

SERIES: PROPHETS, PRIESTS AND KINGS

Godly leadership in the house of God and the heart of the believer

TITLE: New Testament Manifestation Gifts

Key Passage: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; ch. 14

PROPHETS, PRIESTS AND KINGS

The Manifestation Gifts

Regarding New Testament and church Age understanding of prophets and Prophecy, we have looked at NT prophets, the Ministry offices of Prophet (as well as other offices), the Motivational gift of prophecy (as well as the other Motivational gifts)

This morning we bring the teaching of prophecy to a close by looking at the manifestation gift of prophecy as well as the other gifts.

Paul, in his letters, names three things he does not want Christians to be ignorant of:

DO NOT BE IGNORANT

- Don't be ignorant of God's plan for Israel (Romans 11:25).
- Don't be ignorant about the Second Coming of Jesus and the eternal state (1 Thessalonians 4:13).
- Don't be ignorant of spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1).

Sadly, many Christians are **ignorant** on these exact points.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 ESV

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

1 Corinthians 14 ESV

¹Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.

²For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit.

³On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.

...the one who prophesies builds up the church.

⁵Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues.

²²Thus tongues are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign ^[c] not for unbelievers but for believers.

²³ If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds? ²⁴ But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, ²⁵ the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.

²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. ³⁰ If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, ³² and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. ³³ For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

³⁹ So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. ⁴⁰ But all things should be done decently and in order.

THE NINE MANEFESTATION GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Faith	Discerning spirits	Interpretation of tongues
Miracles	Healing	
Word of Knowledge	Word of Wisdom	
Prophecy	Tongues	

The Baptist list

Faith
Discerning spirits
Miracles
Healing

• The Ignored list (misunderstood)

Word of Knowledge
 Logos – utterance - a word (as embodying an idea), a statement, a speech
Word of Wisdom
 Logos – utterance
Prophecy
Tongues
Interpretation of tongues

The Giver of Prophecy

- **They are of and by the Holy Spirit**
 - To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good
- **They are empowered by the Holy Spirit.**
 - ¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit,
- **They are apportioned by the Spirit to each...**
 - ...who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

The Purpose of Prophecy

Definition

“The supernatural ability to speak the mind of God on a given subject at a given time by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit” John Wimber

Guidelines on Prophecy

Desired Not for merit

Through personalities mostly or believers

Should not be despised Should be orderly

- It is to be desired and sought after – 1 Cor. 14:1
- They are not given as a badge of your maturity but for the good of the body – 1 Cor. 12:7
- It is packaged through personalities and those individuals maintain their personality during the use of the gift. 1 Cor. 14:32
- It is given through and for believers though it can minister to unbelievers 1 Cor. 14:24-25
- It should not be despised – 1 Thess. 5:19-22
- It is to be orderly – 1 Cor. 14:32-40

Primary Functions of Prophecy 1 Cor. 14:3

- Edification (strengthening, building up)
- Exhortation (conviction, admonition, and correction)
- Consolation (comfort)

Secondary Functions of Prophecy

- All are encouraged.
 - Agabus – Acts 22
 - The bible encourages all to prophesy. So we all have the potential to be used by the Spirit in this manner.
 - Yet discernment and wisdom are needed and the word should be tested by others of that gifting.
- Guidance for the congregation
 - Must be cleared through the leadership of the church – Acts 13:1-3.
- Guidance for the individual
 - This is the exception and not the rule.
 - We know the primary functions...they are primary for a reason.
 - Supernatural Guidance to the individual.
 - Angels to Joseph (Matt. 1:20 – 2:13)
 - Visions to Paul about going to Macedonia – Acts 16:9
 - Vision to Peter at Cornelius' house – Acts 10:9-16.
 - Natural guidance given to the individual.
 - Counsel of Men for Saul to leave Jerusalem – Acts 9:30
 - Counsel for Paul to be brought to Antioch – Acts 11:25-26
 - Counsel at Jerusalem – Acts 15:1-29.

Various Forms of Prophecy

- The Prophetic Oracle
 - Most common in the church
 - The Lord is speaking through the person
 - There are as many styles as there are personalities.
 - Agabus to Paul – Acts 21:10-11
- The Prophetic Exhortation
 - Usually delivered in a similar way to an oracle
 - Usually it is an urgent message for the time and for the moment
 - Judas and Silas in Antioch – Acts 15:30-35
- The Prophetic Prayer
 - That moment when we pray more than we know or understand.
 - It is not people bowing their heads to talk to God but talk to the person instead.
 - This is not the place where you give advice in the guise of the Spirit's message
 - Luke 1:67-69
 - Ezra 9:6-15
 - Nehemiah 9:6-37
- The Prophetic Song
 - The song is given in total to the writer
 - The author expresses the mind of God through song
 - Moses song – Deut. 32:1-43
- The personal prophecy
 - Brings conviction 2 Sam 12:1-7 (Nathan to David)
 - Provides direction Acts 21:10 Agabus to Paul
 - Must be tested
- The Prophetic Vision
 - Many of the prophets in the Scriptures received the prophetic word through visions
 - Contemporary example:
 - The father's banner.
 - Prayer for lady: 19...Grace... reconciliation
- The Prophetic Actions
 - Unusual course of actions
 - Jeremiah and the yoke – Jer. 27:2-3
 - Ezekiel shaves his head with a sword – Ezekiel 5:1-4
 - Hosea marries a prostitute – Hos. 1-3

Challenge

Do not be ignorant.

Do not despise.

Seek after the greater gifts.

Edify the church.

Exhort one another.

Console those in need.