

Equipping the Saints for the Work of the Ministry #7 & #8 - Prophet

April 27 - May 4, 2025

Elements of Our Spiritual DNA

- The Kingdom
- Relationship with the Father - The *'thing'* that sets everything else in order
- Grace
- Family & Relationships
- Equipping the Saints
- Signs and Wonders
- The Poor

Ephesians 4:11-13 - *"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...."*

Last Week:

- The *'blueprint'* (pattern) for ministry and how the Church is to be built
- Apostle - One who is sent - A *'builder'*
- **1 Corinthians 3:10** - *"According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it"*
- A heart for the true church to rise up
- Wisdom, anointing to keep the *'main thing'*, the main thing! **(relationship)*
- Two very important things: 1) Don't assume. 2) Don't assume for someone else! **(don't take a title; don't let anyone else give you a title; the exception: someone with a true apostolic calling recognizing the gift, declaring that to you and praying over you to release you into the gift)*
- It's a distinct calling from God - Or it's counterfeit
- **Revelation 2:2** - *"I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars"*
- Walk out your calling; step-by-step, day-by-day

- Only by doing that are you becoming '*who*' you really are!
- **Expectancy vs expectation ??**
 - If you have expectations (*specifics*) of how things are supposed to be, even when they're based on Biblical principles your chances of being wrong are high. (*different generation, culture, time, season*)
 - And, if you're not careful you'll try to arrange things that line up with your expectations *(I've done that; but as long as the heart is correct He will accomplish His will and have His Church)
 - Examples: DVC, COC
 - Things may come short of your expectations; you may be completely off
 - Be careful with your expectations!
 - With expectancy you keep the door open for the Lord to direct you so that His will, plan and purpose is what transpires....and not your own!
 - And the KEY, again....draw near to Him!
 - Just understand this: It's OJT, you're learning as you go
 - The only way it happens is through interaction with Him
- Without these ministries functioning like they should the church will never have divine direction!
- It'll never be the church the Father/Jesus wants it to be
- I've been looking at these things for 40 years; I've been walking these very things out all this time; I've learned a lot, but the main thing I've learned is that if you're heart's correct, He'll have His Church
- We're at a juncture where Jesus (*it's His Church!*) is breathing on them and bringing them to life. It's happening NOW; It's time to step up!
- If it's going to come to life you have to walk with Him; it's not just a Sunday thing

Prophet

- Listed in all three lists of gifts
 - Prophecy as a personality gift - Black or white; very discerning; low on mercy; sometimes perceived as hard; often misunderstood
 - The prophetic personality balances out the gift of mercy, and vice-versa
 - Prophecy as a spiritual gift *(I Corinthians 12)
 - Operating in the '*gift of prophecy*'
 - Giving a prophetic word (*knowledge, wisdom, etc*)

- **I Corinthians 14:31** - *“For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged”*
- All prophets prophesy - But all who prophesy are not prophets
- Prophet - As a gift to the Body of Christ

OT Prophets vs NT Prophets

• **OT prophets**

- Called by God - Empowered by His Spirit
- Dedicated to God
- Didn't just carry the word of the Lord, but also His heart
- Spiritual advisers and counselors to kings and leaders
- God's spokesmen to the nations
- Great responsibility/great authority
- Always speaking to people who did NOT have the Spirit of God
- Old Testament prophets were not just mouthpieces — they were nation-shapers, covenant enforcers, spiritual advisors, and kingdom builders, standing between Heaven and earth to turn hearts back to God.

• **NT Prophets**

- **A fivefold NT prophet** is a Spirit-empowered voice in the Body of Christ, called to reveal the heart and will of the Father, equip others to hear God for themselves, and align the Church with Heaven's direction. Their role is not just to predict the future, but to prepare God's people for what He's doing now, through revelation, correction, encouragement, and activation.
- Walks with God and expects others to do so, too - Non-negotiable quality/characteristic
- Foretells and forth tells
- Devoted to prayer & communion with God
- Important for them, and their people to KNOW God
- Challenge to the traditional system *(status-quo)
- Challenge those seeking the comfort zone
- They challenge the faith of individuals
- Extreme reverence for the Word and will of God *(rigid)
- Seers; what to do, what not to do; where to go, what to avoid, etc
- Works hand-in-hand with apostles

- **1 Corinthians 12:27-28** - *“Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers”*
- **Ephesians 2:19-22** - *“Therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of God’s household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. In Him the whole building is fitted together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together into a dwelling place for God in His Spirit”*
- Apostles and prophets - Same heart, same objectives - Different perspective; overlapping functions
- Apostle provides the sense of direction and advancement
- Prophets provide (*among a lot of other things*), strict adherence to doing things God’s way
- Apostles and prophets provide a system of checks and balances
- *So we don’t get off course
- Their entire lives are dedicated to seeing the True Church arise!
- Determined to see the Church fulfill its prophetic destiny *(*God’s perfect plan for the Church*)
- Realms of authority; some local,some extra local
- Revealing specifics for each individual Church
- Challenge their people to encounter the supernatural
- Intolerant of dead religion
- Hard on leaders *playing the game*

