

Being a Seer, a Prophet, or Both – Part 2

In this lesson today, we are going to try to understand the prophetic anointing. The anointing we are talking about here is the divine enablement to be able to declare what the Lord has spoken and shown clearly to His Church.

Essentially, the anointing is the supernatural enablement or grace – the manifested presence of the Holy Spirit – operating UPON and THROUGH an individual or a corporate group that produces the works of Jesus. ***It means God is with you and in you; you are talking His talk and walking in His shadow and seeing what He sees.***

Now this is what I would like us to catch hold of right on the “starting blocks” ~~ As an anointed people, we as the Body of Christ have been called to carry a prophetic type burden that will cause us to live on the cutting edge of God’s eternal purpose. The prophetic ministry is but one aspect of the fivefold calling of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. But, as such ... it is resident in every ministry and more evident and active in certain ones – which we shall see.

Principle – God’s ultimate weapon is a man or woman who has encountered the prophetic anointing because God does not anoint projects, He anoints people who serve His plans.

People anointed with a prophetic anointing, as Holy Spirit baptized born again believers speak the Word of the Lord in the name of the Lord. They are meant to be taken seriously and carry weight in the Church of ethical, moral and spiritual urgency of their message. Their credibility stems from the power of their inner call and by the faithful response of those who “have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the church”.

The single most characteristic mark of a true prophet or seer is the inner witness in your spirit that person has stood in the counsel of God and have faithfully declared what they have heard or seen.

Principle – The possession of a single true thought, not derived from current “acceptable” religious teaching, but springing up in the soul as a Word from Jehovah, Himself, is what distinguishes a prophet.

The primary concern of prophets and seers is not with the DISTANT FUTURE, but to tell forth the will of God in the crisis (the decision point) of their own days.

The prophecies of the Old Testament prophets foreshadowed Christ. The major task of New Testament prophets and beyond has always been to declare that in Christ all of the prophecies of the Bible have been fulfilled.

Read Acts 3:24 -- Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel and those who came afterwards, as many as have spoken, also promised and foretold and proclaimed these days. AMP

Read 1 Peter 1:10-12 -- Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, *the Spirit of Christ who was in them* was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven — things which angels desire to look into. NKJV

Read Rev 19:10b -- Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." NIV

Principle to Remember – Prophecy itself is the expressed thoughts of God spoken in a language that no people in their natural gift of speech could articulate on their own.

The substance and nature of prophecy exceed the limits of what the natural mind could conceive. Prophecy comes through the mouth of people, but from the mind of God – spiritual thoughts in spiritual words.

We are going to look at the different dimensions of the prophetic/ seer gifts in all of us. What I would like us to see is ourselves in a few of these aspects of God working through His Church.

Dreamers and Visionaries

These are the people we would call seers and operate in the realm of visions and dreams. The sphere of influence for seers will vary. The Lord,

however, does NOT give a prophetic anointing such as this in a void. Large or small, every dreamer and visionary has a “place” or a sphere that he or she can influence.

The main purpose of this dream/ vision anointing is to awaken the people of God to God’s plans in the spirit realm, and His purpose for a new reality. It is a miraculous manifestation of the Holy Spirit that creatively illuminates truth and can confirm the direction of God that has been given to others.

Read Zech. 4:1-6 -- **AND THE angel who talked with me came again and awakened me, like a man who is wakened out of his sleep.** And said to me, “What do you see?” I said, I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl [for oil] on the top of it and its seven lamps on it, and [there are] seven pipes to each of the seven lamps which are upon the top of it. [Matt 5:14,16; Luke 12:35; Phil 2:15; Rev 1:20.] And there are two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl and the other upon the left side of it [feeding it continuously with oil]. [Rev 11:4-13.] So I asked the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?” Then the angel who talked with me answered me, “Do you not know what these are?” And I said, No, my lord. Then he said to me, This [addition of the bowl to the candlestick, causing it to yield a ceaseless supply of oil from the olive trees] is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit [of Whom the oil is a symbol], says the Lord of hosts. AMP

Prophets Who Proclaim God’s Corporate Purpose

This type of prophet are true prophets but rarely or never prophesy over individuals in personal ministry. They are used by God to give direction or clarify overall direction and purpose of the Body of Christ, enabling the Church to rise up to full maturity.

The best example we can find of this is in the life of the apostle Paul. He is a perfect New Testament example of a man who walked with an anointing that revealed itself by explaining the large corporate purpose of the Church.

(I know there may be a few categories of prophets not mentioned, such as those whose anointing falls in the administrative area, etc. I am only covering some of the characters we should be most familiar with.)

Prophetic Worship Leaders Who Usher in the Manifested Presence of God Through Prophetic Worship

I believe this one is key to the life and atmosphere of the church. Prophetic worship leaders help release people into the liberty of both expressing their love for God and receiving God's love. Under this kind of leadership, the gifts of the Holy Spirit flow and operate more freely. Because they are carriers of the Spirit, they help lift others into His marvelous Presence where changes occur that can't happen or won't happen any other way. This is the kind of prophetic leadership through worship where Jesus is exalted and enthroned on the praises of His people.

Read Ps 22:3 -- But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel. NKJV

One of the prime examples of this person is David – the psalmist. As a young man, he played his harp and sang, causing demons to flee from King Saul. This anointing touches the heart of the lost as they attend church.

Prophetic Intercessors

Under this anointing, a person receives a burden from God that releases intercession that can affect individuals, communities, cities, and even nations.

In the Old Testament, Daniel prayed three times a day for the release of the children of Israel from Babylonian captivity. He interceded for their return home and for their restoration.

Read Dan 6:10 -- Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. NIV

Another example of this prophetic anointing is found in the gospel of Luke.

Read Luke 2:36-38 -- Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had

lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. NKJV

Anna is what would be called a prophetic intercessor – she was interceding for someone or something that had been previously prophesied. This takes a strong prophetic spirit to endure in prayer before the Lord even when much time goes by with nothing seemingly happening.

Note this – Without such an anointing for prophetic intercession, people can feel hopeless, disappointed and discouraged to the point of giving up. The anointing for prophetic intercession imparts the grace to endure! Here is why – you don't just pray to God, but you learn to pray the prayers of God.

(THERE ARE 5 MORE CATEGORIES FOR THE PROPHETIC ANOINTING THAT I BELIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT WANTS TO RELEASE ON A WIDER SCALE IN THESE LAST DAYS, AND HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO DO SO) – Are you ready????

Spirit-Bearers

Read John 3:5-8 -- Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." NIV

Principle – If you are born again, you are a Spirit-bearer. You carry the Holy Spirit within you.

The scripture we just read is a word for EVERY believer. All of us who are born again are meant to catch the wind of the Spirit and follow that direction.

Have you ever noticed there are some believers who seem to catch that wind through the anointing more than others? To some they may seem flighty, or slightly crazy, but they don't care because they are caught up in following the wind of the Holy Spirit in their lives. A good example of such a person is Heidi Baker – she even likes to giggle in delight of Him.

Question -- How can you and I develop this kind of sensitivity to our lives?

Answer – Through a personal love walk with the Lord and by practicing the Presence of Jesus Christ.

God loves to use these prophetic Spirit-bearers to release UNUSUAL manifestation of the Holy Spirit in the midst of a gathering of people. They may be falling in the Spirit, or shaking, or quaking, or declarations of visions of angels or demons, or a simply blowing on people. God is enlarging this ministry today.

Prophetic Counselors

People with this anointing combine pastoral caring and healing understandings with the prophetic. There is a tremendous need for this kind of ministry today because so many people are full of hurt and trauma and turmoil. Prophetic counseling mingles the spirit of godly counsel and the spirit of understanding whereby these people become a light in the darkness.

Read Isa 11:1-2 -- There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. NKJV

The primary focus of such a prophetic counselor is the wholeness of the internal affairs of men and women on a personal or family basis.

Because they are compassionate and revelatory, they are able to see into the hurts and wounds of individuals, and they help release people by displaying an understanding that others may not have. Why? Because with prophetic insight and ability to listen, they can help other people quiet their souls and ease their troubled hearts.

Prophetic Equippers

This is a prophet/teacher combination. All of the offices of the fivefold ministry – apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers – are provided for equipping the church; but there are some who have a special grace for equipping others. Some prophetic equippers perform their ministry simply by modeling without significant involvement in other people's lives. Others learn by listening to them speak and by watching their lives.

There are other prophetic equippers that function best by direct interaction with people in a teaching setting. They have a teaching grace, while it is accompanied with a prophetic flare which enables them to explain to others the ways of the Spirit taking the bizarre and making it practical, relatable and understandable. Their calling is to make disciples with a particular burden for mentoring which is much needed today.

Prophetic Writers

Prophecy is not limited to the verbal and the visual; it also can come forth in written form. People with this kind of anointing are just as prophetic as anyone else. The difference is that they have the gift and the bent to communicate more powerfully and effectively through the written word than through the spoken word.

Prophetic writers write with revelatory anointing by expressing God's heart to contemporary society.

Prophetic Evangelists

These are the ones who take their revelatory gifts to the streets. They usually declare in small settings.

A Final Word of Warning

I pray that this lesson has opened your horizon of understanding how diverse God is in using His true followers. There is something that we need to be warned about, however, that must be considered. It is the sin of covetousness. Precisely it involves comparing different prophetic ministries. Comparing ourselves to someone else and wanting what they have produces death. We must never judge or evaluate our anointing by someone else's anointing. It is vitally important to avoid jealousy and insecurity. We must be satisfied to allow God to develop our own calling and walk in the anointing.

There is another hazard in the path of the prophetic. God has given each of you a unique expression of His grace. Being that we are all human, sometimes we are prone to allow ourselves to be hindered by rejection, criticism, legalistic traditions, and the restrictive yokes and molds of others. Especially their unrealistic and erroneous expectations.

Each of you are a unique and varied expression of God's wonderful prophetic Presence. God has never found His home in a box. We can become all that we can become in Christ. Let His anointing destroy whatever yoke you have allowed in the past.

In our next lesson we are going to discuss the seer – the visionary – in terms of how visions will become the power that sustains your walk with our Lord Jesus Christ.

