

# DESPISE NOT PROPHESYINGS

## DESIRING THE POWER TO PROPHECY

*“Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy...”*

*~ 1 Corinthians 14:39*

### 1. The Lord Spoke to Me...

- a. The will of God and prophesying - 1 Thess 5:16, 17, 18 [skip] 21, 22
- b. Have you ever been prophesied over, and it sounds like a horoscope?
- c. Prophecies were given to me about my marriage and ministry (both wrong)
- d. “The Lord spoke to me...” now sounds like ‘Make 10,000 a day from home!’
- e. Prophets said Trump would win 2020, apologized, quit, then rebuked (none died)
- f. There is a ‘prophetic standards’ statement requiring prophets to apologize if wrong.
- a. It is hard not to despise prophesying.

### 2. Purpose of a Prophet

- a. It is not simply telling the future/end of the world (though that gets attention).
- b. A prophet is God’s appointed spokesman - Exo 7:1
- c. A prophet is a revealer of knowledge, truth, from God - Deu 18:9-15
- d. A prophet receives words from God and speaks them - Deu 18:18-22
- e. A prophet inquires of the Lord, and gets an answer – 1 Sam 9:9 (1 Kings 22:4-8)
- f. He reveals, but also explains, interprets, gives understanding - Dan 5:11-12

### 3. Prophecy in the Church

- a. That spoken by prophets of Israel, and that kept secret of the Body differ - Acts 3:21
- b. Every revelation has a prophet, even the revelation of the mystery - Rom 16:25
- c. Prophets were given to the church in this dispensation - 1 Cor 12:10, Eph 4:11-12
- d. Apostles and prophets helped Paul to build his foundation - Eph 2:20, 3:5
- e. A prophet would confirm what Paul wrote was of the Lord - 1 Cor 14:37

### 4. Covet to Prophecy

- a. If any man be ignorant... let him be ignorant (not a prophet) - 1 Cor 14:38
- b. Paul instructs the Corinthians to “covet to prophesy” - 1 Cor 14:39 (covet = desire)
- c. 1 Cor 13:31, 14:1 - desire more to prophesy, because... 1 Cor 14:3-5
- d. 1 Cor 14:6 – The profit of a prophet was the same as revelation, knowledge, doctrine
- e. Paul says the gift of prophecy understands and explains mysteries - 1 Cor 13:2
- f. Should we desire to understand and explain the mysteries of God? Yes! 1 Cor 4:1-2
- g. Our pursuit should be to understand/communicate - 1 Cor 2:12, 2 Tim 2:2, 7, 14

### 5. The Gift of Prophecy

- a. 2 Pet 1:19-21 – Prophecy came by men of God moved by the Holy Ghost
- b. Power of prophesying was in revealing God’s will, interpreting his word, clear wisdom
  - i. The prophets did this without studying and reading a book (or, by also...)
- c. The Bible is a gift given us by God – written by the greatest prophets. 2 Tim 3:16-17
  - i. We should covet, desire, want to understand & explain what God has said.
- d. What does it look like to despise prophesying? 1Th 1:8, 2:13-15, 4:8
  - i. 1) Claiming to speak for God w/o understanding His written words (despicable)
  - ii. 2) To disdain the communication, explaining, understanding of the word of God.
- e. 1 Th 5:19-21 - The Spirit works through, speaks through, proves by prophesied words.