisely, discerning when, how, and to whom to deliver God's message.

Proverbs 15:23 "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!"

Ecclesiastes 5:2 "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few."

Wisdom balances courage and tact. A prophetic word spoken without discernment can harm instead of heal.

### **4. Dependence on God — Not on Self or People**

A prophet's authority and effectiveness come solely from God. They must not seek validation, fame, or financial gain from their ministry.

Matthew 10:8 "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."

1 Corinthians 2:5 "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

Prophets are stewards of God's revelation, not self-promoters. Their dependence must always be on God, not human applause or resources.

### **5. Integrity — Living What They Proclaim**

Prophets are called to align their words and lifestyle with God's truth. Hypocrisy undermines both their message and their ministry.

James 3:1–2 “My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.”

Matthew 23:3 “Therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.”

Integrity demonstrates the authenticity of a prophet's calling. God's Word must be mirrored in their actions.

## **6. Love and Compassion — Motivated by Godly Concern**

Prophets must operate in love, even when delivering rebuke or correction. God's heart is always for restoration, not condemnation.

Ezekiel 3:16–21 “And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.”

1 Corinthians 13:2–3 “And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.”

Love tempers boldness. A prophet without love risks delivering messages in judgment rather than correction.

## **7. Avoiding the Love of Money and Covetousness**

True prophets must not commercialize the prophetic gift or use it to build wealth or power.

1 Timothy 6:5–10 “Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

2 Corinthians 2:17 “For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.”

Prophets must give freely as they have received freely from God, not charging or exploiting those seeking God’s guidance.

## **8. Accountability — Remaining Under Godly Authority**

Prophets are not above correction. God places leaders, elders, and the written Word to ensure prophetic ministries remain aligned with His will.

1 Corinthians 14:37 “If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.”

Hebrews 13:17 “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”

Prophets thrive under accountability, humility, and submission to God's ordained order.

## **9. The Prophet's Witness — Leading Others to Depend on God Alone**

Prophets exist to point others to God, not to themselves. They must avoid fostering dependence on their words, presence, or reputation.

Jeremiah 17:5–7 “Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.”

John 3:30 “He must increase, but I must decrease.”

True prophets humble themselves, ensuring that all glory and dependence flow toward God.

## **10. Prayer — The Lifeline of Prophetic Ministry**

Prayer is the prophet's primary channel of communion with God. True prophetic insight flows from consistent, Spirit-led prayer.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 “Pray without ceasing.”

Luke 6:12 “And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.”

Acts 13:2–3 “As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted,

the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.”

Prayer must be persistent, reverent, and Spirit-led. Prophets are strengthened and guided by ongoing communion with God.

### **11. Fasting — Deepening Sensitivity to God**

Fasting enhances spiritual discernment, breaks the influence of the flesh, and intensifies intimacy with God.

Matthew 17:21 “Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.”

Isaiah 58:6–7 “Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?”

Fasting must be paired with righteousness, mercy, and compassion, aligning the prophet's heart with God's purposes.

### **12. Meditation on the Word — The Prophet's Foundation**

The Word of God forms the prophet's foundation. Meditation ensures that all revelations align with Scripture.

Joshua 1:8 “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that



thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Psalm 1:2–3 "But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Meditation deepens the prophet's understanding, ensuring that every word spoken is rooted in God's truth.

### **13. Worship — Aligning the Heart with God's Presence**

Worship focuses the prophet on God, humbling the heart and fostering intimacy with the Holy Spirit.

John 4:23–24 "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

Psalm 22:3 "But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel."

Worship reminds the prophet that prophecy is a service to God, not self-promotion.

### **Conclusion:**

The life of a prophet is a sacred calling requiring:

1. Holiness — separation from sin and obedience to God.

2. Humility — serving God and others without pride.
3. Wisdom — delivering the Word carefully and discerningly.
4. Integrity — aligning words with lifestyle.
5. Love and Compassion — guiding people toward repentance and restoration.
6. Dependence on God — avoiding greed, pride, or self-promotion.

A prophet's ministry is effective only when rooted in God's character, Spirit-led, and grounded in His Word.





## THE PROPHETIC PROCESS— RECEIVING, INTERPRETING GOD’S WORD



### I. Receiving God's Word — Methods and Biblical Examples

God speaks to His servants in different ways. The prophet must cultivate sensitivity to the Holy Spirit and discern His voice.

**1 Samuel 3:1–10** (Hannah's son Samuel) “And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision. And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see; and before the lamp of God went out in the

temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep; the Lord called Samuel. And he answered, Here am I. And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. And the Lord called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again. Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him. And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. Then Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.”

### **Methods of Receiving God's Word in Scripture:**

1. Audible voice of God — 1 Kings 19:11–13 (Elijah hearing God in a still small voice)
2. Vision or dream — Daniel 7:1, Joel 2:28–29
3. Scripture revelation — 2 Peter 1:20–21
4. Inner witness of the Holy Spirit — Romans 8:16  
Prophets must wait in quietness, attentiveness, and obedience to receive from God, not from imagination or human prompting.

## II. Interpreting God's Word — Discernment and Wisdom

Once the Word is received, it must be rightly understood. Misinterpretation leads to false prophecy.

2 Peter 1:20–21 “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Proverbs 3:5–6 “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

### Key principles in interpretation:

1. Scripture is the standard — align revelation with God's Word.
2. Pray for wisdom — James 1:5
3. Consult mature, Spirit-led believers — Proverbs 15:22
4. Consider context — Luke 24:27 (Jesus explained the Scriptures to the disciples)
5. Test the fruit — Galatians 5:22–23

### **III. Delivering God's Word – Humility, Timing, and Love**

Prophecy is not merely about speaking words; it is about delivering God's message for edification, exhortation, and comfort.

1 Corinthians 14:3 “But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.”

Ezekiel 3:17–19 “Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.”

#### **Guidelines for delivering prophecy:**

1. Speak only what God has revealed, not personal opinion. — Deuteronomy 18:20
2. Deliver with humility and gentleness. — Colossians 4:6
3. Speak in love, aiming to restore and guide. — Ephesians 4:15
4. Wait for God's timing, not rush from excitement

or pressure. — Ecclesiastes 5:2

5. Avoid creating dependence on the prophet instead of God. — John 3:30

#### **IV. Differentiating Between Old Testament and New Testament Prophets Old Testament Prophets:**

- Often spoke to nations, kings, and the people of Israel. — Jeremiah 1:4–10; Isaiah 6:1–13
- Sometimes delivered laws, judgments, and foretelling of Messiah. — Micah 5:2; Isaiah 53
- Many had roles beyond prophecy (priest, judge, shepherd). — Moses, Samuel

#### **New Testament Prophets:**

- Operated under the New Covenant with the Holy Spirit in every believer. — John 14:26; Acts 2:17–18
- Focused on edification, exhortation, comfort, and correction of the church. — 1 Corinthians 14:3
- Confirmed God's guidance rather than controlling it. — Acts 21:10–13



## **V. The Necessity of Humility and Self-Examination**

Every prophet must examine themselves before delivering the Word.

2 Corinthians 13:5 “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”

Proverbs 16:18 “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”

Humility ensures that God is glorified, and prophecy builds, restores, and does not harm.

## **VI. Avoiding the Love of Money or Power**

The prophetic ministry is a calling, not a business. Prophets must never charge for prophecy or prayers.

Matthew 10:8 “Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.”

1 Timothy 6:5–10 “Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. For the love of money is the root of all evil...”

## **VII. The Prophetic Process involves:**

1. Receiving: Hear God's Word through the Spirit, Scripture, vision, or dream.
2. Interpreting: Confirm accuracy through Scripture,

prayer, counsel, and context.

3. Delivering: Speak with humility, love, and wisdom, always glorifying God.
4. Testing: Evaluate prophecy against God's Word, timing, fruit, and confirmation.
5. Living Rightly: Maintain holiness, humility, and dependence on God, avoiding pride and greed.

**Key Verse:**

Acts 21:10–11 “And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.”

Agabus received revelation, interpreted it, and delivered it to Paul with clarity, warning, and God's authority — an example for every prophet.





## **DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROPHETIC MINISTRY AND SPIRITUAL GIFTS**



### **I. The Distinction Between Prophetic Office and the Gift of Prophecy**

It is crucial to differentiate between those called into the office of the prophet (ascension gift ministry) and those who operate in the spiritual gift of prophecy.

Ephesians 4:11–12 “And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”

1 Corinthians 12:28 “And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after

that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.”

Not every believer who prophesies is called to the ascension ministry of a prophet. The spiritual gift of prophecy is given for edification, exhortation, and comfort within the church, whereas the office of prophet carries broader responsibilities for guidance, foundation-laying, and leadership.

## II. Types of Prophetic Ministry in the Old Testament

1. Foretelling — predicting future events  
Isaiah 7:14 — “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”
2. Forthtelling — speaking God's truth into current circumstances  
Amos 3:7 — “Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.”
3. Intercessory Prophets — standing in the gap for God's people  
Moses — Exodus 32:11–14, interceded for Israel to prevent God's wrath.
4. Prophets to Kings and Nations — guiding rulers and nations

Nathan — 2 Samuel 12:1–15, rebuked King David over sin.

Daniel — Daniel 4:27, advised Nebuchadnezzar to repent.

5. Foundation-Laying Prophets — instructing in God's Word and character

Haggai 1:1–14, encouraged the rebuilding of the temple.

### **III. Types of Prophetic Ministry in the New Testament**

1. Confirmatory Prophets — confirming God's direction or vision

Agabus — Acts 21:10–11, prophesied Paul's imprisonment as confirmation of God's will.

2. Edifying Prophets — building up the church through exhortation

1 Corinthians 14:3 — “But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.”

3. Guidance Prophets — providing direction in God's plan

Acts 11:27–28 — “And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great

dearth throughout all the world.”

4. Teaching Prophets — explaining God's Word and truth  
Acts 13:1–2 — Barnabas and Paul prophesied and taught in the church at Antioch.
5. Repentance-Focused Prophets — calling people to turn from sin  
John the Baptist — Matthew 3:1–12, preached repentance and prepared the way for Christ.

#### **IV. Spiritual Gifts Complementing Prophetic Ministry**

1. Word of Knowledge — revelation of truth hidden from human perception  
1 Corinthians 12:8 — “To another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;”
2. Word of Wisdom — guidance in difficult situations  
1 Corinthians 12:8 — “To another the word of wisdom by the same Spirit;”
3. Discerning of Spirits — detecting spiritual truth and deception  
1 Corinthians 12:10 — “To another the discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to

another the interpretation of tongues:"

4. Faith — supernatural confidence in God's promises  
1 Corinthians 12:9 — "To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;"
5. Healing, Miracles, and Deliverance — confirming God's message  
Acts 3:1–10, Peter and John healed the lame man as evidence of God's power accompanying their ministry.

## **V. Characteristics of God's Various Prophetic Ministries**

1. All prophecy must glorify God — 1 Corinthians 10:31
2. Prophecy must align with Scripture — 2 Peter 1:20–21
3. Prophets must operate in love — 1 Corinthians 13:1–3
4. Prophets serve as God's watchmen — Ezekiel 33:1–9
5. Prophets deliver both warning and encouragement — Revelation 2:1–7



## **VI. Practical Guidance for Those Called**

- Know your calling — recognize whether you operate in a gift or an office. — Ephesians 4:11–12
- Develop spiritual disciplines — prayer, fasting, worship, and study of Scripture. — Matthew 6:6; Joshua 1:8
- Submit to accountability — avoid pride and error. — 1 Corinthians 14:37
- Test every word before speaking — Deuteronomy 18:21–22; Isaiah 8:20
- Operate in humility and love — always pointing people to God, not self. — John 3:30; Colossians 4:6

## **VII. Conclusion:**

- Old Testament prophets primarily guided nations, kings, and Israel, often foretelling and forthtelling God's plans.
- New Testament prophets operate within the church, building, exhorting, comforting, and guiding believers under the New Covenant.
- Prophetic gifts (knowledge, wisdom, discernment) complement the ministry of the prophet.

- Integrity, accountability, love, and alignment with Scripture are essential in all prophetic ministries.

**Key Verse:**

Ephesians 4:11–12

“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”

Prophetic ministry in any form is designed to serve God's people, edify the church, and glorify Jesus Christ.





## **RESPONSIBILITIES, TEST, AND CHALLENGES OF PROPHETS IN HANDLING MISTAKES AND WRONG PROPHECIES**



### **I. Responsibilities of Prophets When They Err**

#### **1. Acknowledge Mistakes Before God and Man**

Prophets must take responsibility when a word they gave proves inaccurate. Concealing or defending error hardens the heart and damages God's reputation among His people.

Proverbs 28:13 "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

## **2. Return to the Place of Intimacy with God**

When mistakes occur, the prophet's first response must be to return to fellowship with the Lord, seeking understanding, cleansing, and renewed discernment.

P s a l m 5 1 : 1 0 – 1 2

“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me... restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.”

## **3. Publicly Correct Misleading Words**

If a wrong word was spoken publicly, the correction should also be public. This upholds integrity and helps protect God's people from confusion.

James 5:16 “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.”

## **1. Model Repentance and Humility**

A true prophet's strength lies not in perfection, but in humility before God. Admitting error demonstrates maturity, not weakness.

Micah 6:8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good... to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.”

## **5. Guard the Purity of God's Name**

When prophets humble themselves after failure, they protect the holiness of God's name and restore trust in His Word.

Ezekiel 36:23

“And I will sanctify my great name... and the nations shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.”

## **II. Tests of Prophets in Times of Error**

### **1. Test of Repentance and Correction**

True prophets respond to error with repentance, not denial or deflection.

2 Samuel 12:13 “And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said... The Lord also hath put away thy sin.”

### **2. Test of Accountability**

God tests whether the prophet remains teachable and accountable to other spiritual leaders and the church community

Proverbs 27:6 “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.”

### **3. Test of Heart Motives**

Prophets must discern if their prophetic error stemmed from pride, haste, emotion, or presumption, and allow God to purify their motives.

Jeremiah 23:21 “I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.”

#### **4. Test of Public Reaction**

When correction brings criticism or rejection, the prophet must remain humble and trust God for vindication. 1 Peter 5:6 “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.”

#### **5. Test of Continued Faithfulness**

Failure must not cause the prophet to withdraw permanently or stop obeying God's true call. Restoration follows repentance and renewed obedience. John 21:17 “Jesus saith unto him... Feed my sheep.”

### **III. Challenges Faced by Prophets After Giving Wrong Words:**

#### **1. Restoring Trust Among God's People**

Prophets must rebuild credibility through consistent humility, accuracy, and love for truth.

Proverbs 22:1 “A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.”

#### **2. Overcoming Shame and Condemnation**

Satan seeks to use failure to silence the prophet; God uses it to deepen dependence on His grace.

Romans 8:1 “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.”

#### **3. Avoiding Defensive Pride**

Some may attempt to justify their words rather than

repent. True restoration begins with surrender, not self-protection.

Psalm 139:23–24 “Search me, O God, and know my heart... and lead me in the way everlasting.”

#### **4. Discerning Between Human Error and False Prophecy**

Prophets must discern whether their mistake came from human limitation or a deeper issue of disobedience. Each requires repentance, but also wisdom for correction. 1 John 4:1 “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God.”

#### **5. Restoring Fellowship and Unity in the Body**

Prophets must actively seek reconciliation with those affected by their words, demonstrating love and humility. Matthew 5:23–24 “First be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.”

### **IV. Practical Guidelines for Prophets After Mistakes**

1. Seek God's face in repentance and renewal — Psalm 51:10–12; Hosea 6:1–2
2. Be transparent and accountable — James 5:16; Proverbs 11:14
3. Apologize and clarify publicly when necessary — Matthew 5:23–24
4. Recommit to accuracy and careful discernment — 1 Thessalonians 5:21; Isaiah 8:20



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5. Maintain humility and teachability — 1 Peter 5:5–6
6. Let restoration come through service and love — Galatians 6:1–2

### **Conclusion:**

When prophets make mistakes or give wrong words, the response must reflect the heart of Christ—humble, repentant, and accountable. True prophetic integrity is not proven by being *always right*, but by being *always real* before God.

True restoration involves:

1. Honest repentance before God
2. Transparency and correction before people
3. Renewed intimacy with the Holy Spirit
4. Continued faithfulness to God's call
5. Growth in discernment and character

Key Verse:

Psalm 34:18 “The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.”

Jeremiah 23:28–29 “He that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the Lord. Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord.”

Every true prophet of God must remember:

## How to Become a Biblically Sound Prophet

- Admit and correct mistakes promptly.
- Guard God's name above personal reputation.
- Stay humble, teachable, and dependent on the Spirit.
- Let repentance be the doorway to deeper intimacy.
- Let love, truth, and humility define every prophetic act





# CHAPTER

# 8

## RESPONSIBILITIES, TESTS, AND CHALLENGES OF TRUE PROPHETS IN GLORIFYING GOD AND SPEAKING CHRIST-CENTERED WORDS



### I. Six Responsibilities of God's True Prophets

#### 1. Give All Glory to God Alone

Every true prophetic word must magnify the Lord and direct attention to Him—not to the vessel, ministry, or movement. Prophecy is never meant to glorify man.

I s a i a h 4 2 : 8

“I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another.”

When God speaks through His servants, they must quickly deflect all praise back to Him, acknowledging that

the revelation belongs to God alone.

John 7:18 “He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.”

## **2. Speak in Harmony with Scripture**

Prophetic words must never contradict or supersede the written Word of God. Scripture remains the ultimate measure and authority for all revelation.

Isaiah 8:20 “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”

True prophets study the Scriptures diligently so that every utterance aligns with the revealed character, will, and nature of God. The Holy Spirit never inspires a word contrary to the Word He authored.

## **3. Determine Whether a Word Is Conditional or Unconditional**

Prophets must seek the Lord carefully to discern the nature of each message. Some prophecies are conditional, dependent on human repentance, obedience, or prayer (e.g., Jonah and Nineveh), while others are unconditional, decreed by God's sovereign will (e.g., the coming of the Messiah).

Jeremiah 18:7–10 “At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation... if that nation... turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.”

Without this discernment, prophets risk confusion and may misrepresent God's heart. Spirit-led discernment

ensures that the prophetic word reflects divine truth and mercy.

#### **4. Exalt Jesus Christ Above All**

All true prophecy must lead hearts to Christ, revealing His lordship, grace, and redemption. The essence of prophecy is not prediction but transformation—bringing believers into conformity with Jesus.

Revelation 19:10 “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

Prophets under the New Covenant are not proclaimers of doom or glory-seekers for themselves, but witnesses of Christ's nature and work. Every revelation should draw people nearer to His cross, His Word, and His kingdom purposes.

2 Corinthians 3:18 “We all... beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory.”

#### **5. Guard the Heart Against Pride, Self-Promotion, and Fear of Rejection**

The purity of prophetic ministry depends on a humble heart. Pride and fear distort revelation, while humility keeps the channel clean.

Proverbs 16:18 “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”

Prophets must remember they are servants, not celebrities; messengers, not masters. Every word should be offered in the fear of the Lord, with no desire for personal recognition.

## **6. Avoid Presumption—Never Speak Without Divine Authority**

To say, “Thus says the Lord,” without the Spirit's leading, is to misuse God's name and rebel against His authority. Such presumption grieves the Holy Spirit.

Deuteronomy 18:20 “But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak... even that prophet shall die.”

Prophetic speech must arise from true communion with God, not emotion, imagination, or human zeal.

## **II. Tests of God-Glorifying Prophetic Ministry**

### **1. Test of Christ-Centeredness**

Does the word draw people closer to Jesus, or to the prophet? True prophecy always reveals Christ's person and advances His kingdom.

John 16:14 “He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

### **2. Test of Scriptural Alignment**

Every prophetic word must agree with the written Word. The Holy Spirit does not contradict Himself.

2 Peter 1:19–21 “No prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation... but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

### **3. Test of Humility and Reverence**

A humble prophet yields glory to God and resists the temptation to defend self or control others.

James 4:6 "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

### **4. Test of the Fruit of the Spirit**

Prophecy that genuinely comes from God produces love, peace, holiness, and repentance, not confusion or division.

Matthew 7:16 "Ye shall know them by their fruits."

### **5. Test of Conditional Fulfillment**

A mature prophet discerns whether a word depends on human response or stands as a divine decree. This discernment prevents false accusations and preserves God's credibility among His people.

## **III. Challenges in Prophetic Ministry**

### **1. The Temptation to Seek Personal Glory**

Prophets must resist the temptation to turn the gift into a platform for fame or influence. Glory belongs only to God.

1 Corinthians 1:3 "He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."



## **2. Misinterpretation of Prophetic Timing and Conditions**

Impatience or misunderstanding can lead to confusion. Prophets must wait on God for timing and clarity, allowing the Spirit to confirm His word.

Habakkuk 2:3 “For the vision is yet for an appointed time... though it tarry, wait for it.”

## **3. Balancing Boldness and Humility**

Prophets must speak truth courageously, yet always with the meekness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:15 “Speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.”

## **4. Enduring Criticism and Misunderstanding**

When the prophet faithfully honors Christ and Scripture, some will still reject the message. They must respond with love, not bitterness.

Matthew 5:11–12 “Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you... for my sake.”

## **IV. Practical Guidelines for Maintaining God's Glory in Prophecy**

1. Spend time in worship and intimacy with God – John 15:5
2. Judge every word by Scripture – 1 Thessalonians

5:21; Isaiah 8:20

3. Discern the nature of the message  
(conditional/unconditional) – Jeremiah 18:7–10
4. Speak to exalt Jesus, not self or systems –  
Revelation 19:10
5. Reject flattery, greed, and manipulation – 2  
Corinthians 2:17
6. Walk in continual humility and repentance –  
Micah 6:8

## **V. Conclusion:**

Prophetic ministry is a sacred trust. The highest aim of prophecy is not prediction, but the glorification of God and the revelation of Jesus Christ. Every word must be tested by Scripture, birthed in prayer, and delivered with humility. The true prophet's heart cry is: *"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory."* (Psalm 115:1)

## **True prophetic integrity is seen when:**

1. All glory returns to God.
2. The message aligns with Scripture.
3. Jesus Christ is clearly revealed.

4. The prophet walks in humility and accountability.
5. The people are edified and drawn into holiness.

Revelation 19:10

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

Therefore, every true prophet of God must remember:

- Give God alone the glory for every revelation.
- Speak only what aligns with Scripture and Christ's nature.
- Discern whether a word is conditional or sovereign.
- Let prophecy build, correct, and transform—not entertain.
- Point all hearts to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Living Word.

“He must increase, but I must decrease.” – John 3:30



# CHAPTER

# 9

## PROPHETIC TERMS AND MEANINGS



### **1. Anointing**

The anointing represents God's empowerment through His Spirit to speak and act under divine authority. Prophets, priests, and kings were anointed as a sign of consecration and divine commissioning (1 Kings 19:16; Isaiah 61:1). In the New Testament, the anointing symbolizes the indwelling Holy Spirit who empowers believers to witness and speak truth (1 John 2:20, 27).

### **2. Burden (Hebrew: *massa*)**

Used especially in prophetic books like Isaiah, Nahum,

and Malachi, the word *massa* means “oracle” or “weighty message.” It conveys a divine utterance of judgment or revelation that the prophet “carries” as a spiritual responsibility (Nahum 1:1). A prophetic burden is not just spoken—it is *felt* by the prophet in his spirit.

### **3. Conditional Prophecy**

A conditional prophecy depends on human response. God may declare judgment or blessing, but allow repentance or obedience to alter the outcome. The story of Jonah and Nineveh illustrates this principle (Jonah 3:4–10). Such words reveal God's mercy and His desire for partnership with humanity in fulfilling His will.

### **4. Covenant**

In prophetic contexts, a covenant is a divine agreement or promise between God and His people, often renewed or reaffirmed through prophetic ministry. Prophets like Jeremiah and Ezekiel spoke of a “new covenant” (Jeremiah 31:31–34; Ezekiel 36:26–27), which finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

### **5. Decree**

A decree is an unconditional, sovereign declaration of God that cannot be altered by human action. It reflects God's unchangeable will and authority (Psalm 2:7; Daniel 4:24). When a prophet announces a decree, it will come to pass exactly as spoken.

## 6. Dream (Hebrew: *chalom*)

Dreams were one of the primary means by which God revealed His will in the Old Testament (Genesis 37; Daniel 2). They often contain symbolic imagery requiring interpretation. In the New Testament, God still used dreams to guide His servants (Matthew 1:20; Acts 2:17).

## 7. Foretelling

Foretelling is the act of predicting events before they occur—predictive prophecy. Prophets like Isaiah, Daniel, and John (in Revelation) spoke of future events under the inspiration of the Spirit. This distinguishes genuine prophecy from mere insight or intuition (Isaiah 46:10).

## 8. Forth-telling

Forth-telling is the declaration of God's truth to the present situation, often involving correction, encouragement, or exhortation. Most biblical prophecy is forth-telling rather than predictive. It confronts sin, calls for repentance, and builds faith (1 Corinthians 14:3).

## 9. Man of God (Hebrew: *ish ha-Elohim*)

A title for prophets like Elijah and Elisha (1 Kings 17:18; 2 Kings 4:7). It emphasizes divine ownership—the prophet belongs to God, speaks on His behalf, and lives under His authority. It is a mark of consecration and trustworthiness.

### **10. Messenger of the Lord (Hebrew: *mal'ak Yahweh*)**

This term emphasizes the prophet's function as a carrier of divine messages (Haggai 1:13). The word *mal'ak* can mean both "angel" and "messenger," showing that prophets are human messengers bearing divine communication.

### **11. Oracle (Hebrew: *ne'um Yahweh*)**

An oracle is a prophetic utterance that begins with "Thus says the Lord." It signifies a message of divine origin carrying full authority (Isaiah 1:10; Jeremiah 23:33). Oracles could be words of blessing, warning, or judgment.

### **12. Prophecy (Greek: *propheteia*)**

In its broadest sense, prophecy means to speak forth the mind of God by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It includes revelation, exhortation, comfort, and sometimes prediction (1 Corinthians 14:3). Under the New Covenant, prophecy is given to build up the Church and glorify Christ.

### **13. Prophet (Hebrew: *nabi*; Greek: *prophētēs*)**

The term *nabi* means "one who is called" or "one who speaks for another." Prophets were chosen by God to declare His Word to individuals, nations, or the Church (Exodus 7:1; Amos 3:7). They were God's spokesmen, communicating divine truth by word or symbolic action.

#### **14. Prophetic Perfect**

A Hebrew grammatical form where future events are spoken of as already accomplished, emphasizing their certainty (Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 53:4–5). This form reflects divine assurance—what God declares is as good as done.

#### **15. Revelation (Greek: *apokalypsis*)**

Meaning “unveiling” or “disclosure,” revelation is God making known what was hidden. The prophetic book of Revelation exemplifies this, unveiling Christ's triumph and the fulfillment of God's purposes (Revelation 1:1). All true revelation centers on Christ (Ephesians 1:17).

#### **16. Seer (Hebrew: *ro'eh* or *chozeh*)**

Before the title “prophet” became common, God's spokesmen were called “seers” (1 Samuel 9:9). The term emphasizes supernatural insight and spiritual perception—“seeing” into divine realities or future events. While all seers are prophets, not all prophets are seers.

#### **17. Servant of the Lord (Hebrew: *ebed Yahweh*)**

A title denoting obedience and faithfulness to God's will. Isaiah used it for both Israel and the coming Messiah (Isaiah 42:1; 49:3). It stresses humility and dedication in prophetic ministry.



## **18. Sign**

A sign is a visible or miraculous act confirming a prophetic word (Exodus 4:8; Isaiah 7:14). Signs validate divine messages, demonstrating that God's power stands behind His revelation.

## **19. Spirit of Prophecy**

This phrase, rooted in Revelation 19:10, identifies the Holy Spirit as the source of all true prophecy. “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” means that genuine prophecy bears witness to Christ—His person, His work, and His kingdom. All prophetic revelation must flow from the Spirit of Christ.

## **20. The Word of the Lord (Hebrew: *dabar Yahweh*)**

The recurring phrase that introduces divine speech throughout the Bible: “The word of the Lord came unto...” (Jeremiah 1:4; Ezekiel 1:3). It signifies that what follows is not human opinion but direct divine revelation.

## **21. Vision (Hebrew: *chazon*; Greek: *horama*)**

A supernatural revelation given to a prophet, often through imagery, symbols, or scenes. Visions may reveal God's nature, warn of judgment, or reveal His future plans (Daniel 7; Acts 10:9–17). They require spiritual discernment and interpretation.

## **22. Watchman**

A prophetic metaphor for those who warn and intercede on behalf of God's people (Ezekiel 3:17; Isaiah 62:6). The watchman sees danger approaching and sounds the alarm. It conveys responsibility, vigilance, and accountability before God.

## **23. Woe**

A prophetic expression of sorrow, warning, or judgment (Isaiah 5:8; Matthew 23:13). "Woe" pronouncements are divine lamentations over sin, hypocrisy, or rebellion.

## **24. Thus Says the Lord**

The classic prophetic formula that signals divine speech and authority. It is the seal of authenticity on a prophetic word (Jeremiah 2:2; Amos 1:3). To use this phrase presumptuously is to misrepresent God (Deuteronomy 18:20–22).

## **25. Unconditional Prophecy**

An unconditional prophecy expresses God's sovereign determination, not dependent on human response. Examples include God's covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:2–3) and the coming of Christ (Micah 5:2). Such words demonstrate God's immovable purpose.

## **26. Word of Knowledge / Word of Wisdom**

New Testament prophetic gifts described in 1 Corinthians

12:8. The word of knowledge reveals hidden facts by divine insight; the word of wisdom provides direction and application of that knowledge in God's will.

## 27. Testimony of Jesus

From Revelation 19:10, it defines the ultimate goal and essence of prophecy – to bear witness to Jesus Christ. Any prophetic utterance that does not glorify Jesus or align with His Word is false or incomplete.

## 28. Watchword

A prophetic declaration or phrase God gives as a guiding word for a season or situation. It may encapsulate a message, promise, or warning. Biblically, Israel often rallied around divine “words” or “themes” revealed through prophets (2 Chronicles 20:20).

## Conclusion:

Prophetic language in the Bible is rich, multidimensional, and always God-centered. Every genuine prophetic term – whether *seer*, *vision*, *oracle*, or *word of the Lord* – serves one ultimate purpose: to reveal God's heart, glorify His name, and point all people to Jesus Christ, the Living Word.



**PROPHETIC SYMBOLISM THROUGHOUT  
THE 66 BOOKS OF THE BIBLE**



**T**hroughout Scripture, God used prophetic language, visions, symbols, and actions to reveal His will, warn nations, and unveil His redemptive plan in Christ. From Genesis to Revelation, these prophetic terms carry deep spiritual significance. They communicate heavenly realities through earthly images.

However, it is crucial to understand: Prophetic symbols are not God. They are tools, not objects of worship. The Creator alone is to be adored—never the created sign (Exodus 20:4–5; Deuteronomy 4:15–19).

Whenever God uses a symbol, vision, or prophetic object, its purpose is to point back to Him, to glorify Jesus Christ, and to reveal truth, never to replace or compete with divine worship.

## **KEY PROPHETIC SYMBOLS AND THEIR MEANINGS**

### **1. Altar**

Symbol of worship, sacrifice, and covenant relationship (Genesis 8:20; Exodus 20:24). Prophetically, the altar represents repentance and intercession—a place of meeting with God. Yet, the altar itself is not to be adored; it points to Christ, our eternal sacrifice (Hebrews 13:10–12).

### **2. Anointing Oil**

Represents the Holy Spirit's empowerment and consecration (1 Samuel 16:13; Isaiah 61:1). Prophetically, oil signifies divine enablement and sanctification. But oil is not magical—its power lies in the Spirit it symbolizes, not in the substance itself.

### **3. Book or Scroll**

Symbol of divine revelation and destiny (Ezekiel 2:9–10; Revelation 5:1–5). When a prophet “eats the scroll,” it means receiving and internalizing God's Word. The scroll is not sacred in itself; the Word it contains—God's truth—is what sanctifies.

#### **4. Bread**

Represents spiritual nourishment and the Word of God (Deuteronomy 8:3; John 6:35). Prophetically, bread points to Christ, the Living Bread. Physical bread is symbolic; Jesus alone gives life.

#### **5. Cup**

Symbol of divine judgment or blessing (Psalm 75:8; Matthew 26:39). Prophetically, the “cup” reveals what God allows His people—or His Son—to endure. The cup itself is not holy, but the act of obedience and submission it represents is.

#### **6. Door/Gate**

Represents access, opportunity, and divine transition (Ezekiel 44:1–3; John 10:9). Prophetically, doors symbolize openings to destiny or revelation. Christ declares, “*I am the Door*” (John 10:9)—not a literal structure, but the living access to salvation.

#### **7. Fire**

Symbol of God's presence, purity, and power (Exodus 3:2; Jeremiah 23:29). Prophetic fire purifies and consumes impurity, but fire itself is not to be revered. Worship belongs to the God who answers by fire, not the fire itself.

## **8. Horn**

Represents authority and dominion (Daniel 7:7–8; Psalm 75:10). Prophetic horns symbolize rulers or nations. All horns bow to the Horn of Salvation—Jesus Christ (Luke 1:69).

## **9. Lamp / Lampstand**

Symbol of light, revelation, and witness (Exodus 25:31–40; Revelation 1:20). The lamp represents the Church's testimony, yet it shines only through the Light of the World—Christ (John 8:12).

## **10. Lion**

Symbol of strength and kingship. The “Lion of Judah” (Revelation 5:5) represents Jesus' majesty and victory. Prophetic visions of lions can also depict nations or rulers. But worship belongs to the true Lion, not to the image or emblem.

## **11. Mountain**

Represents kingdoms, dominion, or divine presence (Isaiah 2:2; Daniel 2:35). Prophetically, mountains symbolize spiritual authority. Yet no mountain is divine—only the God of Zion is to be exalted (Psalm 48:1–2).

## **12. Plumb Line**

Symbol of divine measurement and moral standard (Amos 7:7–8). It reveals God's justice and righteousness.

The plumb line is not holy; it reflects the holiness of God Himself.

### **13. Potter and Clay**

Symbol of God's sovereignty and man's submission (Jeremiah 18:1–6). Prophetically, it reminds us that we are formed by the divine hand. The clay has no power; the Potter alone deserves worship.

### **14. River**

Symbol of spiritual life and the flow of the Spirit (Ezekiel 47:1–12; John 7:38). Prophetically, rivers bring renewal and healing. But the river's source is God Himself, not a mystical current to be adored.

### **15. Rod/Staff**

Represents authority and guidance (Psalm 23:4; Exodus 4:2). The staff is a tool, not an idol. Its prophetic use displays God's power, not man's magic.

### **6. Sword**

Symbol of the Word of God and divine justice (Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12). Prophetic swords signify the cutting truth of Scripture. But the sword's power is spiritual—it lies in the Word, not in the object.

### **17. Throne**



Represents sovereignty, authority, and judgment (Isaiah 6:1; Revelation 4:2). Every throne in prophecy points to the eternal throne of God, not to earthly power or prestige.

### **18. Trumpet/ Shofar**

Symbol of proclamation, warning, and gathering (Joel 2:1; Revelation 8:6). Prophetically, it signals divine visitation. The sound summons people to God—it is not to be adored.

### **19. Vine and Branches**

Symbol of covenant fruitfulness (Isaiah 5:1–7; John 15:1–5). Prophetically, vines picture our union with Christ. Apart from Him, there is no fruit; the vine's glory is Christ's life, not the plant itself.

### **20. Vision**

A spiritual revelation or insight (Daniel 7:1; Acts 10:9–17). Visions reveal God's purpose but are subject to Scripture and tested by His character. The vision is not to be worshipped; the God who gives it is.

### **21. Watchtower**

Symbol of spiritual vigilance and intercession (Habakkuk 2:1; Isaiah 62:6). Prophetically, it represents a position of prayer and alertness—not a mystical structure but a spiritual posture before God.

## **22. Water**

Symbol of cleansing and renewal (Ezekiel 36:25; Ephesians 5:26). Prophetically, water represents the Holy Spirit's refreshing presence. Yet, it is the Spirit, not the water, who gives life.

## **23. Wind**

Symbol of the Spirit's invisible movement and power (Ezekiel 37:9–10; John 3:8). Wind brings life and change. It is not to be romanticized or deified—the Spirit of God, not the element, transforms hearts.

## **24. Wine**

Symbol of joy, covenant, and spiritual vitality (Amos 9:13; Matthew 26:27–29). Prophetically, new wine speaks of renewal. But the joy is in the Spirit, not in the drink.

## **25. Yoke**

Represents submission or bondage (Jeremiah 27:2; Matthew 11:29–30). Prophetically, the breaking of a yoke symbolizes freedom in Christ. The symbol only illustrates truth; Christ Himself is the Deliverer.

## **Conclusion:**

All prophetic terms, signs, and symbols in Scripture are servants of revelation, not objects of reverence. They point beyond themselves to the eternal reality of God's character, covenant, and Christ's redemptive work.

To worship a symbol, anointing oil, object, vision, or sign is to replace the Creator with the created, which Scripture condemns (Romans 1:25). True prophetic ministry always restores worship to God alone and magnifies Jesus Christ, the center of prophecy.

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” – Revelation 19:10 “You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.” – Matthew 4:10

Therefore:

- Let every prophetic word give glory to God alone.
- Let every prophetic symbol point to Christ, not to itself.
- Let every prophet speak with reverence, accuracy, and humility, never exalting self, objects, or gifts above the Giver.



## PROPHETIC ACTIONS AND GESTURES IN SCRIPTURE



### **1. Noah Building the Ark – *Genesis 6:13–22***

Symbol: Judgment and salvation.

Noah's obedience preached righteousness while the ark typified Christ – the only safe refuge from coming judgment.

The act was not magical; it was a message of warning and mercy.

### **2. Abraham Offering Isaac – *Genesis 22:1–14***

Symbol: Obedient faith and substitutionary sacrifice.

Abraham's action foreshadowed the Father's love in

giving His Son.

The ram caught in the thicket symbolized Christ, our substitute.

The act pointed to Calvary, not to ritual sacrifice.

### **3. Moses Lifting His Rod – *Exodus 14:15–16***

Symbol: God's authority over creation and deliverance through faith.

The rod had no power in itself; it represented God's command and presence.

Moses' obedience demonstrated divine partnership, not human magic.

### **4. The Bronze Serpent – *Numbers 21:8–9***

Symbol: Healing through faith and looking to Christ.

The bronze serpent was a prophetic picture of Jesus lifted on the cross (John 3:14–15).

Later, when people began to worship it, King Hezekiah destroyed it (2 Kings 18:4) — a warning that no prophetic symbol is to become an idol.

### **5. Joshua and the Walls of Jericho – *Joshua 6:1–20***

Symbol: Victory through obedience and faith.

The march, trumpets, and shout were acts of divine strategy, not ritual performance.

God's power, not the sound, caused the walls to fall.

### **6. Samuel Anointing David – *1 Samuel 16:13***

Symbol: Divine selection and empowerment by the

Spirit.

The oil symbolized consecration, but the Spirit's anointing gave David authority.

The act exalted God's choice, not human appointment.

### **7. Isaiah Walking Barefoot and Naked – *Isaiah 20:2–4***

Symbol: The shame and captivity of Egypt and Ethiopia. Isaiah's act dramatized coming judgment — a visible prophecy.

Such gestures were not for attention, but for revelation.

### **8. Jeremiah Breaking a Clay Flask – *Jeremiah 19:1–11***

Symbol: The irreversible destruction of Jerusalem.

The shattered vessel represented how God would break the nation for its rebellion.

The act was prophetic theatre — a message through movement.

### **9. Jeremiah Wearing a Yoke – *Jeremiah 27:2; 28:10–14***

Symbol: Submission to Babylonian rule as ordained by God.

Jeremiah's physical yoke symbolized servitude.

When the false prophet Hananiah broke it, God replaced it with an iron yoke, proving God's word prevails, not human defiance.

### **10. Ezekiel Lying on His Side – *Ezekiel 4:4–8***

Symbol: The burden of Israel and Judah's sin.

Each day represented a year of judgment.

The act embodied intercession and divine empathy — the prophet shared in the suffering of the message he carried.

### **11. Ezekiel Cutting His Hair and Dividing It – *Ezekiel 5:1–4***

Symbol: The fate of Jerusalem's inhabitants.

The hair represented the people — some burned, some struck, some scattered.

This graphic act revealed God's justice and mercy.

### **12. Ezekiel Packing His Bags and Digging Through the Wall – *Ezekiel 12:1–7***

Symbol: The coming exile of Judah.

His silent action visualized the people's captivity.

Prophetic dramatization turned divine words into living illustrations.

### **13. Hosea Marrying Gomer – *Hosea 1:2–9; 3:1–3***

Symbol: God's covenant love for an unfaithful Israel.

Hosea's marriage and his children's names became prophetic messages.

This was not an endorsement of sin, but a demonstration of redemptive mercy.

### **14. Jonah's Three Days in the Fish – *Jonah 1:17***

Symbol: Death, burial, and resurrection.

Jonah's experience prefigured Christ's victory over death (Matthew 12:40).

The event was both literal and prophetic — a sign of salvation for nations.

**15. Agabus Binding His Hands with Paul's Belt – *Acts 21:10–11***

Symbol: The suffering awaiting Paul in Jerusalem. New Testament prophetic acts continued Old Testament patterns of symbolic communication — never to manipulate outcomes, but to prepare hearts for obedience.

**16. Jesus Washing His Disciples' Feet – *John 13:4–15***

Symbol: Servanthood, humility, and cleansing. This prophetic act revealed the nature of Christ's kingdom — leadership through love. It called believers to emulate His heart, not to create ritual power.

**17. Jesus Cursing the Fig Tree – *Mark 11:12–14, 20–21***

Symbol: Judgment on fruitless religion. The withered tree illustrated Israel's spiritual barrenness. This act warned that outward appearance without inner fruit leads to divine rejection.

**18. The Breaking of Bread and the Cup – *Luke 22:19–20***

Symbol: The New Covenant in Christ's blood. This prophetic act at the Last Supper was both symbolic



and sacramental, pointing to the cross and the continuing remembrance of Jesus.

The bread and cup are memorials, not divine objects — we worship Christ, not the elements.

### **19. Paul Shaking Off the Viper – *Acts 28:3–6***

Symbol: Victory over evil and divine protection.

This was not a ritual act, but an illustration of God's sovereignty over harm and the triumph of faith.

### **20. John Eating the Little Scroll – *Revelation 10:8–11***

Symbol: Receiving and proclaiming God's message.

Sweet in the mouth but bitter in the stomach — symbolizing the joy of revelation and the weight of responsibility.

A prophetic reminder that truth both comforts and confronts.

## **Theological Summary**

Every prophetic action in Scripture was:

- Commanded by God, not self-initiated.
- Symbolic in meaning, not superstitious in power.
- Christ-centered, not self-exalting.
- Temporary in act, but eternal in message.

**True prophetic gestures:**

- Illuminate the heart of God, not human ability.
- Call people to repentance, faith, and obedience.
- Reveal the character of Jesus, not mystical performance.

When prophetic actions are imitated without divine instruction, they risk becoming religious theatrics rather than revelation.

Therefore, all prophetic acts must align with:

1. Scripture (Isaiah 8:20),
2. The character of Christ (Philippians 2:5–8), and
3. The leading of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:14).

**Conclusion:**

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” – Revelation 19:10

“Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your name give glory.” – Psalm 115:1

All prophetic ministry—words, symbols, and actions—exists to:

- Exalt the name of Jesus Christ,
- Reveal God's truth and mercy, and
- Transform hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Let the prophet, therefore:

Dr. Ezra Aniebue

- Speak only what God commands.
- Move only as the Spirit directs.
- Give all glory to God alone.
- Point all people to Christ, the fulfillment of all prophecy.



## PROPHETIC MATURITY — GROWING FROM GIFT TO GOVERNANCE



### 1. From Inspiration to Maturity

Every prophetic calling begins with inspiration, but true maturity is marked by transformation. God trains His prophetic servants not only to hear His voice but to reflect His heart and carry His authority with humility.

“For solid food belongs to those who are mature, who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” — *Hebrews 5:14*

Prophetic maturity requires a journey of discipline. Gifts may come suddenly, but character is formed gradually through obedience, correction, and time.

## **2. Stages of Prophetic Growth**

### **a. The Call — Awareness of God's Voice**

The call often comes unexpectedly, awakening sensitivity to divine communication. Like Samuel, the beginner must learn to distinguish God's voice from human or emotional noise.

“Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.” – *1 Samuel 3:10*

At this stage, the focus is learning to listen with humility, not rushing to speak.

### **b. The Formation — Training in Hiddenness**

Before public ministry, prophets are often hidden and tested in solitude. Elijah was refined by the brook; Moses was shaped in Midian; John the Baptist was prepared in the wilderness.

“He made me a polished shaft; in His quiver He hid me.” – *Isaiah 49:2*

In hidden seasons, God removes pride, impatience, and ambition. The prophet learns that the voice of God is not for display, but for obedience.

### **c. The Testing — Purification of Motives**

Before God entrusts greater authority, He examines the prophet's motives.

“The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests hearts.” – *Proverbs 17:3*

Testing may come through misunderstanding, rejection,

delay, or correction. Mature prophets emerge from testing not bitter, but refined in love and humility.

#### **d. The Commissioning – Stewardship with Accountability**

As maturity increases, the prophet learns to handle revelation wisely. No longer impulsive or emotional, they weigh what they receive before speaking.

“Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the others judge.” – *1 Corinthians 14:29*

Mature prophetic voices walk in accountability, submitting their words to scriptural testing and leadership discernment.

### **3. The Three Dimensions of Mature Prophetic Operation**

#### **a. Revelation – Receiving God's Voice**

Revelation is insight from the Spirit—truth unveiled from God's perspective. A mature prophet knows that revelation alone is not enough; it must be processed through intimacy and Scripture.

“Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.” – *Amos 3:7*

#### **b. Interpretation – Understanding What God Means**

A word can be true in revelation but wrong in interpretation. Joseph not only heard Pharaoh's dream, but he also understood what it *meant* and *how* to act on it.

“It is not in me; God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.” – *Genesis 41:16*

Maturity means slowing down to seek divine understanding, not rushing to declare mysteries without clarity.

### **c. Application – Knowing When and How to Speak**

Even a true revelation must be delivered in God's timing and manner. A mature prophet discerns whether a word is:

- Immediate or for a later season,
- Personal or corporate,
- Conditional or unconditional.

“The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, and adds learning to his lips.” – *Proverbs 16:23*

Premature release can wound, while wise timing brings healing. Maturity guards the vessel from presumption.

## **4. Marks of a Mature Prophet**

### **a. Christ-Centered Focus**

True prophets glorify Jesus, not themselves or their platforms.

“He must increase, but I must decrease.” – *John 3:30*

Every prophetic utterance must exalt Christ, edify the church, and lead to repentance or faith.

### **b. Submission to Scripture**

Mature prophets do not build doctrines from experiences. Every revelation must bow to the authority of God's written Word.

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." – *Isaiah 8:20*

### **c. Wisdom and Restraint**

A mature prophet knows when to be silent. Not every vision is meant for public release. Prophets are guardians of revelation, not broadcasters of secrets.

"A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back." – *Proverbs 29:11*

### **d. Love and Compassion**

Prophecy divorced from love becomes harsh and prideful. The mature prophet weeps before he warns, intercedes before he announces.

"If I have the gift of prophecy... but have not love, I am nothing." – *1 Corinthians 13:2*

### **e. Accountability and Community**

No prophet stands alone. Mature prophets walk with pastors, elders, and other believers for correction and balance.

"In the multitude of counselors there is safety." – *Proverbs*



11:14

This keeps prophetic ministry rooted in humility and fellowship, not isolation or pride.

## 5. The Goal of Maturity: Prophetic Governance

As prophets grow, they shift from merely speaking words to stewarding atmospheres and guiding God's people with wisdom. They understand spiritual seasons, align leaders, and model obedience. Their voice carries weight, not because of charisma, but because of consistency with God's heart.

Governance in the prophetic does not mean control; it means servant leadership under the Lordship of Christ, building His body in truth and unity.

“He gave some... prophets... for the equipping of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.” – *Ephesians 4:11–12*

## 6. Warnings Against Stagnation and Pride

Prophetic immaturity can result in:

- Speaking beyond God's instruction,
- Taking correction as offense,
- Seeking recognition instead of obedience,
- Confusing emotional impressions with divine revelation.

The mature prophet guards the heart, knowing that the gift is holy but the vessel must stay humble.

“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” – *James 4:6*

## 7. Pathways to Continued Growth

1. Daily intimacy with God – *John 15:4–5*  
Staying connected to the Vine keeps revelation pure and alive.
2. Meditation on Scripture – *Joshua 1:8*  
The Word anchors prophetic perception in truth.
3. Regular self-examination and repentance – *Psalms 139:23–24*  
Keeps motives clean and the heart tender.
4. Consistent fellowship and accountability – *Hebrews 10:24–25*  
Protects against isolation and error.
5. Cultivating humility and gratitude – *1 Corinthians 4:7*  
Remembering that the gift is grace, not personal merit.

### Conclusion:

Prophetic maturity is not defined by how many visions one sees, but by how faithfully one reflects the nature of Christ. It is the journey from being a messenger of information to becoming a mirror of God's heart.

“He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the

children of Israel.” – *Psalm 103:7*

Mature prophets don't just announce God's acts — they understand His ways. They speak with the tenderness of Christ, the authority of truth, and the humility of servants who know that every revelation is grace.

“He who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? says the Lord.” – *Jeremiah 23:28*

Let every true prophet of God:

- Grow in grace and depth.
- Speak only when God speaks.
- Live what they proclaim.
- Give glory to Jesus Christ alone.
- Govern with wisdom, love, and humility in the fear of the Lord.



## PROPHETIC SCHOOLS: PURPOSE, LIMITS, AND THE DIVINE CALL



### I. The Biblical Context of Prophetic Schools

In the Old Testament, there were “schools of the prophets” under the mentorship of Elijah and Elisha (2 Kings 2:3, 5; 4:38). These gatherings did not *create* prophets — they trained those already called by God to serve faithfully and accurately.

“And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha...” – *2 Kings 2:3*

These men were disciples of the prophetic, not graduates of man-made ordination. Their purpose was to cultivate

obedience, reverence, and discernment under prophetic oversight — not to confer divine office.

## **II. The Sole Authority of Jesus Christ to Call and Appoint Prophets**

Scripture is clear that the fivefold ministry — apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers — is not a human appointment but a divine placement by Christ Himself.

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.” — *Ephesians 4:11*

No school, mentor, or denomination can produce a prophet. A prophet is not the product of training, but the result of divine choosing and commissioning.

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” — *Jeremiah 1:5*

God's call predates education, and no human ceremony can substitute for divine ordination.

## **III. The Distinction Between the Gift of Prophecy and the Office of a Prophet**

It is essential to differentiate between prophesying and being a prophet.

- The gift of prophecy is one of the spiritual gifts distributed by the Holy Spirit to believers for the

edification, exhortation, and comfort of the Church.

“But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.” – *1 Corinthians 14:3*

Many believers can operate in this gift as the Spirit wills (1 Corinthians 12:7–11), but this does not make them prophets.

- The office of a prophet, however, is a fivefold governmental calling (Ephesians 4:11–13) that carries authority, responsibility, and accountability before God to equip, warn, and guide His people in alignment with Scripture.

A person may prophesy under inspiration, but only those appointed by Christ operate in the prophetic office.

#### **IV. The Proper Role and Benefit of Prophetic Schools**

When conducted with humility and scriptural integrity, prophetic schools can serve valuable purposes:

1. Education in Biblical Foundations — Teaching discernment, scriptural balance, and spiritual ethics (2 Timothy 2:15).
2. Cultivation of Character — Training prophets to walk in holiness, humility, and accountability (Micah 6:8).
3. Activation of Sensitivity — Helping believers understand how the Holy Spirit communicates

through Scripture, prayer, and obedience (John 10:27).

4. Correction of Error — Addressing false prophecy, soulish impressions, and unbiblical practices (1 John 4:1).
5. Encouraging Reverence for God's Voice — Restoring honor and fear of the Lord in prophetic operation (Proverbs 9:10).

When focused on spiritual maturity and biblical literacy, prophetic schools can strengthen the body of Christ.

## **V. The Dangers and Misuses of Prophetic Schools**

While prophetic training can be beneficial, it can also become dangerous if misdirected or pride-driven. Common errors include:

### **a. Attempting to Manufacture Prophets**

No amount of teaching, impartation, or human commissioning can make someone a prophet. To claim the power to create prophets is spiritual presumption and deception.

“So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.” – *1 Corinthians 3:7*

A true prophet is called by divine election, not by human certification.

### **b. Confusing the Gift of Prophecy with the Office**

Encouraging everyone to “become prophets” distorts biblical order. The Spirit may give occasional prophetic utterance to believers, but the office of a prophet is not open enrollment — it is divine appointment.

“Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers?” – 1 *Corinthians 12:29*

The answer, biblically, is no. Not all are called to the office.

### **c. Teaching People to Force Prophecy**

Some modern schools train students to “practice” prophecy through guessing games or repetitive decrees. This leads to soulish imitation, not spiritual revelation.

True prophecy cannot be manufactured or rehearsed — it flows from union with the Spirit of God, not imagination or technique.

“No prophecy ever came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” – 2 *Peter 1:21*

To attempt to teach people to “prophesy on command” is to risk speaking presumptuously in the Lord's name, which Scripture warns against (Deuteronomy 18:20–22).

### **d. Laying on of Hands Without Divine Authority**

No one can make you a prophet by laying on of hands or impartation. While laying on of hands can confirm or commission a call that already exists, it cannot create what God has not ordained.

“Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to



you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.” – *1 Timothy 4:14*

Notice — the gift was acknowledged, not manufactured. Laying on of hands is for recognition, not creation.

## **VI. Healthy Prophetic Development for All Believers**

While not all believers are prophets, all can walk prophetically by living in tune with God's Word and Spirit. This means declaring God's truth, standing in faith, and discerning His will for their lives.

“For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” – *Revelation 19:10*

To speak the Word of God over your life is faith, not the prophetic office. Every believer can declare, decree, and pray God's promises — but that is not equivalent to holding the prophetic mantle.

Prophecy belongs to Christ; it is His voice through His chosen vessels. We must honor the difference between operating prophetically and being a prophet.

## **VII. Safeguards for Prophetic Schools and Ministries**

To remain biblically grounded, every prophetic school must:

1. Exalt Jesus Christ above all — *John 16:14*

The Spirit of prophecy always glorifies Christ, not human teachers or systems.

2. Submit to Scriptural authority — *2 Timothy 3:16–17*  
Every teaching must align with the written Word of God.
3. Promote humility and accountability — *Philippians 2:3*  
Students should be taught to serve, not to seek titles.
4. Avoid commercialization or manipulation — *Matthew 10:8*  
The prophetic gift is never to be sold or merchandised.
5. Focus on maturity, not spectacle — *1 Corinthians 14:40*  
Order, wisdom, and love must guide every prophetic environment.

### **VIII. Conclusion:**

Prophecy is sacred. The prophetic office is holy. It belongs to Christ alone to call and appoint His prophets.

No school, no man, no mentor can replace the sovereign choice of God. To claim otherwise is to risk spiritual deception and manipulation of the Holy Spirit's work.

“And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was.” — *Hebrews 5:4*

Let every true prophetic leader teach with reverence:

You can train character, deepen discernment, and cultivate faith — but you cannot confer divine calling.

“He Himself gave some to be prophets...” – *Ephesians 4:11*  
“Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.” – *1 Corinthians 1:31*

Let every prophetic school and servant of God remember:

- Jesus Christ alone is the Caller and Sender of prophets.
- Prophecy must always exalt Christ and align with Scripture.
- No one can be taught or ordained into a divine office without a divine calling.
- The true mark of the prophetic is not performance, but purity, humility, and obedience



## SAFEGUARDING THE PROPHETIC IN THE LAST DAYS



### 1. The Reality of Deception

Scripture warns that in the last days, many false prophets will arise, performing signs and wonders to deceive, manipulate, or lead believers astray.

“For false Christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.” –*Matthew 24:24*

This is not speculation; it is a call to vigilance and discernment.

## **2. The Foundation for Discernment**

To safeguard prophetic ministry:

### **a. Scripture as the Ultimate Authority**

Every prophetic word must be tested against the Word of God.

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” – *Isaiah 8:20*

Prophets and hearers alike must submit all revelations to Scripture. Anything outside it is not from God.

### **b. Jesus Christ as the Center**

The Spirit of prophecy always points to Jesus.

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” – *Revelation 19:10*

If a prophetic word exalts self, a movement, or a human agenda, it is false. True prophecy magnifies Christ, His holiness, and His kingdom.

### **c. Accountability and Community**

Prophetic words and actions must be shared within a community of godly leaders, not released in isolation.

“In the multitude of counselors there is safety.” – *Proverbs 11:14*

Accountability protects against pride, error, and manipulation.

### 3. Characteristics of False Prophecy

False prophets can be identified by several biblical markers:

1. Contradiction to Scripture – They deny God's Word or twist it.
2. Self-Exaltation – They seek fame, influence, or control.
3. Presumptuous Predictions – They speak “Thus says the Lord” without divine confirmation.
4. Manipulation through Fear or Desire – They exploit people spiritually, emotionally, or financially.
5. Lack of Christ-Centeredness – Their words focus on human agendas rather than God's glory.

“But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name... even that prophet shall die.” – *Deuteronomy 18:20*

### 4. Protecting the Church and Believers

Leaders and members must:

- Test every word with prayer, Scripture, and discernment (1 Thessalonians 5:21).
- Observe the fruit of the prophecy — does it lead to Christlikeness, humility, and obedience (Matthew 7:15–20)?

- Avoid idolizing prophetic personalities or symbols. True authority comes from God, not titles or gifts.

“Do not put your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no salvation.” – *Psalm 146:3*

## **5. The Role of the True Prophet**

True prophets in the last days:

1. Exalt Jesus Christ in every word and action.
2. Point people to repentance and righteousness, never self or fame.
3. Operate under accountability, never in isolation.
4. Speak with humility and caution, especially concerning timing and conditionality.
5. Discern spirits and test revelations, distinguishing between the Spirit of God, human emotion, and demonic deception.

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” – *1 John 4:1*

## **6. Practical Steps for Safeguarding the Prophetic**

1. Anchor in Christ daily – Intimacy with Jesus filters all revelations (John 15:5).

2. Immerse in Scripture – Scripture is the standard for testing every prophetic utterance (2 Timothy 3:16–17).
3. Foster humility and prayerfulness – Pride opens doors to deception (James 4:6).
4. Teach discernment, not title-seeking – Prophetic gifts should be cultivated, not positions claimed.
5. Encourage accountability – Regular mentoring and peer review ensure alignment with God's heart (Hebrews 13:17).

## 7. Key Warnings:

- No one can make someone a prophet by hand-laying, ceremony, or education.
- Prophetic gifts do not equal prophetic office. Believers can prophesy, declare God's Word, and intercede without holding the office of prophet.
- Every prophetic word must glorify Jesus Christ alone — never self, movement, or system.
- Prophetic training should focus on character, discernment, and obedience, never title-seeking or spiritual performance.



## 8. Closing Exhortation

In the last days, the prophetic gift is precious but vulnerable to misuse.

The safeguard is Christ-centered teaching, accountability, Scripture, and spiritual maturity.

“Test all things; hold fast what is good.” – *1 Thessalonians 5:21*

“Let all that you do be done in love.” – *1 Corinthians 16:14*

Prophets and prophetic believers alike must:

- Submit to Christ as the only Caller and Authority.
- Speak only as the Spirit directs.
- Point all hearts to Jesus, the fulfillment of all prophecy.
- Remain humble, discerning, and obedient in all seasons.



## COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF APOSTLE PAUL'S STATEMENT IN ROMANS 1:11



Romans 1:11, where he says:

“For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established.” (Romans 1:11, NKJV)

Let's unpack this theologically and biblically.

### 1. The Context of Romans 1:11

Paul wrote this to the believers in Rome — a church he had not yet visited. His desire was to strengthen and establish them in their faith (Romans 1:11–12).

The phrase “*impart some spiritual gift*” does not mean Paul

intended to make individuals prophets or to “transfer” supernatural abilities. Rather, he was expressing his apostolic desire to help them grow spiritually by ministering among them through his God-given grace and teaching.

## **2. “Spiritual Gift” (Greek: *charisma pneumatikon*)**

The word *charisma* simply means a gracious gift or divine enablement — something that comes from God's grace (*charis*). Paul elsewhere makes clear that spiritual gifts are given directly by the Holy Spirit, not by any human being:

“But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”  
— *1 Corinthians 12:11*

So when Paul says he wants to “impart” (*metado*) some spiritual gift, he is not claiming the power to bestow gifts like prophecy or tongues. He is saying he wants to minister in such a way that the believers are strengthened and that the Spirit's gifts already working among them would be stirred up and deepened.

## **3. Paul's Ministry Focus — Mutual Encouragement**

Paul clarifies his intent in the very next verse:

“That is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.”

— *Romans 1:12*

This verse defines what he means by “imparting spiritual gifts.” His goal was mutual edification, not the creation of new prophets or apostles. Paul expected both to give and receive encouragement through shared faith and

fellowship in Christ.

#### **4. Theological Understanding**

From a sound theological perspective:

- God alone gives spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:4–11).
- Apostles and ministers can strengthen or stir up the exercise of those gifts (2 Timothy 1:6).
- Paul's role was instrumental, not causative — he was a vessel God used to build up the saints, not to create new gifts.

Thus, Paul's statement aligns with his broader theology: the Spirit sovereignly gives gifts, while ministers of the Word nurture, equip, and mature the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11–13).

#### **5. Supporting Scriptures**

Here are passages that illuminate the meaning:

- Romans 1:11–12 — His desire was for mutual strengthening in faith.
- 1 Corinthians 12:4–11 — The Holy Spirit alone distributes gifts.
- 2 Timothy 1:6 — Paul exhorts Timothy to “stir up” the gift already given, not to receive a new one from Paul.

- Ephesians 4:11–13 — Ministry gifts (apostles, prophets, pastors, etc.) exist to *equip* the saints, not to bestow spiritual powers.
- Acts 8:18–20 — When Simon the sorcerer tried to “buy” the ability to impart the Spirit, Peter rebuked him, showing this power does not belong to men.

**In short:**

When Paul says, “*I want to impart to you some spiritual gift,*” he is expressing his pastoral desire to build up the church spiritually, not to make prophets or transfer miraculous powers. The Holy Spirit alone gives such gifts — Paul simply wanted to strengthen the believers' faith and ministry through his apostolic teaching and fellowship.

the laying on of hands and activation of gifts helps complete the biblical picture. Let's build on the earlier explanation and clarify how those concepts fit *without* contradicting Paul's meaning in Romans 1:11.



## THE LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ACTIVATION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS



### I. Laying on of Hands in the New Testament

The laying on of hands (*epithesis cheirōn*) was used in Scripture for several purposes — not all identical:

#### 1. Commissioning or ordination to ministry

*Acts 13:2–3* — Paul and Barnabas were *set apart* for ministry by the laying on of hands.

*1 Timothy 4:14* — Timothy received a ministry gift “through prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.”

## 2. Blessing or healing

*Mark 10:16* — Jesus laid hands on children to bless them.

*Mark 16:18* — Believers lay hands on the sick for recovery.

## 3. Receiving the Holy Spirit

*Acts 8:17–18* — The apostles laid hands on the Samaritans, and they received the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 19:6* — Paul laid hands on believers in Ephesus, and the Holy Spirit came upon them.

### Key Point:

Laying on of hands is a biblical means of ministry, but the power or gift given is always from God, never from the individual performing the act. The human minister is a vessel or instrument through whom God imparts or activates what He Himself gives.

## II. “Activation” or Stirring Up Gifts

Paul uses this language explicitly with Timothy:

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.”  
— *2 Timothy 1:6*

Here Paul acknowledges that through his laying on of hands, Timothy's gift was activated or confirmed. However, note the distinction:

- Paul did not create the gift; it was “the gift of God.”

- The laying on of hands served as the means or moment through which God chose to impart or awaken what He had already purposed for Timothy.

In other words, laying on of hands is instrumental, not independent — the Spirit is the true source.

### III. Relationship to Romans 1:11

Now let's connect this to Paul's statement:

“I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established.” — *Romans 1:11*

In Romans, Paul is not describing a *ceremonial laying on of hands* or a *transfer of power*. Instead, he's expressing his apostolic desire to strengthen the Roman believers through his ministry — preaching, teaching, and fellowship in the Spirit.

However, Paul's broader ministry elsewhere (e.g., 2 Timothy 1:6; Acts 19:6) shows that personal presence and prayer could indeed be occasions when God activated spiritual gifts already appointed by His will.

### IV. Theologically Sound Perspective

From a biblical and theological standpoint:

1. Only God gives spiritual gifts.

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit... distributing to each one individually as He wills.”  
— *1 Corinthians 12:4,11*



2. Human ministers can serve as channels of activation or confirmation through preaching, prayer, or laying on of hands; but they are not the source.

“For we are God's fellow workers.” — *1 Corinthians 3:9*

3. The laying on of hands symbolizes identification, blessing, and commissioning, not magical transfer. The gift is of the Spirit, not of man.
4. Activation means stirring into use what God has already deposited — through encouragement, faith, and obedience (2 Timothy 1:6).

### **Conclusion:**

Paul's longing to “impart a spiritual gift” (Romans 1:11) refers to his desire to strengthen and build up believers through his Spirit-led ministry — not to make them prophets or transfer supernatural abilities by his own power.

When the laying on of hands or “activation” occurs (as in Timothy's case), it is simply a means God uses to confirm, awaken, or empower a gift He Himself gives — always for the edification of the body of Christ and the glory of God, never the exaltation of man.



## COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY



**1. Misunderstanding:** “Prophecy is the same as predicting the future.”

**Truth:**

Prophecy is primarily for edification, exhortation, and comfort, not merely foretelling.

“But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.” — *1 Corinthians 14:3*

**Explanation:**

While some prophecies include revelation of future events (e.g., Agabus in Acts 11:28), New Testament prophecy is mostly forth-telling — speaking God's heart and truth for

building up the church. Reducing prophecy to fortune-telling misrepresents the Holy Spirit's purpose and turns spiritual discernment into spectacle.

**2. Misunderstanding:** “Prophets can never make mistakes.”

**Truth:**

Prophetic messages must be tested and judged by the Word and other mature believers.

“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.” — *1 Corinthians 14:29*

**Explanation:**

Unlike Old Testament prophets, New Covenant prophets operate under grace, not law. Their words are subject to testing, because no modern prophet speaks infallibly. The Spirit is perfect, but human vessels are not. Thus, every prophetic word must align with Scripture and the character of Christ.

**3. Misunderstanding:** “If someone prophesies, they automatically hold the office of a prophet.”

**Truth:**

Not everyone who prophesies is a prophet by office or calling.

“For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged.” — *1 Corinthians 14:31*

**Explanation:**

Prophecy (a gift) is available to all believers as the Spirit

wills (1 Cor. 12:11).

The office of a prophet (Eph. 4:11) is a leadership and equipping role — involving maturity, accountability, and consistent accuracy. Prophetic gift ≠ Prophetic office.

**4. Misunderstanding:** “Prophecy can be used to control or manipulate people.”

**Truth:**

True prophecy always leads to freedom, encouragement, and alignment with God's will, not control.

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” — 2 *Corinthians* 3:17

**Explanation:**

Using “prophecy” to direct someone's personal decisions (e.g., marriage, career, or giving) without their own Spirit-led confirmation is spiritual manipulation. Authentic prophetic ministry confirms what God is already speaking, not controls human will.

**5. Misunderstanding:** “Prophetic revelation is equal to Scripture.”

**Truth:**

Scripture is the final authority; prophecy is subject to it.

“To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” — *Isaiah* 8:20

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...” — 2 *Timothy* 3:16

**Explanation:**

Prophetic words can never override or add to Scripture. The Bible is closed canon — perfect and sufficient for doctrine and salvation. Prophecy operates *under* the authority of God's written Word to bring illumination, not a new revelation of doctrine.

**6. Misunderstanding:** “A true prophecy always comes to pass immediately.”

**Truth:**

Many prophecies unfold in God's timing, sometimes after years or even generations.

“For the vision is yet for an appointed time... Though it tarries, wait for it.” — *Habakkuk 2:3*

**Explanation:**

Delay does not equal falsehood. Some prophetic words are conditional, requiring obedience, repentance, or preparation (see *Jonah 3:4–10*). Others await divine timing. Mature prophetic people discern seasons, not just events.

**7. Misunderstanding:** “Prophetic ministry replaces personal relationship with God.”

**Truth:**

Prophets confirm what God already speaks; they do not substitute for His voice.

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.” — *John 10:27*

**Explanation:**

Depending on prophets for every decision undermines the New Covenant privilege of hearing God personally through the Holy Spirit. The goal of prophetic ministry is to train believers to discern God's voice themselves (Hebrews 5:14), not to create dependency.

**8. Misunderstanding:** "Emotional excitement equals prophetic anointing."

Truth:

Prophecy operates by the Spirit, not human emotion.

"The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets."  
— *1 Corinthians 14:32*

Explanation:

Prophetic expression can be passionate, but emotional intensity does not guarantee spiritual accuracy. True prophecy flows from communion with the Spirit, marked by clarity, humility, and fruit consistent with Christ's character (Galatians 5:22–23).

**9. Misunderstanding:** "If a prophet speaks, it must be obeyed without question."

Truth:

Every word must be tested by Scripture, the Spirit, and spiritual authority.

"Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good." — *1 Thessalonians 5:20–21*

Explanation: Believers are not to reject prophecy, but

neither are they to receive it blindly. Healthy prophetic culture encourages discernment and accountability, not unquestioning submission.

**10. Misunderstanding:** “Prophecy is meant to exalt the prophet.”

**Truth:**

The purpose of prophecy is to exalt Christ, not the messenger.

“For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”  
— *Revelation 19:10*

**Explanation:**

Prophecy should always direct attention to Jesus, not to the prophet's status, power, or platform. If a prophetic ministry glorifies the individual instead of Christ, it has drifted from its true purpose.



## DOS AND DON'TS FOR THE PROPHET AND PROPHETIC MINISTRY



### **1. DO speak only what God reveals.**

*Jeremiah 23:28* — “He who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully.” Faithfulness in utterance is the foundation of prophetic integrity. Never add human opinion to divine revelation.

### **2. DON'T speak presumptuously.**

*Deuteronomy 18:20–22* — False prophecy comes from assumption, not revelation. Presuming to speak for God without His voice is rebellion and spiritual deception.



**3. DO test every revelation by Scripture.**

*Isaiah 8:20* — “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word...” True prophecy aligns with God’s written Word — the highest authority.

**4. DON'T contradict Scripture.**

*Galatians 1:8* — Even an angel preaching another gospel is accursed. No prophetic word can oppose the eternal truth of the Bible.

**5. DO cultivate intimacy with God.**

*John 15:5* — “Apart from Me you can do nothing.” Prophetic clarity flows from relationship, not gifting. The voice of God is heard through fellowship.

**6. DON'T rely on spiritual gifts without prayer life.**

*1 Thessalonians 5:17* — “Pray without ceasing.” Without prayer, prophetic accuracy fades into mere emotional impulse.

**7. DO walk in humility.**

*Micah 6:8* — “Walk humbly with your God.” Pride disqualifies the prophet; humility preserves the voice.

**8. DON'T seek recognition or fame.**

*John 3:30* — “He must increase, but I must decrease.”

True prophetic ministry points to Christ, not self-promotion.

**9. DO pursue holiness.**

*1 Peter 1:16* — “Be holy, for I am holy.” Purity of heart affects purity of revelation. Defilement distorts discernment.

**10. DON'T compromise for popularity or acceptance.**

*Jeremiah 6:14* — False prophets healed wounds superficially to gain favor. Speak truth even when it costs approval.

**11. DO love the people you minister to.**

*1 Corinthians 13:2* — “If I have the gift of prophecy but have not love, I am nothing.” Love is the measure of prophetic maturity.

**12. DON'T use prophecy to control or manipulate.**

*2 Corinthians 3:17* — “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” God's voice brings freedom, not bondage.

**13. DO prophesy to edify, exhort, and comfort.**

*1 Corinthians 14:3* — The purpose of prophecy is building up the Church. If it doesn't build, strengthen, or console, it likely isn't from God.

**14. DON'T prophesy from offense or emotion.**

*James 1:20* — “The anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.” Personal feelings can corrupt prophetic purity.

**15. DO remain accountable to spiritual authority.**

*1 Corinthians 14:32* — “The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.” Accountability guards against deception and pride.

**16. DON'T operate independently.**

*Acts 13:1–3* — Prophets functioned within the local church. Isolation breeds error; community provides safety.

**17. DO discern the timing of prophetic words.**

*Ecclesiastes 3:7* — “A time to keep silence, and a time to speak.” A true word in the wrong season can cause confusion.

**18. DON'T rush to release every revelation.**

*Luke 2:19* — Mary “pondered these things in her heart.” Some revelations are for intercession, not proclamation.

**19. DO judge prophecy by its fruit.**

*Matthew 7:20* — “By their fruits you will know them.” True prophecy leads to repentance, righteousness, and

peace.

**20. DON'T ignore the need for testing.**

*1 Thessalonians 5:20–21* — “Do not despise prophecies, but test all things.” Mature prophets welcome scrutiny.

**21. DO submit your word for confirmation.**

*2 Corinthians 13:1* — “By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.” Confirmation prevents premature or false declarations.

**22. DON'T declare what you haven't verified in prayer.**

*Habakkuk 2:1* — The prophet “watched to see what He would say.” Wait for divine clarity before speaking.

**23. DO build character, not just charisma.**

*Galatians 5:22–23* — The fruit of the Spirit validates ministry. Character sustains what gifting cannot.

**24. DON'T neglect studying the Word.**

*2 Timothy 2:15* — “Rightly divide the word of truth.” Prophetic insight must be anchored in sound doctrine.

**25. DO keep your motives pure.**

*Psalms 24:4* — “He who has clean hands and a pure heart shall ascend the hill of the Lord.” Impure motives pollute

spiritual perception.

**26. DON'T prophesy for money or reward.**

*Micah 3:11* — Prophets who prophesied for pay angered God. The prophetic ministry is service, not business.

**27. DO cultivate discernment.**

*Hebrews 5:14* — Mature believers discern good and evil. The prophetic gift requires sharp discernment of spirits and sources.

**28. DON'T assume every dream or vision is divine.**

*Jeremiah 23:16* — False prophets spoke “visions of their own minds.” Discernment separates divine revelation from imagination.

**29. DO maintain integrity in speech and lifestyle.**

*Proverbs 10:9* — “He who walks in integrity walks securely.” A corrupt life undermines prophetic credibility.

**30. DON'T exaggerate revelations to impress.**

*Proverbs 30:6* — “Do not add to His words.” Embellishing revelation is lying in God's name.

**31. DO operate in love and patience when correcting.**

*2 Timothy 2:24–25* — Correct “in humility,” not harshness. Prophetic correction must reflect God's mercy, not condemnation.

**32. DON'T embarrass or publicly shame people unnecessarily.**

*Matthew 18:15* — Deal with issues privately first. Prophecy should restore, not humiliate.

**33. DO learn to wait in silence before God.**

*Psalms 46:10* — “Be still, and know that I am God.” Quietness helps refine sensitivity to the Spirit.

**34. DON'T speak when God is silent.**

*Amos 8:11* — There were seasons when God withheld words. Silence is better than speculation.

**35. DO encourage others to hear God for themselves.**

*John 10:27* — “My sheep hear My voice.” Prophecy should equip believers, not replace their relationship with God.

**36. DON'T create dependence on prophetic words.**

*Hebrews 8:10–11* — All will know God personally. Dependence on prophets undermines the New Covenant relationship.

**37. DO honor other ministries.**

*1 Corinthians 12:21* — “The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you.’” Prophets must cooperate with pastors, teachers, and evangelists.

**38. DON'T despise correction or discipline.**

*Proverbs 12:1* — “He who hates correction is stupid.” Teachability keeps prophets humble and growing.

**39. DO nurture a servant's heart.**

*Matthew 23:11* — “He who is greatest among you shall be your servant.” Prophets serve the Church, not rule over it.

**40. DON'T seek mystical experiences above obedience.**

*Luke 10:20* — Rejoice that your name is written in heaven, not in power. Relationship and obedience matter more than supernatural experiences.

**41. DO guard your mind and purity.**

*Philippians 4:8* — “Think on things that are pure...” Impurity clouds spiritual perception and invites deception.

**42. DON'T use prophecy to expose without redemptive purpose.**

*Galatians 6:1* — Restore in a spirit of gentleness. Revelation must heal, not humiliate.

**43. DO develop discernment in interpreting symbols and dreams.**

*Genesis 41:16* — Joseph said, “God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.” Interpretation belongs to God; avoid guessing.

**44. DON'T depend on human wisdom for interpretation.**

*2 Peter 1:21* — “Prophecy never came by the will of man.” Lean on the Holy Spirit for meaning and timing.

**45. DO remember prophecy points to Jesus.**

*Revelation 19:10* — “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Every genuine word should reveal Christ's nature and glory.

**46. DON'T glorify yourself or your gift.**

*1 Corinthians 1:31* — “Let him who glories, glory in the Lord.” The vessel is nothing; the message is everything.

**47. DO walk in faith, not fear.**

*2 Timothy 1:7* — God gave a spirit of power, love, and sound mind. Fear hinders prophetic clarity; faith opens the flow of revelation.

**48. DON'T let failure or rejection silence your calling.**



*Jeremiah 20:9* — God's word burned in Jeremiah's heart despite opposition. Stay faithful even when misunderstood.

**49. DO continually grow in wisdom and maturity.**

*Luke 2:52* — “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature.” Prophets must grow intellectually, spiritually, and emotionally.

**50. DON'T neglect to give God all the glory.**

*Isaiah 42:8* — “My glory I will not give to another.” Every prophecy fulfilled should lead to worship, not self-exaltation.

**Conclusion:**

The prophetic ministry is not about prestige but partnership with the Holy Spirit to reveal the heart of God to His people and the world. A true prophet is marked not only by revelation but by humility, love, obedience, and submission to Scripture.

When these principles are followed, prophetic ministry becomes safe, edifying, and Christ-exalting, just exactly as God intended.



## GUIDELINES FOR DELIVERING PROPHETIC WORDS WISELY



**T**he ministry of prophecy is a sacred trust. When a person speaks on behalf of God, they are handling what Scripture calls “*the oracles of God*” (1 Peter 4:11). This demands reverence, discernment, and submission to the Holy Spirit. The purpose of prophecy is not to impress, manipulate, or control, but to reveal God's heart, build His people, and glorify Christ.

“Pursue love, and earnestly desire spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.” — *1 Corinthians 14:1*

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”  
— *Revelation 19:10*

Below are essential biblical and practical principles for delivering prophetic words with wisdom and integrity:

## **1. Speak from a Place of Intimacy with God**

True prophecy flows from communion, not performance. The prophet must first be a friend of God before being a voice for God.

“The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.” — *Exodus 33:11*

Before you speak for God, spend time listening to Him. A word birthed in the secret place carries weight and accuracy. Without intimacy, the prophetic becomes imitation.

## **2. Let the Word of God Be Your Anchor**

Every prophetic message must align with Scripture, never contradict it. The Bible remains the final authority and standard for all revelation.

“To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” — *Isaiah 8:20*

“Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.” — *Psalms 119:89*

A genuine prophetic voice is steeped in Scripture. Prophets are not fortune tellers; they are interpreters of God's Word through the guidance of the Spirit.

### **3. Speak in Love, Not Pride or Judgmentalism**

The motive behind prophecy must always be love. The most accurate word delivered without love can still wound and misrepresent God's heart.

“If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge... but do not have love, I am nothing.”  
— *1 Corinthians 13:2*

Even when God's message carries correction or rebuke, it should reveal His redemptive intent. True prophecy exposes sin to heal, not to humiliate.

### **4. Deliver the Word with Humility and Caution**

Prophetic revelation must be shared with humility, not as a weapon or a spectacle. Avoid making absolute claims like, “*Thus saith the Lord,*” unless you are certain it is directly from Him. It is better to say, “*I sense the Lord saying...*” when discernment is still developing.

“For we know in part and we prophesy in part.” — *1 Corinthians 13:9*

Humility acknowledges that no human vessel has perfect revelation. Speak with reverence, and always be open to testing and correction.

### **5. Submit Your Prophetic Word to Testing and Accountability**

No prophetic word should stand alone without discernment from mature believers or leadership. God designed the prophetic to function within the Body, not in isolation.

“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.” — *1 Corinthians 14:29*

“Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good.” — *1 Thessalonians 5:20–21*

Accountability purifies the prophetic stream. It protects both the messenger and the message from deception or misapplication.

## **6. Consider the Timing, Tone, and Audience**

Even a true word can be mishandled if delivered at the wrong time or in the wrong spirit. Ask the Holy Spirit *when, how, and to whom* to deliver the message.

“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.” — *Proverbs 25:11*

Some revelations are meant for private intercession rather than public declaration. Prophetic timing can determine whether a word builds or breaks.

## **7. Maintain Confidentiality and Discretion**

Not every prophetic word should be shared publicly. Some matters are sacred and require sensitivity.

“The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.” — *Psalms 25:14*

When a prophecy involves personal issues, speak privately or in the presence of spiritual leaders. Never use prophecy to expose, embarrass, or manipulate.

## **8. Allow the Holy Spirit to Confirm His Word**

The fruit of genuine prophecy is peace, conviction, and alignment with God's character. If a prophetic word stirs confusion, fear, or condemnation, it likely needs reevaluation.

“For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace.”

— *1 Corinthians 14:33*

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit...”

— *Romans 8:16*

Trust the Spirit to confirm His message in the hearts of those who hear. The power of prophecy does not depend on the intensity of delivery, but on the presence of truth.

## **9. Point People to Jesus, Not to Yourself**

The ultimate purpose of prophecy is to glorify Christ and draw hearts closer to Him. If people leave impressed by the prophet rather than transformed by Jesus, the message has missed its mark.

“He must increase, but I must decrease.” — *John 3:30*

True prophetic ministry redirects attention from the vessel to the Voice. It reveals the nature of God, not the personality of man.

## **10. Let Your Life Speak Louder Than Your Words**

A prophet's life must embody the message they carry. The credibility of your prophecy is validated by the consistency of your character.

“By their fruits you shall know them.” — *Matthew 7:20*

Prophetic power without purity leads to deception. The messenger and the message must reflect the same holiness. Your intimacy, humility, and obedience will preach louder than your prophecy.

**Conclusion:**

The prophetic ministry is not a stage for performance but a stewardship of revelation. Those who speak for God must do so with clean hands and a pure heart.

“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God; if anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.” — *1 Peter 4:11*

Therefore, let every prophetic voice be refined by Scripture, seasoned with love, covered by humility, and confirmed by the Spirit. When prophecy flows from a consecrated vessel, the Church is edified, the lost are convicted, and Christ is glorified.



## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON PROPHETS AND THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY**



**Q:** Who calls a prophet into ministry?

**A:** Only God calls and appoints prophets, not men.

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” — Jeremiah 1:5

**Q:** Can a leader or pastor make someone a prophet?

**A:** No. Only God appoints prophets by His sovereign will. “No man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was.” — Hebrews 5:4



Q: What is the purpose of the prophetic call?

A: To declare God's word and reveal His will to His people. "Surely the Lord GOD does nothing unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets." — Amos 3:7

Q: How does God usually call His prophets?

A: Through personal encounters, visions, or direct words from Him. "Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth." — Jeremiah 1:9

Q: Are all prophets called in the same way?

A: No, God calls each one uniquely. Moses heard from a burning bush (Exodus 3:4), Isaiah saw a vision (Isaiah 6:1–8), and Amos was called from tending sheep (Amos 7:14–15).

Q: What must follow a prophetic call?

A: Obedience and consecration to God's purpose. "Here am I; send me." — Isaiah 6:8

Q: What qualifies a person to be used prophetically?

A: A pure heart and obedience to God's voice. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." — Matthew 5:8

Q: Why is holiness vital for a prophet?

A: Because prophets represent a holy God. "Be holy, for I am holy." — 1 Peter 1:16

Q: What is the prophet's primary duty?

A: To speak God's word faithfully. "He who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully." — Jeremiah 23:28

Q: What happens if a prophet refuses God's call?

A: They may face divine correction, as Jonah did. "But Jonah arose to flee... from the presence of the LORD." — Jonah 1:3

Q: What character traits must a prophet possess?

A: Humility, purity, truthfulness, and obedience. "What does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" — Micah 6:8

Q: Why is humility critical in prophetic ministry?

A: Because pride leads to error. "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." — James 4:6

Q: Should prophets seek fame or recognition?

A: No. Their goal is to glorify God, not self. "He must increase, but I must decrease." — John 3:30

Q: How should prophets handle correction?

A: With humility and repentance. "Let the righteous strike me; it shall be a kindness." — Psalm 141:5

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Q: What spirit should guide prophetic ministry?

A: The Spirit of Christ, which is love, truth, and humility. "Learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart." — Matthew 11:29

Q: Should prophets chase after wealth?

A: Never. "Freely you have received, freely give." — Matthew 10:8

Q: What is the danger of loving money in prophetic ministry?

A: It leads to corruption and deceit. "The love of money is the root of all evil." — 1 Timothy 6:10

Q: Should prophets charge for prayers or prophecy?

A: Absolutely not. "Your money perish with you because you thought the gift of God could be purchased with money." — Acts 8:20

Q: How should prophets handle honorariums or gifts?

A: With discernment and purity, never as payment for prophecy. "The workman is worthy of his hire." — Luke 10:7

Q: What is the greatest sign of a true prophet's character?

A: Christlike love and humility. "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." — John 13:35

Q: What is prophecy?

A: The speaking forth of God's mind and counsel by inspiration of the Holy Spirit. "Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." — 2 Peter 1:21

Q: What is the purpose of prophecy under the New Covenant?

A: To edify, exhort, and comfort believers. "He who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort." — 1 Corinthians 14:3

Q: What is the foundation of true prophecy?

A: The testimony of Jesus Christ. "The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." — Revelation 19:10

Q: How can prophets distinguish God's voice from their own thoughts?

A: Through intimacy with God and the witness of the Spirit. "My sheep hear My voice." — John 10:27

Q: What is the danger of speaking without God's direction?

A: It leads to false prophecy. "They speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the LORD." — Jeremiah 23:16

Q: Should prophets always speak what they see?

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A: Not always; some revelations are for prayer. "The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him." — Psalm 25:14

Q: How should prophets deliver God's word?

A: With love, humility, and wisdom. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver." — Proverbs 25:11

Q: What is the difference between a word of knowledge and prophecy?

A: A word of knowledge reveals facts; prophecy declares God's intent or will. "To another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits." — 1 Corinthians 12:10

Q: Should prophecy contradict Scripture?

A: Never. "To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." — Isaiah 8:20

Q: What is the ultimate goal of prophecy?

A: To glorify Christ and build His Church. "Let all things be done for edification." — 1 Corinthians 14:26

Q: Who was the first person called a prophet in Scripture?

A: Abraham. "Now therefore restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet." — Genesis 20:7

Q: What was Moses' prophetic role?

A: He spoke to God face-to-face and delivered His law. "Since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses." — Deuteronomy 34:10

Q: What characterized Old Testament prophets?

A: They revealed God's will, often with signs and judgments. "I have also spoken by the prophets, and have multiplied visions." — Hosea 12:10

Q: How did God communicate with them?

A: By visions, dreams, and direct speech. "If there is a prophet among you, I make Myself known to him in a vision." — Numbers 12:6

Q: What was the message of most Old Testament prophets?

A: Repentance, righteousness, and faithfulness to God. "Return to Me, and I will return to you." — Malachi 3:7

Q: What was Elijah known for?

A: Confronting idolatry and restoring true worship. "How long will you falter between two opinions?" — 1 Kings 18:21

Q: What was Elisha known for?

A: A double portion of Elijah's spirit and many miracles. "Let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." — 2 Kings 2:9

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Q: What was Isaiah's key message?

A: Salvation through the coming Messiah. "Unto us a Child is born." — Isaiah 9:6

Q: What was Jeremiah's main burden?

A: Calling Judah to repentance and foretelling the exile. "I set you over nations and kingdoms to root out and to plant." — Jeremiah 1:10

Q: How did Old Testament prophets differ from New Testament prophets?

A: The Spirit came upon them temporarily, but now He dwells within believers. "He dwells with you and will be in you." — John 14:17

Q: Who was the greatest prophet of the Old Covenant?

A: Jesus said, "Among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist." — Matthew 11:11

Q: What was John the Baptist's prophetic focus?

A: To prepare the way for the Messiah through repentance. "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." — Matthew 3:2

Q: Who is the perfect example of a New Testament prophet?

A: Jesus Christ. "A Prophet shall the Lord your God

raise up unto you... like me." — Acts 3:22–23

Q: How did Jesus fulfill prophetic ministry?

A: By revealing the Father's will, preaching repentance, and fulfilling Scripture. "I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him." — John 8:26

Q: What made Jesus the perfect Prophet?

A: He never erred, only spoke the Father's words. "I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things." — John 8:28

Q: Did Jesus perform miracles as proof of being a prophet?

A: Yes, but miracles were signs pointing to His identity, not the basis of His authority. "The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me." — John 10:25

Q: Name some New Testament prophets besides Jesus.

A: Agabus (Acts 11:27–28), Barnabas (Acts 13:1), Judas and Silas (Acts 15:32), and John (Revelation 1:9–11).

Q: What was Agabus known for?

A: Predicting famine and Paul's imprisonment. "This man will be bound by the Jews at Jerusalem." — Acts 21:11



Q: How did Paul confirm Agabus' prophecy?

A: It agreed with what the Holy Spirit had already shown him. "The Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains await me." — Acts 20:23

Q: What does this teach about personal prophecy today?

A: It should confirm what God has already revealed to your spirit. "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit." — Romans 8:16

Q: Are prophets still part of the New Testament Church?

A: Yes. "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets..." — Ephesians 4:11

Q: What is the purpose of prophets in the body of Christ?

A: To equip and edify believers for maturity. "Till we all come to the unity of the faith." — Ephesians 4:13

Q: How do prophets build up the Church?

A: By providing revelation, direction, correction, and encouragement under the Spirit's guidance. — 1 Corinthians 14:3

Q: Should prophets operate independently of church leadership?

A: No, they must be accountable. "The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets." — 1 Corinthians 14:32

Q: How should prophetic words be judged in the Church?

A: By mature spiritual leaders, using Scripture and discernment. “Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.” — 1 Corinthians 14:29

Q: What happens when prophetic words contradict each other?

A: The Word of God is the final authority. “Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.” — Psalm 119:89

Q: Can women operate in prophetic ministry?

A: Yes. “Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied.” — Acts 21:9

Q: What is the relationship between apostles and prophets?

A: They both lay foundational truth in the Church. “Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets.” — Ephesians 2:20

Q: Do prophets replace pastors and teachers?

A: No. Every ministry gift complements the other. “There are diversities of ministries, but the same Lord.” — 1 Corinthians 12:5

Q: What is the hallmark of mature prophetic ministry?

A: Accuracy, humility, accountability, and love. “Speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things

into Him.” — Ephesians 4:15

Q: What are five biblical ways to test your own prophecy?

A: Does it align with Scripture? (Isaiah 8:20)

Does it glorify Jesus? (John 16:14)

Does it produce peace, not confusion? (1 Corinthians 14:33)

Does it bear good fruit? (Matthew 7:16)

Does the inner witness of the Holy Spirit confirm it? (Romans 8:16)

Q: Why must prophets test their revelations?

A: To avoid error and presumption. “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits.” — 1 John 4:1

Q: What is the danger of untested revelation?

A: It can lead to false prophecy and confusion. “They have seen false visions and lying divinations.” — Ezekiel 13:6

Q: Should prophets prophesy from emotions or pressure?

A: No. Only speak when the Spirit leads. “The Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?” — Amos 3:8

Q: How should a prophet respond if their word does not come to pass?

A: In humility, repentance, and self-examination.  
“Examine yourselves whether you are in the faith.” — 2  
Corinthians 13:5

Q: Can a true prophet ever make a mistake?

A: Yes, in judgment or timing, but not in willful  
deception. “We know in part and we prophesy in part.”  
— 1 Corinthians 13:9

Q: What separates an error from false prophecy?

A: A false prophecy claims, “Thus says the Lord,” when  
God never spoke. — Jeremiah 23:31

Q: How does God feel about false prophecy?

A: He hates it. “Do not listen to the words of the  
prophets who prophesy to you; they make you  
worthless.” — Jeremiah 23:16

Q: What is the test of time in prophecy?

A: True words from God will be fulfilled. “When the  
word of the prophet comes to pass, the prophet will be  
known.” — Jeremiah 28:9

Q: Should prophets be quick to speak?

A: No. “Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak.”  
— James 1:19

Q: Who was the first false prophet in the Bible?

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A: The serpent in Eden. "Has God indeed said...?" — Genesis 3:1

Q: What defines a false prophet?

A: One who speaks lies in God's name or leads people astray. "They speak a vision of their own heart." — Jeremiah 23:16

Q: Can false prophets perform miracles?

A: Yes, by deceptive power. "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs." — Matthew 24:24

Q: What motivates most false prophets?

A: Greed and self-promotion. "Through covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words." — 2 Peter 2:3

Q: What is God's judgment on false prophets?

A: Destruction. "That prophet shall die." — Deuteronomy 18:20

Q: How can believers protect themselves from deception?

A: By staying rooted in the Word and the Spirit. "Your word is a lamp to my feet." — Psalm 119:105

Q: Why does God permit false prophets?

A: To test our love for Him. “For the Lord your God is testing you, to know whether you love the Lord your God.” — Deuteronomy 13:3

Q: What warning did Jesus give about false prophets?

A: “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing.” — Matthew 7:15

Q: How can we recognize them?

A: By their fruit. “You will know them by their fruits.” — Matthew 7:16

Q: What fruit identifies a true prophet?

A: Holiness, humility, and love for truth. “A good tree cannot bear bad fruit.” — Matthew 7:18

Q: Should prophets control people's lives through their words?

A: No. Prophecy should confirm God's will, not replace personal relationship. “As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” — Romans 8:14

Q: What is prophetic manipulation?

A: Using “prophecy” to control, intimidate, or exploit others — something God condemns. “Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit.” — Ezekiel 13:3

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Q: Should people depend on prophets for direction?

A: No. Depend on the Holy Spirit. "You have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things."  
— 1 John 2:20

Q: How should prophets relate to money?

A: With contentment and integrity. "Be content with such things as you have." — Hebrews 13:5

Q: Should prophets boast in their revelations?

A: No. "Let him who glories, glory in the Lord." — 2 Corinthians 10:17

Q: How should prophets handle criticism?

A: With humility and patience. "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you." — Matthew 5:11

Q: What happens if a prophet becomes proud?

A: God will resist them. "Pride goes before destruction."  
— Proverbs 16:18

Q: Should prophets be accountable to others?

A: Yes. Accountability keeps them safe. "In the multitude of counselors there is safety." — Proverbs 11:14

Q: How can prophets remain pure?

A: By daily communion with God and obedience to His

Word. "How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word." — Psalm 119:9

Q: What should be the prophet's greatest desire?

A: To know God intimately. "That I may know Him." — Philippians 3:10

Q: Will prophets exist in the end times?

A: Yes. "Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy." — Acts 2:17

Q: What will be their role?

A: To prepare the Church for the return of Christ. "Prepare the way of the Lord." — Isaiah 40:3

Q: What is the greatest need for prophets today?

A: Holiness and truth in a deceptive age. "Sanctify them by Your truth; Your word is truth." — John 17:17

Q: What will false prophets do in the last days?

A: Deceive many through false signs and messages. "Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many." — Matthew 24:11

Q: How can true prophets guard themselves?

A: By living close to God and submitting to His Word. "Keep yourselves in the love of God." — Jude 21

Q: What is the ultimate message of all true prophecy?



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A: Repentance, faith in Christ, and righteousness.  
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” —  
Matthew 4:17

Q: Will prophecy ever cease?

A: Yes, when perfection (Christ's return) comes.  
“Whether there are prophecies, they will fail.” — 1  
Corinthians 13:8

Q: Until then, how should prophets serve?

A: Faithfully, humbly, and in love. “It is required in  
stewards that one be found faithful.” — 1 Corinthians  
4:2

Q: What is the prophet's greatest reward?

A: God's approval and eternal fellowship with Him.  
“Well done, good and faithful servant.” — Matthew  
25:21

Q: What is the summary of prophetic ministry?

A: To know God, reveal His heart, call people to  
holiness, and glorify Jesus Christ. “For from Him and  
through Him and to Him are all things.” — Romans  
11:36

Q: What is the primary responsibility of a prophet?

A: To speak God's Word accurately, avoiding personal  
opinions or presumptuous statements.

Deuteronomy 18:20 – “But the prophet, which shall  
presume to speak a word in my name... even that

prophet shall die.”

Q: How should a prophet guide people in righteousness?

A: By calling them to repentance, warning against sin, and pointing them toward holiness.

Ezekiel 3:16–21 – “Son of man, I have made thee a watchman... if thou warn the wicked... thou hast delivered thy soul.”

Q: Are prophetic symbols to be worshipped?

A: No, symbols only illustrate God's message; they are not God.

2 Kings 18:4 – Hezekiah destroyed the bronze serpent because people were worshipping it.

Q10: What is the purpose of prophetic actions?

A: To dramatize God's message, warn, or reveal future events.

Ezekiel 4:4–8 – Lying on his side symbolized Israel's judgment.

Q: What marks a mature prophet?

A: Humility, Christ-centeredness, wisdom, love, accountability, and alignment with Scripture.

Philippians 2:5–8 – Imitate Christ's humility.

1 Corinthians 13:2 – Without love, prophecy profits nothing.

Q: What are the risks of immaturity in prophetic ministry?

A: Pride, presumption, false prophecy, manipulation, and speaking outside God's will.

James 4:6 – “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”

Q: Can someone make another person a prophet?

A: No, laying on of hands or teaching cannot create a prophet; God alone ordains them.

1 Timothy 4:14 – The gift was given by prophecy and divine recognition, not human imposition.

Q: Can prophetic schools create prophets?

A: No, schools can train discernment, character, and biblical knowledge, but the office is divinely appointed.

Ephesians 4:11 – Prophets are given by Christ, not made by man.

Q: What is the role of accountability in prophecy?

A: To prevent error, pride, and misuse of the gift, ensuring alignment with God's heart.

Q26: How can prophetic ministry be protected?

A: Test all words with Scripture, submit to accountability, and remain Christ-centered.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 – “Test all things; hold fast what is good.”

1 John 4:1 – Test the spirits to see if they are from God.

Q: Should prophets seek personal fame?

A: No, they must pursue humility and seek to please God, not men.

Galatians 1:10 – "...if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ."





PROPHETS DAILY  
PRAYER OF CONSECRATION



**L**ORD, in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ, please make me a vessel of Your mercy and truth. I humble myself before You today, acknowledging that without You, I can do nothing. Every gift, word, and insight comes only by Your grace and for Your glory.

Father, please purify my heart and refine my motives. Let no pride, ambition, or self-seeking spirit dwell within me. May I always remember that the prophetic gift is not for my elevation but for the edification of Your people and the exaltation of Jesus Christ.

LORD, please teach me to listen before I speak. Let my ears be attuned to Your Spirit, and let my heart be aligned with Your will. Guard my tongue that I may only declare what You have spoken, in love, truth, and gentleness. Please, LORD, clothe me with humility and keep me under the shadow of Your hand. Let my life and ministry reflect the character of Christ — meek, faithful, and obedient. When You move, let me yield. When You are silent, let me wait. When You speak, let me obey.

Father, please fill me afresh with the Holy Spirit. Renew the fire on the altar of my heart and keep it burning with purity and devotion. May I never become careless with the sacred trust You have given me.

LORD, in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ, I declare that my prophetic life is anchored in Your Word, guided by Your Spirit, and surrendered to Your will. Let every utterance bring glory to Jesus, the Spirit of prophecy Himself.

I am nothing without You, LORD, but through You, I am empowered to speak life, truth, and hope.

Please, LORD, let my words bring healing, conviction, and edification to Your people. Let my heart remain soft, my spirit teachable, and my walk holy before You. Thank You, Father, for entrusting me with Your voice. I give You all the glory, honor, and praise.

May every prophecy, prayer, and declaration flow from a heart that bows before You in humility and love.

**Established forever, Amen!**

*“I will praise You forever, because You have done it; and in the presence of Your saints I will wait on Your name, for it is good.”*

— **Psalm 52:9**

*“Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.”* — **Psalm 119:89**







## PRAYERS AND DECLARATIONS FOR PROPHETIC CLARITY AND PURITY



### 1. Prayer for Hearing God's Voice Clearly

**Scripture:** *“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”* — John 10:27

**Prayer:**

Father God, in the mighty name of Jesus Christ, open my spiritual ears to hear Your voice with clarity and precision. Silence every strange voice and confusing whisper that does not align with Your Word. Let Your voice become the loudest sound in my spirit. Holy Spirit, train me to discern truth from deception. Speak, Lord, for Your servant is listening.

**Declaration:**

Father, according to John 10:27, I decree that I hear the voice of the Good Shepherd clearly. I reject confusion and deception. I walk in divine sensitivity to the Spirit of God. Established, Amen! (Psalm 52:9; Psalm 119:89)

**2. Prayer for Purity of Heart and Motive**

**Scripture:** *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”* — Matthew 5:8

**Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, purify my heart from pride, ambition, and hidden motives. Let my desire be only to please You and reveal Your truth. Wash me with Your Word and cleanse me by Your Spirit. Remove every trace of self-glory and replace it with humility and holiness.

**Declaration:**

Father, according to Matthew 5:8, I decree that my heart is pure before You. My motives are aligned with Your will, and my prophetic utterances are rooted in truth and love. Established, Amen!

**3. Prayer for the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation**

**Scripture:** *“The Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.”* — Ephesians 1:17

**Prayer:**

Lord, fill me with the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. Open the eyes of my understanding that I may perceive the mysteries of Your Kingdom. Grant me divine insight that leads to transformation, not just information.

**Declaration:**

Father, in the name of Jesus, according to Ephesians 1:17, I decree that the eyes of my understanding are enlightened. I walk in divine revelation, not assumption. Wisdom and discernment guide every prophetic word I speak. Established, Amen!

**4. Prayer for Deliverance from False Influence**

**Scripture:** *“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God.” — 1 John 4:1*

**Prayer:**

Father, deliver me from every false spirit, deceptive voice, or counterfeit anointing. Guard my heart and mind from every influence that leads away from Christ. I renounce every alliance with error, and I yield fully to the Holy Spirit of truth.

**Declaration:**

According to 1 John 4:1, I decree that my spirit is shielded by discernment. I am immune to deception, manipulation, and seducing spirits. The Spirit of Truth governs my prophetic walk. Established, Amen!

**5. Prayer for Boldness and Obedience**

**Scripture:** *“Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you.” — Jeremiah 1:8*

**Prayer:**

Lord, fill me with courage to speak what You command, even when it is unpopular. Deliver me from fear of man and grant me boldness to declare Your counsel with love

and authority.

**Declaration:**

Father, in the mighty name of Jesus, I decree according to Jeremiah 1:8 that I am fearless and obedient. I speak only what You command. I am a voice of truth in a generation of compromise. Established, Amen!

**6. Prayer for Holiness and Consecration**

**Scripture:** *“Be holy, for I am holy.”* — 1 Peter 1:16

**Prayer:**

Lord, set me apart for Your glory. Let holiness mark my thoughts, words, and actions. Separate me from worldly contamination and fleshly desires. Let the fire of Your holiness refine me daily.

**Declaration:**

According to 1 Peter 1:16, I decree that I walk in holiness and consecration. My vessel is purified for the Master's use. The anointing upon my life flows from purity, not performance. Established, Amen!

**7. Prayer for Prophetic Accuracy and Truth**

**Scripture:** *“He who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully.”* — Jeremiah 23:28

**Prayer:**

Father, help me to discern Your voice with precision. Let my words be weighed by Your truth. Guard my lips from error, exaggeration, or assumption. May every word I speak carry the fragrance of Christ and the authority of

Your Spirit.

**Declaration:**

In the name of Jesus, according to Jeremiah 23:28, I decree that my prophetic words are faithful and accurate. I speak truth, not imagination; revelation, not emotion. Established, Amen!

**8. Prayer for Protection Against Spiritual Contamination**

**Scripture:** *“Keep yourselves in the love of God.”* — Jude 21

**Prayer:**

Father, shield me from spiritual pollution and compromise. Let Your love and truth guard my spirit. I refuse every defilement that would corrupt my prophetic purity. Keep me hidden in Your presence and anchored in Your Word.

**Declaration:**

According to Jude 21, I decree that I am kept in the love of God. I am immune to corruption and deception. My spirit remains pure and steadfast in Christ. Established, Amen!

**9. Prayer for Humility and Dependence on God**

**Scripture:** *“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”* — James 4:6

**Prayer:**

Lord, strip away every trace of pride and self-reliance. Keep me low before You, always remembering that the gift is Yours, not mine. Let humility be my robe and grace

my portion.

**Declaration:**

According to James 4:6, I decree that I walk in humility and grace. I depend on the Holy Spirit for every revelation. Pride finds no place in me. Established, Amen!

**10. Prayer for Renewal of the Mind and Spirit**

**Scripture:** *“Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”* — Romans 12:2

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, renew my mind with Your Word and cleanse my thoughts from doubt, fear, and distraction. Transform me to think as You think and see as You see.

**Declaration:**

According to Romans 12:2, I decree that my mind is renewed daily by the Word of God. I walk in prophetic clarity, purity, and alignment with heaven's perspective. Established, Amen!



SCRIPTURAL LIST OF PROPHETS  
FROM BOTH THE OLD TESTAMENT  
AND NEW TESTAMENT



OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

**Major Prophets**

- Isaiah – Prophesied about the coming Messiah and God's salvation.  
*Isaiah 1:1; 9:6–7; 53:1–12*
- Jeremiah – Warned Judah of exile and called for repentance.  
*Jeremiah 1:4–10; 7:1–7*



Lamentations (Jeremiah's lament) – Mourning over Jerusalem's destruction.

*Lamentations 1:1–4*

- Ezekiel – Saw visions of God's glory and restoration of Israel.  
*Ezekiel 1:1–3; 37:1–14*
- Daniel – A prophet in exile; revealed God's sovereignty and end-time visions.  
*Daniel 1:17; 2:19; 9:21–27*

### **Minor Prophets (The Twelve)**

- Hosea – Symbol of God's covenant love through marriage to Gomer.  
*Hosea 1:2–3; 14:1–2*
- Joel – Spoke of the “Day of the LORD” and the outpouring of the Spirit.  
*Joel 2:28–32*
- Amos – Called for justice and righteousness in Israel.  
*Amos 3:7; 5:24*
- Obadiah – Prophesied judgment against Edom.  
*Obadiah 1:1–4*
- Jonah – Sent to Nineveh; a message of repentance and mercy.

*Jonah 1:1–3; 3:4–10*

- Micah – Prophesied about the Messiah's birthplace and true worship.

*Micah 5:2; 6:8*

- Nahum – Declared judgment against Nineveh for wickedness.

*Nahum 1:1–3*

- Habakkuk – Questioned God about justice; learned to trust Him.

*Habakkuk 2:1–4; 3:17–19*

- Zephaniah – Warned of judgment and promised restoration.

*Zephaniah 3:14–17*

- Haggai – Encouraged rebuilding of the Temple after exile.

*Haggai 1:7–8; 2:9*

- Zechariah – Prophesied of the Messiah and God's future kingdom.

*Zechariah 4:6; 9:9*

- Malachi – Final prophet before John the Baptist; called for holiness and tithing.

*Malachi 3:1–3; 4:5–6*

- Abraham – Called a prophet by God.

*Genesis 20:7*

- Moses – The greatest prophet under the Law.  
*Deuteronomy 18:15; 34:10*
- Aaron – Spoke on behalf of Moses.  
*Exodus 7:1*
- Miriam – Prophetess and sister of Moses.  
*Exodus 15:20*
- Samuel – Prophet and judge who anointed Israel's first kings.  
*1 Samuel 3:19–21; 10:1*
- Nathan – Confronted David about his sin.  
*2 Samuel 12:1–7*
- Gad – David's personal prophet.  
*2 Samuel 24:11*
- Ahijah – Prophesied Jeroboam's rise and fall.  
*1 Kings 11:29–31*
- Elijah – Confronted idolatry and called down fire from heaven.  
*1 Kings 17:1; 18:36–39*
- Elisha – Performed double the miracles of Elijah.  
*2 Kings 2:9–15*
- Micaiah – Spoke truth to King Ahab.  
*1 Kings 22:13–28*
- Deborah – Prophetess and judge in Israel.

*Judges 4:4–9*

- Huldah – Prophetess during Josiah's reform.  
*2 Kings 22:14–20*
- Shemaiah – Spoke against Rehoboam's rebellion.  
*1 Kings 12:22–24*
- Iddo – Chronicled visions concerning Jeroboam.  
*2 Chronicles 9:29*
- Azariah (son of Oded) – Encouraged King Asa to seek God.  
*2 Chronicles 15:1–8*
- Unnamed Prophets – Many unnamed prophets ministered throughout Israel's history.  
*1 Kings 13:1–3; 20:35–43*

## NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS

- Jesus Christ – The ultimate Prophet, Priest, and King.  
*Acts 3:22–23; John 12:49–50*
- John the Baptist – The forerunner of Christ, calling for repentance.  
*Matthew 11:9–11; Luke 3:2–4*
- Agabus – Prophesied famine and Paul's imprisonment.

*Acts 11:27–28; 21:10–11*

- Anna – Prophetess who recognized the infant Messiah.

*Luke 2:36–38*

- Philip's Four Daughters – Prophetesses in the early church.

*Acts 21:9*

- Barnabas – A prophet and teacher in Antioch.

*Acts 13:1*

- Silas and Judas (Barsabbas) – Encouraged believers prophetically.

*Acts 15:32*

- Paul – Apostle and prophetic teacher who received divine revelations.

*Acts 13:2; 1 Corinthians 14:6; Galatians 1:12*

- John the Apostle – Received the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

*Revelation 1:1–3; 10:11*

### **Prophetic Voices and the Gift of Prophecy in the Church:**

- All Spirit-filled believers can prophesy as led by the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 2:17–18; 1 Corinthians 14:1–3*

- Prophets as chosen and called by the LORD JESUS CHRIST as part of the fivefold ministry.  
*Ephesians 4:11–13*
- Prophetic utterances are to be judged and confirmed by Scripture and spiritual maturity.  
*1 Corinthians 14:29; 1 Thessalonians 5:20–21*

From Abraham to John the Apostle, prophets served as God's mouthpieces — calling nations to repentance, revealing divine mysteries, and pointing to Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh and the Spirit of prophecy. “*For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*” — *Revelation 19:10*





## BIBLICAL TESTS OF TRUE AND FALSE PROPHETS



*“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” — 1 John 4:1*

**I**n every generation, God raises up true prophets to speak His Word, but the enemy also raises false ones to distort truth, deceive hearts, and lead God's people astray. Scripture therefore commands us to “test all things; hold fast what is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).



**Below are clear biblical tests to discern the true from the false:**

### **1. The Test of Source - Who Sent Them?**

A true prophet is called and sent by God, not self-appointed or man-appointed.

- “I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.” — Jeremiah 23:21
- “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you... I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” — Jeremiah 1:5

True prophets carry divine commissioning; false prophets act without divine authorization.

### **2. The Test of Message — Does It Align with Scripture?**

Every prophetic word must be measured by the unchanging Word of God.

- “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” — Isaiah 8:20
- “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.” — Matthew 24:35

If a “revelation” contradicts Scripture, it is false—no matter how eloquent or emotional it sounds. The Bible

remains the highest and final authority.

### **3. The Test of Fulfillment — Does the Word Come to Pass?**

When God speaks, His Word never fails.

- “When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken.” — Deuteronomy 18:22
- “I am watching over My word to perform it.” — Jeremiah 1:12

However, we must test this carefully—some words are conditional on obedience, while others pertain to appointed times. The key issue is whether the prophecy was truly from God.

### **4. The Test of Fruit — What Is Produced in Their Life and Ministry?**

Jesus gave one of the clearest tests: the fruit test.

- “You will know them by their fruits.” — Matthew 7:16
- “A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.” — Matthew 7:18

True prophets produce righteousness, humility, love, and obedience to God.

False prophets bear fruit of pride, greed, manipulation,

and self-promotion.

### **5. The Test of Focus — Does the Message Glorify Christ or Self?**

The heart of prophecy is to exalt Jesus Christ, not the prophet.

- “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.” — John 16:14
- “For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” — Revelation 19:10

Any prophetic ministry that draws attention to the individual, builds celebrity status, or promotes worldly admiration has lost its divine focus.

### **6. The Test of Character — Are They Holy, Humble, and Obedient?**

True prophets embody the character of Christ. They walk in humility and holiness.

- “Be holy, for I am holy.” — 1 Peter 1:16
- “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” — James 4:6

False prophets are often arrogant, unteachable, and resistant to correction. A true prophet welcomes discipline, accountability, and repentance.

### **7. The Test of Motivation — Are They Driven by Greed**

### **or by God?**

Money and power expose the motives of many false prophets.

- “Through covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words.” — 2 Peter 2:3
- “Freely you have received, freely give.” — Matthew 10:8

True prophets may receive honor, but they never sell prophecy, manipulate offerings, or make merchandise of God's people.

### **8. The Test of Submission — Are They Accountable to Spiritual Authority?**

A true prophet remains submitted to the Body of Christ.

- “The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.” — 1 Corinthians 14:32
- “Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive.” — Hebrews 13:17

False prophets reject correction and operate independently. True prophets are accountable, teachable, and recognize the authority of the Word and spiritual leadership.

### **9. The Test of Spirit — What Spirit Operates in Them?**

Every prophetic manifestation must be tested by its spiritual source.

- “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits.” — 1 John 4:1–3

True prophecy flows from the Holy Spirit, bearing peace, truth, and godly reverence.

False prophecy carries confusion, manipulation, and self-exaltation—often accompanied by strange manifestations.

## **10. The Test of Doctrine — What Do They Teach About Christ?**

Doctrine reveals the heart of every prophet.

- “Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God.” — 1 John 4:2
- “If anyone preaches any other gospel... let him be accursed.” — Galatians 1:8

If a “prophet” denies the deity, lordship, or resurrection of Christ, they are false—no matter the signs or miracles they perform.

## **11. The Test of Love — Do They Walk in the Love of Christ?**

Love is the mark of all true ministry.

- “Though I have the gift of prophecy... but have not love, I am nothing.” — 1 Corinthians 13:2
- True prophets love God's people and seek their restoration, not their destruction or control.

They rebuke sin, but always with compassion and the goal of redemption.

## **12. The Test of Integrity – Are They Consistent in Private and Public Life?**

A prophet's private life should match their public message.

- “He who walks uprightly and works righteousness... shall never be moved.” — Psalm 15:2,5

False prophets often live double lives—appearing spiritual publicly but compromised privately. God calls for purity inside and out.

### **THE BIBLICAL WARNING**

- “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.” — Matthew 7:15
- “Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.” — Matthew 24:11

In the last days, deception will increase. Only those rooted in the Word and filled with the Holy Spirit will discern truth from error.

The Church must never despise prophecy but must discern it through the lens of Scripture and the Spirit.

- “Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good.” — 1 Thessalonians 5:20–21

True prophets build up, warn, edify, and point all glory to Jesus Christ.

False prophets divide, deceive, exploit, and draw attention to themselves.

Let our prayer be:

“LORD, in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ, grant us the discernment of Your Spirit. Teach us to recognize Your voice and reject every counterfeit. Purify the prophetic voices in Your Church, that truth, holiness, and humility may prevail. Amen.”



**NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS  
AND PASTORS ARE NOT ALLOWED  
TO PRONOUNCE CURSES**



**N**ew Testament Prophets and Pastors are not authorized by God to issue or pronounce curses on individuals, families, nations, or governments — but are instead called to minister reconciliation, truth, and repentance.

**THE NEW TESTAMENT PROPHET AND THE  
MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION**

**1. The Foundational Truth: The Nature of the New  
Covenant**



The New Testament (NT) is not a mere continuation of the Old; it is the fulfillment and transformation of the Old Covenant through the person and work of Jesus Christ.

The OT prophets operated under a covenant of law, judgment, and national accountability, whereas the NT prophet functions under a covenant of grace, redemption, and personal reconciliation.

“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” — John 1:17

In the New Covenant, God's ministers are ambassadors of reconciliation, not executors of divine wrath.

“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.” — 2 Corinthians 5:18

Thus, any prophetic or pastoral utterance that invokes or releases curses contradicts the very foundation of the Gospel, which seeks to redeem, not to destroy.

## **2. The Example of Jesus — The Pattern for All New Testament Ministry**

Jesus is the perfect prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15–19; Acts 3:22–23). His ministry defines the model and boundaries for every NT prophet and pastor.

When Jesus was reviled, He did not retaliate with a curse:

“Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.” — 1 Peter 2:23

When His disciples sought to call down fire on a Samaritan village (just as Elijah had done), Jesus rebuked them sharply:

*“But He turned and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.” — Luke 9:55–56*

This statement alone is a decisive redefinition of prophetic spirit and authority under the New Covenant.

Jesus demonstrated this again on the Cross:

*“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” — Luke 23:34*

If the sinless Son of God, the Judge of all, refused to curse those who crucified Him, how can any New Testament minister presume to do so?

### **3. The Apostolic Pattern: Bless, Do Not Curse**

The apostles, who were eyewitnesses of Jesus' character and teaching, explicitly forbade the practice of issuing curses.

*“Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.” — Romans 12:14*

*“Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing; but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.” — 1 Peter 3:9*

*“But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.” — Matthew 5:44*

These are not optional ethical ideals; they are apostolic imperatives rooted in the nature of the New Covenant.

Any prophet or pastor who curses individuals or nations violates these explicit commands.

#### **4. The Biblical Record of Cursing in the Old Testament**

In the Old Testament, prophets often pronounced divine judgments or curses:

- Noah cursed Canaan (Genesis 9:25).
- Moses declared covenantal blessings and curses (Deuteronomy 27–28).
- Elisha cursed the mocking youths, and bears came forth (2 Kings 2:23–24).
- Jeremiah and Ezekiel pronounced national curses for covenant rebellion.

However, all these actions occurred under the Mosaic covenant, where the prophets served as legal prosecutors of the covenant, enforcing blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience (see Deuteronomy 28).

But Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13). Therefore, the NT prophet is not a prosecutor of the law but a proclaimer of grace and truth.

#### **5. Warnings Versus Curses: The Theological Balance**

New Testament prophets are indeed empowered to warn, and call people, leaders, and nations to repentance and to announce impending judgment if repentance is rejected.

Examples:

- John the Baptist warned of “the wrath to come” (Matthew 3:7).

- Agabus warned of famine and persecution (Acts 11:28; 21:10–11).
- Jesus Himself pronounced woes — not curses — on the unrepentant cities of Chorazin and Bethsaida (Matthew 11:21).

But in all these cases, the prophet declared what God would do, not what he *was releasing personally*. He was a messenger, not the executor of judgment.

That distinction is crucial. To warn is to act as God's herald of truth; to curse is to act as God's judge — a role the NT prophet is never given.

“There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?” — James 4:12

## 6. The Nature of the New Testament Prophet

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHET	NEW TESTAMENT PROPHET
Operated under the law (Heb. 8:7-9)	Operated under Grace (John 1:17)
Functioned as covenant enforcers	Functioned as ministers of reconciliation
Pronounced divine judgment and curses	Proclaim redemption, restoration and edification
Represented God to the nation	Represent Christ to the Church
Speak from the shadow of the Cross	Speak from the victory of the Cross

Paul summarized the NT prophetic function succinctly:  
“But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification,  
and exhortation, and comfort.” — 1 Corinthians 14:3

**The NT prophet builds, warns, and restores — never destroys.**

## **7. The New Testament Minister as Ambassador of Reconciliation**

The minister of Christ stands not as an agent of vengeance but as an ambassador of peace, bearing the message of divine mercy.

“Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.” — 2 Corinthians 5:20

To curse is to contradict the mission of reconciliation; to bless is to embody it.

Even when confronting sin or evil powers, the NT minister's authority is expressed through truth, intercession, and the Word, not imprecations.

“The servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves.” — 2 Timothy 2:24–25

## **8. The True Spirit of New Testament Prophecy**

The New Testament prophet stands at the crossroads of grace and truth. He warns, but he does not wound; he convicts, but he does not condemn; he proclaims

judgment, but he does not pronounce curses.

His lips are sanctified not for destruction, but for redemption. His voice echoes not with vengeance but with invitation. His ministry reflects the nature of Christ Himself — full of grace and truth.

“For the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.” — Luke 9:56

Therefore, every true NT prophet or pastor must align with the Spirit of Christ — the Spirit of prophecy — and remember that to reconcile is greater than to retaliate, and to bless is greater than to curse.





## UNDERSTANDING PROPHETIC DECREES



### I. How Prophets Make Biblically Sound Prophetic Decrees — Using Ezekiel 37 as a Template

In Ezekiel 37:1–14, God brings the prophet Ezekiel into the valley of dry bones. The key principle of prophetic ministry here is that Ezekiel does not speak his own words; he speaks exactly what God commands.

*“And He said to me, ‘Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.’”* — Ezekiel 37:4 (ESV)

Ezekiel is told to *prophesy*, not to *decree* from his own imagination or authority. His prophetic act is a response



to divine instruction, not human initiative.

The pattern is:

1. Ezekiel receives the word — revelation.
2. He speaks the word — obedience.
3. The Spirit acts on the word — manifestation.

Thus, a *biblically sound prophetic decree* is not a personal command; it is a spoken word of divine origin that the prophet releases in alignment with God's revealed will.

When Ezekiel prophesied, life entered the bones — but only because he spoke as commanded. The power was never in Ezekiel's decree; it was in the word of the LORD.

## **II. Distinguishing Between Decree, Declaration, and Prophecy**

Decree - A decree is a formal command or decision issued by one who has authority to enforce it. In Scripture, *decrees* ultimately belong to God alone, who sovereignly ordains all things.

*“The LORD of hosts has sworn: As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand.”* — Isaiah 14:24

No prophet, priest, or believer may issue decrees apart from the revealed will of God. Prophets *echo* divine decrees; they do not *originate* them.

Declaration - A declaration is the public announcement or proclamation of a truth God has revealed. For example, the psalmist declares God's righteousness (Psalm 40:9–10). Believers declare what *God has done* or *promised to do*, but that declaration is not a decree, it is testimony or confession.

Prophetic Declaration (Prophecy) - This is when a prophet utters the exact words of God as revealed by the Spirit.

*“For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”* — 2 Peter 1:21

Thus, to declare God's prophetic word is to *speak what God is saying*, not to *decide what God should say*. This is the essence of biblical prophecy.

### **III. Examples of Prophetic Decrees (God's Own Decrees Spoken Through His Prophets)**

While the word *decree* is rarely used in a human sense, the Bible is filled with divine decrees spoken through prophets and servants. Some examples:

- Creation — *“And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.”* — Genesis 1:3  
(The first divine decree, revealing that all power rests in God's spoken word.)
- Abrahamic Blessing — *“In your seed all the nations*

*of the earth shall be blessed.*" — Genesis 22:18

- Moses before Pharaoh — *"Thus says the LORD, 'Let My people go.'"* — Exodus 5:1  
(A divine decree released through a prophet.)
- Samuel's Word to Saul — *"Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king."* — 1 Samuel 15:23
- Elijah's Word about the Drought — *"As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."* — 1 Kings 17:1
- Elisha's Word of Provision — *"Thus says the LORD: Tomorrow about this time a seah of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel."* — 2 Kings 7:1
- Isaiah's Word of Deliverance — *"The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."* — Isaiah 9:7
- Ezekiel's Word to the Dry Bones — *"I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live."* — Ezekiel 37:14
- Jesus' Prophetic Words — *"Lazarus, come forth!"* — John 11:43  
(The incarnate Word Himself decreeing life, by divine authority.)

Each of these decrees came from the mouth of God, spoken through His servants. The prophet's authority was always derivative, not original.

#### **IV. The Importance of Prophesying Within Your Measure**

Paul warns believers to function within their God-given limits:

*“For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”* — Romans 12:3

And again:

*“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith.”* — Romans 12:6

To prophesy within your measure means:

- Do not speak beyond what the Spirit has revealed.
- Do not imitate the authority of others.
- Do not claim divine authority for what is merely human aspiration.
- Stay within the boundaries of Scripture and the Spirit's leading.

When prophets overstep their measure, they risk speaking presumptuously:

*“But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name which I have not commanded him to speak... that prophet shall die.”* — Deuteronomy 18:20

True prophetic ministry is marked by humility, obedience, and alignment with the Word of God.

## **V. Understanding Job 22:28 in Context of Decrees-**

*“You shall also decree a thing, and it shall be established for you; and light shall shine on your ways.”* — Job 22:28 (KJV)

These words are spoken by Eliphaz the Temanite, one of Job's friends. Although not every statement made by Job's friends was doctrinally correct, some of what they said contained fragments of truth about how God operates. The key is to filter their words through the total revelation of Scripture.

When Eliphaz says, *“You shall decree a thing,”* he is expressing a truth later confirmed elsewhere in Scripture: that those who walk uprightly before God, in faith and righteousness, can speak God's will into manifestation — not by independent authority, but by alignment with divine purpose.

Thus, Job 22:28 should not be read as “humans can create reality by words,” but rather, “those who walk in covenant with God can declare what God has already purposed, and heaven will back it.”

This is consistent with Ezekiel 37, where Ezekiel speaks not what he wants, but what God commands — and life follows.

## **VI. The Difference Between God's Decree and Man's Decree**

God's decree is sovereign, eternal, and creative. His decrees originate from His will and carry the power of fulfillment within themselves.

*"Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven."* — Psalm 119:89

*"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void."* — Isaiah 55:11

When God decrees, He commands reality to conform to His will.

Man's decree, on the other hand, is delegated — it carries authority only insofar as it aligns with God's decree. When believers decree, they do not invent outcomes; they agree with heaven's will and release it by faith.

*"Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."* — Matthew 18:18

The verbs "bind" and "loose" in the Greek suggest *declaring on earth what heaven has already determined*. This is not independent authority but cooperative authority - speaking from union with Christ.

## **VII. Scriptures affirming that believers can speak or decree God's Word**

**when their words are in harmony with God's will:**

- Mark 11:23 — *"Whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart... he will have whatever he says."*

Here, faith-filled speech brings God's will into visible

reality, not by human willpower but by trusting God's power.

- Romans 10:8–10 — *“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart... if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”*  
The confession (spoken decree) of faith releases salvation. This is a divine pattern: believing, speaking, and receiving.
- 2 Corinthians 4:13 — *“We also believe, and therefore speak.”*  
Faith always finds its expression in speech. Spirit-filled decrees are faith declarations rooted in divine revelation.
- Proverbs 18:21 — *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”*  
Words carry creative or destructive power because they reflect either agreement with God's truth or with unbelief.
- Matthew 16:19 — *“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven.”*  
Jesus gives believers authority to enforce heaven's decrees through obedient faith and proclamation.
- John 15:7 — *“If you abide in Me, and My words abide*

*in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."*

This shows that the power of decree depends on abiding in Christ and His word abiding in you. Only then are our words and His will united.

### **VIII. How Christians Can Decree Biblically and Safely**

To "decree a thing" biblically is not to invent one's own will and demand God to perform it. It is to speak forth what God has already said, believe it, and stand in faith until it manifests.

A sound prophetic decree therefore, follows this pattern:

1. Revelation — You receive insight from Scripture or the Spirit.
2. Alignment — You discern that this word aligns with God's will and character.
3. Proclamation — You speak that word in faith, declaring God's will over your situation.
4. Manifestation — The Spirit brings the word to pass, according to His timing and purpose.

Ezekiel 37 demonstrates this perfectly: Ezekiel spoke, not from imagination, but as commanded, and the Spirit



acted. The same principle applies to New Testament believers who walk in the authority of Christ.

A mature believer learns to balance humility with boldness.

- Humility — Recognizing that only God's decrees are absolute, sovereign, and creative.
- Boldness — Recognizing that God invites His people to partner with Him by speaking His word in faith.

*“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” — Hebrews 4:16*

Thus, when Christians “decree a thing,” we do so from a place of submission, not presumption. We decree what God has decreed; we declare what God has revealed; we prophesy what the Spirit gives.

This keeps our speech both powerful and pure; prophetic without being presumptuous.



## **HOW TO HANDLE CONTROVERSIAL PROPHETIC WORDS**



**G**od indeed speaks through prophecy (Amos 3:7, 1 Corinthians 14:3), yet Scripture also repeatedly warns that not every spirit, message, or messenger claiming to speak for God is truly from Him. Handling “controversial” prophetic words requires discernment, scriptural grounding, and spiritual maturity, especially when such words could destroy trust, families, or marriages.

### **1. When a Prophetic Word Accuses a Family**

## **Member or Friend of Evil or Witchcraft:**

### **A. Test Every Spirit — Don't React Immediately**

**“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” — 1 John 4:1**

Before accepting any word, pause and test:

- Does it align with Scripture?
- Does it glorify Christ, or cause fear, confusion, and division?
- Does it bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23) or the works of the flesh (Galatians 5:19–21)?

A genuine word from God brings light, repentance, and restoration; it can expose sin not for hatred or suspicion purposes, but as a warning or as an instruction for intercession.

### **B. Examine the Fruit**

**“You will know them by their fruits.” — Matthew 7:16**

Jesus teaches that the fruit of any message or messenger reveals its true source. If the “prophecy” results in bitterness, fear, or enmity, it's likely not of the Holy Spirit,

for God is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33).

If you confronted the family member and they denied it, your responsibility ends there. You are not the Holy Spirit. Let God be the Judge. Do not play detective or carry a grudge based on one prophecy.

**“Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses.”** — 1 Timothy 5:19  
If that principle applies to church elders, how much more should we require confirmation before accusing family members?

### **C. Seek Confirmation in Prayer and Counsel**

**“By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.”** — 2 Corinthians 13:1

A true prophetic word will often be confirmed independently through:

- The inward witness of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:16),
- The Word of God,
- Mature and trustworthy spiritual counsel.

If a prophecy causes strife, pause, pray, and seek wise counsel rather than confronting in anger or suspicion.

### **D. Respond with Love, Not Fear**

Even if someone truly intends harm, you overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21). Jesus said:

**“Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.” — Matthew 5:44**

So rather than turning prophecy into a weapon, turn it into an invitation to prayer, forgiveness, and discernment. If it's truly from God, HE will confirm and protect you without you needing to destroy family relationships.

## **2. When You Receive a Prophetic Word That Your Spouse Wants to Harm You**

This is extremely sensitive. Two issues must be distinguished:

1. Safety, and
2. Discernment.

### **A. Prioritize Safety Without Accusation**

If a prophecy involves physical harm (“your spouse plans to kill you”), you must take it seriously as a safety concern; but not automatically as divine truth.

- If there are tangible signs of danger—violence, threats, manipulation—seek safety, counseling, or help from authorities.
- If not, do not act solely on one prophetic claim. Remember: Satan is the accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12:10).

**“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life.” — John**

10:10

The enemy uses fear to divide marriages and destroy trust. God's Spirit produces peace (Philippians 4:7).

### **B. Test the Spirit Again**

If your spouse denies it and there is no evidence, lay it before God, not against your spouse.

**“If anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach.”** — James 1:5

Ask God: “Father, if this word is from You, confirm it clearly. If it is not, silence every false voice.” The Holy Spirit never causes paranoia or hatred between covenant partners. His conviction leads to repentance and reconciliation.

### **C. Guard Your Heart**

**“Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.”** — Proverbs 4:23

When suspicion enters the heart, it poisons perception. Refuse to let fear dictate your emotions or actions. Prophetic ministry must lead you to Christ, not away from peace in Christ.

## **3. When You Receive a Prophetic Word That Does Not Bear Witness with You**

### **A. Scripture Gives You the Right to Judge Prophecy**

**“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.”** — 1 Corinthians 14:29

You are not required to accept every prophetic word. The Bible commands believers to weigh and discern every word.

**“Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.”** — 1 Thessalonians 5:20–22

If a prophecy doesn't bear witness with your spirit (the peace of the Holy Spirit, Colossians 3:15), then:

- Don't argue.
- Don't accept it in fear.
- Simply lay it before God and let Him confirm or cancel it.

## **B. You Have Authority to Reject or Cancel False Words**

Jesus said:

**“Behold, I give you authority... over all the power of the enemy.”** — Luke 10:19

If a word is contrary to God's promises or character, reject it verbally in prayer:

**“Father, in Jesus' name, I reject every word that does not align with Your truth. I cancel every false declaration and receive only Your Word which brings life and peace.”**

God's Word is final on any matter:

**“No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn.”** — Isaiah 54:17

### **C. The Witness of the Holy Spirit**

**“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”** — Romans 8:16

True prophecy resonates with that inner witness of peace, humility, and hope. False prophecy stirs fear, pride, or suspicion. The difference is discerned not by emotion but by spiritual fruit and alignment with Scripture.

### **Prayer for Discernment and Protection on Controversial Prophetic Words**

**Father God, in the Mighty name of Jesus Christ,** I thank You for the gift of prophecy and for Your Spirit who guides into all truth. Please, give me discernment to test every word, boldness to reject what is false, and humility to receive what is true. I cancel every false declaration spoken over my life, family, or marriage. Let Your Word alone stand as my foundation. Guard my heart with peace, fill me with love, and help me to walk in truth and forgiveness. In Jesus Christ's Mighty Name, Amen.

A mature believer knows to pause, pray, test, seek wise counsel, and let God confirm His truth in His timing in every prophetic Word.

### **USE THE SAME METHOD ON ALL CONTROVERSIAL PROPHETIC WORDS**

Prophecy is one of the spiritual gifts given by the Holy



Spirit for the edification, exhortation, and comfort of the Church.

“But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.” — 1 Corinthians 14:3

However, because prophecy involves human vessels, it must always be weighed, tested, and discerned through the lens of Scripture and the Spirit's peace.

Every prophetic word may also involve two other spiritual gifts closely related to prophecy:

- **The Word of Knowledge** — the supernatural ability to know details about the past or present that could not be known naturally.

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all... to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit.” — 1 Corinthians 12:7–8

- **The Word of Wisdom** — the supernatural insight into the future or the divine strategy for applying God's will in a given situation.

“To one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit.” — 1 Corinthians 12:8

These manifestations can reveal truth, but they must still be tested, because revelation from God will never contradict His written Word or the character of Christ.

## 1. Test Every Spirit

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” — 1 John 4:1

Not every prophecy, dream, or vision comes from God. Some arise from human emotion, imagination, or even deception. The mature believer does not accept or reject hastily but seeks the Holy Spirit's witness and compares every message to Scripture.

## **2. Examine the Fruit**

“You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?” — Matthew 7:16

The fruit of the message and the messenger reveal the root. A genuine word from God produces humility, peace, repentance, and love. If a prophetic word breeds fear, accusation, or division, it is not of the Spirit of Christ.

## **3. Seek Confirmation, Not Panic**

“By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.” — 2 Corinthians 13:1

When you receive a prophecy—especially one that is shocking or controversial—pause and pray, wait for God to confirm it through Scripture, inner peace, or wise counsel. Never act impulsively or confront others out of fear.

## **4. Weigh Every Word Against Scripture**

“To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” — Isaiah 8:20

The Word of God is the eternal standard. Any “new revelation” that contradicts Scripture or the Spirit's peace

must be rejected, no matter who delivers it. Even a prophet can be mistaken (see 2 Samuel 7:1–17).

## **5. Discern the Source of Knowledge or Wisdom**

A word of knowledge may reveal something true about the present or past—but the source matters. God's Spirit reveals truth to heal and restore, while the enemy reveals to accuse and divide.

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” — John 10:10

A word of wisdom from God will align with Scripture, honor Christ, and produce righteousness, not fear.

## **6. Guard Your Relationships**

If a prophecy claims that a family member, friend, or spouse is plotting evil, handle it carefully.

- Do not accuse without confirmation.
- Do not allow suspicion to harden your heart.
- Let God be the Judge.

“Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up... thinks no evil.” — 1 Corinthians 13:4–5

“Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses.” — 1 Timothy 5:19

If someone denies an accusation, commit it to God in prayer. If there is genuine danger, take practical steps for safety while seeking godly counsel—but do not let fear

rule your spirit.

## **7. Recognize the Witness of the Holy Spirit**

“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.” — Colossians 3:15

The peace of the Holy Spirit acts as a spiritual compass. True revelation carries peace even when it convicts; false revelation breeds anxiety and confusion.

## **8. You Have Authority to Cancel False Words**

“No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord.” — Isaiah 54:17

If a prophetic word contradicts God's promises, declare it null and void in Jesus' name. You have authority as a child of God.

“Behold, I give you authority... over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” — Luke 10:19

## **9. Practice Wisdom and Patience**

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” — James 1:5

Not every word must be acted upon immediately. Some words are for intercession, not for action. Let time and prayer clarify God's intent.

## **10. Seek Counsel and Accountability**

“Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.” — Proverbs 15:22

Share the word with mature, Spirit-led mentors or pastors who know Scripture. God confirms His direction through the wisdom of others, not isolation.

## **11. Keep Your Focus on Christ**

“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.” — Hebrews 12:2

Prophecy must always magnify Jesus, not the prophet or the person. Any message that leads you away from trusting Christ is not from the Holy Spirit.

## **12. Respond in Love, Not Fear**

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” — Romans 12:21

Even if a prophecy reveals that someone is working against you, pray for them. Jesus said:

“Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you.” — Matthew 5:44

## **13. Recognize Human Error in Prophecy**

“For we know in part and we prophesy in part.” — 1 Corinthians 13:9

Prophetic words are not infallible because people are not

infallible. Maturity requires humility—to admit that not all prophecies are perfect or complete.

#### **14. Be Rooted in the Written Word**

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” — 2 Timothy 3:16

Scripture is the foundation; prophecy is the supplement. The Bible is the voice of God to everyone; prophecy is His whisper to specific situations.

#### **15. Guard Against Manipulation**

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” — 2 Corinthians 3:17

The Holy Spirit leads, He never controls. If someone uses “prophecy” to dominate, pressure, or frighten you, that is spiritual manipulation, not ministry.

#### **16. Look for Fruit, Not Flash**

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness.” — Galatians 5:22–23

Accurate predictions mean little without godly fruit. A false prophet may impress you, but a true one will transform you.

#### **17. Handle Prophetic Conflict with Grace**

“A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up

anger.” — Proverbs 15:1

If disagreement arises over a prophetic word, discuss it in humility. The goal is truth and peace, not pride or vindication.

### **18. Remember: Prophecy Serves, Not Rules**

“The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.” — 1 Corinthians 14:32

Prophecy is a servant of the Church, not its master. You are free to judge, weigh, and even decline a word that does not align with the Spirit's peace.

### **19. Hold Fast to What Is Good**

“Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good.” — 1 Thessalonians 5:20–21

Be open but discerning. Don't throw away the gift because of human errors — just discern with Scripture and Spirit.

### **20. Let God Confirm in His Timing**

“Then the vision will come at the appointed time; though it tarries, wait for it.” — Habakkuk 2:3

If the prophecy is truly from God, it will stand the test of time and confirmation. The truth never needs to rush.

If you ever receive a disturbing prophecy: pause, pray, test, seek wise counsel, and let God confirm His truth in His timing.

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” — Philippians 4:7

## Questions and Answers on How to Biblically Handle Controversial Prophetic Words

### 1. What should be your first response when you receive a prophetic word that feels troubling or controversial?

**Answer:** Pause and pray. Do not react emotionally or hastily. Scripture says:

“Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.” — **1 Timothy 5:22**  
“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach.” — **James 1:5**

#### **Biblical Example:**

When Mary received an unusual prophetic message from Gabriel (Luke 1:29), she was troubled but pondered these things in her heart before speaking. She sought confirmation in God's timing.

### 2. Are all prophetic words from God?

**Answer:**

No. Some come from human emotion, misunderstanding, or even demonic influence.

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” — **1 John 4:1**



### **Biblical Example:**

In Acts 16:16–18, a slave girl followed Paul, declaring true-sounding words—but her spirit was demonic. Not every supernatural word is divine.

### **3. How can you discern if a prophecy is truly from God?**

#### **Answer:**

By testing its **source**, **fruit**, and **agreement with Scripture**.

“You will know them by their fruits.” — **Matthew 7:16**

“To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” — **Isaiah 8:20**

#### **Example:**

The Bereans tested Paul's message against Scripture before believing it (Acts 17:11). God approves of discernment, not blind acceptance.

### **4. What should you do if a prophecy causes fear or confusion?**

#### **Answer:**

Reject fear and seek God's peace.

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” — **2 Timothy 1:7**

“God is not the author of confusion but of peace.” — **1 Corinthians 14:33**

#### **Example:**

When the disciples panicked during a storm, Jesus

rebuked the fear (Mark 4:39–40). True words from God bring peace, not panic.

**5. Should you confront someone immediately if a prophecy accuses them of wrongdoing?**

**Answer:**

No. You must seek confirmation first and handle it with love and discretion.

“By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.” — **2 Corinthians 13:1**

“Love covers a multitude of sins.” — **1 Peter 4:8**

**Example:**

Joseph received divine revelation about Mary's pregnancy but intended to act privately until the Lord confirmed it (Matthew 1:18–20).

**6. What if a prophet insists that their word is from God, but it contradicts Scripture?**

**Answer:**

Reject it immediately. God never contradicts His written Word.

“Even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached, let him be accursed.” — **Galatians 1:8**

**Example:**

The old prophet in 1 Kings 13 deceived the young prophet with a false message. The true standard was God's original command.

**7. How can you know if a prophetic message comes from human emotion?**

**Answer:**

If it appeals to ego, pride, revenge, or fear, it's from the flesh.

“For the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.” — **James 1:20**

**Example:**

Peter rebuked Jesus, saying, “This shall not happen to You!” but Jesus replied, “Get behind Me, Satan” (Matthew 16:22–23). Peter's words came from human sentiment, not the Spirit.

**8. Should you accept a word that divides family or causes hatred?**

**Answer:**

No. The Spirit of God never incites hatred or strife.

“If possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.” — **Romans 12:18**

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness.” — **Galatians 5:22–23**

**Example:**

When Jesus warned Peter of Satan's desire to sift him, He prayed for him instead of turning others against him (Luke 22:31–32).

**9. How do you handle a prophecy that brings accusation against a spouse or loved one?**

**Answer:**

Take it to God in prayer, not to your spouse in accusation.

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” — **Philippians 4:6**

**Example:**

Joseph, upon hearing about Mary's pregnancy, sought God before acting (Matthew 1:19–20). God then confirmed the truth through an angelic message.

**10. What if a prophecy exposes sin truthfully—how should you respond?**

**Answer:**

Humbly repent and seek restoration, not shame.

“For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted.” — **2 Corinthians 7:10**

**Example:**

David received a prophetic rebuke from Nathan (2 Samuel 12:1–13). He confessed and found mercy instead of defending himself.

**11. Should prophecy replace your personal relationship with God?**

**Answer:**

Never. Prophecy confirms what God has already spoken to you in His Word and through His Spirit.

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.” — **John 10:27**

**Example:**

Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus not because someone told them, but because they already walked closely with the Spirit (Luke 2:25–38).

**12. How can you “test the spirits according to Scripture” practically?**

**Answer:**

Ask:

1. Does it glorify Jesus Christ?
2. Does it align with Scripture?
3. Does it produce godly fruit?

“Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God.” — **1 John 4:2**

**Example:**

Paul discerned that the slave girl in Philippi's prophecy did not glorify Christ but sought attention (Acts 16:16–18).

**13. Is it biblical to reject or cancel false prophetic words?**

**Answer:**

Yes. Believers have authority through Christ to renounce false words.

“No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn.” — **Isaiah 54:17**

**Example:**

Paul rebuked Elymas the sorcerer and nullified his influence by the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 13:8–11).

**14. What should you do when a prophecy doesn't bear witness with your spirit?**

**Answer:**

Wait and pray. Do not accept or reject it in haste.

“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.” — **1 Corinthians 14:29**

**Example:**

Mary “kept all these things and pondered them in her heart” (Luke 2:19). She allowed God to confirm His word in time.

**15. What if someone uses prophecy to control or manipulate you?**

**Answer:**

Reject manipulation—God's Spirit leads by peace, not coercion.

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” — **2 Corinthians 3:17**

**Example:**

Balaam tried to manipulate God for profit, but God's word overruled his greed (Numbers 22–24).

**16. How do you protect yourself from deception?**

**Answer:**

Stay rooted in Scripture and filled with the Holy Spirit.

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” — **Psalm 119:105**

“When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth.” — **John 16:13**

**Example:**

Jesus defeated Satan's deceptive words by quoting Scripture (Matthew 4:1–11).

### **17. Can prophecy ever fail or be mistaken?**

**Answer:**

Yes, because human vessels are fallible.

“We know in part and we prophesy in part.” — **1 Corinthians 13:9**

**Example:**

The prophet Nathan initially told David to build the temple, then later corrected himself when God spoke differently (2 Samuel 7:1–17).

### **18. How should church leaders handle false or divisive prophecies?**

**Answer:**

Lovingly correct the error, uphold biblical truth, and protect the flock.

“Rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith.” — **Titus 1:13**

**Example:**

Paul warned Timothy about false teachers who strayed from the truth and caused division (1 Timothy 1:3–7).

## **19. What role does love play in discerning prophecy?**

### **Answer:**

Love is the foundation. Without love, even accurate prophecy is worthless.

“Though I have the gift of prophecy... but have not love, I am nothing.” — **1 Corinthians 13:2**

### **Example:**

Jesus corrected Peter and Judas differently—both betrayed Him, but love guided His actions, not anger (John 21:15–17; Matthew 26:50).

## **20. What is the ultimate standard for all prophetic words?**

### **Answer:**

The written Word of God is the final authority.

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.” — **Matthew 24:35**

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God... that the man of God may be complete.” — **2 Timothy 3:16–17**

### **Example:**

When prophets spoke in the early Church, their words were tested against apostolic teaching (Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:20–21).



Prophecy is a gift meant to build, not break; to clarify, not confuse; to guide, not govern. Stay humble, scripturally anchored, and prayerful. The Holy Spirit is your best teacher of truth.

“But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you... and teaches you concerning all things.” — **1 John 2:27**



## WHAT TO DO WHEN PROPHETIC WORD IS DISPUTED



**E**very true prophet or prophetic minister must remember that prophecy belongs to God, not to the prophet. The servant only delivers the message, the outcome and validation rest entirely in the Hands of the Lord.

**“The prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak... that prophet shall die.”** — Deuteronomy 18:20  
**“When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken.”** — Deuteronomy 18:22

Because prophecy is serious and sacred, humility and accountability are the marks of a true servant of God, especially when a prophetic word is questioned or disputed.

### **1. The Prophet Should Respond in Humility, Not Defensiveness**

A true prophet does not seek to prove themselves right; they seek to honor God's truth. When a word is challenged, the correct response is not to threaten, argue, or curse the doubters—but to step back in humility and prayer, allowing God to confirm His word in His timing.

**“The servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient.”** — 2 Timothy 2:24

If the word is truly from God, time will vindicate it. If it is not, repentance is the right and godly response.

### **2. The Prophet Should Submit Their Word to Testing**

**“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.”** — 1 Corinthians 14:29

In the New Testament, prophecy is not above testing. Every prophetic message must be weighed by Scripture, spiritual elders, and the peace of the Holy Spirit. A mature prophet welcomes discernment, knowing that God's truth withstands examination.

To resist testing is to resist biblical order.

### **3. The Prophet Should Avoid Acting Out of Pride or Self-Vindication**

When a word is questioned, it is a grave mistake for a prophet to declare, “If I be a man of God...” as a way of demanding divine validation through signs or judgment.

That phrase—spoken by Elijah and Elisha in the Old Testament (see 2 Kings 1:10, 12)—belonged to a covenantal context where prophets were instruments of national judgment under the Law.

However, under the New Covenant, prophets are called to minister reconciliation, not destruction.

**“For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them.”** — Luke 9:56

A New Testament prophet should never invoke curses or judgments to prove their authenticity. The Spirit of Christ operates through love, humility, and patience—not pride or retaliation.

**“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”** — Galatians 5:22–23

## **Examples of How Prophets in the Bible Responded to Dispute or Doubt in Their Prophecies**

### **1. Jeremiah – Perseverance Without Bitterness**

**Scripture:** Jeremiah 20:7–9; 26:12–15

Jeremiah's prophecies were constantly disputed by kings, priests, and false prophets. When accused of lying, he did not curse his critics. He simply declared:

**“The LORD sent me to prophesy... therefore amend your ways and obey the voice of the LORD your God.”** —

Jeremiah 26:12–13

**Lesson:** When doubted, the prophet should stand firm in obedience, not anger. Let the message, not the ego, speak for itself.

## 2. Micaiah – Faithful Amid Rejection

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 22:13–28

Micaiah was pressured to change his prophecy to please King Ahab, but he replied:

“As the LORD lives, whatever the LORD says to me, that I will speak.” — 1 Kings 22:14

When his word was mocked, Micaiah did not retaliate; he simply said,

“If you ever return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me.” — 1 Kings 22:28

**Lesson:** A prophet should not argue or curse; they calmly let time reveal the truth.

## 3. Jonah – A Prophet Corrected by Mercy

**Scripture:** Jonah 3–4

Jonah's prophecy of destruction over Nineveh was not fulfilled because the people repented. Jonah became angry that his word seemed “disputed,” but God corrected him, showing that **mercy** fulfills prophecy's purpose better than judgment.

**Lesson:** The goal of prophecy is repentance and reconciliation, not the prophet's reputation. God's compassion outweighs human vindication.

#### **4. Agabus – Submission to Apostolic Oversight**

**Scripture:** Acts 21:10–14

Agabus prophesied that Paul would be bound in Jerusalem. His word was true in essence but not exact in detail. Paul did not rebuke him, nor did Agabus defend himself; both submitted to the Lord's will.

**Lesson:** In the New Testament, prophecy operates under community discernment and grace, not absolute authority.

#### **5. Samuel – Integrity and Accountability**

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 3:19–21; 12:1–5

Samuel's life established his credibility:

“The LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.” — 1 Samuel 3:19

When challenged later, Samuel stood publicly and invited examination:

“Whose ox have I taken? Or whose donkey have I taken? Or whom have I cheated?” — 1 Samuel 12:3

**Lesson:** The most powerful defense of a prophet's message is a righteous, blameless life. Integrity speaks louder than miracles.

### **What a Prophet Should Do When Their Word Is Disputed**

- 1. Remain humble and prayerful — Let God**

vindicate His truth (Psalm 37:5–6).

2. **Invite accountability and testing** — Submit the word to mature believers (1 Corinthians 14:29).
3. **Maintain love toward critics** — Never retaliate or curse (Romans 12:17–21).
4. **Check your own motives** — Ensure the word glorifies God, not self (John 7:18).
5. **Wait patiently for confirmation** — Time proves truth (Habakkuk 2:3).

### **What a Prophet Should Not Do**

1. **Do not manipulate or intimidate with “judgments”** (2 Timothy 1:7).
2. **Do not claim infallibility** — Even NT prophets see “in part” (1 Corinthians 13:9).
3. **Do not use “If I be a man of God...” to call down fire or prove authenticity.** That belongs to the Old Covenant's theocratic judgment system, not to the New Covenant of grace.
4. **Do not isolate yourself** from the body or accountability (Hebrews 13:17).
5. **Do not let pride replace peace** — the Spirit's fruit must remain evident (Galatians 5:22–23).

### **The New Testament Standard of Prophetic Character**

**“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.”**

— James 3:17

New Testament prophets carry the heart of Christ the Servant, not Elijah the Avenger. Their words build up, not tear down; they reconcile, not divide.

**“For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”** — Revelation 19:10

Therefore, a true prophet today should reflect the character of Jesus - humble, compassionate, and submitted to the will of the Father.

When your prophetic word is disputed, remember this: You are not called to prove the prophecy; you are called to reflect Christ.

The authenticity of a prophet is not proven by signs, but by fruit.

**“You will know them by their fruits.”** — Matthew 7:16

Let your humility, integrity, and love for truth be your defense. Let the Word of God, not the pride of man, have the final say.







SHOULD A NEW TESTAMENT PROPHET BOAST  
OR TESTIFY ABOUT OTHERS WHO IGNORED  
THEIR PROPHECY AND SUFFERED?



**Answer:**

No. It is not biblically sound for a New Testament prophet to brag, boast, or celebrate that others suffered because they disobeyed or ignored their prophetic word.

True New Testament prophetic ministry flows from the heart of **Christ**, not from the spirit of pride or self-vindication. Prophets in the New Covenant are called to serve, not to prove themselves; to weep over judgment, not to rejoice in it.

**1. The Heart of New Testament Prophecy Is Redemptive,**

## Not Retributive

**“But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.”** — 1 Corinthians 14:3

New Testament prophecy is meant to build up, encourage, and comfort. It may contain warning or correction, but its ultimate purpose is restoration, not retribution.

When a prophet boasts that harm came upon someone who ignored them, they misrepresent the heart of the Gospel. The focus shifts from Christ's glory to their own vindication which the Scripture condemns.

**“Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.”** — Proverbs 27:2

## 2. The Example of Jesus: Compassion, Not Celebration of Judgment

Jesus gave many prophetic warnings—especially to Jerusalem and the religious leaders—but He never rejoiced when those warnings came to pass. He **wept** over Jerusalem's coming destruction.

**“Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, 'If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace!'”** — Luke 19:41–42

That is the model for every prophet under the New Covenant: tears, not triumph. A true prophet's heart breaks when people reject God's word, because they love the people more than their reputation.

## 3. Old Testament Prophets Also Grieved, They Did Not Boast

Even under the Old Covenant—where prophetic judgment was often severe—true prophets did not boast when their words came true. They lamented.

- **Jeremiah** wept over the destruction he predicted (Lamentations 1–3).
- **Samuel** grieved over Saul's downfall even though his prophecy was fulfilled (1 Samuel 15:35).
- **Moses** interceded for Israel instead of rejoicing when God judged them (Exodus 32:11–14).

A self-glorifying prophet contradicts the example of every faithful prophet of Scripture.

#### **4. The Spirit of Christ Contradicts Prophetic Pride**

**“For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them.”** — Luke 9:56

When James and John wanted to call down fire on the Samaritans (imitating Elijah), Jesus rebuked them. The New Covenant prophet operates in the Spirit of grace and truth, not the spirit of retaliation.

**“The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits.”** — James 3:17

If a prophet's testimony draws attention to the fear of them rather than the fear of the Lord, something is deeply out of order.

#### **5. The Apostle Paul's Model: Humility and Brokenness**

Paul was profoundly prophetic. He foresaw shipwrecks, persecutions, and apostasy. Yet his response was never to boast about fulfilled warnings.

He said:

**“For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.”**  
— 2 Corinthians 4:5

Even when his prophetic words were validated—such as the warning about the shipwreck in Acts 27—he gave all glory to God, not to himself.

**“Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.”** — Acts 27:25

Paul did not use the moment to exalt his accuracy; he used it to encourage faith and stir courage in others.

## **6. The Example of Agabus: Submission, Not Self-Promotion**

Agabus gave two accurate prophecies (Acts 11:27–30; Acts 21:10–14). Neither time did he draw attention to himself or boast that his words came to pass. His ministry was marked by humility and obedience.

**“And when we heard these things, both we and those from that place pleaded with him not to go up to Jerusalem.”** — Acts 21:12

Agabus warned; the people discerned; and the matter was left to God's will without self-exaltation.

## **7. A Prophet Who Boasts Misrepresents God's Character**

When a prophet brags about people dying, suffering, or

facing calamity for disobeying them, they suggest that God takes pleasure in destruction—which Scripture clearly denies.

**“Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?’ says the Lord GOD, ‘and not that he should turn from his ways and live?’” — Ezekiel 18:23**

God's desire is always repentance, not retribution. A prophet who delights in judgment reveals more about their pride than about God's heart.

## **8. Prophetic Vindication Belongs to God Alone**

**“Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.” — Romans 12:19**

A prophet does not need to vindicate themselves. Time and truth belong to God. Jeremiah, Micah, and other true prophets were vindicated long after their lifetimes—but they never used tragedy as proof of their authority.

The prophet's job is to speak faithfully, not to celebrate fulfillment when it brings pain.

## **9. The True Testimony of a Prophet: The Fruit of Love and Holiness**

**“You will know them by their fruits.” — Matthew 7:16**  
**“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness.” — Galatians 5:22**

If a prophet's “testimony” produces fear, manipulation, or self-glory, it fails the test of the Spirit. A true prophet points to the mercy of Christ, not to their own accuracy or power.

## 10. The Right Posture: Brokenness and Intercession

When God's word comes to pass, especially if it brings loss or judgment, the true prophet bows in prayer, not pride.

**“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face... then I will hear from heaven.”** — 2 Chronicles 7:14

True prophets grieve over sin, intercede for the hurting, and call people back to the mercy of God.

If a prophet's testimony sounds like:

“They didn't listen to me, and now look what happened,” they have already lost the Spirit of Christ according to Scripture.

But if their heart says:

“I warned them in love, and I weep for what they're going through,”

then they are walking in the spirit of Jesus Christ, the true and Ultimate Prophet and Shepherd of our souls.

**“He must increase, but I must decrease.”** — John 3:30

That is the posture of every true New Testament prophet.



## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE MARRIAGES OF PROPHETS AND PROPHETESSES— THOSE IN THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY**



**1. Q:** How should a prophet or prophetess view their spouse in the eyes of God?

**A:** As an equal partner and heir of the grace of life (1 Peter 3:7), not as inferior but as one joined by covenant before God (Malachi 2:14–15).

**2. Q:** What is the foundation of a prophetic marriage?

**A:** Love that mirrors Christ's love for the Church: sacrificial, patient, and forgiving (Ephesians 5:25–33).



**3. Q:** How should a prophet treat his or her spouse in private?

**A:** With gentleness and honor, recognizing that ministry begins at home (1 Timothy 3:4–5).

**4. Q:** How can prophets avoid neglecting their spouses because of ministry?

**A:** By maintaining proper priorities: God first, family second, ministry third (1 Timothy 5:8; Matthew 6:33).

**5. Q:** What should a prophet do if ministry causes tension at home?

**A:** Seek reconciliation in humility before ministering (Matthew 5:23–24).

**6. Q:** How can prophets ensure that their spouses feel valued?

**A:** By expressing gratitude, including them in prayer, and affirming their worth (Proverbs 31:28–29).

**7. Q:** What attitude should prophets have toward correction from their spouse?

**A:** A humble, teachable spirit because prophets need wise counsel (Proverbs 12:15).

**8. Q:** How should disagreements be handled in a prophetic home?

**A:** With calmness and the fruit of the Spirit, not anger or pride (Galatians 5:22–23; James 1:19–20).

**9. Q:** How can a prophet guard against spiritual pride at home?

**A:** By remembering that all gifts come from grace, not merit (1 Corinthians 4:7).

**10. Q:** What if one spouse seems less spiritually gifted?

**A:** Recognize every believer has unique gifts (1 Corinthians 12:4–6); no one is gift-less, only differently graced.

**11. Q:** How should prophets behave toward their spouses in public?

**A:** With respect, gentleness, and integrity — reflecting Christlike character (Colossians 4:5–6).

**12. Q:** What happens if a prophet publicly embarrasses their spouse?

**A:** It dishonors the marriage covenant; repentance and apology are required (Ephesians 4:29; Matthew 18:15).

**13. Q:** Should prophets boast about their gift in public?

**A:** No. Let humility govern every display of spiritual ability (Jeremiah 9:23–24; James 4:6).

**14. Q:** How can a prophet avoid showing favoritism toward members of the opposite sex?

**A:** By walking in purity and impartiality (1 Timothy 5:2; James 2:1).

**15. Q:** What if people praise the prophet more than their

spouse?

**A:** Redirect glory to God and affirm your spouse publicly (1 Corinthians 10:31).

**16. Q:** How should prophets handle admiration from others?

**A:** With caution, humility, and boundaries (Proverbs 4:23; 1 Thessalonians 5:22).

**17. Q:** Should prophets share personal marital issues publicly?

**A: No.** Private matters should stay private unless seeking godly counsel or dealing with abusive or dangerous issues (Proverbs 11:13).

**18. Q:** How can prophets protect their spouses' reputations?

**A:** By speaking only words that edify and cover, not expose (Ephesians 4:29; 1 Peter 4:8).

**19. Q:** What example did Jesus set in honoring close relationships?

**A:** He cared for His mother even at the cross (John 19:26–27), showing faithfulness to family.

**20. Q:** How can prophetic couples model godly unity to others?

**A:** By praying, serving, and ministering together (Ecclesiastes 4:9–12).

**21. Q:** How should prophets interact with church members of the opposite sex?

**A:** With purity, discretion, and visible accountability (1 Timothy 5:1–2).

**22. Q:** Why do people of the opposite sex sometimes get drawn to prophetic gifts?

**A:** Because spiritual authority and discernment can appear emotionally attractive (Acts 8:9–11), prophets must discern and guard their hearts.

**23. Q:** How should prophets respond to emotional attachment from the opposite sex?

**A:** With firmness, love, and clear boundaries (2 Timothy 2:22).

**24. Q:** What can prophets do to ensure their spouse does not feel insecure?

**A:** Include them in ministry, affirm them privately and publicly (Philippians 2:3–4).

**25. Q:** How should prophets handle counseling of the opposite sex?

**A:** Preferably with their spouse or another trusted person present (Proverbs 2:16–17).

**26. Q:** What if the spouse feels jealous or uncomfortable about ministry interactions?

**A:** Listen, reassure, and adjust behavior in love (Romans 14:19; Ephesians 5:21).

**27. Q:** How can a prophet keep spiritual authority from turning into manipulation?

**A:** By serving, not controlling (Matthew 20:26–28).

**28. Q:** How can prophets protect their hearts from pride when people admire them?

**A:** Stay anchored in the Word and the cross (Galatians 6:14).

**29. Q:** Should prophets compare their spouses to others in ministry?

**A:** Never; comparison breeds contempt (2 Corinthians 10:12).

**30. Q:** How can the prophetic couple serve as role models?

**A:** By walking in love, unity, and humility (John 13:34–35).

**31. Q:** What if a prophet gives a wrong prophetic word?

**A:** Repent humbly, acknowledge the error, and seek the Lord's correction and mercy. Prophetic accuracy must be tested by Scripture, not pride (1 John 1:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:20–21).

**32. Q:** How can a prophet maintain credibility after an error?

**A:** Through humility, accountability, and continued submission to God's Word (Acts 17:11; Proverbs 28:13).

**33. Q:** How should the spouse respond when their partner errs prophetically?

**A:** With love, prayer, and quiet support, not criticism or mockery (Galatians 6:1–2).

**34. Q:** Should prophets prophesy under pressure to please people?

**A:** Never. True prophecy is only spoken as led by the Holy Spirit, not by human expectation (Jeremiah 23:16–17; 2 Peter 1:21).

**35. Q:** How can prophets avoid burnout?

**A:** By resting, praying, and keeping fellowship with both God and their spouse (Mark 6:31; Psalm 23:3).

**36. Q:** What safeguards ensure prophetic words remain pure?

**A:** Constant testing by Scripture and submission to godly oversight (1 Corinthians 14:29; 1 Thessalonians 5:21).

**37. Q:** How should prophets react to applause after a prophecy?

**A:** Redirect praise to God alone, acknowledging that the message is His, not theirs (Isaiah 42:8; John 3:30).

**38. Q:** What if your spouse questions a prophetic word?

**A:** Listen respectfully; discern together through prayer and Scripture (1 John 4:1; Proverbs 15:22).

**39. Q:** How can a spouse without prophetic gifting effectively co-labor in ministry?

**A:** By supporting, recording, or documenting prophetic messages as Baruch did for Jeremiah (Jeremiah 36:4), and by interceding for accuracy, humility, and obedience in their prophetic partner.

**40. Q:** Who determines the longevity of a prophet's ministry?

**A:** Only God determines the seasons of a prophet's life and ministry (Deuteronomy 34:10; Romans 11:29). However, love, character, and obedience to God's voice are essential in fulfilling the divine calling faithfully.

**41. Q:** How should prophets view money?

**A:** As a resource to serve God's purposes, not a means of self-promotion or greed (1 Timothy 6:6–10; Luke 12:15).

**42. Q:** What happens when prophets focus excessively on offerings or personal gain?

**A:** It corrupts the prophetic office, for one cannot serve both God and money (Matthew 6:24).

**43. Q:** How can prophets maintain contentment?

**A:** By trusting that God supplies all needs according to His riches in glory (Philippians 4:11–13, 19).

**44. Q:** Should prophets charge for prophecy?

**A:** No. The prophetic gift is given freely by the Spirit

and must not be sold (Matthew 10:8; Acts 8:18–20).

**45. Q:** How can prophets model financial integrity?

**A:** Through transparency, accountability, and good stewardship (2 Corinthians 8:21; Romans 13:7–8).

**46. Q:** How should prophetic couples handle finances?

**A:** In unity, honesty, and prayerful agreement (Amos 3:3; Proverbs 21:5).

**47. Q:** What should prophets do during times of financial lack?

**A:** Wait patiently on God, work diligently, and refuse manipulation or deceit (Psalm 37:25; Proverbs 10:4).

**48. Q:** Why must prophets avoid materialism?

**A:** Because prophets are oracles of God, called to speak divine truth, not to chase earthly possessions or luxury. Their lives must reflect God's holiness, not the world's values (1 Peter 4:11; 1 John 2:15–17).

**49. Q:** What is God's standard for sexual purity among prophets and prophetesses?

**A:** A prophet must be the husband of one wife, and a prophetess the wife of one husband, remaining faithful and abstaining from any sexual relationship outside marriage (1 Corinthians 7:2–3; Hebrews 13:4).

**50. Q:** What is the ultimate goal of prophetic ministry within marriage?

**A:** To glorify Christ through truth, holiness, and love,



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representing His character to the world (Colossians 3:17; Matthew 5:16).

## HEBREW AND GREEK TERMS USED IN DISCUSSING THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY



### HEBREW TERMS (Old Testament Foundations)

**1. נָבִיא (*nāṽî'*) – Prophet**

Meaning: One called or inspired to speak for God.

Scripture: *Deuteronomy 18:18*

**2. רֹאֵה (*rō'eh*) – Seer**

Meaning: One who perceives or discerns divine truth.

Scripture: *1 Samuel 9:9*

**3. חֹזֵה (*hōzeh*) – Visionary / Seer**

Meaning: One who receives prophetic visions.

Scripture: *2 Samuel 24:11*

**4. נְבוּאָה (*nevû'āh*) – Prophecy / Inspired message**

Meaning: A divine utterance communicated through a prophet.

Scripture: *Ezekiel 12:27*

**5. דְּבַר (*dābār*) – Word / Revelation**

Meaning: The divine word or communication.

Scripture: *Jeremiah 1:4*

**6. רוּחַ (*rûah*) – Spirit / Breath / Wind**

Meaning: The power or presence of God inspiring the prophet.

Scripture: *2 Samuel 23:2*

**7. חִזְיוֹן (*ḥāzôn*) – Vision / Revelation**

Meaning: Prophetic insight or spiritual vision.

Scripture: *Proverbs 29:18*

**8. מַשָּׂא (*massā'*) – Burden / Oracle**

Meaning: A weighty prophetic message, often of judgment.

Scripture: *Malachi 1:1*

**9. מַלְאָךְ (*mal'ākḥ*) – Messenger**

Meaning: One who delivers God's message, heavenly or human.

Scripture: *Haggai 1:13*

**10. שָׁמַע (*shāma*) – To Hear / Obey**

Meaning: The act of hearing God's word with obedient intent.

Scripture: *Deuteronomy 6:4*

**11. צָפָה (*tsāphāh*) – To Watch / Observe**

Meaning: The prophetic function of watchfulness — “watchman.”

Scripture: *Ezekiel 3:17*

**12. שָׁלַח (*shālāh*) – To Send / Commission**

Meaning: The divine sending or commissioning of a prophet.

Scripture: *Isaiah 6:8*

**13. אָמַר (*āmar*) – To Speak / Declare**

Meaning: The act of divine declaration.

Scripture: “*Thus says (‘āmar) the LORD.*” (*Amos 1:3*)

**14. נָגַד (*nāgad*) – To Declare / Make Known**

Meaning: To proclaim or announce revelation.

Scripture: *Isaiah 21:10*

**15. בָּשַׂר (*bāśar*) – To Bring Good News**

Meaning: Root of “gospel” — proclaiming glad tidings.

Scripture: *Isaiah 61:1*

**16. אֹת (*ōth*) – Sign / Token**

Meaning: Prophetic sign or symbol authenticating God's

word.

Scripture: *Exodus 4:8*

**17. מופת (*mōphet*) – Wonder / Miracle**

Meaning: A miraculous sign confirming prophetic authority.

Scripture: *Deuteronomy 13:1–2*

**18. קול (*qōl*) – Voice / Sound**

Meaning: The divine voice or utterance of God.

Scripture: *Genesis 3:8; 1 Kings 19:12*

**19. שפוט (*shāphat*) – To Judge**

Meaning: Prophets as moral arbiters, declaring divine justice.

Scripture: *Judges 2:16–18*

**20. איש-האלהים (*ish ha-Elohim*) – Man of God**

Meaning: A holy title for prophets as divine representatives.

Scripture: *2 Kings 4:7*

**GREEK TERMS (New Testament Revelation)**

**21. προφήτης (*prophētēs*) – Prophet**

Meaning: One who speaks forth under divine inspiration.

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 12:28*

**22. προφητεία (*prophēteia*) – Prophecy**

Meaning: Inspired declaration of God's will.

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 14:3*

**23. προφητεύω (*prophēteuō*) – To Prophesy**

Meaning: To declare divine truth through the Spirit.

Scripture: *Acts 2:17*

**24. ἀποκάλυψις (*apokalypsis*) – Revelation / Unveiling**

Meaning: Disclosure of divine mysteries.

Scripture: *Revelation 1:1*

**25. λόγος (*logos*) – Word / Message**

Meaning: The expression of divine reason and truth.

Scripture: *John 1:1*

**26. ῥῆμα (*rhēma*) – Spoken Word**

Meaning: A specific, Spirit-breathed word from God.

Scripture: *Luke 1:38*

**27. ὄραμα (*horama*) – Vision**

Meaning: Supernatural sight given in revelation.

Scripture: *Acts 16:9*

**28. ὄρασις (*horasis*) – Sight / Visionary experience**

Meaning: The act of spiritual seeing.

Scripture: *Matthew 17:9*

**29. χρηματισμός (*chrēmatismos*) – Divine Oracle / Response**

Meaning: A divine utterance or decree.

Scripture: *Romans 11:4*

**30. πνεῦμα (*pneuma*) – Spirit**

Meaning: The Holy Spirit — source of prophetic inspiration.

Scripture: *2 Peter 1:21*

**31. ἐνέργημα (*energēma*) – Operation / Working**

Meaning: A manifestation of divine power, often in spiritual gifts.

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 12:6*

**32. ἔκστασις (*ekstasis*) – Trance / Ecstasy**

Meaning: A prophetic or visionary state of spiritual transport.

Scripture: *Acts 10:10*

**33. φανέρωσις (*phanerōsis*) – Manifestation / Revelation**

Meaning: The visible manifestation of the Spirit's work.

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 12:7*

**34. οἰκοδομή (*oikodomē*) – Edification / Building up**

Meaning: The strengthening or building of the church through prophecy.

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 14:3–4*

**35. διάκρισις (*diakrisis*) – Discernment / Differentiation**

Meaning: The prophetic ability to discern spirits or truth.

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 12:10*

**36. εὐαγγελίζω (*euangelizō*) – To Proclaim Good News**

Meaning: To declare God's message — often with prophetic power.

Scripture: *Luke 4:18*

**37. μαρτυρία (*martyria*) – Testimony / Witness**

Meaning: The witness of Jesus, which is the spirit of prophecy.

Scripture: *Revelation 19:10*

**38. παρακαλέω (*parakaleō*) – To Exhort / Encourage**

Meaning: The prophetic function of strengthening or comforting others.

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 14:3*

**39. ἀποστέλλω (*apostellō*) – To Send Forth / Commission**

Meaning: The sending of a prophetic or apostolic messenger.

Scripture: *John 20:21*

**40. μάντις (*mantis*) – Oracle / Soothsayer (Contrastive)**

Meaning: A pagan term used in contrast to true prophets, revealing the difference between divine inspiration and false revelation.

Scripture: *Acts 16:16*



## Functions or offices of prophetic ministry in Scripture

- Prophet– God's mouthpiece (Deuteronomy 18:18).
- Seer – One who perceives God's visions (1 Samuel 9:9).
- Man of God – A holy servant of God (2 Kings 4:7).
- Watchman– Guard and warn spiritually (Ezekiel 33:7).
- Messenger of the Lord – Divine envoy (Haggai 1:13).
- Servant of the LORD – Obedient herald of God's will (Isaiah 20:3).
- Son of Man – Title for prophetic humility (Ezekiel 2:1).
- Burden-Bearer – One carrying the heavy word of God (Malachi 1:1).
- Counselor – One declaring God's wisdom and counsel (Jeremiah 23:22).
- Interpreter of Dreams and Mysteries – Danielic prophetic role (Daniel 2:27–30).
- Intercessor / Gap-Standers – Prophets who plead for the people (Ezekiel 22:30).
- Teacher of Righteousness – Prophets guiding toward holiness (Joel 2:23).
- Evangelist – One proclaiming the gospel prophetically (Ephesians 4:11).
- Apostolic Prophet – Sent one carrying divine revelation (Acts 13:1–3).
- Prophetic Psalmist – Declaring revelation in song (2 Samuel 23:1–2).
- Prophetess – Female prophetic voice (Exodus 15:20;

Luke 2:36).

- Visionary / Dreamer of Dreams – Receiver of symbolic revelation (Deuteronomy 13:1).
- Oracle-Bearer – The one who bears God's “burden”
- Voice Crying in the Wilderness – Prophetic herald of repentance (Isaiah 40:3; John 1:23).
- Witness / Testifier – One who bears the testimony of Jesus (Revelation 19:10).





## UNDERSTANDING THE SEER AND THE PROPHET IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS



### **The Seer and the Prophet in the Old Testament**

In the Hebrew Bible, two main words describe God's revelatory messengers: נָבִיא (nāvî') – Prophet and רֹאֵה (rō'eh) / חֹזֶה (ḥōzeh) – Seer. Though both are instruments of divine revelation, their modes of reception and primary functions differ:

#### **1. The Prophet (nāvî') - The Spokesman of God**

The Hebrew nāvî' literally means one who is called or one who announces. A prophet is a divine mouthpiece, called to speak God's word to His people. The emphasis is on proclamation,

articulation, and divine commissioning.

Scriptural foundation:

“I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.” — Deuteronomy 18:18

The prophet's central role is to declare the “word (דָּבָר – dābār)” of the LORD, whether it comes as instruction, warning, comfort, or judgment. Prophets speak to the mind and conscience of Israel, confronting sin and calling people back to covenant faithfulness.

Examples:

- Moses – The archetypal prophet (Deut. 34:10–12), who spoke face to face with God and proclaimed His commandments.
- Isaiah – Declared oracles of judgment and hope, communicating divine truth in poetic and moral language.
- Jeremiah – Spoke the word of the LORD repeatedly, calling Judah to repentance (Jer. 1:4–10).

A prophet is primarily a communicator of revelation, transmitting divine truth through words inspired by the Spirit (cf. 2 Peter 1:21).

## **2. The Seer (rō'eh, ḥōzeh) - The One Who Perceives or Sees**

The term rō'eh comes from the root rā'āh, “to see.” The later term ḥōzeh also means “to gaze” or “to perceive by vision.” A seer receives prophetic revelation through visual

means — dreams, visions, or symbolic images — and often interprets what is seen.

Scriptural foundation:

“Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he spoke thus: 'Come, and let us go to the seer (rō'eh).' For he that is now called a prophet (nāvî') was beforetime called a seer (rō'eh).” — 1 Samuel 9:9. Thus, the seer was the earlier term for a prophet, but it highlights a particular mode of revelation - visionary or visual.

Examples:

- Samuel – Called “the seer” (1 Sam. 9:19); received divine visions concerning Saul's kingship.
- Gad – Known as “David's seer” (ḥōzeh) who received visions of instruction and judgment (2 Sam. 24:11).
- Asaph and Jeduthun – Called “seers” because their prophetic ministry included visions and worship (2 Chron. 29:30).
- Ezekiel – Experienced symbolic and visual revelations (Ezek. 1:1; 8:3), embodying the nature of a seer-prophet.
- Daniel – Saw visions and dreams concerning kingdoms and the end times (Dan. 7–12).

A seer is one who perceives divine truth by spiritual sight; they see what God reveals and often interpret it symbolically. Their ministry is vision-oriented, revealing the hidden mysteries of God.

### **3. The Relationship Between Seer and Prophet in the Old Testament**

While seer emphasizes the method of revelation, prophet emphasizes the message and commission. Every seer was a prophet, but not every prophet functioned as a seer.

- The seer operates primarily through visions, dreams, and symbols.
- The prophet operates primarily through speech, proclamation, and exhortation.

Both are united under divine inspiration by the Spirit of the LORD (יְהוָה רוּחַ – rûah YHWH):

“The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue.” — 2 Samuel 23:2

Thus, prophecy and vision are complementary expressions of the same Spirit (cf. Joel 2:28).

### **4. The Seer and Prophet in the New Testament**

In the New Testament, the Greek word προφήτης (prophētēs) encompasses both the roles of seer and speaker. However, distinctions still exist in function.

#### **The Prophet in the New Covenant**

A New Testament prophet is one who speaks by Divine inspiration to reveal the will of God for the Church.

Scriptural foundation:

“He who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.” — 1 Corinthians 14:3 “God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets...” — 1 Corinthians 12:28

Prophecy under the New Covenant is not limited to foretelling future events but includes forthtelling - declaring God's heart, will, and counsel in alignment with Christ and Scripture.

Examples:

- Agabus – Foretold future events (Acts 11:28; 21:10–11).
- Judas and Silas – Strengthened the believers through prophetic exhortation (Acts 15:32).
- John the Revelator – Received apocalyptic revelation through visions (Revelation 1:10).

The Seer-like Function in the New Testament

While the term seer (rō'eh, ḥōzeh) does not appear explicitly in Greek, the function persists through words like ὄραμα (horama) - “vision,” and ἀποκάλυψις (apokalypsis) - “revelation.” A “seer” in New Testament context would be one who receives and interprets divine visions given by the Holy Spirit.

Scriptural examples:

- John the Apostle – “I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice...” (Rev. 1:10). John saw apocalyptic visions; he is both prophet and seer.
- Peter – Saw a vision of a sheet descending from heaven (Acts 10:9–16).



- Paul – Experienced visions and revelations of the Lord (2 Cor. 12:1–4).

In the Old Testament, the distinction between a seer and a prophet is one of function and medium:

- The seer sees Divine revelation.
- The prophet speaks Divine revelation.

In the New Testament, these two converge in the ministry of the prophet under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, as both seeing and speaking flow from the same Divine source - Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:10–12).

Jesus Christ is the perfect union of Seer and Prophet because He is the One who sees the Father and declares Him to humanity (John 1:18; John 5:19–20).





# CONCLUSION

## THE NEED FOR BIBLICAL PROPHETS TODAY

*Calling the Church Back to Clarity,  
Courage, and Consecration*

**I**n a generation drowning in noise, confusion, and moral compromise, the Church stands at a crossroads. The hour demands more than clever speech or charismatic performance—it demands prophetic clarity. God is seeking men and women who will not echo culture but embody conviction; who will not chase applause but carry the burden of the Lord.

We need biblical prophets—not in title or theatrics, but in truth and trembling. Voices that, like Elijah, confront

idolatry without fear (1 Kings 18:21); like Jeremiah, weep for the sins of the nation (Jeremiah 9:1); and like John the Baptist, prepare the way of the Lord with purity and power (Matthew 3:1–3).

“Surely the Lord God does nothing unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.” — *Amos 3:7*

## **A CALL TO BIBLICAL LITERACY AND PROPHETIC ACCOUNTABILITY**

The prophetic ministry has never been more needed — and yet, never more misused. Today, much that is called “prophetic” is often devoid of Scripture, driven by emotion, or corrupted by ambition. But the true prophets of God were always students of the Word and servants of His holiness.

They knew the Law (Psalm 119:97), discerned the times (1 Chronicles 12:32), and walked intimately with God (Amos 3:3). A prophet without biblical literacy is a danger to the Body of Christ. Without the plumb line of Scripture, the “thus saith the Lord” becomes an echo of human opinion.

Paul charged Timothy to “*rightly divide the word of truth*” (2 Timothy 2:15). The same charge falls upon every prophetic voice today. Every word spoken in the name of the Lord must pass through the fire of His written Word.

Moreover, true prophets are never above accountability. Both the Law and the early Church demanded testing of prophetic words:

“When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the

thing follow not, nor come to pass... the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously." — *Deuteronomy 18:22*  
"Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge." — *1 Corinthians 14:29*

We must restore this culture of discernment—not to quench the Spirit, but to guard the purity of the prophetic stream. Authentic prophecy will always align with Scripture, exalt Christ, and edify the Church (Revelation 19:10; 1 Corinthians 14:3).

## **ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THOSE CALLED TO THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY**

To those carrying the fire of God's word—stand firm. The prophetic call is not a stage for performance; it is an altar of sacrifice. It is not for the faint-hearted, but for those willing to weep, wrestle, and wait before God.

Do not bow to the pressure to entertain or predict for profit. God's prophets are not driven by trends but by truth. The call of a prophet is costly, marked by loneliness, rejection, and misunderstanding. Yet, it is also filled with divine companionship and eternal reward.

"Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, 'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.'" — *Jeremiah 1:9*

You may, like Jeremiah, feel too young or inadequate (Jeremiah 1:6–8). You may, like Ezekiel, speak to a rebellious people (Ezekiel 2:4–7). Or, like Elijah, you may feel outnumbered (1 Kings 19:10). But remember:

“I am watching over My word to perform it.” — *Jeremiah 1:12*

If He called you, He will sustain you. If He sent you, He will defend you. Be bold enough to speak, humble enough to kneel, and broken enough to carry His heart. Purity must precede power; consecration must accompany calling.

### **GOD'S COMMANDS TO PROPHETS STILL STAND:**

“Cry aloud, spare not; lift up your voice like a trumpet; tell My people their transgression...” — *Isaiah 58:1*

### **GOD'S CAUTION TO THE PEOPLE STILL REMAINS:**

“Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good.” — *1 Thessalonians 5:20–21*

### **NO MATTER WHAT, GOD'S PROMISE ALWAYS PREVAILS:**

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy...” — *Acts 2:17*

May God raise a generation of prophets who are anchored in the Word, aflame with the Spirit, and aligned with the heart of Christ; genuine voices of truth in an age of deception, bearers of light in a culture of darkness, and ambassadors of the King of Kings in a world desperate for

His voice.

“The Lord GOD has spoken, who can but prophesy?” —  
*Amos 3:8*







## PRAYER OF SALVATION

**H**eavenly FATHER, I come to YOU in the Name of JESUS CHRIST. I confess that I have sinned and fallen short of Your glory (Romans 3:23). But I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that He died for my sins, and that You raised Him from the dead (Romans 10:9–10).

Lord Jesus, I repent of my sins and ask You to forgive me. Wash me clean by Your blood (1 John 1:7–9). I open my heart and invite You to be my Savior and Lord (Revelation 3:20).

Thank You for saving me, making me a child of God, and giving me eternal life (John 1:12; John 3:16).

From this day forward, help me to follow You, love You, and live by Your Word through the Power of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 2:20).

In Jesus' Mighty Name, Amen.

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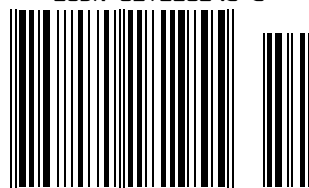
# HOW TO BECOME A BIBLICALLY SOUND PROPHET

**T**he prophetic office and the gift of prophecy both originate from the sovereign will of God, who discloses His purposes through divinely chosen vessels. The prophetic office, though related to prophecy, serves as a distinct and divinely ordained channel of revelation and instruction.

In the Old Testament, prophets functioned as covenantal messengers, calling Israel to repentance and renewed faithfulness to God. In the New Testament, prophetic ministry- fulfilled in Christ, operates within the Church to edify, exhort, and uphold the authority of Scripture. True prophets are not people pleasers, but consecrated vessels that speak the Word of God in love.

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