

**FIND YOUR VOICE HOW GOD SPEAKS
STRENGTHENING US & EQUIPPING US FOR MISSIOANL
ENGAGEMENT**

Significance Of The Prophetic

Out of 39 books in the O.T. 34 were.....

Eph 2 v20 Acts 11v27 & ch 13 v1. 1 Cor 14 v1
*** Amos 3 v 17
*** 1 Timothy 1 vv 18-19.

The Stolen Promise In Our Generation

Joel 2 & Acts 2

The Biblical Imperative

1. Each Part

a. What happens when each part does its work?

Eph 4v16

b. What is the work of each part?

I Cor 12 27-31

c. What is the obvious outcome when each part does not do its work?

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2. Settling The Issue For Myself!!

From the following six verses jot down your responsibility

- I Cor 12 v 31
- I Cor 14 v1
- I Cor 14 v 12
- I Cor 14 v 13
- I Cor 14 v 26
- I Cor 14 v 39

These six words in the Greek language are imperatives - what does that mean to me?

3. Prophecy

a. What do verses 1 and 39 teach us about prophecy?

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b. What is the result of prophecy verse 3 & 4?

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c. What should happen after two or three prophets speak? Verse 29

.....

d. Who can prophesy and why is that desirable? Verse 31

.....

What is prophecy?

1. *The Hebrew word*
ish elohim or `.....`

Jeremiah 30v21

The OT had two other words to describe the prophet:

- *Roeh* :.
- *Hoze*h:

These Hebrew words got gradually overtaken by the Hebrew word:

- *Nabi*: which literally means to

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One scholar, Locke, says it encompassed three things;

1. Prediction
2. Singing by the spirit
3. Understanding and explaining the mysterious hidden sense including scripture

2. *The Greek word*

prophetia - signifies the speaking forth of the mind and counsel of God, according to Vines it includes;

- Speaking forth
- Declaring of that which
- One who speaks
- In Greek writings an interpreter.....

Therefore, to summarise both the Old Testament and New Testament, prophesy can be about:

- Forth-telling: declaring who God is and what he has done, declaring His nature and attributes
- Foretelling: predicting future events
- Unlocking or interpreting 'hidden' things including 'hidden' things about people , places, organisations. It can include in that sense things about the past or 'hidden' things about the future and it can include and often does unlocking hidden truth – including Scripture
- Inspired singing
- All beautifully summarised by the Hebrew, *nabi*, to see and bubble forth

The Spirit of God, revealing something to an individual, which is then communicated to others, often verbally, but also by music, visual arts and drama.

Forth-telling

Foretelling

Isn't it exciting that in our age, in our churches, in our cell groups, in our workplaces that supernatural affirmation, encouragement and foretelling can be our privilege.

Inspired singing

Ways In Which God Speaks

Variety with

- Abraham
- Moses
- Samuel
- Ezekiel
- Daniel
- Mary
- Wise men
- Paul
- Peter
- John

1. The written Word of God.

Daniel 9v 2-3

2. Prayer

3. *Nature, creation and everyday objects*

'O house of Israel, can I not do with you as the potter does?'

4. Impression

Acts 20v22

5. Simple Vision

Acts 7v56

6. I Saw God Said

Jeremiah 1 v 11 and v 13

The process is often as follows:

- Prayer - setting aside time to hear God and asking Him quite specifically to speak
- Noting down the first images that came to mind.
- Looking again at the images and seeing more.
- Being aware of three or four key words that began to form a thread.
- Finding the Scripture that was calling for my attention.
- Putting it together.
- Taking it back to God and asking for clarity and affirmation.
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The Stolen Gift Restored

Four things I believe have contributed to the prophetic being a stolen gift

- Lack of earnestly desiring
- Lack of practicing it
- Leaders & prophetic people not taking responsibility to test & weigh it
- Individuals and church communities not honouring receiving and following what has been tested and weighed

Testing & Weighing

Key Point; *try to avoid saying Thus says the Lord!*

Key Point; *Please don't believe you are infallible and don't believe any particular word is infallible.*

Practical Steps To Testing & Weighing?

1Cor 14 v 28

What Do We test Against?

1. *The Yardstick of Scripture*
2. *The EEC test*
3. *Does it leave me in peace?*

Personal Word Setting

Corporate Setting?

What Do We Do With A Seriously Wrong Word?

What Do You Do If The Word You Hear Sounds Mixed?

What Happens When You Are Unsure About A Word?

What Do You Do If There Is A Clear Strategic Direction Brought To The Church Publicly?

Responding To Prophetic Words

Summary

- Weighing prophecy should be a positive experience for all concerned.
- Prophecy should be judged responsibly.
- Prophets should be self-policing.
- Appropriate response to prophecy should develop the prophet and build confidence in the church.
- Prophets and leaders should work together in weighing prophecy.
- It is critical that words deemed to be of God that do require response that response is given
- An attitude of thankfulness honouring the words God speaks will open the door to more

Personal Notes & Actions

NB Further information & development can be accessed through the book Find Your Voice available from your church bookstore or [www.loveworklivelife.com](http://www loveworklivelife.com)