

# Chapter One

## The Office of a Prophet

The Church should know by the **word of God** whether a man holds the office of a prophet. Because the church in the world has been ignorant and, for the most part, void of the offices of the five-fold ministries, it has failed to teach about the office of a prophet. I suppose the main reason is that there have been few prophets down through history. On the other hand, there have been, and are, more than most people think. It is important for the people of the world and the church to recognize such an office established by God Himself. The reason being,

**Matthew 10:41** *He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward....*

Jesus made that statement speaking of the future but equally important is what the Old Testament (our schoolmaster) says about God.

**Amos 3:7** *Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.*

Jesus warned of false prophets. This is one of the reasons it is important for us to recognize a true prophet, so we can then recognize a false prophet. Jesus said,

**Mark 13:22** *And if anyone says to you, behold here is the Christ! Or, Behold, there! You shall not believe. For false Christs and false prophets will be raised, and they will give signs and wonders in order to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.*

We see here that these false prophets have the power to produce miracles and wonders in order to seduce. One of the things these false prophets will be saying is "Here is Christ" or "There is Christ." In our lifetime, we've had people who claimed to be the Christ and those who say, "He is here" or "He is there." All of them are false prophets.

When Jesus came to the earth and performed miracles and wonders, these things, in themselves did not reveal who He was. Almost everything that Jesus did in this area God had previously **been** performed through prophets. The miracles and wonders were only a part of fulfilled scripture or prophecies that foretold what He would do.

God gave the **“Word of God”** to us so we could recognize Jesus. It was given as a testimony of His Son. It was given so we as believers could understand that, legally (according to the laws of God), He is who He is.

Since it is obvious that we have both God's prophets and false prophets performing miracles and wonders, this cannot be the distinguishing factor. Just as it was with Jesus, the distinguishing factor has to be the “**Word of God**”.

One aspect of a "vision of God" is that it is His vision for the future. That is one of the reasons why Ezekiel said that He saw "visions of God." They were visions concerning the things of God.

*"Though you are a prophet and have not love, you are nothing. 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 to him in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him I will speak mouth to mouth.... **Numbers 12: 6 - 8a***

Jesus also said,

**Matthew 4:4**...*It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

Jesus said,

**Matthew 5:17 – 18** *Think not that I have come to destroy the law , or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Think not that I have come to destroy the law, or the prophets....*

The Law and the prophets did not cease at the cross. The word "fulfill" could have been translated "fully preach." Jesus did fully preach the law in the Sermon on the Mount, of which these very scriptures are a part.

Apostles and prophets did not cease when the first ones passed away. No man or prophet ever changed anything by dying. All the changes or additions to God's covenants were made through men who were living. Not one thing concerning God's word was changed by their death. But things happened at Jesus' death. **When He died a covenant was ratified by His blood. Things were changed even in heaven by His death.** To say that God's word changed because a prophet or an apostle died, is an abomination to Jesus. He said that He would establish the fivefold ministry in His church. All five offices will be there when the church comes into the unity of the faith.

There is a difference between prophets and the anointing. It's all revealed in Numbers where the Lord talked to Moses.

**Numbers 11:13-14 (KJV)** *Whence should I have flesh to give unto all this people? for they weep unto me, saying, Give us flesh, that we may eat. I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.*

Moses was complaining to the Lord about having the burden of all the people and weeping to Him. He could not carry the load.

**Numbers 11:16 – 17** *And the Lord said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee. And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.*

Moses had made a plea and God was answering that plea. Notice that God says He will take the spirit that is on Moses and put it on the seventy. It was the gift of prophecy, as was revealed when this all came to pass.

**Numbers 11:25** *And the Lord came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.*

The gift of prophecy had been distributed by the Lord among the seventy as **an anointing to prophesy**. There is more to the story here. It is so real to life when we walk only in the flesh.

*But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of one was El'-dad, and the name of the other Me'-dad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp.*

Imagine the two men who decided not to go. Would you have gone? Don't try to hide from the Lord if you're chosen. It won't do any good.

Those two prophesied in the camp right before everyone. The people probably thought they were "nuts."

*And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, El'-dad and Me'-dad do prophesy in the camp. And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them.*

Can you see the people reacting the same way today? Snitches and tattletales who think this should not happen are often quick to notify the “powers that be”.

*And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit upon them!*

### **Numbers 11: 25 - 29 (KJV)**

Moses simply called those who prophesied, "Prophets" and desired that all God's people would prophesy.

Paul said the same thing about prophecy in the church. Let's look at, **1 Corinthians 13:5**.

**I Corinthians 13:5** *I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied; for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.*

Now something else was about to happen in Moses' story concerning prophets and the office of a prophet. It is just as likely to happen in this day because of the lack of knowledge.

**Numbers 12:1** *And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the E-thi-o'-pi-an woman whom he had married: for he had married an E-thi-o'-pi-an woman.*

Two people, a man and a woman, are coming against Moses the prophet.

**Numbers 12:2** *And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it.*

Here we have two people who think they are like Moses because they have prophesied. God quickly and very clearly makes the distinction between a prophet (one who has an anointing that comes upon them) and the Office of a prophet (a man anointed as a man for a purpose).

**Numbers 12:5** *And the Lord came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth*

This was important enough for the Lord to personally intervene and clarify the situation.

**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 to him in a dream.*

*My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him I will speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches...*

Here the Lord lays out some principles whereby we can know when He has sent a prophet.

- 1) Notice that it is the Lord's doing and it has nothing to do with the person.
- 2) He will reveal Himself in a vision. **I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision....**
- 3) The Lord says He will speak in a dream ...and **will speak to him in a dream.**

Then He talks about the faithful prophets like Moses to whom He will speak mouth to mouth (have a conversation). **My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him I will speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches....** Not only will He have conversation with them, but He will talk in a way as to give understanding with nothing hidden. All these things were a far cry from the two who had thought they were like Moses. Because God was angered at the situation, Miriam became leprous. Aaron reasoned that they had sinned and asked Moses to intervene, which he did. Consequently, Miriam was forgiven and was only leprous for a week; but she still suffered the consequences of her acts.

**From all this we see that God has some very important principles** concerning prophets. God sends and sets prophets among His people and we can see why He would be angered at anyone who could conceive within themselves to hold the office of a prophet just because they prophesied. God holds His prophets close to His heart, but that doesn't exempt them from what happens to them because of their purpose.

To see more of the idea of the Lord's continual "workings" in a prophet's life, we look in the book of Jeremiah. Here God is talking about prophets.

**Jeremiah 23:18** *For who hath stood in the counsel of the Lord, and hath perceived and heard his word? Who hath marked his word and heard it?*

**There are three main voices in the universe:** God's, Jesus' and the Holy Spirit's! Few have heard God's voice and few have heard Jesus' voice. But more importantly than all the encounters and conversations that prophets have had with God is this, "Is the prophet able to give understanding of what God has revealed?"

**Jeremiah 23:22** *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.*

One way or another, everything God is doing in the earth is for the people of the Earth because of His love for them. When He sends a prophet, it is for the people's good. You could have a prophet who has heard God but acts prematurely.

A good prophet not only plows up the weeds but replants with good seed. A prophet whose purpose is to correct should not only be able to tell you what's wrong, but he should also be able to tell you how to correct the problem. The prophets sent to the Kings in the Old Testament did this exact thing. They were men who had sat in the counsel of the Lord and were taught the ways of the Lord.

**"Sent One"** A person who holds the office of a prophet is a "sent one."

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

Here God was talking about false prophets, so you can see that real ones are sent from God. A true prophet is sent for a purpose or has a commission of some type. If you are sent from the Lord you can tell people what He said, when He sent you. It's not something just conjured up out of your own spirit.

Jonah told us about this.

**Jonah 1:1 – 2** *Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of A-mit'-tai, saying, Arise go to Nin'-e-veh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.*

**This is not the first time God had ever spoken or worked with Jonah.** The first glimpse of this in Jonah's life and it came from the prayer he prayed while in the belly of the fish.

**Jonah 2:3** *For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.*

**Did Jonah know God?**

Most people would have given the devil the credit for doing this.

**Jonah 2:7** *When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord and my prayer came unto thee, into thine holy temple.*

Jonah is in the belly of the fish pondering his own soul, his own thoughts and He is talking with God about it.

**When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord....** His soul didn't faint until he wound up in this predicament. His flesh had been running his soul. When Jonah's flesh was brought to naught by the events that had happened, he gathered his thoughts. Jonah is not only remembering every encounter and everything the Lord had taught him but also what the Lord had told him to do. Look at the next sentence.

**Jonah 2:8** *They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.*

Jonah was talking about himself, as well as the people of Nineveh. Was this knowledge of understanding that Jonah received at this moment just something that popped into him or out of him?

**I think not!**

Jonah knew and understood this principle because it was coming from his **very soul, his inner man.**

**You don't think so?**

Then where would you be speaking from if you found yourself in the belly of a fish and you knew God had put you there? There is more evidence in the scriptures that Jonah had encountered God and spoken with Him before he was told to go to Nineveh.

Verse nine of the same prayer says, **I will pay that I have vowed....** This vow was made before God told him to go to Nineveh. In my own conversation with the Lord I made a vow to Him. Have you ever said, "Lord, I'll do anything you want me to do, if you will **show me** what you want, as long as you bring my family and friends along into understanding of the office of a Prophet." He will normally in a vision, show you speaking in a church or some other place. He keeps His part of any bargain or vow by **showing you** visually what is going to happen. Just like Jonah, you must make this vow before He gives you your commission.

From Jonah's vow we see that he had conversation with the Lord, thus fulfilling the rules (spiritual laws) given out of the Lord's mouth to Miriam and Aaron.

After Jonah got out of the fish, the Lord again told him to go to Nineveh, and he went. Jonah gave the word of the Lord. The people repented of their ways and the Lord turned from what he was going to do. Jonah was displeased and angry so he prayed to God again. In this prayer we can see that he knew God.

**Jonah 4:2** ...*For I know that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.*

Jonah knew that God was gracious, merciful, slow to anger and kind. That's why he had the nerve to run away and be disobedient in the first place. Jonah used the word **know**. He didn't say he **believes**. And there is a big difference. **We as Christians know God loves people**, not only because the Bible says so, but because of the manifestation of His love for man, in Jesus Christ. **We see** His love He promised us eternity (eternal Life).

### **Knowing is very different than believing.**

People who hold the office of a prophet know God because God counsels with them. People who prophesy from the anointing do not know God in the same way, as demonstrated in the story of Moses, Aaron and Miriam. The seventy who were anointed with the spirit of prophecy from Moses did not come close to knowing God like Moses did.

Moses could also tell you about the moment he was commissioned by the Lord. God was speaking to Moses from the burning bush.

**Exodus 3:10 – 11** *Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go forth unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?*

Moses is having conversation with God. We can see in this section of the story that the spiritual law spoken out of God's mouth is being fulfilled with Moses before they were given verbally to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam in **Numbers 12**. God was revealing Himself to Moses in a vision and talking mouth to mouth with him.

### **How can one know a prophet or receive a prophet in his name?**

One should be able to recognize the principles set forth by God **from the person's testimony**.

Look for these things.



- 1) His experience will be initiated by God.
- 2) God will reveal Himself in a vision.
- 3) God will speak in a dream or a conversation. The Law is the shadow of things to come. The person's life should cast a shadow with these things in it.
- 4) A prophet of God will always be trying to bring people to God (repentance from wrong ways) and not be turning or releasing them to the pleasures of their own life. He will not only be saying that "**God is**" but also that "**Jesus is.**"
- 5) He will always **bring attention to God or what He is doing**, fulfilling Amos chapter 3:7

**Amos 3:7**

*Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.*

- 6) He will have a commission, whether big or small.
- 7) A prophet will speak from or of something he has seen. It will not be his imagination, but rather it will be something given **at the will of the Holy Spirit.**
- 8) The main function of the office of a prophet is for correction. Even Moses was sent to "correct" the situation between Israel and Egypt.

One must realize that the things which go on in a prophet's life are saturated with God. They are always pulling and preparing the prophet to be able to accomplish his particular commission or purpose. You can recognize a false prophet by comparing his word with God's word. A true prophet must fulfill the pattern set forth by God, from God's own mouth. He would not have you ignorant!

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## Chapter Two

### "Judgment: One Function of A Prophet."

**The subject of judging** is a difficult subject to comprehend, especially in the understanding of God's word and in the knowledge of the positions or offices held in the church. God, we can suppose, must have had to deal with every prophet because all of them had to understand their function in the office of a prophet. It was God's judgment that was being produced through them and not their own judgment. As you read about the prophets you will see that they were not blind, nor ignorant of their situations. They were fully aware of them because of God's counseling.

**Jeremiah 23:18** *For who hath stood in the counsel of the Lord, and hath perceived and heard his word? Who hath marked his word and heard it?*

These scriptures concerning **God's counseling of prophets** reveal that there is much more to the function of a prophet than for a prophet to just blindly do and say what God says to do. God, in this chapter of Jeremiah, was distinguishing between false prophets and true prophets.

**Jeremiah 23:22** *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.*

**Again God is talking about standing in his counsel**, which is the key element required to make sound judgments and be successful. As a prophet, the more you stand in God's counseling, the more you learn of God's ways and thoughts. You are then better able to make judgments based on God's Will, not man's will. Yes, we are to make judgments. Jesus said,

**John 7:24** *Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgement.*

**Matthew 7:1,2** *Judge not that ye be not judged. For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.*

This may sound confusing because Jesus is saying in one place not to judge and in another place He says to judge a righteous judgment. Here again, we must lay some foundational thoughts.

**Jeremiah 9:23 – 24** *Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the*

*mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he that understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise loving kindness, judgement, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.*

God is saying that anyone **who really understands, knows this**, "That it is God who exercises loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth." We as Christians are supposed to do the same, but we must remember that it is God and only God who is able to do this perfectly.

**It is God who reveals true loving kindness for a situation.** It is God who reveals the truth and is the perfect and true judge in a situation. When God said I was a prophet, but without love I was nothing, I thought I had it made because I loved people. **No problem!** But then He said, "If you love them you'll tell them the truth." Man's love says let them believe what they want. God's love includes the truth because of the consequences of what man believes. God does have the true concept of love.

**We must see that Jesus didn't come to the earth to judge**, but to destroy the works of the devil and to establish a covenant whereby people could be saved to eternal life. He said,

*John 12:46,47 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.*

We must also see that God is the ultimate judge. In both the Old and New Testaments He has been exercising loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. **He still is, and always has been, even while Jesus was on the earth.**

One must realize God's position **...I am the Lord which exercise loving kindness, judgement, and righteousness, in the earth...**

God is doing this in the church because He loves us and with these thoughts as a foundation, one can understand the events that God brought into the prophets life and why He said what He said;

### **The Event:**

The Lord's answer,

*"If a man receives by the spirit of God, a word of knowledge and a word of wisdom, and it is revealed that there is a problem with a person, is that the judgement of the man or the judgement of God?"*

"When Ezekiel spoke judgments to the people, it wasn't his judgments but God's judgments through him."

*"If this same man starts to see the same problem in those around him, is that the judgement of the man or the judgement of God?"*

What is judging?"

*"If a judge sitting on a bench does not have all the evidence and makes a ruling, he has "judged." If a judge sitting on a bench has all of the evidence and makes a ruling, he has made a sound decision and not a judgement."*

If you have the evidence you are not judging but making sound decisions. Look at what Jesus said about this.

**Matthew 7: 2** *For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.*

This scripture is talking about sound decisions (judgments). If you measure by the Spirit of God it will be measured to you again. Then God will measure or give to you more things of the Spirit so you can make sound decisions again. With what judgment we judge, we will be judged accordingly. We need to judge a righteous judgment so we will be judged accordingly.

**To have all the evidence we need God's input.**

When we have God's evidence we are not judging but making sound decisions based on His judgment. When God shows something to a prophet it is God's judgment, not the prophet's.

God is the "Supreme Judge." **He knows everything**, even the thoughts and intents of the heart. He is the revealer of the truth, not any man or any prophet. So if we glory, **let us glory in Him** and in the fact of what He himself said,

**Jeremiah 9:23,24** *I am the Lord which exercise loving kindness, judgement, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.*

God is cleansing the church of false doctrines and cleansing His people of evil. When you function as a prophet (it is a function), God sometimes shows you things about people and situations.

For example, God paints a picture through a vision or a dream. In this picture, there are general things brought to light. This could be as simple as "feelings.". Usually, but not always, your encounter with that person or situation **confirms** what was painted by God. Now the point is that if we had encountered the person or situation without the picture God painted, then we probably wouldn't have noticed the real problem. We surely would not have judged **correctly**. With God painting the picture it becomes God's judgment, not ours; and with the confirmation in the physical, it really takes all judgment away from the prophet.

When Jonah went to Nineveh God had already told him what to say and what was going to happen. One must realize what Jonah understood and saw. Unrighteousness was already manifest before him in the natural world. God wanted to give the people a chance to repent and receive grace. The people of Nineveh could reject or receive the prophet's words; but they had to receive the word of the Lord, God's judgment pronounced, **to receive the grace available**.

It is important to know that the functions of the office of a prophet **have not changed** just because we are in New Testament times. There are, and will be, prophets with a mission to exercise judgment ordained by God for certain situations. This is good.

Judgment is important **so grace can come to the people** and they will go on practicing an **untruth or sin**, sometimes knowingly and sometimes unknowingly.

In our court system, there must be a judgment or ruling so a sentence can be handed down. Without a judgment, the defendant or the accused is incarcerated mentally and sometimes physically. Finally, his day in court comes and there is a judgment. He could be found not guilty. If found guilty the sentence may or may not include clemency or some grace, based on the individual situation. **Nevertheless, none of this could come until there was a judgment.**

In God's realm sin produces death to situations, relationships, lives, and sometimes the flesh. He often reveals the truth through the Holy Spirit or a prophet, producing open judgment. Then, according to the reaction of the person or people, either grace comes or the fruit of sin is completed. The people at Nineveh were already sentenced and were going to reap the fruit of their unrighteousness. Then God sent Jonah to pronounce the sentence (reveal the truth of what was going to happen). Then the people repented and grace came!

God, being the judge, is the one who determines **when court will take place** for a person. He also determines **when the sentencing will take place**, and **what that sentence is**. The timing of all this is God's decision. The Bible reveals that there will be a "Great White Throne Judgment."

This will happen when God says, it is time, period. But it will happen! No one can stop it or have any say as to what will happen nor what sentence will be invoked. We will all be judged by the records kept at Mount Zion. It will all be done legally.

We are, in this life, now at the time of the cleansing of the Bride of Christ. We must not reject the **function of a prophet** in the area of "judgment", because God still gives judgments through prophets. **We really need judgment of situations in our lives so that grace can come.**

What people often fail to realize is that grace is involved in healing and deliverance. If we never admit that we have a problem, it will not be addressed and fixed. God sometimes sends a prophet to reveal the truth that we wouldn't admit or didn't know. We then have the opportunity of receiving the grace you need.

In our natural life, we make judgments (decisions). Right now, you are making a judgment on what I have written in this book. We have to make judgments. The important thing is **what we base our judgments on**. How much evidence do we really have? So many times, we judge by the appearance without the truth revealed by the Spirit of God. Jesus spoke about this when he said,

**John 7:24** *Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgement.*

We must realize that a righteous judgment comes only when God has revealed the truth of the situation or when we have **all the information** concerning a situation. Without the Spirit of God, we usually judge by present or past appearances. That's just the way it is. Actually without being trained by God we can judge no one because we don't know what has happened in their lives to make them the way they are. Some people judge by the color of skin or by the nationality just because of a bad experience with one of that color or nationality. This is judging by appearance, exactly what Jesus said not to do.

God revealed to me the mechanics of how to work the covenant promise which Jesus spoke, from His mouth concerning salvation. Therefore, I can judge whether the mechanics (actions) occur. But I can't judge the heart, so I don't know the full picture because God is the only one who knows the heart. Simple, isn't it?

In general, we cannot judge one another because we really don't know what the other person has been through. We are, the sum total, of our experiences and only God knows all of them. **He has all the evidence** and knows the thoughts and the intents of the heart. God reveals truth by the Holy Spirit at His will, not ours. He is not being critical but is revealing truth that will set us free from hindrances in our lives.

**Thank God, He is still judging (making sound decisions) people on the earth so we can receive His Grace!**

**Thank God, He has revealed the real Judge to us.**

*Jeremiah 9:24 ...I am the Lord which exercise loving kindness, judgement, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.*

## Chapter Three

### Prophets and the Church

The main reason people will not believe that there are modern day prophets is because they have the idea that a prophet is "above" everyone else. I thought so myself until God showed me otherwise. Some people regard pastors in the same way. God kept telling me that Ezekiel was just a man, someone He chose. If the church could understand that the office of a prophet **is a function** ordained by God, it could receive the prophet with open arms.

All the offices of the five-fold ministry are just different functions for different purposes to be performed by people who are chosen by God. Prophets make up a portion of the five-fold ministry. I can't say that it is one-fifth because there seem to be more pastors, teachers, and evangelists than prophets or apostles. From the story of Moses and the seventy we see that the spirit of prophecy (Jesus) can come on anyone. One must understand that it takes the functions

from **the entire five-fold ministry** to bring us (the body of Christ) into the unity of the faith and the full knowledge of the Son of God. This is not my idea. Look at the scriptures.

**Ephesians 4:11-13** *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: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:*

The five-fold ministry will continue **until** this happens. We are talking about the **Bride Spotless!** At the Holy Spirit's will, the anointing can come on anyone, for the purpose of performing any function mentioned here. But the offices of the five-fold ministry are held by people in which the very function is a part of them, ingrained by God into their very being. The church **needs** every function of the five-fold, yet very few Christians recognize **all** of them.

Recognition is very important. If we do not recognize and understand your position or function in the body of Christ, we won't be able to receive your reward (the reward that the Lord wants to give to us through you, the prophet or prophetess).

**I Corinthians 12: 29 – 30** *Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?*

Most certainly not? This is why, the word "some" is used in the following scripture.

**Ephesians 4:11** *And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;*

Part of the reason the body of Christ is sick, not only in body, but with all sorts of doctrines, **is because individuals have not discerned the body of Christ.** God is an orderly God, doing everything legally.

Correctly dividing the Word of God does not mean taking words out of sentences. Line upon line and precept upon precept does not mean the removal of certain words from sentences or thoughts. Rather, it is the addition of **thought** about a certain subject in order to come to God's **complete thought** on the subject.

**The word "Word" means God's Word, which includes the thought (God's thought) behind the words.** Looking at these scriptures again, what is God's thought?

**Ephesians 4:11-13** *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: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:*

This scripture says that one of God's thoughts is that we need **apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints**, etc. If we remove **apostles and prophets**, we have removed part of God's thought.

**Is He wrong?**

If we think the body of Christ **has ever** come to the fulfillment of these scriptures **we better look again**.

If we think the church that was in existence then the apostles were alive fulfilled these scriptures, **we better read the Bible again**.

If we think the church that is in the world today has come into the **unity of the faith, into the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, and unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**;

**WE BETTER THINK AGAIN.**

When these scriptures come into manifestation or completion, there will be a **Bride, spot and wrinkle free**. If we don't believe that there are prophets after the death of the apostles, then we don't believe what the book of Revelation says. We believe what men have told us, not what God has told us. We need prophets to bring correction into the church. We need judgment by the word of the Lord, pure truth, **including the result**.

Jonah gave the word of the Lord **including the result**. Are we willing to judge our traditions and what we believe?

The Bible says we are to judge ourselves so we aren't judged. This indicates that if we won't judge our self we're going to get judged anyway. Sometimes God will send a prophet to reveal the truth that we don't know, but it's for our own good.

**Because of grace**, one doesn't want to wait for the great white throne judgment to be judged for things that we should have taken care of here. Grace will be given there, but it is cut and dried (strictly legal by God's standards) and out of our hands.

## **Thoughts To Spur Our Thinking**

What do we think will happen when God says, "I sent a prophet to you and you rejected him?"

We'll probably try to defend our self by saying, "I didn't believe in prophets. I didn't believe he was a prophet and I didn't believe what he was saying." God could say, "I sent you a letter, My Word, telling you how to recognize a prophet of mine." And we'll retort with, "Your word said I have no need that anyone teach me because of the Holy Spirit that is within me." This is haughty.



Grace will be there for us if we're saved, but we will still gnash our teeth when we see the truth which the prophet was trying to convey to us. We may say "It only affected me," but that is not true. The untruth we live **always** affects those around us and can cause them to miss heaven.

Are we teachable? Or are we protective of what we believe, regardless of the truth? The seed of untruth always produces its fruit.

The church needs the function of the prophets to bring the Spotless Bride into manifestation. **Jesus is** the one who sets the offices of the five-fold, not the church. **God is** the supreme judge. **God is** the revealer of the truth. **God is** the one who really knows our need. **God is** the one who has called us. **God is** the one who chooses the chosen. **God is** the one we and everyone ever born will meet. **God is** the one who spoke and established every covenant. (He never asked man how to do anything concerning His covenants or concerning how His church functions.) **God is** the one who sent His son Jesus. **Jesus is** the savior of the world.

**Help us Lord.** Send your prophets. Judgment has come to the Church. Judgment is coming to the world.

**"Judgment Must Be, In Lieu Of The Grace to Come."**