

Being a Seer, a Prophet, or Both – Part 1

As we begin the study of this topic, I would like to make a statement first to kind of set the tone for our discussion. Is that okay?

Here it is – We live in a world where all too many scholars and even believers have reduced the Word of God to a purely rational and logical explanation. The Word of God is only rational and logical provided the mind is surrendered, yielded, and being transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. The natural mind is not capable of receiving anything whatsoever from the Spirit of God. The scriptures are God-breathed, and the breath of God is the Spirit of God. That is why God told us to name our place, “Breath of Life Tabernacle”. It means it is a place where the Holy Spirit likes to make His home – to literally hang out and reveal things to us.

There are many in our Christian history that have been moved by the breath, the wind, and the Spirit of God (actually these are synonyms for the same thing).

The Spirit of God manifests the Presence of God. This does not come by reason and logic – it is deeper than that. It is a place where the Spirit of God finds His home in you. Where you become a walking, talking, living, breathing habitation of God. As that happens, your hearing and your vision will change – you will be able to hear beyond the normal octaves that the human ear can hear – you will be able to see beyond the scope of what the human mind allows.

As a starting point for this study, I would like us to see how this begins for all of us by reading how God takes EVERY BELIEVER beyond the human condition in its fallen state.

Read 1 Cor. 2:16 -- "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Cor. 2:16 -- For who has known or understood the mind (the counsels and purposes) of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? But we have the mind of Christ (the Messiah) and do hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart. AMP

Are you ready to receive what this says? It says we don't tell the Lord what to do, He tells us, and we have the "equipment" to receive it with the mind of Christ!

Principle – When the Spirit is released both upon and within a believer, their eyes, ears and heart are opened to a world beyond their natural limited seeing, hearing, feeling and discerning.

I would like you to turn to 1 Corinthians 2 – we are going to try to read and then glean everything we can from this scripture. I want to read this in the Amplified Bible ~~

Read 1 Cor. 2:6 –16 -- Yet when we are among the full-grown (spiritually mature Christians who are ripe in understanding), we do impart a [higher] wisdom (the knowledge of the divine plan previously hidden); but it is indeed not a wisdom of this present age or of this world nor of the leaders and rulers of this age, who are being brought to nothing and are doomed to pass away. But rather what we are setting forth is a wisdom of God once hidden [from the human understanding] and now revealed to us by God — [that wisdom] which God devised and decreed before the ages for our glorification [to lift us into the glory of His presence]. None of the rulers of this age or world perceived and recognized and understood this, for if they had, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory. But, on the contrary, as the Scripture says, What eye has not seen and ear has not heard and has not entered into the heart of man, [all that] God has prepared (made and keeps ready) for those who love Him [who hold Him in affectionate reverence, promptly obeying Him and gratefully recognizing the benefits He has bestowed]. [Isa 64:4; 65:17.]

Verses 10 - 13 -- Yet to us God has unveiled and revealed them by and through His Spirit, for the [Holy] Spirit searches diligently, exploring and examining everything, even sounding the profound and bottomless things of God [the divine counsels and things hidden and beyond man's scrutiny]. For what person perceives (knows and understands) what passes through a man's thoughts except the man's own spirit within him? Just so no one discerns (comes to know and comprehend) the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have not received the spirit [that belongs to] the world, but the [Holy] Spirit Who is from God, [given to us] that we might realize and comprehend and appreciate the gifts [of divine favor and

blessing so freely and lavishly] bestowed on us by God. And we are setting these truths forth in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the [Holy] Spirit, combining and interpreting spiritual truths with spiritual language [to those who possess the Holy Spirit].

Verses 14 – 16 -- But the natural, nonspiritual man does not accept or welcome or admit into his heart the gifts and teachings and revelations of the Spirit of God, for they are folly (meaningless nonsense) to him; and he is incapable of knowing them [of progressively recognizing, understanding, and becoming better acquainted with them] because they are spiritually discerned and estimated and appreciated. But the spiritual man tries all things [he examines, investigates, inquires into, questions, and discerns all things], yet is himself to be put on trial and judged by no one [he can read the meaning of everything, but no one can properly discern or appraise or get an insight into him]. For who has known or understood the mind (the counsels and purposes) of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? But we have the mind of Christ (the Messiah) and do hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart. [Isa 40:13.] AMP

I read that in the Amplified because I am praying the Holy Spirit is speaking to you right now about your potential role as a prophet or a seer. And just let me mention something we need to be unified over ~ Liberal theology isn't the only thing the Church needs to watch out for. Fundamental theology that takes away the experience in its fullness is just as damaging to the saints of God.

Question – Did you know that over 49% of the Bible is revelations of God based on visionary manifestations, ecstatic experience, or prophetic utterance? Even in the New Testament.

So how can we expect to experience the truths of almost half the scriptures by logic and reason alone? It is impossible.

As we get into this, I want us to see something that is crucial to our victory as Breath of Life Tabernacle ~~

The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was the beginning of an ONGOING EVENT for the Church throughout the ages. We need to be continually immersed in the world of the Spirit if we will see, hear, feel, and discern the things the Spirit of God intends for us to know

and understand His direction for the future. Without the immersion and direct experience of the Spirit in every facet of our services, we will fail to know the Father as Christ intends for us to know Him.

Okay, let's get started. There is a river we are all familiar with – it is the Nile river. It has two streams – each strong and significant in their own way to bring strength to join into one mighty river that nurtures and sustains LIFE along its course. It represents two streams of prophetic anointing coming together to feed the truth and bring life (just like the Nile) to the lives of precious people. We can call these two streams the stream of the PROPHET and the stream of the SEER.

It is okay to think of a great prophetic river flowing from the throne of God that has two streams – the prophet and the seer. Both of these are necessary for the full expression of the Lord's words to our people in our day.

In the Pentecostal church today, we are fairly familiar with the prophet, but most do not truly understand the other stream – the seer.

Prophecy = the supernaturally imparted ability to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and speak God's mind or counsel.

There are three main purposes for prophecy –

1. To edify = to build up, to strengthen, to make more effective
2. To exhort = to stimulate, to encourage, to admonish
3. To comfort = to cheer up

Prophet or prophetess = a spokesperson for God; who hears the voice of the Holy Spirit and then speaks or pens God's mind or counsel through a "divinely anointed manner". Most, if not all of you, know these things, and have either participated in this or received a "Word for God".

But within the realm of the prophet lies the particular and distinctive realm of the SEER.

Principle – All true seers are prophets but not all prophets are seers.

The word seer describes a PARTICULAR TYPE of prophet who receives a PARTICULAR TYPE OF PROPHETIC REVELATION or IMPARTATION.

A seer is someone who has visions – to behold something in the Spirit.

Principle -- A prophet is primarily an inspired hearer, and then speaker. A seer is primarily a visionary and communicator of the visions given by God.

Now here is the conflict – All true seers are prophets, but not all prophets are seers. Yet we should all be both – no exceptions – if we are (1) born again, and (2) baptized in the Holy Spirit. We could argue this, but let the scripture decide for you ~~

Read Acts 2:14-21 -- But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' NKJV

This is our legacy that was given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ. Both prophets and seers are included in this last days scripture. Prophets and seers represent diversities in the prophetic anointing. Both are needed in the church today. Most important for you to see right now is that these gifts are available to you! Every one of you.

So how do we get started? What has to happen in me and you that makes this promise a reality? Let's take this step by step.

Step #1 – Acknowledge what you already have

Read 2 Cor. 3:16-18 -- But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. NIV

This is a magnificent promise, but it is not going to be fulfilled in your life unless you let it be fulfilled. As long as we cling to religion and ritual, nothing can happen. I want to be transformed – don't you? You have to really want it if you are going to have it.

2 Corinthians 3:18 -- The Personal application (v. 18). "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." This verse is the climax of the chapter, and it presents a truth so exciting that I marvel so many believers have missed it - or ignored it. You and I can share the image of Jesus Christ and go "from glory to glory" through the ministry of the Spirit of God!

1 Cor. 2:14-16 -- But the man who isn't a Christian can't understand and can't accept these thoughts from God, which the Holy Spirit teaches us. They sound foolish to him because only those who have the Holy Spirit within them can understand what the Holy Spirit means. Others just can't take it in. But the spiritual man has insight into everything, and that bothers and baffles the man of the world, who can't understand him at all. How could he? For certainly he has never been one to know the Lord's thoughts, or to discuss them with him, or to move the hands of God by prayer. But, strange as it seems, we Christians actually do have within us a portion of the very thoughts and mind of Christ. TLB

This brings us to acknowledging what we already have –

Read 1 Cor. 2:16 -- For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.** NKJV

I want us to list what it means to have the mind of Christ. If we already have the mind of Jesus, how does that impact our today? If the veil over your mind is removed, and you have the mind of Christ, what should happen?

1. You will start to see things in the Spirit that you never saw before – things in people, things in churches and things outside of churches – things that you might have previously blind to or in denial. It is like flipping on a switch in which in the “on” position you will begin to see as Jesus sees, and in the “off” position you will see the “normal”.

With all the gifts of the Spirit, we have a role in activating them. Sometimes the Holy Spirit will move sovereignly, but most of the time faith must be activated.

Why did Jesus so often tell people to take an action – show yourself to the priest, wash the mud from your eyes, pick up your bed and walk. These were acts of faith whereby they could “see” their victory before it came to pass. It was that act of obedience that changed it from promise to reality.

What about prophecy? If the Holy Spirit tells me to give a prophetic word, then I must take part in cooperating with the Spirit and deliver the Word.

Principle – When you activate faith, then you have stepped over into the things of the Kingdom realm: healing, prophecy, miracles, discerning of spirits, and so on.

Principle – For that to happen in our lives, we are going to need the mind Christ.

Now let’s put out a few practical things we can do to aid out transformation:

1. Study the life of Jesus and start adopting His perspective and approach to life.
2. Start ministering to others and their needs according to the direction of the Holy Spirit.
3. Let God speak to you about what He wants you to do rather than just doing those things that you are comfortable with.
4. Study and live by the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount – especially the Beatitudes.
5. Live a life of worship and seeking the Presence of the Lord.
6. Prepare your heart to receive your PERSONAL directions from the Lord – He knows you better than you know yourself. His plans for you are to give you “a hope and a future”.
7. Ask God to lead you in this direction.

Pray with me right now – “Lord, I am willing to receive a deeper anointing – I want to walk with you. I am a little afraid, but I know Your Presence will take that away. I open my heart – right now – to learn what I haven’t learned and to allow You to work in and through me. I desire to fulfill Your call on my life. I ask for Your anointing to be poured all over me right now.

Before we close this lesson, I need to tell you I am teaching the things you are going to see by God’s direction. He must have a mighty plan for your life.

I will close this with two scriptural challenges – if you work on this, pray on this, and follow this you will have a good start.

1 Cor. 1:4-9 -- I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. NKJV

Eph. 3:16-21 -- I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. NIV

