

# **PROPHETS AND PROPHECIES**

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## 1. UNDERSTANDING PROPHECY

Acts 2:16, but this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel; “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams, yes, and on my menservants and my maidservants in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth beneath, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall turn into darkness and the moon into blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and manifest day. And it shall be that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

When the Spirit comes on all flesh your sons and daughters shall prophesy; young men shall see visions, old men dream dreams. In our teaching series on dreams, we have seen how the word dream here is not a normal Greek word for dream but a special Greek word *enupnion* that speaks about God’s will and God’s revelation that have sunken deep into the sub-consciousness of people. We have seen also that sons and daughters, young men and old men refer to spiritual age. In each spiritual age, there are some things that you perfect in your life. Old men refer to those who are spiritually matured. The word dreams or *enupnion* is the word that talks about the fullness of that vision and the fullness of the revelation in your life in both your conscious and subconscious mind. You are so saturated with the knowledge of God’s will to the extent that you are aware constantly even in your sub-conscious level. Young men is the phase in our spiritual life where we learn to be sensitive to the leadings of the Holy Spirit in the area of our inner vision.

In order to understand prophecy, we need to see that the word prophecy is sometimes used generally and sometimes specifically in the bible. The word prophecy in the bible is used generally for all vocal utterances. It is used specifically under the gift of prophecy to refer to a gift and manifestation of the Holy Spirit. And this phrase, gift of prophecy includes both. It includes the function of the gift but more generally, it talks about the development of prophetic utterances. In the Old Testament, you read about the prophets prophesying and speaking divine utterances. We understand that prophesying can sometimes give forth the word of knowledge, the word of wisdom, which they do it in the Old Testament. If they predict some thing in the future, it actually includes the word of wisdom. But the word prophecy is used generally in the bible sense to refer to any ecstatic utterances that comes forth through a control of the Holy Spirit. And the word prophecy includes also psalms, hymns, and divine utterances in songs that may have some content of revelation. It is not just a simple gift of prophecy in the bible where it only comforts exhorts and edifies. It should do all those three things. But it has a quality of revelation to it.

When the soldiers blindfolded Jesus in His trial and slapped Him, they said, “Prophecy to us, who slapped You?” They are using the word prophecy in general. They are asking Jesus to tell them who slapped Him. It’s a ridiculous situation. That’s not the place the Lord will want to function in any gift of the word of knowledge.

What we are looking is a general function of the word prophecy and all it covers. Prophecies, just like visions and dreams, are experiences that every Christian to a certain extent, have experienced. You may not experience the gift of prophecy. But you will experience the area of general prophecy as you yield yourself to the Holy

Spirit. In order to understand it fully we need to understand the four characteristics of prophecy. There are four basic characteristics to all general prophecy. These apply to general prophecy and these apply also to the gift of prophecy and in the other revelation gifts like word of wisdom, word of knowledge. They may come forth in prophetic utterances. The four characteristics of the general prophecy can be found in the bible and a lack of knowledge of them can cause us to misunderstand the function of prophecy and purpose of prophecy. All of us to a certain extent can learn to prophesy as we have seen in I Corinthians 14.

### **Prophecy is Fractional**

Let's give some scriptures. Let's look first at I Cor. 13:9 For our knowledge is imperfect; and our prophecy is imperfect. One of the first characteristics of prophecy is that it is fractional. It is in part. No person has the totality of what God is saying to the body of Christ. Prophecy is given in part. Now there are two ways it can be fractional. One is the speaker. The one who speaks has part of the revelation that God is bringing forth. And you can see here that Paul speaks about prophecy in general in I Cor. 13 because it ties up in verse two the gift of prophecy. In fact, the word gift is not mentioned in the Greek. I Cor. 13:2 says, Though I have the gift of prophecy. Notice in the New King James it would put the words the gift of in italics. The words gift of is not in the original Greek. I Cor. 13:2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge. Notice he ties up general prophecy to understanding mysteries. The gift of prophecy has no revelation involved. It is only to comfort, exhort and edify. But general prophecy covers revelation. And general prophecy can be learned.

The bible says in I Cor. 14:24 But if all prophesy Paul is talking about every one prophesying. Doesn't that contradict with I Cor. 12 where he says to some are given this gift and that gift so not everybody manifest all the gifts at one time. It doesn't contradict. Paul is talking about two different aspects of prophecy. One is the general prophecy and the other is the gift of prophecy which some have. It's just like tongues. Paul talks about both in Corinthians. He said I would that you all speak in tongue. The word speak in tongue has more reference to every one being able to communicate with God. Then he turns around in I Cor. 12 he says, Do all speak with tongues? At first, it seems to contradict but if you rightly divide the Word, clearly there is no contradiction. Paul was talking on one hand about general speaking in tongue to God. The gift of tongue is God speaking through us, which not all have. So, the gift of prophecy is something not every body has. But general prophecy can be developed.

So Paul says in I Cor. 14:24 But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, see every body is doing it. He is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed. So here, we see that there is revelation involved. The secrets of a person's heart are revealed. Notice that in the verses that we have read prophecy is fractional in two ways. No. 1 the one who prophesy does not understand all that he or she prophesies. So, to the person who is speaking he is speaking in part. He only has part of the knowledge of God to speak forth.

The other way it can be fractional is where to reveal one object. God uses different instruments like in I Cor. 14 the same revelation is given in part, one here and one there to the whole body. Then Paul says all prophesy then the secrets of the person's heart are revealed.

So there are two ways it can be fractional. One is that God can give you a bit at a time, line upon line, and precept upon precept. He can give you a prophetic utterance and after that, He continues some time later. And as time goes on, He gives you a little bit more. As more and more prophecies are given to you, you find the mysteries unfolding. It's just like doing the jigsaw puzzle by yourself. The other way you could do the jigsaw puzzle is to give everybody a piece and everybody come together and fit it in. So there are two ways you could play the jigsaw puzzle, as a team or as an individual. Of course as an individual, it may take a little bit longer.

Prophecy is fractional and because it is fractional the quality of prophecy is such that on the first way it comes is that the person who speaks it have to require faith to bring forth the utterance to some of the things that he or she doesn't even understand.

Lets look at some of the ways the Old Testament prophets brought forth fractional prophecies. In the book of I Peter 1:10 The prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired about the salvation; they inquired what person or time was indicated by the Spirit of Christ within them when predicting the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glory. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things which have not been announced to you by those who preached the good news to you through the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

It tells us that even the angels desired to look into the things that were spoken by these men. And some of these men have prophecies a little bit at a time and they see the whole picture come clearer and clearer. Sometimes, the different prophets put the whole jigsaw puzzle together. We need to understand that in order to co-operate with the different prophets and Christians who may contribute their piece of prophecy to the overall picture you are getting from God.

Now there are four characteristics and each characteristic will lead the other. You have to understand the first before you go to the second and then the third and then the fourth. Each inter-links with one another. For example even in the book of Acts itself the very text where we take this teaching series, there are some prophecies recorded there. Notice how David spoke about the Lord in Acts 2:25 about the Lord being at his right hand and he will not leave his soul in Hades in verse 27. That is a prophecy about Jesus dying on the cross. Then in verse 34 when he says David did not ascend into heaven; but he himself says; "The Lord said to my Lord, sit at my right hand," is from a different Psalms. There are two Psalms involved one is Psalms 16 the other is Psalms 110. These Psalms are placed together to give one whole picture about Jesus Christ. It is the same person prophesying. So, prophecy can come in parts. This means that when we began to move into that general area of prophecy, we learn to prophesy in parts.

In our own personal life we need to take note of some of the things that God is speaking to us for they will be added line upon line, precept upon precept. Sometimes the problem is that when God has spoken some thing and one month later, He speaks some thing that continues on that which you have forgotten the first one, we end up going through life without getting the jigsaw puzzle of God's direction in our life fitted together. It's just like I give you a present of a jigsaw puzzle but I don't give you all the pieces at once. I give you one piece and say I'll give you another later. Hold fast to the piece and study it very carefully. So, you hold fast to that piece and

studied it very carefully. But then you forget about it. You left it somewhere. Then some time along the way I give you another piece. If you lost one piece and you have an additional piece, you still have one piece. Then further along the way, you misplaced the second piece somewhere and you go on. So, you have minus one piece. And now I give you one more piece. So, you have plus one piece back again. And again, you have one piece. And you go all through life and say I wonder why I don't seem to gather the whole thing together. Even Paul told Timothy to remember the prophecies that were uttered in his life that he may wage a good warfare. If a piece of the jigsaw was given to you and you kept it and studied it carefully, and the second piece is given you locked it together with the first. You would have two. And as it goes along another precept comes, another line comes, and you add it here is three.

Lets look a Paul's instruction to Timothy how important it is to remember prophecy. In I Tim., 4:14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

Paul told Timothy to meditate on the prophecies that were given. As an individual, we need to do that. And in the same manner, corporately prophecy could come in parts. Remember it always does come in parts. It's one of the laws of prophecy coming. It always comes in parts and you don't have the whole picture at one time. And too many people take that one picture and say, "Praise the Lord I have got it." They have only got one part and they run away with it. You find them in the mud pool somewhere.

So here, God says it is only given in parts. One of its qualities of prophecies is that it is fractional. It is one of the laws of prophecy that we must understand. Nobody has it all. And sometimes, we must open our ears to hear what God is saying through other people. Because other people may hold the other piece of the jigsaw puzzle to what God is saying to the whole body of Chris generally. For that reason if a pastor builds a church and just do not allow five-fold ministers to come in, that church will be malnourished. Because the church is only given one aspect of what God is saying to the church. Every member of the body of Christ should be encouraged to hear any five-fold ministry that they can piece it together the prophecy. In the same way, a pastor or minister that has his own little church and shut himself up from the other churches robs himself and becomes off tangent thinking that he has the whole. No man has the whole. Every one has in part to contribute to the whole. And all have to learn from one another to see the whole picture of what God's Spirit is saying to the churches. On the other hand, the pastor must exercise caution and discernment. He can not be allowing every Tom, Dick and Harry who claims to be an apostle or prophet to minister to his flock. Some of them are ravening wolves in sheep's clothing who may bring a spirit of strife and division to the congregation or who may make merchandise of the gospel while fleecing the flock.

### **Prophecy is Conditional**

So on the second point that we look here in prophecy is what we call conditional. All prophecies are conditional where a condition is given. That is astounding to us because people don't realize that all prophecies are conditional. We think that some thing is conditional only when a condition is given. Every prophecy is conditional and that is one of the laws that govern prophecy. I show you from the scriptures. When

there is no condition given, yet it implies and between the lines, there is always a condition. The law of condition must guide all prophecies. It's conditioned because of Man has a free choice. God will honor the free choice of men. Because of this factor all prophecies that govern the lives of mankind and individual lives automatically becomes conditioned upon the response of man. There is no such thing as an absolute prophecy where there is no condition. Even when no condition is given, there is a condition, whether it's a judgmental prophecy or whether it is a kind of a positive prophecy.

Let me go the negative and point to the positive. I Kings 21 tells the story of how Ahab together with Jezebel had just killed his neighbor Naboth. They both plotted it together. They did that so that Ahab could have his neighbor's vineyard. After he had done that, God sent His prophet Elijah the Tishbite to him. Elijah the Tishbite came and said in verse 17 Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Thishbite, saying, "Arise, go down to meet Ahab the king of Israel, who is in Samaria; behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession. And you shall say to him, "Thus says the Lord, "Have you killed, and also taken possession?" And you shall say to him, "Thus say the Lord, in the place where..- this is the prophesying coming. It's a predictive thing. If you analyze it as gift of the Holy Spirit, you will classify it as a word of wisdom or judgment. But we analyze it now under general prophecy. Prophecy is generally speaking a vehicle. If it's hard to understand remember this: visions and dreams are vehicles. Vehicles mean that they are the mode by which you receive some thing. And you could receive a word of knowledge through vision. It was a word of knowledge but the vehicle was a vision. You could receive a word of wisdom through dream. The dream was a vehicle but the revelation involved was a word of wisdom. Prophesying is the spoken utterance. The general use of the word prophesying has to do with the supernatural utterance under the control of the Spirit. So there is a vehicle. Within it, it contains a revelation. And most of the time general prophecy contains revelation and it unfold some mysteries of God.

Then in verse 20 Ahab said to Elijah. "Have you found me O my enemy?" He answered, "I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the Lord. Behold, I will bring evil upon you; I will utterly sweep you away, and will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel; and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nabat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the anger which you have provoked Me, and because you have made Israel to sin - etc. There were all kinds of judgments. Then it says in verse 27. Now there is no condition given to the judgment. The way it's predicted it sounds as if it shall surely come kind. God didn't even say if you repent it wouldn't happen. It looks as if it is an unconditional judgment. All prophecies come under the law of human choice and human involvement. And all prophecies have an element of a condition.

Now whether the conditions are mentioned or not, Ahab did something, which was good. Verse 27 And when Ahab heard those words, (See those words - words were given. When you dream a dream, you are unconscious and you see some sort of a picture. When you see a vision you are conscious and you see some revelation in picture form. When you have a prophetic utterance, you will have words that come to you.) he rent his clothes, put sackcloth upon his flesh, fasted, lay in sackcloth, and went about dejectedly. By the way, he was the most wicked man in the book of Kings.

His wife was also the same. Look at what he did. He repented to a small extent. He showed that he was sorry that he took the vineyard. In our Old Testament study in the book of Kings, we have shown that basically Ahab was quite a nice guy. But he was weak willed and too easily influenced. And the big crook was his wife, Jezebel. She had Ahab under the her little finger. There are times Ahab seems to do quite nice things. He had a small little bit of sincerity in him. When Elijah challenged the false prophets Ahab was there. And he allowed the prophets to be killed. But when he went back his wife got angry. When a sincere and potentially good man with a weak will marries a wrong woman, disaster strikes.

God said these words to Elijah in verse 29 Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? Because he has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the evil in his days. God didn't even give him a choice. But this is the law of prophecy. Many people don't realize it. They think that when some thing is prophesied, what was prophesied will come to pass. Whatever will be will be. But the law of prophecy is that it is always conditional whether it's mentioned or not. Prophetic utterance that is spoken is conditional. So here, we see that God said it. He said He is going to do some thing to that person for what he has done but there was repentance and change in the person's behavior. Thus, the judgment that has been prophesied has been averted by the repentance and change in that person. What caused the changed man's response? The second law that governs all prophecies is always conditional. The basis of this is man's free will.

(Interestingly, in 1999, Bob Jones received an angel who appeared to him in the appearance and attire of a Highway Patrolman. The angel declared that he was sent to remind us of the "Law of the Spirit of Life." Therefore, it was his obligation to read Bob his Biblical "Bill of Rights". The first right that the angel mentioned was this. You have a right to mercy and forgiveness where you have sinned. You have a right to come boldly before the Throne of Grace to repent and when you have truly repented, then you have a right to the abundant Mercy of God. Mercy is not receiving what you do deserve. For more of this, read Bob Jones' article "Our Biblical Bill of Rights." – Ed.)

Let's take an example. Even if God said a thousand nice things about you is going to happen, you still got free choice to say no. And because of the free will of man, that itself makes it conditional.

In the book of Jonah, you would find in the story of Jonah how he went to Nineveh. At first, he went away and then God caused a big fish to swallow him. After he repented, the big fish vomited him on land and he was sent back to Nineveh. He landed finally submitting himself to the will of God. And this was the prophecy that he was going to bring to Nineveh. He went to Nineveh and said, "In forty days the city will be destroyed." Nineveh did not hear any conditions involved. Jonah did not say, "Turn to the Lord so you won't be destroyed. If you don't turn to the Lord, disasters will happen." There was no condition given. It looks like the good guys among the Ninevites had to pack their bags and leave if they want to escape the judgments. But every prophecy by the Spirit is conditional.

So here, in the book of Jonah, we see the response of the king. Jonah 3:5 And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. Then tidings reached the king of Nineveh,

and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, and covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he made proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles; Let neither man nor beast, herd or flock, taste anything; let them not feed, or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them cry mightily to God.

Jonah didn't tell them they could do that. From the way the book of Jonah goes even if Jonah knew the secret of averting God's judgment, he wouldn't have told them. Yet, there is a human response to the predicted judgment. Man's free will changes things. And so when the king declared a total fast, no one was excluded - even the animals had to fast. This is serious - in forty days, they were going to be destroyed. Not only fast, the king said every one must wear sackcloth. I could see those sackcloth sellers having good business. Not only the people put on sackcloth the animals also had to wear sackcloth. If you were there that day, you would have gone to the city and see a dog passing by wearing sackcloth. For humbling themselves in fasting and sackcloth, God pardoned them.

Those who don't understand this second law don't understand the heart of God. See people like Eli didn't understand this. In I Samuel chapter two, the Lord called Samuel and the Lord gave him a prophecy in I Samuel chapter two. And the prophecy was negative. The prophecy speaks about what will happen to Eli and his house. The prophecy predicted all kinds of disasters for Eli and his household. You know what Eli's response is. Like some of those people, he said, “Well if it is the Lord's will, that's it.” He doesn't understand that all prophecy is conditional. If Eli had repented, we would have a different story. If Eli had understood one of the laws that govern prophetic utterance, he would turn to the Lord with all his heart. And God would have done some thing in his favor.

David fell into adultery and murder. God pronounced judgment on him. There was some thing he could avoid and there was some thing he could not. It was quite a blanket judgment. David understood the heart of God and the first thing he did was he fasted. He understood that whatever judgment is predicted it could be changed by coming to God in repentance. But for David, the child could not be saved. The child that was born in his adulterous relationship with Bathsheba died. And we know that the child that died is saved because David said, “I will go to the child and the child can not come to me.” So, that's the verse that tells you between the lines that the child is saved. The wonderful thing is that because of David's great repentance, God's pardon was so great that from David and Bathsheba relationship came the heir, Solomon. This relationship in the first place was never meant to be. Isn't the mercy of God marvelous? It was never God's intention. In no way can your mind conceive that it's God's will and God plan for David to commit adultery. But because of his response of repentance, God could wipe out the sin and forgive his iniquities provided he turned with all his heart to the Lord and doesn't turn back to the sinful ways. So, David understood the heart of God, which is why he went all the way, as much as he can.

And there are men in the bible from time to time that have understood this area of God's promises. We want to look into another instance found in II Sam. 7. Now this is a positive prediction. Part of the promises that was given to David in his early life when he walked right with God was in II Sam. 7 where it shows us that David wanted to build a house but the Lord didn't require of him and says his son was to be the one



to build a house for God. But this was the special blessing that God gave to him. II Sam. 7:16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before Me. Now that was a promise that was given to David but you know that no conditions were attached. But David's sons didn't make it. They didn't walk right with God. And for them that wonderful promise and prophecy was cancelled. Thank God, for Jesus Christ that Jesus could come, take that promise, and keep it through. So, that Jesus could become the son of David and then that verse becomes true that his house is established forever. It is only established in Christ. But as far as David's sons were concerned, they didn't see the promise fulfilled for them although that promise hangs before them. I believe that if every son of David had followed the Lord fully, they would have a continuous line of blessings.

The reason for the fall of Israel is not that God planned it but the men failed God. The promises of God whether the prophecies are positive or negative are always conditional, even if it was not mentioned that there are no conditions. You may have a prophecy for your life that says, "I have chosen you to be My ambassador to twenty nations. I have chosen you from your mother's womb. All these gifts shall be upon your life." No conditions are mentioned. But if you didn't live right with God, you didn't walk with God, not a single one of those prophecies will come to pass. No conditions are mentioned there. But it is conditional. It's the second law that governs general prophecy. All prophecy is conditional. That is why we need to take prophecy more seriously. If the prophecy really came from the Lord and if you ever hear from the Lord, you have to take it seriously because it is not going to come to pass if you are lazy and rebellious. And it will not come to pass until you get right with God. Just imagine how many thousands of prophecies have been uttered to the body of Christ but only a small percentage of them are coming to pass in the lives of just a few. What happened to the rest? They are not coming to pass because the rest think the prophecies are unconditional. They think that they just have to sit down, shake their legs and not do anything about the prophecies. They are sadly mistaken.

A prophecy, like dreams and visions, is just a seed. A seed needs to be nourished. Suppose you give me a seed and said this seed is from a most delicious mango. After I planted it, if I don't take care of the plant and water it at all, the fruit will not turn out to be as good, luscious and tasty like its parent fruit. If I continue to neglect it, the fruit will continue to be underdeveloped. I can't complain because I didn't do my responsibility. As long as man has a free choice, all prophetic utterances come under law No. 2 it's always conditional. Therefore Paul says to Timothy, "Meditate on these things that by them you can wage a good warfare."

### **Prophecy is Relational**

The third characteristic of general prophecy is a vital point. No. 1 we have said that it is fractional. No. 2 it is conditional and No. 3 it is relational. Being relational means that when God gives a prophecy whether to you personally or to deliver to the body of Christ, it is not given so that you can boast about it, be puffed up, and say with pride, "I got this revelation." It is relational, that it is related to the environment that you are in.

I have to bring more scriptures to substantiate this point and bring it through. It's just like for example Daniel. Do you notice all the prophecies he received concerned world affairs and political events that were in his time and after his time? Look at his

profession. He was called to be a prophet. He was a Prime Minister in a sense. When he was in the Babylonian Empire, king Nebuchadnezzar promoted him to be one of the top men. When he was in the Persian Empire he also was there standing in the administrative affairs. It was one of the largest kingdoms. We know that Daniel had a lot of duties. He had a lot of political work involved in his duties as a Prime Minister in the daily affairs of the kingdom. In relation to his work, God revealed the kingdom affairs. See prophecy is relational. We'll apply that afterwards.

Let me give more scriptures. In the book of I Sam. 3 notice that Samuel was chosen to establish a kingdom in Israel. He was the transition between the judges and the kingship. And in his role, he was a priest, a prophet and a judge. He stood on three anointing, which was very rare in those days. David stood in two. He was a prophet and a king. See even in the Old Testament some people have more than one mantle. Samuel had three mantles on his life. The anointing to be a judge is a kingly anointing. And so, we see that the anointing of priest, prophet and king was on his life and he prophesied on many things. There are certain prophecies that are recorded of his life. And I would go as far as to say this every prophecy in his life is related to the kingdom and to the world. All his prophecies were about king Saul and about David. See God used him as far as the kingdom is concerned. It is related to his work, to his environment and therefore it was necessary for him to have prophecies and revelations in that area. See God does not call us to be busy bodies. God will not reveal to you something that will happen in the North Pole if it is not related to you at all. Every thing that God does in your life in revelations, in dreams and visions has a specific purpose. And the purpose is related to your environment that you are in. It's important for Daniel for what he received because he was involved in the transition of kingdoms. It is important for Samuel to receive what he received and understood because he was involved in setting up kings.

Let's look at another man David. David is a king and a prophet and those were his two mantles. Did you notice of all of prophecies about Jesus Christ as King and Messiah given by all the prophets in the Old Testament, David had the most prophecies?

Psalms 24:8-10 Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle! Now this is about the Lord Jesus Christ. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Psalms 29:1 Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy array. Verse 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars. Verse 8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness. Verse 10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

Now all these points to prophecies about Jesus. I could give you Psalms after Psalms because David's vocation and profession was a king so he had relational prophecies about the coming King of glory, Jesus Christ. David was in a position to understand the kingship and as a prophet, he was giving out of that kind of prophecies in Psalms. There are many such prophecies in the Psalms. Even Acts 2 the quotation of his prophecies was relational. See he was a king. He sat on the throne. And the prophecies he received was related to his position that God has placed him in.

When we understand this third law of prophecy then we understand that when you received a word from the Lord it would usually be relational to your life in different ways. Either at some point in the future you will be involved in that kind of thing indirectly or directly, through your life or through your influence. Or you are already in that kind of situation. Sometimes you received a prophecy in those areas because it's relational to your future work. So, you may see some thing in the body of Christ that needs correction. But it's not time to do that neither do you have the knowledge and the wisdom to carry it out. But you see things that are not done. You may be involved in those things. It's relational. Or you may already be in a position related to this areas like you are already involved in church work and you receive prophetic utterances in those areas.

Now these four points we covered relates to all revelation too. These laws that apply to prophecies applies to all revelation that you received. That is here you are involved in church work. Maybe you are involved in church planting. Definitely because of your work in that area, when ecstatic utterances are brought forth it will flow from your position there. And you will be in a position to receive prophecies in relation to that. Like for example if any Tom, Dick and Harry come to me and said, "I have this prophecy about what God is going to do all over the world." There are two things that come to my mind. First of all, is this guy related to that prophecy in any way? If this person has no future work in that area or is not involved in that work at the moment that the prophecy is received, then his prophecy would be very inaccurate. It will be inaccurate in its interpretation and its application. Some times, it may not even be from the Lord. Remember the first two points it is fractional. The person received a part of it only if it's really from the Lord. But usually because that person is not related that kind of situation, that person's interpretation is totally out. His interpretation can even turn out to be the opposite of what will really happen. This is why we need to understand this characteristic of prophecy. Let me give an example. If a person's prophesies that such-and-such a thing is going to happen to the body of Christ all over the world and if he is not in church work nor called to church work at all, his prophecy would have to be submitted to someone in that position to interpret it in fullness.

Secondly, If it were from the Lord, it would be fractional. That person's prophecy would not be as accurate as some one who is already in the church work and has himself received a word about what is happening in the body of Christ. And when both prophecies were given, people will sense the difference. One has an element of accuracy and solidness and the other hangs out empty.

If it's not from the Lord, then this person just heard wrongly. If it's from the Lord, then we apply the second sub-law to this third law of relational prophecy. That person's prophecy needs to be re-interpreted in the right context. So when you understand these laws God will never give you a prophecy out of the blue where you will come and predict judgment upon the church. You have never been involved in church work nor are you going to be involved at all. Or predict some thing wrong. I see some thing wrong in this church or in that church. Your seeing is partly natural. See it's relational. But if it's a person is already in church work or going to move into it some time in the future, the reason God showed that is that person would be involved in that situation. God doesn't speak a judgment or some thing bad happening without you going to turn it around.

All prophecies are conditional whether it is positive or negative and it is conditioned on man's response. Some people not understanding this take it negatively all the time. And it looks like the one who could see the most things becomes the most spiritual prophet. That's not the way God designed prophecy to be. God in no way will allow prophecy to build a person's ministry or prestige or status. The reason God reveals some thing to any individual is because it's related to that person working in that situation. Or that person has some influences to bear in that situation. Or that person is going to move into that situation in the future to change it or to bring it to pass. God does not give us a prophecy to make us to be busybodies. "O, what is God doing in the Amazon jungles? He is doing such-and-such a thing there. What is God doing in the North Pole? Well He is going to evangelize this and that. What is God going to do in the church? He is going to do this and that." It makes you a super-spiritual busybody, prophesying in areas where you know not.

So all prophecies are relational. From which prospective are you receiving it? I would have no word from the Lord for any country or nation that I am not involved with. I may see in general but I would have nothing involved in that unless I am in the position to minister in some form in that area then it becomes clearer. From a general perspective, I would have a general perspective and develop in the area of prophesying because of the general position in the body of Christ in the five-fold ministry. But I would have no specific prophecy until God calls me into a nation to do some thing there. See the specific only comes if you are involved. God doesn't waste time. God doesn't just give out information for the sake of a spiritual newspaper to read just for fun what is happening here and what is happening there. Every revelation has a purpose to change life, influence lives or to bring us into a position to do some thing in that area.

Samuel could identify lost donkeys - he did at one time. But the lost donkey was related to getting a king for Israel. You remember that Saul lost his donkey. There could be twenty thousand donkeys lost that day. God is not interested in all the nineteen thousand nine hundred and ninety nine donkeys. The reason why He reveals the lost and found donkey is because Saul lost it and Saul was the future king. Every work that Samuel was involved in was relational to his role as kingmaker. The prophecies he received were relational.

Look at Elijah - why did he go and stop the rain? It was relational to his work and his task as a prophet to bring judgment to that nation. It is relational. God doesn't make a person a busybody. He does not appoint busybodies. They usually are self-appointed.

On the positive side, the question is asked: Is there then room for any member of the body of Christ to receive a prophecy? There is but you have to bring it into the interpretation of those who are there. God can give a word to anybody. Lets say God gave you a word about the North Pole evangelism but you have never gone to the North Pole and you have a certain prediction about that place. You have to bring your prediction to those who would be involved in that work.

In the book of Acts 21:4 And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. Through the Spirit, they told Paul not to go on to Jerusalem. Now these are disciples who are baptized in the Holy Spirit. They have probably received a prophecy about Paul. They receive a prophecy about danger. Now they are not involved in the work like Paul was involved. He was already encountering danger any

way wherever he went. So, they took upon themselves to give the interpretation that Paul was not supposed to go. It says, Through the Spirit, they told Paul not to go to Jerusalem. These people told Paul very clearly not to go. It is said they even spoke through the Spirit. So another way we can phrase this is, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, don't go." They said, "It through the Spirit." And they were wrong. See it needs to be submitted to Paul who was the one involved. They were not involved in that situation of going to Jerusalem.

If you have a prophecy about me it has to be submitted to me for my interpretation not yours. If I have a prophecy about you I will have to take the position where I will deliver the prophecy to you but its up to you to add further light and revelation and interpretation that you could see because you are the one involved not me. I am only receiving fractional prophecy and you may be receiving other fractional prophecy. Perhaps a little bit of my fractional prophecy will add to your collective prophecies and make the jigsaw puzzle clearer.

See these laws go one after the other. Because of the fact that the prophecy was fractional, the disciple only saw the danger part of the prophecy and they thought that was the whole picture. So they arrived at the conclusion that Paul shouldn't go. Paul saw that fraction. But he saw more than that fraction. He was involved in it anyway. He was heavily involved in work that is close to death, stoned, beaten, he was closed to death many times. He was not afraid of death anyway since he had many brushes with death. Just as Jesus' face was set on Jerusalem to suffer at the hands of the elders and Sanhedrin, so likewise was Paul's face set on Jerusalem to bear witness to the Name of Jesus. Paul had the larger picture.

So, honor these principles. I have to honor it in your life when I give a prophecy to allow you to have freedom to choose, to flow along, with the prophetic interpretation in our life. In the same way if I travel to another church to minister there and I prophesy to the church, do you know that my prophecy for that church has to in the end be submitted to whoever is involved in building that church for a total interpretation? God doesn't give us a prophecy to be a busybody. He gives a prophecy for us to be involved in it in some way. If you are in that position where there don't seem to be any relationship between you and the prophecy and if it's from the Lord, you have to bring it to the person involved in that prophecy. Let those involved take it as a fraction from you and fit their own whole jigsaw puzzle. You withhold your interpretation and don't jump into any conclusion because what you have is only a fraction of the whole. Those involved would probably have more fractions than you. They would see the whole picture clearer. So, it's a law of submission to one another.

So, this third law of relational prophecy is important. Otherwise, we would think that we are like big bosses going around just because we prophesy or move into ecstatic utterances. We think that every one has to abide by our command. There is no reason why I should pray to God and help you find lost things in your life. Perhaps you lost a key. You say, "Brother pray for me. Do you have any word where it is?" Generally, I would say no. But supposing that I have never met you before and you have lost an important key. The Lord tells me where the key is but the reason for locating the key for you is make it a sign to you. You could be questioning the Lord in some areas of your life. A relationship between you and me is formed when the lost key is found. Then the Lord begins to use me to reveal other things that He is dealing with your life. You are surprised and asked, "How do you know?" Because of the accuracy of the

prophecies, you know that this must be from God and He is dealing with your life and you must change.

See there are reasons to it. God doesn't just get into the business of finding lost things. In your personal life, you can pray for all things. Trust God for all things whether it is lost keys or all things trust the Lord. But I am talking about giving a word. Prophetic utterance must be submitted under the third law. It is relational to any work concerned. It doesn't just hang by itself like a sore thumb. Our fingers look lovely but if you just cut one finger off and stick it to a plant, it looks ugly by itself. But if fitted to the palm it looks lovely. So it's important for us to see that any prophecy given must be relational to the giver of the prophecy.

In Acts 21 Agabus came in verse 10 and 11 While we were staying for some days, a prophet name Agabus came down from Judea. And coming to us he took Paul's girdle and bound his own feet and hands, and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, "So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this girdle and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles. And in verse 12 everybody told him don't go. They misinterpreted the prophecy. It applies to Paul it doesn't apply to them. So, they should have submitted the final interpretation to Paul. But they tried to ask Paul not to go. See they took one fraction of that prophecy. Paul saw the other parts that they did not see. And they did not submit it to Paul at first. They interpreted it, and told Paul not to go, danger, danger, don't go. It's not what God was saying. That was a part of what God was saying. But their interpretation and conclusion was wrong.

Lets say if I had a prophecy about Timbuktu. I don't have any sort of work there in any direct way. If I have received any prophecy and truly, it's from the Lord, I should let those who are there interpret the word of prophecy. The one fraction of word that I received may be interpreted out of context if seen by itself. Any thing seen by itself can be easily put out of context. It's the easiest thing to misinterpret anything that is by itself. Take one jigsaw puzzle by itself and you see one green little thing at the corner. It could be a plant, or it could be a part of a flower. You don't know what it is until you fit it with another piece then you see it's a plant. It's the easiest thing to misinterpret a fraction of prophecy. Think about it. It's always in fractions.

I have heard many prophecies that are given that are out of context; in the same way, bible verses are taken out of context. You could pull one bible verse out of its original context in the Bible by letting it hang loosely. This is not right. This is the same way some people pull one part of the prophecy without allowing it to come to the whole to see the whole picture. They forget that all prophecy is relational.

In Acts 11, we read how Agabus had a prophecy about a famine. Agabus signified by the Spirit in Acts 11 about a famine coming, which according to Luke, came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. What is the reason for that prophecy? So that they would sit around and shake legs and say, "Praise God, there is a famine coming"? That prophecy was for them to do some thing. They were going to be involved in helping those who would suffer by the famine. It is always relational. God doesn't waste time like human beings do. Every precious revelation or prophecy He gives has a purpose and has meaning in the lives of the people who give it and the lives of the people who receive it. It's only when some Christians who are still in the flesh prophesy a lot of things that has nothing to do with their lives or with the persons who hear it.

Beside that, sometimes, even if the prophecy is really from the Lord, the attitude in the giving the prophecy may be wrong. Some don't understand that prophecy is both fractional and relational and since they have nothing to do with it, they have to submit it to someone who has something to do with it for its final interpretation. Let's look at it this way. If somebody else has three pieces of the jigsaw and I have one, who would see a clearer picture? It would definitely be the guy who has three pieces. All of us are not all things. We all are a small part in the body of Christ. So there are some parts in the body of Christ that may see better than others. But there some parts that others may see better than them. Unless we learn to flow in this context, we will always move into the wrong place in the body, places that we shouldn't be in or claiming authority that we don't have. If I have one piece and that guy has three pieces, I would bring that one piece to that guy and say, "You have the three pieces there. Put this there and tell me what the full meaning is. I only have this and if I interpret it would be slightly off." Wouldn't that be a better attitude than for each one who holds one piece and says, "I got it. I got the whole picture." It's important for us to see that prophecy is fractional, prophecy is conditional and prophecy is relational.

### **Prophecy is Directional**

Then we have in the book of Acts the fourth area that prophecy is directional. We have seen part of it in Acts 11 that it has to do with the body of Christ there. The reason why God revealed that famine was coming to the church of Antioch is so that the church of Antioch can do some thing. And they did. Every prophecy in this bible always brings a direction. It doesn't hang loose by itself. They always bring a direction and a conclusion to the whole situation. Every prophecy that is given will relate to the person who is giving it in life or in influence. That means you may directly have some thing to do with it or you may be an influence in affecting it in other people's life. God has no business in revealing some thing to you if you are not going to get involved with it. Either in actual work or in influence or in some way God will have you involved it's directional, it directs people's life.

I Kings 13 here is an unknown unnamed prophet, which the bible doesn't give his name. And this man of God came all the way from Judah to the North. Israel was divided into the Northern and Southern kingdom. The North was idolatrous, he came to the North, and he prophesied against the altar that was made by the king. And he says this altar shall be destroyed.

I King 13:3 And he gave a sign the same day, saying, "This is the sign that the Lord has spoken: Behold, the altar shall be torn down, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out. King Jeroboam was there and he said, "Arrest him." When he said, "Arrest him," his hands couldn't come back. And the man of God had to pray for his hands to come back. That was a fantastic sign. God's power was there. Then this prophet has finished his ministry and work in that area and as he went back.

In verse 8 And the man of God said to the king, "If you give me half your house, I will not go in with you. And I will not eat bread or drink water in this place; for so was it commanded me by the word of the Lord, saying, "You shall neither eat bread, nor drink water, nor return by the way that you came."

Notice this was the prophecy that this man had. He has to go there prophesy and not even take one bite of food and he is to go by a different way back. On his way back in

verse 11 there was an old prophet. We could paraphrase it and say that he was a retired prophet. That means he no more prophesies. But he was a prophet so he retains the title old prophet. And his sons came in and told him of the man of God. They chased after him and in verse 14 and he says, "Are you the man of God." He says, "I am." "Come home with me and eat bread," the retired prophet said to the young prophet. The man of God said the same thing, "The Lord said, 'You should not eat bread nor drink there nor return by going the way you came.'" And in verse 18, the retired prophet said, "I am also a prophet. An angel spoke to me told me to take care of you." The bible says here at the end that he lied. That retired prophet was lying. And it says in the next verse he went back with him. He ate bread in his house and drank water. In verse 20 it happened as he sat on the table eating then the word of the Lord came to the prophet who brought him to his house. Suddenly the anointing came back on the retired prophet. Now he had earlier told lies. Suddenly this word came to the retired prophet and said to the young prophet, "You are going to die." What an odd story the bible has here.

But this is the principle we are drawing. Every prophecy is relational that means it's in the context of what the background you are in or spiritual position you are in. Suppose you are a babe in Christ and receive two separate prophecies, one from somebody who is walking with God and another, an old leader who is not spiritual anymore. All things being equal, the former prophecy would be more accurate than that the latter. So it's relational to the spiritual position and background and some times the work that God calls you to.

The fourth point is that it's directional in the sense that if the one who brings forth that prophetic utterance is not involved directly, then his very own life would be prophetically involved. What does this mean? That means his very own person is the message of the prophecy. This man the young prophet brought the prophecy of judgment that Israel was symbolically judged must now show forth in his person the work and the wrath of judgment on that country. The reason why God told him not to eat bread or drink water is because he will not touch anything that is condemned to judgment in that country. The young prophet represents the life of that prophecy. He is the mouthpiece to give and live that prophecy. Judgment was pronounced on the whole nation, even its bread and water. Every morsel of bread or cup of water that he received means he is not living that prophecy he prophesied. He is not consistent with it. So as he moved out and he was tricked into doing that. He should have realized that the fourth law of prophecy is directional, even to his own person.

This probably seldom happens but let's suppose that it happened. Lets suppose that you went into a city to do a ministry and God especially chose you from the day you were born. You did your best and there is some acceptance but plenty of rejection. The time comes to end and God tells you, "All right, it is time to leave." As you leave God tells you shake the dust from your feet as a sign of judgment for the rejection. And as you walked out after shaking the dust off your feet, some people call out to you, "Why don't you come to this tourist shop and take home a few souvenirs?" And you turn back and said, "O.K." Look, you are being inconsistent. You shook the dust and pronounced judgment and here you are taking things from the city where you pronounced judgment. All prophecy will always be directional where it affects the life of the one who gives it forth. Or through the one who gives it forth there is supposed to be an influence in that area. But it will be inconsistent with the life.



So having that background, you see this young prophet coming to the Northern kingdom and prophesying judgment. He was told specifically not to eat or drink in that place. And as he walked out of that place, an old retired prophet comes in with a false word. He should have easily judged it. That word is contradictory to what he had received. Not only whether you hear a word or not the first law would have protected you. To know that it is directional. If I give a prophecy, my life must direct it. In the old, they go further than they do in the new. When Hosea prophesied about Israel who abandoned God when God loves so much, his marriage became a symbol. See his whole life became involved in that prophecy. When Isaiah and Ezekiel prophesied their whole life were directed. They lived for the prophecy. In a sense, they lost their life. Their life is for the prophecy and they are the personification of the prophecy. See the prophecies we give forth must be personified in our life's style, in our influence. The consistency must be there. There must be a change that comes.

If you prophesy of a tremendous influx of wrong things that are going to come to the world's T.V. channels and you own a T.V. then you are not consistent. I doubt your prophecy. Can you see the relationship? No one can carry a true prophecy in that direction and then buy a T.V. So there must be consistency if it's a true prophecy. It's one of the important laws that judge a prophecy in the final end. A prophecy always changes and directs a person's life or life's style and affects that very person. Your prophetic word becomes only a portion of what is in you.

Let's look at Joseph. He had a prophecy in a sense by the dreams he received. In a sense, the dreams he received were prophetic. He had two dreams that he told his brothers in Genesis chapter 37. One prophecy was about his brothers bowing to him. The other prophecy was about all of his family, including his parents, bowing to him. Why did God give it to him? It is because his life was involved with his families. Because he was in Egypt later on and he was the instrument for the salvation of the Hebrew family. See God doesn't waste time. He doesn't appoint busybodies.

### **Growing in the Prophetic**

All prophecies are fractional, conditional, relational and directional. These are the four characteristics of all general prophecies. How do we receive and grow in prophecy? It is the same laws that apply to the others. Live a life of praise and worship. David became a prophetic king because he was one who was a psalmist. And through the ministry of a psalmist, he received the psalms from God that contained a lot of prophetic utterances. A life of praise and worship always leads to prophetic utterance. When the church in Acts 13 ministered to the Lord the Holy Spirit said some thing, "Bring me Paul and Barnabas," verse 2 of Acts 13. So, when people minister to the Lord they place themselves in a position to receive from the Lord. Live a life of praise and worship.

Secondly, live a life of prayer and fasting. One of the key failures in the body of Christ is when we don't understand a passage of a scripture, we run to man after man to interpret for us. But we fail to bring that scripture to God and say God, "Lord, I am going to fast and pray about this scripture would You please reveal it to me." Or we run from one commentary to the other and never run to the Lord who wrote it. There will be and there will continue to be many things in the Word that we don't understand fully because we have fractional understanding. But each time you come across one you could bring it to the Lord in prayer and fasting.

For example, take the life of Daniel. When he receives some things he did not understand, he always fasted and prayed for an understanding. Whatever could be revealed would be revealed to him. That will bring you into the position of prophetic utterance and understanding. If you understand these four laws that govern prophetic utterances, you will be protected from a lot of abuse. And it's an important area to get into. It's the starting point. When you begin to receive utterances from God and when you prophesy to yourself, write down what you can. Be opened to persons with the genuine gift of prophecy and build it into one piece for behind it is the will of God being unfolded in your life. Remember all prophecy is fractional, conditional, relational and directional and it will involve your own life.

## 2. 'YETZER' IN THE PROPHETIC REALM

There are three areas that can affect what we receive as impressions in the realm of the Spirit. One of them is the condition of our heart. Sometimes because of the condition of our heart we hear echoes in the realm of thoughts, in the realm of the soul and in the realm of the spirit. And we think that those echoes are impressions from the Lord. It is because of our heart; it is not because of God speaking to us.

The second area is the thought realm and the thought life.

The third area is about spirit beings. When they are around they can affect the impressions we received from God. The devil and his demons give us bad thoughts. So whenever you are in a place with a lot of demons there will be a sudden gush of evil thoughts coming to your mind and senses. Or sometimes when you are in a place full of angels there is a sudden gush of holy thoughts that fill your mind. Some of our thoughts come from ourselves. Some of our thoughts come from God. Some of our thoughts come from the enemy. So not all our thoughts are from God. But there is what I call this atmosphere of thoughts that we are dealing with.

In this third area we have examples of people who have been influenced by spirit beings. The thoughts were negative and they did not know it. In the book of Acts chapter 5 you have people like Ananias and Sapphira. He and his wife were discussing about cheating or being dishonest in their offering to the Lord. They were unaware that the thoughts and the impressions that they were having were from the devil. They must have thought that it was a pretty good idea to have recognition by dishonesty. And as they stood before Peter and brought their shortchanged offering in Acts 5. It was Ananias who came first and Peter said in verse 3. Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the proceeds of the land?" Ananias was not aware that it was Satan who gave those impressions. But he yielded to them and Peter discerned that they were from the devil.

Now sometimes there is warfare in the two impressions. The Holy Spirit against Satan the enemy spirit. In the book of Matthew chapter 16:13 "What do men say that the Son of Man is?" then in verse 15 "Who do you think that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Then Jesus in verse 17 revealed that the impression or the conclusion that he had received was not from himself but it was from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit had led him and guided him into all truth. The Holy Spirit had brought him to the place where he could discern that Jesus was the Son of the Living God. The impression and the conclusion were strong in his life. Peter may not be aware that it was the Holy Spirit. So Jesus said here in verse 17 "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven."

And at that time the devil came and put thoughts into Peter's mind. And he didn't know that it was the devil. Jesus started talking about the cross and the sufferings that He has to bear. Peter in verse 22 said, "God forbid, Lord! This shall not happen to you." Now Peter did not know that it was from the devil. Some of us yield to the thoughts of the devil. It doesn't mean that we are possessed. It doesn't even mean that we are obsessed. But in a moment of time he yielded to the devil. And he said, "Jesus don't go to the cross." Partly it could be his emotional bonding to Jesus. It was not just the surrounding, it was not just the emotion, and it was not just the soul.

See the first area could be the heart. Our own desire could get echoed back in the atmosphere. It could be the thoughts of others that he picks up. In his case it was the devil that came and put the impression in his heart. And Jesus was not fooled. Jesus immediately knew whom the source of the thought was from. He says to Peter “Get behind me Satan.”

I hope that through this series of teaching, we will have less people claiming to say things that are from the Lord. If after this teaching on prophecy and what is from the Lord and what is not, people still make the mistake, I think that the Word just went over their head. They did not absorb the Word of God. We need to be very careful.

There are seven levels of the Spirit of prophecy. We need to be careful before we say something is the Lord. Differentiate between impressions, between perceptions, revelations and “thus said the Lord.” There is a whole lot of difference. And yet it is so common to find Christians still doing it all over again. It is the Lord. No it is not from the Lord. The Lord told me this. No the Lord did not tell you that.

A lot of people are not aware of the thought realm. Perhaps we should do a little bit more teaching on this area. Here is a research done by a group of scientists on faith healing. This faith may not be Jesus. They may be people who are gifted or people who have tapped on to the enemy’s imitation power in healing. Or it may be the natural power of the soul or through their fallen spirit of man. Or it may be true Christians. We do not know. Its not stated here in the study. But there are certain observations that we want to look at. This group of scientists attached some sort of electrodes to a so called faith healer to observe what happens in the realm of the mind when the healing was taking place or that prayer or whatsoever was taking place. So these are the observations.

It says here, This energy has not been identified by science. In other words there is no actual measurement by science on the power of mind over matter. And its not fully understood by the healers themselves. It says, Healers who have been scientifically tested have shown to have unusual brain wave patterns. And when both healers and patients were tested together during healing sessions it was found that these brain waves patterns were transferred to the patient. Isn’t that interesting? Further other laboratory tests have shown that these healers could make the skin wound in mice heal more rapidly. Or heal a flask of enzymes damaged by ultra violet rays. This is all scientific evidence. There are some powers out there that scientists could not define.

I hope this gives those of you who are a little bit too intellectual more grounds for believing that there is such a thing as healing by prayer. There is some change that is made by some energy force. And if you are sick this day understand that there is a higher power that works in a certain law that can heal sicknesses in your life.

Here it documented that when the healer transmitted whatever he has into the wounded mice, the mice’s wounds healed more rapidly. And there are flasks of enzymes damaged by ultra violet light and those enzymes were restored. These so called faith healers may not have known the Lord but they may have tapped on the power of the spirit and the soul.

Now there has been some occult or rather cultic truth sideline. Understand that the enemy had perverted the best truths in the bible. The enemy has chosen some of the

most helpful principles and truths and methods in the bible and perverted them so much so that today when a person is born again and he is a believer in Christ, he wonders whether all this so called faith healing is just Christian science, mental hypnosis or occult without examining the Word of God, when it is this Word of God and when it's the Lord Jesus Christ and the power of the Spirit of God that flows into our lives this day and transforms and causes certain things to happen.

There is a powerful realm out there called the thought realm. And the thought realm is one of the most powerful important areas that God is speaking about. Every prophet and every one who desires to hear from God needs to clear out this area of what we call the thought realm in order for God to work. We have mentioned how that there is a transmission of thoughts. The thoughts that you think not only affect you personally, the thoughts that you think somehow radiate in the atmosphere around you. And sometimes if your thoughts are strong it will radiate around your room, they will radiate around your house and if they are stronger still they may radiate around a city or a whole nation. It is thoughts that are a realm that we fight with.

Lets look at II Cor. 10:3-6 For though we live in the world we are not carrying on a worldly war, for the weapons of our warfare are not worldly but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every proud obstacle to the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete. He is speaking about the weapons of our warfare. What does the weapons of our warfare do? They bring every thought to the obedience of Christ. The thought realm is a powerful realm. When we think there is silent echo and vibration that flows into the soul realm. Remember there are three realms, the natural realm, the soul realm and the spirit realm. The thoughts we think are powerful.

Let me illustrate. There is a certain atmosphere right now in this place. Could I have four of you come up and form a sort of a circle? If their thoughts synchronized, whoever enters that circle will feel something. It is the thought realm that is very powerful. We need to understand it. This is why if we have everybody in this place beginning to sing the same song and think the same thought, the atmosphere clears up. The moment you step out of this place into a supermarket where people's thoughts are of the affairs of this life, it's a different experience altogether.

Now in your mind without saying a single word I would like each one of you here to just call on Jesus. Could you broadcast that thought? We can not read one another's mind. But the atmosphere created is experiential in the soul realm. Get ready to broadcast strong. Let me pick someone to stand outside here the presence of God is peaceful. But if you step right into the circle its different. You feel like there is something lifting you up and your mind is not so clouded. It is easier to think clearly. There is a sort of lifting up atmosphere in your mind. You don't exactly hear the word Jesus but there is an atmosphere that lifts you up. When you step outside of the circle its different.

I would like someone whose mind is very distracted.

Pastor: Would you please stand inside the circle? How do you feel now?

Person: My mind is quiet and all the distracting thoughts have gone away.

There are some groups of Christians who have tapped on that. They have a retreat and in that retreat they form a circle and they put someone in the middle. Sometimes they visualize their circle going right to the White House and they surround the President with those thoughts waves to lift him up with something from the Word of God. The difference is remarkable. If you have some distraction and you enter into that atmosphere, there is a tremendous change. It is like a difference between hearing a lot of sounds and suddenly all you hear is a single sound. All of us have minds that can be distracted. And there are some places you go to you find that the mind is under pressure. Some places you go to the mind is not under pressure. It depends on the thought waves. As human beings learn to transmit through radio waves and through all waves its harder to break that wave of evil that is always in the air. This is why someone who is strong morally here in this country the moment they go to another country where there is so much immorality and evil, they can suddenly fall into sin. Not only because of the influence but also because of the atmosphere.

Besides that there is also the soul influence that is catching. However when we are aware of the battle we face we are able to overcome it. When our minds become strong in God we are able to overcome it. The thought realm is so powerful that in the early days about 700 years ago, in the renaissance period in secular society and the reformation period in Christianity, man began to understand the potential that God has placed in him or her. And there were several cults that came out. One of them is called the Christian Science. They don't believe that material things exist. They believe that everything around them is an illusion and only the thought realm is the real realm. Now that is an extreme and that is an error because the physical realm is real. But what happens is that Satan took a truth and perverted it.

The Word of God says is that the thought realm or the realm of words is the real realm. But words form objects. What is a word? Hebrews chapter 11:3 By faith we understand that the world was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made out of things which do not appear. II Cor. 4 tells us the things which are seen are made of things which are invisible. Thousand of years ago a Greek scholar by the name of Democritus said that all things were made from atoms. And over several decades ago Albert Einstein got the understanding that all matters and all atoms and molecules came from energy. But God's Word goes forth and say that all the source of energy whether they be natural, spiritual or soul comes from the Word. The first energy force that flows forth was when God said, "Let there be light". And so this energy force framed the world. Now this spoken Word became the energy force that was spoken was powerful. What we need to know is that energy force continues to flow even in the thought realm. Thoughts are words that are not spoken. Thoughts and imaginations are the embryo form of words that will be spoken at a later time. And they are a powerful force.

Lets look at this thought realms in the bible. And there are so many areas to cover so we will streamline to cover on the word "Yetzer". The word yetzer in Hebrew is the same equivalent with the Greek word dianoia but it carries with it the thought realm.

### **The Magnetic Force of Yetzer**

Lets look in the book of Psalms 103:14 For He knows our frame, He remembers that we are dust. What is the meaning of the word frame here? He knows the essence of our being. That's what the word is talking about. And He remembers that we are made

from dust. When you frame something, you must have a plan. When you want to build a house there is a plan where everything is put together. You could bring two lorry loads of building materials to build a house. You could pour them all in somebody's front yard. You still don't have a house. You only have a pile of building materials. But when those building materials are assembled or, quote unquote, framed together in sequence brick upon brick, door post where the door post are to go, foundation where foundations are to go, you end up with a house. So the frame and the building materials are different. The frame is the architectural blue print. The materials are what the contractor brings along.

That blue print that can fit everything together is the yetzer. He knows our frame. The dust from which Adam is made from is the building material. Our bodies are made of 90% water and minerals. We are all made from atoms and molecules. But what brought us together? The essence of it was the yetzer. The first point about the thought or the yetzer that we have is that it has an ability to bring about building materials together to form something. The thoughts that you think right now have a magnetic power to bring about all those materials that you need to bring them into a manifestation in the physical realm. It is an attractive force that attracts these building materials together to function in the framework of the yetzer.

Suppose right now you have in your mind a vision, a dream or an imagination of you perhaps meeting the king and finding favor with him. Its in your mind, its in your vision, your thought. The frequency and intensity of these thoughts will help bring them to pass. When those thoughts are from God, when they are filled with the energy of the Holy Spirit, when they become strong this is what is going to happen. If it is a thought that is so strong that no doubts can destroy it, people who are in a position to bring you into the audience with the king will come across your path. There is an attraction of circumstances to bring that thought to pass.

It would be like this flower arrangement here in this vase. There was a certain framework in somebody's thoughts and imaginations that guided him or her to place these flowers together in this way. In the same way the yetzer is almost like a spiritual genetic code in our body. Every cell in our body has a genetic code. Whether it is a cell taken from your hair or from your toe it has the same genetic code that determines the color of your eyes, your height and color of your skin. It is in your genetic code. Now scientifically if you could take just one of your cells and extract the DNA that contains your genetic code and place it in a fresh new cell that has been created, that human cell will be the exact clone of who you are. Its amazing because of the genetic code they could produce another you. But whether they could spiritually produce another you it's a different question. You could take the genetic code of Abraham Lincoln and clone someone who grows as tall as he was and who looks exactly like him. But if he doesn't have a godly mother like Abraham Lincoln had and has the same Christian education the clone may grow up to be a crook. Hereditary and environment works together. But what is amazing is that all the information is stored in one tiny little cell.

This is the puzzle of scientists. What controls the genetic code coming together? The bible calls it the yetzer, the plan and the mind of God. The yetzer is the thoughts and the plan of God for each individual soul. That yetzer could attract things together if the yetzer of the thought in your mind is strong enough and of God. Sometimes when it is not of God but it is strong enough it brings the reverse. Understand how powerful

thoughts are. We have spoken about the power of words and now we want to emphasize the power of thoughts. The thoughts we think if they are strong enough has an attractive force to bring circumstances together.

Lets say that God gave you a dream to build the largest supermarket. And every thought will be challenged. Along the way you overcame all fears and all doubts. These thoughts so occupied your mind and thinking and are so strong that they can never die. Even though you may not have spoken of those things, people who know anything about the supermarket get attracted across your path. Business opportunities that are steps in the ladder towards your goal began to fall along your path. There is an attractive and magnetic force of yetzer.

### **The Controlling Force of Yetzer**

Secondly lets look over at the book of Genesis 6:5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Do you notice three different phrases? (1) The intent (2) of the thoughts of (3) his heart. The heart controls the whole of man. Then there is the thought of the heart. Then there is the intent of the thought of the heart. The intent is the controlling force. It is just like a huge airplane. Mechanical devices move every moving part of that plane from the wings to the engines. And the electronic parts control the mechanical parts. And the pilot controls the electronic parts. So he pushes a tiny switch and the huge plane can go up and down. So the pilot is like the yetzer and he controls the whole plane. How tiny he is in comparison to that huge big plane. Yet all he does is to lift his little finger and turn that tiny little switch. He is like the yetzer and he controls the intents. So the mechanical parts, the electronic parts and the pilot are equivalent to the heart of man, the thoughts of man and the intent of the thoughts of the heart respectively.

And the word intent is the word yetzer. It is the yetzer of the thoughts. Thoughts are strength they are creative and they are powerful. Our first point is that thoughts are creative and have a magnetic force involved in bringing things to pass. That is why people who believe certain things see them come to pass. These principles we are talking about are deeper principles of what Jesus has said "All things are possible to him who believe." This is the analytical part of that. That is why when someone believes the wrong thing they start getting it. Everything is attracted to that. They believe for disaster they got disaster. The yetzer is the controlling force. God knows that when the yetzer lines up all the thoughts, it will bring the thoughts to pass. Hence Jesus said, "All things are possible to him who believes." Such a person has lined up all his thoughts, his speaking and his actions according to his yetzer, and he will see them come to pass.

See what happen when the pilot turns on the right switches? The right switches line up all the necessary parts of the plane. The signals go down into the electronic side. The electronic signals are powerful and they are like the thought realm. They control the physical realm in the end. Every sin in the world has first begun as a thought. Every great achievement of men has first begun as a thought. It's controlled by the yetzer. The yetzer lines up all the right thoughts together and produce. And sometimes when the yetzer is strong it produces even more thoughts of the same type to do greater things.



I Chron. 28:9 And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your fathers, and serve Him with a whole heart and with a willing mind for the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every plan (yetzer) and thoughts. The yetzer is the life force of our entire being.

I Chron. 29:18 O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of thy people. David knew if he could get the yetzer of the people he can get their thoughts, he can get their hearts and he can get their lives. Which is why in many of our lives it is possibly one sentence spoken by somebody somewhere, or one book, or one principle, or some advice from someone somewhere, or some personal philosophy you have developed somewhere down the road that has made you who you are today in your choice of your life and your profession and your career. In a moment of time, in a split second the yetzer can be affected.

In my life I was geared towards certain goals. I didn't plan to be a minister of the Word. I wanted to be a chess player and be the first grandmaster of my country. At that time I was training to be an accountant. But in one moment when God's presence came upon me all my plans just dissolved. He turned me one hundred and eighty degrees and I was willing to follow Him to the ministry. This is why we can not count in human terms what God can do in a meeting like this when we worship God. You can not rate a seminar just based on time. You can not count what change will come out of your life. Sometimes you say, "I have attended many Christian conventions and nothing has changed," but maybe God wants you to attend a certain convention and there something happens so deep in your yetzer that you are twisted and turned in a certain direction. And the rest of your life all those thoughts flow according to that yetzer implanted in you. Remember yetzer produces those thoughts. Because of the intent or yetzer your thoughts will flow accordingly.

There are two other places in Gen. 8:21 And when the Lord smelled the pleasing odor, the Lord said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.

Now look at what God is saying here in Gen. 8 and Gen. 6. God destroyed the world not because of what He saw physically. God destroyed the world because of what He saw was already in the yetzer of man. And He knew that if its there He has to remove it before it gets worse.

Deut. 31:21 And when many evils and troubles have come upon them, this song shall confront them as a witness (for it will live unforgotten in the mouths of their descendents); for I know the purposes (yetzer) which they are already forming, before I have brought them into the land that I swore to give."

In other words while Moses was speaking to the people that was a new generation that has not even crossed into the land of Canaan and Joshua was supposed to lead them, God looked down through His mighty microscope and saw right deep in their hearts the yetzer that has some darkness of rejecting Him. And God said that He can see their inclination and He knows what's going to take place. They have not even gone into the land of Canaan and God said they are going to reject Him in the land of Canaan. That was hundred of years later. But the thoughts were already there on their

inside. That stubborn streak of rejecting God and denying God was inside them and it need to be changed.

So firstly we saw that the yetzer has a magnetic and creative force to draw circumstances and people to what our thoughts frame are.

Secondly the yetzer is the essence of mankind. It is the spiritual and soulish genetic code for your personality. The yetzer is the chromosome of your soul and it's powerful. We need to build it correctly.

### **The Force of Blessing in Yetzer**

Thirdly, lets look at Isa. 26:3 Thou dost keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusts in thee. If you tie this verse with Phil. 4 and understand the peace of God in verse 7 that garrison your heart and your mind and that is a requirement of the answered prayer that God gives, we realize that when God gives you anything, it will first be written in your yetzer. The word mind here is yetzer. You will keep him in perfect peace. And the word peace involves also blessings. God will bring forth perfect blessings to the person whose yetzer is stayed on Him.

Let me illustrate with the scientific study we heard earlier. It says there in the scientific study that when that faith healer was laying his hand on the patient, the brain wave pattern that was in the healer got into the patient and transmitted the healing. How much more that God now has a thought pattern. He says His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. His ways are higher than our ways. Jesus has a mind. And Jesus is alive. And His mind is still functioning today. When our yetzer is tuned to the mind of Christ that carries its unique thought pattern we will be in a position to receive everything that Jesus has for us.

When our yetzer is tuned to the mind of Christ we will be in the position to receive everything that Jesus has for us. Just as in the natural everything in that faith healer flowed into the patient. When our minds began to synchronize with the mind of Christ everything that is of Christ flows into us. And that is why as a believer in the name of Jesus if you could get someone to agree with you and your brain patterns are harmonized it would be the scientific explanation of Matt. 18:19 If two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. If you could get anyone to agree with you fully without doubt it will release a power that has never been seen before. And that magnetic force that was attractive in point No.1 becomes multiplied where one chase a thousand, two chase ten thousands. It becomes ten times more powerful.

So in point three the yetzer can only operates in its fullness when its tuned and rested in God that is in Christ. Now mankind has tried to tap the latent power of the soul but I would advise against it because it is so powerful, its just like giving an atomic bomb to a country who doesn't know how to handle it.

### **The Creative Force of Yetzer**

In Isa. 29:16 You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay; that thing made should say of the maker, "He did not make me;" or the thing formed

say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding." The word thing formed is the same word yetzer. It is the same word yetzer that was found in Isa. 26:3. How can yetzer be called a thing? That's the fourth and very powerful truth. Yetzer can create. This just astounds us. Yetzer can create. God called yetzer a thing. Yetzer can attract that's one thing point one. But now yetzer can create. Now it is not creating something out of nothing. It is creating something physical out of something invisible. And God use the word thing formed to refer to yetzer meaning as the potter forms the yetzer, so we the yetzer are able to form things. Whatever the yetzer forms is called the thing. It is an actual physical tangible object. Its usage in Isa. 29 now is a yetzer is something physical, tangible, and touchable. Yetzer can create. You say, "I thought all creative power belong to God." God has placed in the hearts of man a powerful tool called the yetzer. Which is why as we yield to the yetzer, by the Holy Ghost people who have no hands can have new hands. People who have no heart can have a new heart.

Yetzer is a creative force. It can create physical object that is not. I saw in the spirit world; in the spirit world the moment you think of something it is created right in front of you. When you are in the spirit world and if for example you are thinking of eating one of the heavenly fruits, even before you verbalize it as the thought is conceived zoom its right in front of you. Why doesn't it happen in the natural? Because that power has been diminished since the fall of man. But that power is restored only and only through the Holy Spirit and the resurrection power of the Lord Jesus Christ. And it is possible to tap on the yetzer in that realm. When a group of people agrees together and there is no doubt at all, you could turn water into wine. You could turn water into rice. And such things that were only fantasy or fairy tales are there because in the heart of man is a lost power that man had always wished for but could not have it today. Most of us get entertained by magicians. We enjoy seeing them perform. The question is this. Where do you think this kind of ideas come? In the first place how did they think of such a thing of overcoming natural scientific laws? It is because somewhere in the soul of the fallen man is the understanding that once upon a time there was such a power there available and it is only now in fantasy. But in the power of the Holy Spirit it still can be tapped.

### **The Energizing Force of Yetzer**

Finally, in Habakkuk chapter 2:8-14 Because you have plundered many nations, all the remnant of the peoples shall plunder you, for the blood of men and violence to the earth, to cities and all who dwell therein. Woe to him who gets evil gain for his house, to set his nest on high, to be safe from the reach of harm! You have devised shame to your house by cutting off many people; you have forfeited your life. For the stone will cry out from the wall, and the beam from the woodwork respond. Woe to him who builds a town with blood, and founds a city on iniquity! Behold, is it not from the Lord of hosts that peoples labor only for fire, and nations weary themselves for naught? For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

In verse 4 it talks about faith; that the righteous shall live by his faith. Now it talks about the glory of the Lord in verse 14. As we move on to verse 18 What profit is an idol when its maker has shaped it, a metal image, a teacher of lies? For the workman trusts in his own creation when he makes dumb idols. He compares it with the human beings.

Now here the word yetzer is found in verse 18 What profit is an idol when it maker has shaped it. Here the usage is slightly different from Isa. 29 where he calls it a thing formed. Here there is an emphasis, which is why the Old King James translated it as work. And in the Hebrew sentence the emphasis is not just on the forming side but also on the energizing side. And I place it a point five, that yetzer is the energy behind all of life force. Yetzer is work. When you sit down and began to think hard it is work. We know that the brain consume most of your energy in your body. Thinking is work. Why do a lot of people think and don't succeed? It is because they don't really think. They have an idle mind that is distracted. When it is focused thinking it is work.

Let me encourage you in point five here. Do not underestimate the time that you spend in praying and pouring over a project and thinking before the Lord. Those times are energizing forces that give energy to the yetzer to do all those things that we see in the other four points. Thinking equals work when you talk about yetzer. If you don't think before you work you will find that the work doesn't profit. It is not ordinary thinking. It's the thinking in the realm of yetzer.

### **Application**

Now in conclusion we want to show how it relates to tapping into that realm. We have to understand the five realms of yetzer and then you move into this realm. Look at the book of Daniel. Daniel was told to interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream. What I want you to know is how Nebuchadnezzar got that dream. Why did he get that dream? Why do you think some people see the Lord easier than others? Why do you think some people open themselves easier? And why does the enemy do the same.

Let me speak about the work of the enemy. Today demonic influence and occult is coming even into children's games. And in some of the games they play like dungeons and dragons, when they began to go into deeper and deeper stages, they are forced to imagine those monsters and devils. And you know why? Because when the imagination gets sealed into that child the demons can appear to them and destroy their lives. That is why through innocent games of imaginations the enemy succeeds in demonizing the teenagers and people who are not aware of such demonic attacks. Why do some computer games look so devilish? It is so that the images of those monsters, devils and demonic images get locked into your yetzer. As you began to meditate on that or sometimes in your dreams and in your free time these demons come to you in your normal times as you walk along the way. And the demons will take the opportunity to cross into your life and manifest in your life. It starts as an innocent game of imagination. But it bursts into some demonic manifestation. That is the negative side.

The positive side is when we began to think about the Lord. When we began to desire for the Lord. That is why Christian fellowship is so important. When you discuss the things of the Lord. When you talk about the dreams that God has given you or the visions that God has given you and when you began to associate with people who talk about Jesus. What happens? You began to dream of the things of Jesus. You began to see Jesus. Faintly at first but it becomes an open door for Jesus and the Holy Spirit to manifest to your life.

One day Nebuchadnezzar was looking at his great empire. And these thoughts occur to Nebuchadnezzar. In chapter two of Daniel verse 29 To you, O king, as you lay in

bed came thoughts of what would be hereafter. So the king was lying down. As the king was lying thinking what will the future be, something began happening. It touched the yetzer realm and his thoughts became focused. Intensity takes place and he tapped into the future. I can assure if the king was not thinking about the future he would never have that dream. But because he thought of the future, because he thought of the empires that will come after him and he may have spent an hour or two thinking, it attracted the attention of God and God somehow gave the poor man a dream and told him about the empires that will come after him. He received a dream from the Lord because he thought long enough.

### **Focusing Your Thoughts**

Then we look in the book of Daniel chapter 9. So we talked about the five areas of the yetzer and now we are concluding these three last application points. No. 1 is focusing your thoughts. Our thoughts need to be focused. Unless it is focused it is not powerful. We can walk out at night and look out and see the stars and some of the planets because the reflection of the sun makes them look like bright stars. In fact the planet Venus looks like a bright star to the naked eye. But what you see is just general diffusion of light on the atmosphere of the earth. If you could use a telescope to focus on that same light, it becomes sharp. When it becomes sharp you can magnify it without getting too blur. So when you focus that light and magnify that light, as you look through the lens of a telescope you could see it is not a star. It's the planet Venus. Look at what focusing can do. Focusing can bring you nearer into the realm that God wants you to be in.

That's why God gave that dream to Nebuchadnezzar. Somehow in the course of his life he may have done many things that are distracting. But one night just that one night his thoughts were focused on the future. And it tapped into some realm that he did not fully understand. So focusing our thoughts is important. Before you do all these applications remember first make sure they are from God. That's the danger point. Better clear those areas we saw about your heart. Once you clear all those things about your heart and you come into this area and you focus it will be a powerful realm.

When you began to have dreams on God, thoughts on God and as they weigh heavily on you until your thinking is like work I can assure you will tap into the realm of prophecy. If you began to pray hard enough and wonder, "O God what's going to happen to the city I am living in, O God will there be a revival? O God how soon will the revival be. O God we need to have a revival." When that began to occupy your mind, occupy your thoughts and occupy your thinking, you sleep with it, you eat with it, I can guarantee you even though you are not a prophet you will tap into the prophetic realm that God will show you what will happen to the future of the city. It's a powerful realm.

### **By Association**

Secondly Daniel chapter 9:2-3 In the first year of his reign, I Daniel, perceived in the books the number of years, which, according to the word of the Lord to Jeremiah the prophet, must pass before the end of the desolations of Jerusalem, nearly, seventy years. Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking Him by prayer and supplications with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.

Daniel prayed and he fasted and he wept. An angel came and said, "Daniel I will reveal to you the meaning of the seventy years." The second truth is by association your yetzer becomes more focused into the prophetic realm. Daniel may have been a friend with Jeremiah. He was his contemporary. Daniel was a young man when Jeremiah was a mighty prophet and the last prophet before Jerusalem was destroyed. He may have even heard Jeremiah as a young man. Jeremiah may possibly have gone and died and Daniel is now old. Today through books, tapes, videos or other form of personal fellowship and association, you can associate with mighty prophets and fill yourself with a direction of thought in the same way Daniel did with Jeremiah. He was wondering about the seventy years and he says it is time and yet it has not come to pass. He got his platform from Jeremiah. He would have known nothing about the seventy years if God didn't reveal to Daniel. But Daniel took that one prophecy, one verse, one line out of the many prophecies of Jeremiah and developed it into a two-chapter prophecy.

Perhaps a man of God said that the revival that will come and it would be a praise revival. But you take that one prophecy and it touched the core of your heart. You go back to your home and you began to pray and praise and say God we need that kind of revival. Out of that one sentence prophecy God will reveal to you a prophecy that may read two, three, four, five chapters in the details. In other words we ride on the wings of the prophetic flow. It doesn't just stop there. The Spirit and testimony of Jesus Christ is the Spirit of prophecy. What God says through the mouth of prophets a little here and a little there, precepts upon precepts, line upon line, are only seeds that must be planted into our hearts. It may be through books like in the case of Daniel. He got the writing of the books of Jeremiah. Or through any modern forms like tapes, videos or personal association or contact or letter or epistles like Paul.

And those seeds of prophecies that were planted into Daniel's heart burst forth into greater prophecy that no other person had except Daniel. He had the revelation about the abomination of desolation, the revelation of the seventy weeks of years and a lot of other detailed revelation all from one verse of Jeremiah's prophecy regarding the seventy years.

So No. 2 association is important. Its not just physical association; it is also an association of thoughts. For example, you are called into the business world. And you are an engineer. Supposing you want to be the top engineer. You surround yourself with engineering books. You surround yourself with discoveries in that area. You also get deep into prayer like Daniel. God is going to bring into your mind engineering feats and possibilities that no other has come across. This is because yetzer increases and multiplies by associations of thoughts. That is why for many top scientists today for them to discover something is very unlikely today. For somebody out of the blue to do something any more, it is usually built upon another person's formula and another person's discovery. A little here a little there and it stimulates that creative force and suddenly they see it.

Albert Einstein built his theory of relativity upon some other discoveries that he saw here and there and developed further. When Mark Splanks brought forth the splanks constant Einstein took it further and applied to light itself in its travel medium. It is powerful how the development of ideas flows. And that's No. 2 association through books, tapes or whatever it is that will help to move into that realm. If right now while sitting in this auditorium you desire to see something in any area in your life. Lets say

for some of you, you desire to see Jesus. Do you know what you must do now? Surround yourself and buy every book of every one who saw Jesus. Buy every book you can and hear every tape you can of people who have met with the Lord. As you saturate yourself by association of those people who got into that realm of yetzer, it makes it easier for you to ride waves into the same realm they moved into.

Or if it's a realm of being a Joseph generation pioneer in making tons and tons of money for the body of Christ. God calls you to prosper. What must you do? Surround yourself with the right books and teachings of people who are tapped on that area. Tap into books written by Christian millionaires who have made it. And as you read their books and saturate yourself with the same yetzer they moved into, you will ride the waves of their yetzer and find it easier to fly into that realm. Everyone's life is made from the yetzer.

If God calls you to be a worship leader and you are just starting off, don't mix around just with businessmen though by all means have businessmen as friends. But know what God has called you to be. Surround yourself with teachings on worship. Read every book you know on worship. See those worship leaders doing their stuff. As you see it something gets encoded into your yetzer. Someday you will rise to lead some ten thousands to worship the Lord. I have given you a powerful secret: by association your yetzer will take off.

No. 1 by focus, No.2 by association.

### **Loving and Waiting Upon the Lord**

Finally No. 3. the book of Philippians chapter 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. Now cross reference to Phil. 4:7 And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. There is powerful truth here.

Everyone who seeks to make something for the first time and do something for the first time encounters both physical limitations and mental blocks. The first man to run the four-minute mile had great difficulty to overcome the mental and physical challenge. But when he broke the record for running one mile under four minutes, suddenly there was a breakthrough where runners began casting off that mental block and starting dipping below the four-minute mile with ease. So inside each one of us are mental blocks to the things that you and I will pioneer, which eyes has not seen nor ear heard, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.

And the third most important truth is that some things happen only through God's help. Sometimes you can only have association and the focus on those areas where other humans have had and can help you. But how do you move into something that no man has ever treaded before? Only through the mind of Christ which God gives. There is in each one of us a mental block that we need to remove through the mind of Christ. The bible says that eyes have not seen nor ear heard is found in I Corinthians 2:9 "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." I am not talking about just spiritual things. I am talking about the things, spiritual things and natural things. Eyes have not

seen nor ear heard. It has never entered into the yetzer of man the things that God has prepared for those who love Him. And it can only happen through the mind of Christ becoming your mind and breaking every mental block.

In the book of Eph. 3:19 And to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power that works within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think. The third point here is that we need to enter into the place of love in God, the place of love and the place of waiting on God. The condition is for those who love Him. Isa. 64:4 is where I Cor. 2:9 is taken from and is to those who wait on God. Isa. 64:4 For since the beginning of the world, men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen any God besides You, who acts for the one who waits for Him. So the third point in the stillness of our heart; in the solitude that you have in God, where the presence of God is strongest, in your deepest point of your prayer life, is where the transmission of the yetzer of Christ comes into your life. Value those times. Those are your times where the seed of greatness are placed in your life. They are times where the public has not known it yet. But you received the seed of greatness privately first before it publicly manifest. Treasure those times for they will enlarge your heart and your being.



### **3. UNDERSTANDING PROPHECIES OF JUDGMENT**

We want to touch on understanding prophecies of judgment. All prophecies must comfort, edify and exalt according to I Cor. 14. At the same time there are prophecies in the area of warning or judgment. How do we handle them? How do we receive them? And what are the laws involved in that area. First of all we want to point to the fact that any person who has reasonable wisdom and understanding of God's Word; or any matured person who has an understanding of God and how He works will always be able to predict a disaster before it comes. That is not in a prophetic realm. That is in a totally different area called prediction by the law. We know the law of sowing and reaping. If we sow the wrong seed we will reap the wrong result. It doesn't take a prophet to give a word of prophecy to tell someone who is living in sin that look here something is going to happen. You don't need the Spirit of prophecy to give a prophecy like that. So we will talk of two major areas.

#### **Section 1 : Sources of Prophecies of Judgment**

The first major area on the area of receiving a prophecy that has some judgment involved.

Understand that there are three different areas that we have impressions of pending judgment. You could sense it on a person's life or on a community or on a nation. The more wisdom you have the more you can move into that area. There are three major areas of those impressions.

##### **1. Understanding the Law of God:**

The first is the law of God. Understanding of the law of God gives us an ability to sort of predict certain things coming. And that's more by study. People are sometimes confused between the ability to pick up future events based on their walk with God or knowledge of the bible or the Spirit of prophecy. We can not use those things in the area of prophecy. But we can share and counsel in those areas.

Lets look in the book of Revelation and see the relationship of judgment to wisdom. Speaking about the manifestation of the anti-Christ. Chapter 13:17-18 So that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. Then it says in verse 18 This calls for wisdom; let him who has understanding reckon the number of the beast, for it is a human number, its number is six hundred and sixty six. Why doesn't he call a prophet? Instead he calls a wise man. There is an area where spiritual and natural wisdom gives us an ability to receive impressions of impending judgment based on the law of sowing and reaping. The more you know God's Word and the deeper your relationship is with God, the more your ability to do that is much greater than an average person.

I have studied God's Word on the life and the birth of nations and a whole prophetic realm in nations. I have some understanding on that subject. For example in the book of Genesis when Cain killed Abel God said that the earth will no more bear the abundance of the fruit that is supposed to bring forth because the earth have received innocent blood. Based on the understanding and there are many other scriptures that are in line with that, it tells me something, a truth, a principle, a law that in any city in any country where innocent blood is shed and the innocent blood hits the ground that

nation will experience a famine somewhere along the line. So people who are not skillful in this area may think that a person who can predict such future events about a nation is an international prophet. However you can even do the same if you base it on that understanding of God's Word. I could predict easily by looking at the front-page news what will happen to that nation in three to five years time. This is based on wisdom and not based on the Spirit of prophecy or gift of prophecy. Wisdom can go a long way into the prophetic realm.

So the first area we need to understand on receiving a prophecy of judgment is that it was given based on the understanding of the law of God. We need to be aware that sometimes what we are picking up is based on the inner wisdom or inner understanding of reaping and sowing. Otherwise we could be prophesying to everybody all the time not under the Spirit of prophecy, not under the office of a prophet but under the understanding of the law of God. Of course as you fellowship with people you pick up in their lives certain things that are right and certain things that are wrong. Based on what you pick up you could easily predict based on wisdom and the law of God the person's life in three to five years time. That's not prophecy. Some people think that they are so great when they say an accident is going to happen. There is nothing great about receiving a prophecy like that. The prophetic realm deals with impression and we got to classify them correctly. So there are three realms that we got to watch out where, how and which way the impression comes. First is the law of God. And understanding of that law sub-consciously and consciously causes us to be able to receive areas of judgment in peoples' life or in a city or in a nation.

## **2. The Condition of the Heart:**

The second realm is where a prophet wrestles. An example for that is in the book of I Kings chapter 13. We deal with some false prophecy here. Why sometimes a false prophecy comes about. The first is wisdom and understanding and I talked about it in a positive sense. But sometimes it works negatively. People who know a lot of sowing and reaping can predict certain things by looking at person's life and they use it as a prophecy. It is not right. If I know you have not been spending time with God, it is easy for me to say such and such a thing is going to happen to you. There is no big deal in that.

Secondly things that lead us to false prophecy and claiming that is a prophecy from God is in I Kings 13 and here is an old prophet and a young prophet. Verse 11-19 Now there dwelt an old prophet in Bethel. And his sons came and told him all that the man of God had done that day in Bethel; the words also which he had spoken to the king, they told to their father. And their father said to them, "Which way did he go?" And his sons showed him the way which the man of God who came from Judah had gone. And he said to his sons, "Saddle the ass for me." so they saddled the ass for him and he mounted it. And he went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak; and he said to him, "Are you the man of God came from Judah?" And he said, "I am." Then he said to him, "Come home with me and eat bread." And he said, "I may not return with you, or go in with you; neither will I eat bread nor drink water with you in this place; for it was said to me by the word of the Lord, "You shall neither eat bread nor drink water there, nor return by the way that you came." And he said to him, "I also am prophet as you are, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the Lord saying, "Bring him back with you into your house that he may eat bread and drink

water.” But he lied to him. So he went back with him and ate bread in his house, and drank water.

So he went back with him and ate bread in his house and drank water. It happened that while they were eating the Spirit of God really came and real judgment came. And the poor young prophet died because the old prophet lied to him. How could that happened? The second area is the heart. When we desire something to happen to some people we tend to receive prophecies in that realm. Here the old prophet wanted this man to come. His heart was already made up and so he cooked up a prophecy and he called it a prophecy and said, “The Lord told me to bring you home.” Such people are so used to handling prophecy loosely and say, “Thus say the Lord,” too easily. And being so acquainted with “thus says the Lord,” he just says, “The Lord told me.” He probably hoped that nothing serious would happen. The old prophet just wanted to have a good meal fellowship and send that person off. But he doesn’t realize how serious it is.

Many times when people are unhappy with certain things and they have to part fellowship and go their separate way, do you notice how easy it is for them to receive predictive judgmental prophecy from others? That is not the Lord. The Old Testament prophets never give prophecies of judgment to such people who leave a fellowship. When a person has to leave any place or any fellowship the first natural thing that runs through the others’ minds and hearts is the human desire to see justice done and to see that something is going to happen there. That’s not correct. Even if it is a real prophecy its too colored and too polluted by the desire to see justice or even revenge done and it is so easy to predict judgment and disaster because of wrong desires. We got our own made up desires. That’s the second area to watch out. First is the law, second is the heart.

### **3. The Influence of the Ruling Evil Spirit:**

The third area is found in the book of I Kings chapter 22 there were a bunch of false prophets against one true prophet. Verse 11 and 12 And Zedekiah the son of Chonaanah made for himself horns of irons and said, Thus says the Lord., “With these you shall push the Syrians until they are destroyed.” But this is not true. Zedekiah the false prophet says, “thus says the Lord.” Verse 12 And all the prophets prophesied so, and said, “Go up to Ramothgilead and triumph; the Lord will give it into the hand of the king.” And then they ask for Micaiah the true prophet to come. Micaiah came and the king said, “Tell me what did the Lord say?” Micaiah tried to make fun. He knows the king just wants to hear approval of what he already made up his mind to do. Just like some people do when they come for counseling. They are not asking for counsel and to change their ways or to give them a better way to follow. But they just want you to confirm what they have decided. If you can not confirm what they decided they would think that something is wrong with you not them.

And so Micaiah tried to make fun of him and said in verse 14 As the Lord lives, what the Lord says to me, that I will speak. In verse 15 the king said Micaiah shall I go to Ramothgilead. Remember the king here is king Ahab a terrible king. And he says Go up and triumph; the Lord will give it into the hand of the king.” And the king knew from the tone of his voice this fellow is just making fun. He said come on tell me the truth what the Lord said and then he told him what the Lord said. He says in verse 17 I saw all Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that has no shepherd; and the

Lord said, "These have no master; let each return to his home in peace." Then verse 19 Micaiah continued saying "Therefore hear the word of the Lord; I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing beside Him on His right and on His left; and the Lord said, "Who will entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead?" And one said one thing; and another said another. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord said to him, "I will entice him."

What's happening here? What strange story is this that takes place in the spirit realm? Lets consider every avenue. First of all there was this heavenly conference going on. And in that conference God has determined judgment to come on king Ahab. We see predestination is on two levels. God said in the book of Romans that he has chosen Pharaoh for destruction. That didn't take place at the beginning. It took place after many plagues. Pharaoh kept resisting God until God says this is the last straw. From this moment on there is no chance of turning back. God is going to put His destructive judgmental power on him. So it got down to the second level of predestination where there is no turning back. King Ahab had already gone into that area. He continually disobeyed God. He and Jezebel did one evil after another. And he reached a point where he had dropped into the judgment slot destined for judgment.

So now God was going to bring judgment on Ahab. If you read carefully that incident looks like as if God was about to pronounce judgment. From verse 21 it looks like this spirit came from a totally different place because he was a demonic spirit. In the Hebrew's understanding that when it says, "God sent," it is "God permitted." And it was this evil spirit that came. A spirit of false prophecy came and sort of demanded for Ahab. As usual when people fall into a judgment category evil spirits will make demands. You will understand more of it as you go through a teaching on that subject. You remember how Satan makes demand for Peter. Satan asked for Peter in the gospel of Luke. Jesus told Peter, "Simon, Simon Satan desired to have you." Why did Satan demand for him? Peter was under Jesus' protection and covering. But Peter was opening his life to more errors of judgment like how he resisted Jesus from going to the cross. There is something he did right and there is something he did wrong. Every time you sin and every time you do something wrong there is a grace area that covers you. But it reaches a time where Satan, the accuser of the brethren will demand justice from God. And he will demand that God remove that protection because God can not legally protect you anymore. God being God of love will protect you as much as possible. And Peter was opening too many doors but yet Jesus said, "I prayed for you."

So there is this king Ahab and there comes this spirit from the enemy and wants to take over Ahab and the whole place. The Lord says, "Let him have it." See God is protecting our lives all the time. But Satan and demons make demands when we give in to the wrong thing. The grace will cover us. There is a limit of grace. There is no more protection if you go too far. What happens here is that the evil spirit is now given the right over Israel. For so long king Ahab had worshipped idols. King Ahab has turned to evil after evil until he dropped into the judgment category. So an evil spirit is now going to reign and rule over Israel as a principality and power and cause all of Israel to be deceived.

There is such a thing as principality powers, wicked rulers of darkness of this age, wicked spirit in high places as mentioned in Eph. 6:18. Every city has a spirit. Every nation Satan assigns demonic forces. When we pray for a nation or a city we can

through prayers and intercession push aside all the wrong spirits and place in hand angelic powers to assist and help. So some nations are under the direct influence of guardian angels that God sent. But some are totally controlled by demon forces. Evil spirits controlled people like Hitler and through him ruled Germany during his time because he yielded to those spirits.

And so here is Ahab and Israel was the chosen of God and here Ahab has yielded to evil and idolatry so long until God's patience has come to a point that if God don't do anything, (please understand this phrase is in human terms), quote unquote He would have been guilty of not being the Lord who guards His own laws. So understand that every time God operates judgment it is because He has to do it to protect the lawfulness of His creation. Its just like if criminals are no more punished. And every time you commit a crime all the police say is, "Never mind." What will happen? In the end society will not respect the people who guard the law. But if the law is guarded and anyone who breaks the law is punished, then people are motivated to keep the law.

So God has spiritual laws that govern over these areas. And it reached a point where if God doesn't step in and allow something to take place then here is going to be an area where God's law and His character are not fulfilled. God allowed the whole of Israel has come under this false spirit. And here we are talking about impressions.

Our impression we received in the area of judgment are influenced No. 1 by the law and the inner understanding we have on God's Word and God's law.

Secondly they are influenced by the decision in our heart.

Thirdly there is a spirit over a city and a country. When you enter into any place a city or a country that is under the control of that spirit, it becomes easier to sense those kinds of thoughts. Like for example if you go to a city that is ruled by lust and you could be a righteous person. The moment you step across those borders you could sense that there is greater pressure in that area. Each spirit has a certain influence. Or if you go into a country where pride is the ruling force. You could be a humble person but the moment you step across those borders suddenly there is a greater pressure to be proud. See each spirit ruling force is over that country. But if a country is ruled by guardian angels then the moment you step into that country you sense the peace of God, the presence of God. Or if a city has an open heaven over it, as you enter that area there is a drawing to seek God even though you never think about God much or is a backslidden believer. So such things are happening all the time.

Third point is very important. When a place or a country is under a ruling spirit, people who are not aware or trained in this area of prophecy and who easily yield themselves to the spirit of prophecy tend to pick up from that spirit as well. And if they are not discerning they don't realize that they are picking it up the influences that are so much in that spirit because that place doesn't have an open heaven. They can hear from God but at the same time they are hearing a lot of other things. And it could enter into their soul and they can not differentiate.

At the time when that evil spirit was ruling over Israel, every prophet who prophesied kept hearing the same message, "Go to Ramothgilead." That evil spirit is ruling and giving a false message to those prophets. The angels of God have left that is why

Israel was lost. All these false prophets like Zedekiah and this bunch of prophets prophesied the wrong thing because they pick up false messages from that evil spirit. Some of them may be sincere even. We don't know all of them.

Lets see this on a smaller scale. Every time you go into a home that has a ruling spirit. When the Spirit of God is there you sense Him. When there is another spirit that is ruling at home, say a spirit of violence, you enter into that home you could sense it. Now when you are sensing the presence of a evil spirit in a home and because you are coming into that spirit territory, you have to be more careful in discerning what you are picking up because it may not be God. Even though you are a true prophet you can still pick up a wrong thing because you are entering into the boundary and territory of that spirit. This explains why every other prophet got the wrong prophecy except one. Micaiah had a bigger vision than that and saw that spirit ruling over Israel.

So these are the three areas to watch out as you deal with prophecies of judgment. Whether you are picking up because of the wisdom, the law of God. Picking up because of the condition of the heart that is influencing your prophecies. Or picking up because you are picking from the evil spirit that is in that place. Once you are tuned into the spirit realm you receive everything in the spirit realm. We got to discern which is of God until we have fine-tuned to that which is from God. We could clear out all the other wrong things.

Those are the first three areas that cover the precaution people must take to move into this area.

## **Section 2 : Nature of Prophecies of Judgment**

Then we look at the positive side. And on the positive area is to understand that a prophecy of judgment has three other qualities. We are talking about the second area now. The first quality is the purpose of a prophecy of judgment is not to predict judgment. People think that's what its for. Why should God be going around sending alarm to people by predicting judgment on peoples' life and families? Why should God be doing that? It is not for that purpose.

### **1. Reveals the Area of Negligence:**

The purpose is to tell the people whom you are giving that kind of prophecy and warning to tell them to do something. It is to reveal the negligence of that person more than to bring about the judgment.

Lets look at I Samuel. Lets say you have been living your life in half obedience. And some time God sent people to warn you. Lets say God revealed something to me a prophecy for you. It is not for me to come and tell you that this thing is going to happen. That's not the purpose. The purpose is to say this is where you neglect. So please get these areas correct so that these prophesy of judgment will not come to pass. That will get rid of about 99% of doomsday prophecy. None of them give any solution. God never tell a problem without giving a solution as well. Every prophecy in this bible that is a judgment, God gives the people a solution. Jeremiah, Isaiah, they tell people what to do. It is that the people don't want to do what they are told to do. The purpose of any prophecy that deals with judgment is to reveal negligence and

specify areas to do to prevent the judgment and not to make a hero of a doomsday prophet.

In I Samuel Eli has been very negligent as a high priest. And a man of God came to Eli one day in chapter 2:27. Here is where a typical example of true prophecy that covers judgment. I Sam. 2:27-29 And there came a man of God to Eli and said to him, “Thus the Lord has said, ‘I reveal Myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt subject to the house of Pharaoh. And I chose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest; to go up to my altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me; and I gave to the house of your father all my offerings by fire from the people of Israel. Why then look with greedy eye at my sacrifices and my offerings which I commanded, and honor your sons above me by fattening yourselves upon the choicest part of every offering of my people Israel? Therefore the Lord the God of Israel declares; ‘I promise that your house and the house of your father should go in and out before me for ever’; but now the Lord declares ‘Far be it from me; for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed. Behold, the days are coming, when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your father’s house, so that there will not be an old man in your house. Then in distress you will look with envious eye on all the prosperity which shall be bestowed upon Israel; and there shall not be an old man in your house for ever.

Look at the depth of it. It tells him where he actually went wrong. You don’t come to someone and say judgment is going to come. That’s not the way. The Lord will tell you where you went wrong. Do you look at God as a father? Does the father come to the child and say, “You are wrong,” and smack. Never, the father will say, “Son this is where you have made a mistake. And if I don’t do anything about it you are going to repeat.” That’s what a father is like. Remember God in the Old Testament, God in the New Testament is still the Father. When He gives such a prophecy He will tell you what is wrong. A judgmental prophecy must reveal to people what actually is wrong and give them a chance to amend. Not just to predict and say Eli this is going to happen. No, he says Eli this is a specific wrong you have done. It would involve a word of knowledge, a revelation. A lot of prophecies of doomsday only claim to be a word of wisdom. That means they predict something in the future but they have no revelation in the present. A true prophecy of judgment sees through a word of knowledge the exact condition that is causing the future catastrophe. Even Jeremiah when he predicts all the wrong things that is going to happen. Ezekiel saw all the evil and spoke about the exact evil. Even Ezekiel saw the exact writings and the idol worship that goes on right in the temple. So there was a specific word of knowledge not just a word of wisdom or disaster.

And here the man of God who was a stranger and doesn’t know Eli at all gives a word of knowledge and said, “You have honored your sons more than God when you should correct your sons for kicking and doing the wrong thing in my sacrifice. Your exact failing is to honor your sons more than God.”

Here is another prophecy of judgment in chapter 3 this time Samuel is the one who has it. In verse 11 and 12 it talks about the terrible catastrophe that will come upon Eli’s house. And in verse 13 And I tell him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity which he knew because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. He tells him what he did not do and what he should have done. I hear many doomsday prophecy years ago. The prophet thinks he is very clever

or smart. As I said it doesn't take a clever prophet or a smart anointed prophet to do all these. When you have lots of wisdom you could predict. To know the future is good. But you also must know present.

So point one every prophecy or caution or warning or judgment that carries with it a prediction of disaster or catastrophe must also have a word of knowledge and tell where the failings precisely are. Then it gives a person a fair change to undo the cycle of destruction that they have locked into.

## **2. Reveals the How, When and the Who:**

Secondly lets look at I Kings 13 the prediction of the young prophet. And here is another unknown prophet who died because the old prophet led him to disobey the Lord. When a prophecy is in areas of judgment or warning it not only must contain a word of knowledge or a revelation the exact fault or problem that is going to cause the judgment. It must also reveal if it is of the Lord and if its accurate it will reveal the how, the when and the who. It doesn't just reveal what will happen. It will reveal how it will happen, when it will happen and many times through whom it will happen.

That makes it different from the other first section I covered where you can receive a sort of warning or prophecy because of the wisdom of knowing the law of God, the condition of the heart and the ruling evil spirit in that place.

The first is important if you receive something through wisdom and the impressions that come through your walk with God, you receive a real prophecy to warn and to give to somebody that warning usually is specific not general. Don't just generally say this is going to happen. Many years ago there was a true prophet who predicted disaster for our country. He is a true prophet and I know that person and I heard the tape. People asked me what about it. I said, "Well God bless him a true prophet but the prophecy is wrong." Any economist can predict that you don't need a prophet. Besides he didn't tell how it is going to happen, when it is going to happen. A prophecy of that magnitude must be more specific. I mean any Tom, Dick or Harry can stand up and say this disaster is coming. He is not specific enough. And in fact I had a word from the Lord that is opposite from his. So the Lord told me about three periods in the country. To give him the benefit of doubt he may be talking about that period. But he was wrong. These other two must happen before that. But I don't go round and say thus say the Lord and say the whole body Christ must hear what I have from the Lord, which the other prophet claimed. Remember if you got a word from the Lord there is somebody else who also hears from the Lord. You are not the only one who hears from God. You are not the only Elijah minus the seven thousand who did not bow their knees to Baal. Even Elijah so mighty thought that he was the only one who can hear from God. He forgot that there are seven thousands who did not bow their knees to Baal.

And here in I King 13 look at how precise this man of God is. Verses 1-3 And behold, a man of God came out of Judah by the word of the Lord to Bethel. Jeroboam was standing by the altar to burn incense. And the man cried against the altar by the word of the Lord, and said, "O altar, altar, thus says the Lord; "Behold, a son shall be born to the house of David, Josiah by name; and he shall sacrifice upon you the priests of the high places who burn incense upon you, and men's bones shall be burned upon you. And he gave a sign the same day, saying, "This is the sign that the Lord has



spoken: “Behold, the altar shall be torn down, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out.”

And in verse 5 the altar split apart and the ashes poured forth and everyone was frightened. You need a sign from God. But look at how specific. He predicted when it would happen. He predicted by whom it would happen. He predicted how it would happen. And he predicted the details of what will happen about the men’s bones being burned there.

Now lets look at the fulfillment in the book of II Kings. Hundred of years later king Josiah came to the exact place. This is hundred of years later and there were many other kings before him and he was among the last few. And here is Josiah he was named by the prophet. II Kings. 23:15-18 Moreover the altar at Bethel, the high place erected by Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, the altar with the high place he pulled down and he broke in pieces its stones crushing them to dust; also he burned the Asherah. And as Josiah turned he saw a tomb there on the mount; and he sent and took the bones out of the altar, and defiled it, according to the word of the Lord which the man of God proclaimed, who had predicted these things. Then he said, “What is yonder monument that I see?” And the men of the city told him, “It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and predicted these things. It is specific.

People don’t understand how specific things must happen. Like for example last year I got caught into the Spirit and that Monday meeting I got no word. The prophecy went on for about forty five minutes to an hour. And part of it was recorded. He predicted judgment on a certain nation and he predicted there would be an earthquake. He predicted certain things that have happened. That’s what I mean if it was a true prophecy it will be specific. It is different from wisdom that you could just have from the Lord. And the earthquake did happen. All these things are specific. If you really move into that area and you function as an international prophet it is important for us to understand all these laws that are involved. Any Tom, Dick or Harry can just say disaster is coming run. You don’t need to be called a prophet to do that. But it takes a real prophet to tell who, when, how and the details.

If you study any negative prophecies or judgment, you would see how detailed they can be. Like Jeremiah he predicted the people who would come and conquer Jerusalem. He predicted when and these details were there because he was a true prophet. So that’s the second law when it comes to prophecy of judgment. If you don’t have the details it may not be from God. You could just be picking up impressions. And that is why not every Tom, Dick or Harry should handle it. When you have a true prophecy with judgment and warning and caution, handle it carefully. When you carry a spoon and you carry a knife you do it differently. You carry a spoon in any way. You could put it in front of you nobody will be hurt. But when you carry a knife you hold it in a certain way so that if anybody accidentally knocks on you they don’t get hurt. The sharper the knife the more careful you are. So treat a prophecy that contains judgment with more caution. For it can easily cut and cause bleeding.

### **3. It is Conditional:**

The third law involved in understanding a prophecy of judgment. Lets look at the book of Jonah. His prophecy in Jonah chapter 3 verse 2 is specific. Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you. Verse 4 Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he cried, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." Do you notice he was specific in the time? If you predict disaster, disaster surely would come anytime from now to a thousand years. He says forty days it will come. So that we know when it doesn't come you are a false prophet. Don't try to play safe. If a prophecy is right to give to the body of Christ there is warning it will contain all these details. If you don't have these details yet, then it is not ripe yet. You either are not hearing deep enough or you got to be careful of the first three areas you are picking up. And Jonah predicted destruction. But after 40 days nothing happened because Nineveh repented. As I said a prophecy must have the first area they must tell people why it is happening. Although its only one or two sentence recorded here, I believe Jonah would have mentioned why the judgment was coming because of the evil. That is why the king when he heard it he quickly repented. He knew all the evils they had done. The king and everyone repented. And when God saw the repentance God said, "I will not bring the judgment. I will not allow it because they have repented."

And instead Jonah is the one who got angry now because now he looks like a false prophet. After 40 days he was sitting up there waiting for it to happen. When it didn't happen he was angry with God. He didn't understand the third law about the prophecies of judgment. Every prophecy of judgment can be averted. Even if there are no promises or condition given, there is no such thing as a sure clear destruction because there is always room for repentance. Even in the worse case scenario like king Ahab who killed, murdered, plotted against Naboth and took his vineyard (1 Kings 21). Elijah came to him and said this is the end. God will severely punish and judge you and destroy you. That is in the story in I Kings. And Ahab immediately repented. He humbled himself. The thing about it is that it has reached a point where judgment has to come. It has gone beyond that stage. But because he repented although God could not prevent it from happening because He has been decreed it must come, He says, "I will delay it. It will not happen in his time. It will happen in his son's time." Think about the marvel of God. Don't forget that all these cautions and warnings are not because God enjoy dishing out such pronouncements. They are made to turn people back to Him. Basically its still the Father the God of love. And every pronouncement of judgment can be averted. There are some areas and many times it can be completely removed. But where it has gone beyond a certain stage the most He can do is delay it until the mercy of God can reach more. So that's the third law that all judgmental prophecies are conditional. They can be cancelled, delayed or postponed.

### **Section 3: Safeguards in Prophecies of Judgment**

What about people who receive it? When you receive such a thing on a personal side, what are the cautions involved. Let turn to Jeremiah 28. There are two little principles that we need to adhere to. Jeremiah confronts a false prophet. Hananiah the false prophet challenged Jeremiah. Verse 2 and 3 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. Understand the picture. Jeremiah received a prophecy about the king of Babylon coming to put Israel under

the yoke. And he was a very visual prophet. He made a wooden yoke and he walked about town with the yoke on him and said, "This will happen to Israel. The king of Babylon will come and put us all in the yoke." And this false prophet Hananiah came broke the yoke and gave another different prophecy and said, "In two years it will be set free." So here is true prophet and false prophet in a confrontation.

In verse 5 Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; and the prophet Jeremiah said, (these are the two little advice that we need to give) "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord make the words which you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord and all the exiles. Jeremiah will love that.

Verse 7-8 Yet hear now this word which I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdom.

### **1. Confirmation From the Word:**

There are two points in this place. No. 1 Jeremiah points to the fact that the word of God has been coming forth. He has all the time been pointing to this. Now without Jeremiah coming to the scene based on the book of Deuteronomy God already told that that at any time the people sin and turn against God, another country whose language they do not know will come and devour them and destroy them. That's found in the book of Deuteronomy chapter 28 under the curses.

Verse 49 The Lord will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you do not understand, a nation of stern countenance, who shall not regard the person of the old or show favor to the young. This is in the time of Moses. It has become the written Word. The written Word has already spoken and said that if they were to go against God, God will bring destruction to the nation. They don't need Jeremiah its already in the word. But what Jeremiah was saying here to Hananiah. You see what Hananiah wanted was humanly good. Every one wants to have good news. But you can't receive prosperity, peace and blessings without worshiping the true and living God. You can't have sin and prosperity together. And Hananiah is like he wants the blessing; he wants that peace but he doesn't tell the people to get rid of those idols. And Jeremiah was saying to Hananiah saying all these years what the Word has been saying about what will happen. In other words Jeremiah was saying that his prophecy is in line with the Word. Any prophecy that carries judgment, caution and warning is from God will still be in line with the Word. And all the principles in the Word are not removed by the prophecy. In fact the prophecy is judged by the Word.

So if someone comes and predicts that you are going to have an aircraft accident because they saw this aircraft exploded and you are in it. You got to examine it very carefully. You got to check your life and see whether you have missed God in any area, whether it's a warning or whether it's symbolic. There are so many areas of interpretation. Which is why in the early days when this church first started relationship is not that smooth. There are false prophets that come. They didn't really come to prophesy but they gave wrong prophecy. They say, "O one year or two years they will close shop." We haven't closed shop; in fact we opened more shops. These

are normal things. They hear the wrong spirit. What was wrong? Their heart was already determined. They wanted to see disaster. And they are looking for disaster to happen. So when someone comes and say, "Pastor this is going to happen to the church; its great disaster." First of all I check my heart in God. And I know that as long as I walk in God every work of my hand prospers. Now if I do something wrong it is different. But if I know I sought the face of God and knelt down. And whatever you like it the entire church, the entire ministry has been given to me and it is my responsibility with God. I know that as long as I obey God He is going to bless every department right down the line. So the Word is there.

It is the same in your home. When people predict something is going to happen to your son, remember what the Word says. If it didn't pass the other three tests on the positive side about telling you the condition or tell you why it should happen and it doesn't tell you when, you know something is wrong. That person just knows how to pick up but they don't know what they picked up from the atmosphere. It may not be from the spirit of prophecy. Knowing how to pick up is an amateur thing. The professional prophet doesn't do that. Of course to the average Christians being able to pick up is a big thing already. So they get caught up. Examine it very carefully. What did the word say? I am not saying that God doesn't warn. When He warns His warning is always in line with the Word. And if there is a disaster going to take place, even that disaster would have been specified in the word. And so Jeremiah says, "Look here what I am saying is what the Word has been saying."

## **2. Confirmation From the Counsel of Prophets:**

No. 2 in this point he says what I say agree with all the other prophets I am not the only prophet saying this. Although we are not going by the majority is right business. But the second point is important. Remember what I say that we have to handle a knife more carefully that we handle a spoon. A spoon could be a positive prophecy and it is easy to handle. But when you have knife you got to handle it differently. What would you do? I want to consult with other people. Two or three prophets must judge together. A prophecy of that nature needs to be filtered more carefully. Jeremiah says, "Has any of the other prophets said anything different from me?" He will say, "Hananiah you are the odd one out." Although you may be in the majority in this area right now with all your people under you but he says every other true prophet says the same thing like what I say.

So No. 1 is the word.

No. 2 is by the counsel of many in the same level.

Then when Hananiah in verse 10 broke the yoke from Jeremiah, Jeremiah gave a personal prophecy for Hananiah and saying that the same year he would die. Let me say it again when we deal in prophecy it's a very powerful realm. You can die instantly when you deal with the wrong thing in the wrong area. And Hananiah died in that same year because he tried to be funny. He broke the yoke without God telling him to do so. God ordered that yoke to Jeremiah. Hananiah broke that yoke without God telling him. So we must not take these areas lightly.

## Summary

I summarize the principles again. When we deal with a prophecy of judgment we have to be careful of these three areas. Your inner radio must be tuned to these areas.

No. 1 is the law of sowing and reaping, or the law of action and reaction. You must have an inner understanding of the Word and have wisdom and your relationship with God is good and sound.

No. 2 is whether your heart has a certain inclination to certain things that make you magnetize and draw to yourself certain impressions.

No. 3 whether you are picking it up from the spirit that is over that place.

And then the second area. No. 1 If it's a true prophecy it will tell you why the disaster must happen. If it doesn't tell you why, it doesn't have a word of knowledge only have a word of wisdom something is wrong.

No. 2 it will be more precise than just any guessing. It will be so clear-cut that you know that an ordinary person can not have that. Ordinary person can only predict and guess. But I will have some content of who when, and how that you know its supernatural.

No. 3 no matter how correct the prophecy of judgment is, it is still conditional. When people turn to God great is the mercy of God. Their repentance may avert, delay or postpone the judgment.

Then on the last area is on the people receiving any sort of prophecy. No. 1 both the receiver and the giver still have to abide by the Word of God. It is not just abiding on one verse. You can not just pick one verse out of the context. You must have the general flow of God's Word from Genesis to Revelation.

No. 2 Is there a counsel of prophets or five-fold ministers apostles, pastors, evangelists, prophets and teachers who say the same thing and read that prophecy correctly? That is, is there a consensus of people who love God and hear from God?

## 4. THE SECRET LIFE OF A PROPHET

Its amazing when you hear testimonies about the conditions of the people in India. Our mission pastors were sharing that regardless of whatever background, in any nation anywhere those who choose to walk with God can reach to great height. When I think about India I think about Sadhu Sundar Singh. He has produced one of the greatest ministries in the body of Christ. And so how great we can become in God does not depend on what we have or what we don't have. It depends on how much we love God and how willing we are to pay the price to love God with all our hearts, all our minds and all our souls. And that's what we desire right where we are here. To produce a people who will love God with all their hearts, minds, soul and strength and to be what God wants you to be.

We have been teaching on Prophets and Prophecies because we sought to bring guidance to each one of our lives on the realm of the prophetic. What we are going to share this morning we must take it in the context of what is shared because it can be easily taken and go to the extreme. This morning we are going to share about the secret life of a prophet. There are not many prophets whom I have met who have reached this stage. From what is known of written church history and Christianity, there are not many prophets who reached to that stature. Not because God didn't call more but possibly because not many realize the call of a prophet in what it actually should be like in his life.

We praise God that there is such a thing as prophetic call. There is an office of an apostle, a prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher. But just being in the ministry in any one of the five offices and doing something in that ministry doesn't guarantee that we would be the fullness of that office. In other words there are a lot of apostles who are called to be apostles who never reach to the fullness of an apostolic ministry. There are many prophets who are called to the office of a prophet who never reach the fullness of their prophetic office. There are many evangelists who are called to preach and impact a nation and cast the net to draw in million of souls, who have never reached the fullness of their evangelistic call. Because they thought that once they are in it that's it. They forget that within each call there are different degrees that you could fulfill.

It is the same with the pastor. You can just be a mediocre pastor and be called a pastor by everybody. Then the church is reasonable well, reasonable growth and having a reasonable impact. But yet never being that kind of pastor that God really called you to be. Or you could be called to be a teacher. And you are teaching some, training some but never reaching the fullness of a call of a teacher that God wants you to. In a comparative sense we can compare it in a secular world. Just being in a business and getting by with the business doesn't give one that satisfaction of being in business. It is when you are in a business and you are highly successful in that business and become prominent and well known in that business that gives you some satisfaction.

So in the office of a prophet we need to understand that there is a secret life of a prophet or everyone called to the office of a prophet needs to move into. You may ask what relevance has it to my life now if I am not called to be a prophet or not even called to the ministry. The principles apply to everybody. Since we teach systematically in this church, the knowledge or understanding that you gain in one office can help you evaluate your own office or your own life.

Lets turn to the life of Elijah in the book of I Kings. I Kgs.17:1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word. And the word of the Lord came to him. “Depart from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith. Then verse 8 Then the word of the Lord came to him, “Arise go to Zarephath. This is the beginning of his life and his ministry. Then in chapter 18:1 After many days the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, “Go, show yourself to Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth. You know the rest of the story he presented himself. In Chapter 19:4 But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree; and he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am no better than my father.” And he lay down and slept under a broom tree; and behold, an angel touched him, and said to him, “Arise and eat.” Verse 7 And the angel of the Lord came again a second time, and touched him, and said, “Arise and eat else the journey will be too great for you.”

Turn to II Kings chapter 1:14 Lo, fire came down from heaven and consumed the two former captains of fifty men with their fifties; but now let my life be precious in your sight.” Then the angel of the Lord said to Elijah, “Go down with him; do not be afraid of him.” So he rose and went down with him to the king.

Turn to the book of Daniel chapter 7:2 Daniel said, “I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea.” Verse 15-16 As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious and the visions of my head alarmed me. I approached one of those who stood there and asked him the truth concerning all this. So he told me, and made known to me the interpretation of the things.

He had another vision in chapter 8:15-16 When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it, and behold, there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. And I heard a man’s voice between the banks of the Ulai and it called, “Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.” Chapter 9:21-22 While I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the first, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice. He came and he said to me, “O Daniel, I have now come out to give you wisdom and understanding.

The first secret of the life of a prophet.

I am talking not about a prophet who is merely starting out in the beginning. I am talking about a full-fledged prophet. Now the principle applies to every other office as well as to the businessmen. A full-fledged prophet will move into the dimension of encounter with his prophetic angel. Why do I call him a prophetic angel? Every believer who is born again is given an angel. And that’s a different type of angel. It is called the ministering angel. They are called in Heb. 1 ministering spirits. There are many types of angels. Some have wings and some don’t have wings. They are ministering angels and they have the ability to appear in human form. There are warring angels and there are worship angels. Everyone one of us have what we call guardian or ministering angel. Those are sent to take care of your food, clothing, shelter and protection. But they are not sent to take care of your ministry or your call or your business. They are to take care of your food clothing and shelter.

There is another type of angels and they have to do with your ministry. If you are called to the business world, your business angel. See God sets angels over peoples' lives. God sets angels and each church and each business that is born of the Spirit of God. In other words if you are called to the business world in the same manner as people are called to the ministry, God gives you another angel, sometimes more than one, besides your normal guardian angel. And I struggle to define them. They are like project angels or they are like your office angels. They are there to establish your office in God whether it is a natural office or spiritual office. They have a different task and a different role.

Some of these angels are mentioned in the book of Revelation chapter 2 and chapter 3.

Rev. 2:1 To the angel of the church of Ephesus.”

Verse 8 To the angel of the church in Smyrna.

Verse 12 To the angel of the church in Pergamum.

Verse 18 To the angel of the church in Thyatira.

There are three possible interpretations. No. 1 you could interpret the word angel to be the pastor of each church. No. 2 you could interpret it to be the angel who is carrying the message down to the church. No. 3 which is my personal opinion. It speaks to both. When angels come and speak to us, they don't just say, "The Lord said this or the Lord send me." Sometimes they do. But they say, "I the Lord your God." They will speak sometimes in the first person for God.

In the Old Testament we read about how Moses met God in the burning bush. And God said, "Take thy sandal off for the place where you stand is holy ground." In the New Testament we are told it was an angel of God that he met. So angels can come and speak in the first person. And when the angels are in heaven and God is directing them, and here through John because John was also in that vision, God speaks to that angel as if they represent us because they got a message to bring to us. God is not asking the angels to repent. He is asking the church. But the angel receives that message and he brings it to the church. And so the angels will have the responsibility to deliver that word and that message to us.

Every church has an angel. Every ministry has an angel different from the ministering angels. Every business has an angel. Everyone called to be an apostle, pastor, prophet, evangelist or teacher or to be in the business world, Joseph generation, or every call would have an angel. This is more so if your life is going to establish something for other lives. See God calls some people to be workers, calls some people to be leaders. God calls some to be the Levites; God calls some to be the high priest. God doesn't just delegate the work to that human mortal. He also has angels to bring it to pass.

There are angels over different countries. We know that there is a prince of Persia but we also know that here is over each nation God also has His special angel. Those are different realms of angels. Those are national angels. And it depends on the people in that land and also the prayers of the saints. Whether the rulers of leaders of any nation will yield to the demon spirit over that land or to the national angels whom God sent.



There is no birth of a nation until that national angel came. When Joshua was about to go off into battle Israel was not a great nation yet. It has just come out from the land of Egypt. And one of the first things that you notice is that angel of the Lord the captain of the host. Why is that so? It is because God is going to establish a new nation. And the people were the Israelites and they were going to go in and create out of nothing a nation. So we read in the book of Joshua 5:13-14 When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man stood before him with his drawn sword in his hand; and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" And he said, "No, but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." That is a national angel to establish a nation. The birth and death of nations revolve in the hand of God and not in the weapons of men.

Look at the book of Daniel 10:21 But I will tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth: there is none who contends by my side against these except Michael, your prince. Why Michael your prince. Its because Michael the Archangel, and incidentally God has more than two or three Archangels. He has a multitude of them. I know because I have seen them. Just because the bible mentioned three, we argue from silence that therefore there are only two left; one is Lucifer who fell, leaving behind Michael and Gabriel. It is a theology based on silence. Its ridicules it doesn't pass the scientific test of logic. Just because God didn't mention doesn't mean that there are no more. Neither did God said only two. There are a whole multitude of them. There is an archangel over our nation. There is an Archangel over Singapore. There is an Archangel over every nation of the world. And the success of every nation is depends on hearkening to that angel who watches over that land.

One of the reasons why Gabriel needs help from Michael is because Michael and he have a message about Israel. Michael was an Archangel the reason is famous in the scriptures because he is the Archangel assigned over Israel. Chapter 12:1 At that time shall arise Michael the great prince who has charge of your people. We have a watcher over each nation, great and mighty angels. And when a nation rises up Archangels are involved strengthening the hands of mortal men and mortal rulers. Notice in chapter 11:1 When Darius the Mede overcame the Babylonian empire. One empire collapse and the Middle Persian empire rose. In verse one Gabriel was now involved. He was an Archangel involved over Persia. He says, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him. Any student of Persian history and archeology will know that there is no mention of Gabriel in their records. All you read are historical stories of men coming up and men going down, men striving against men to go on the top. But in the spirit world it was Gabriel who took the Middle Persian Empire and raised it up to the level that it could topple the Babylonian Empire. There are watchers over each nation. Satan also copy this modus operandi; understand that Satan doesn't invent he copies.

People are so trained they know that there is a prince of Persia that demonic power over each country, demon powers over cities. But they are not told that there are angels over cities, angels over nations. We only know the negative we don't know the positive. And unless you know both negative and positive to understand both sides you can not really function and flow in your prayer life and the lives of nations in our prayers. Its common knowledge among Christians there is a revival of understanding of tearing down principalities. But do you realize that there are many realms of angels. There are Archangels that are set over nations. There are angels that are over

cities. Do you know that the angel whom David saw has his sword drawn over Jerusalem? It was the angel over that city. And when God determined judgment that angel was involved. When God determined blessing that same angel was involved as long as that city obeys God. Does God watch over cities? Yes, Sodom and Gomorrah was destroyed.

Now having understood this realm of the angelic realm, lets move down to our scale. Each ministry and each business call or each area that you are supposed to do has an angel assigned to you. Lets say you are a scientist and you are called to bring about a discovery that will change the world, an angel is involved in your life above your ministering angel that takes care of food, clothing and shelter. And this is where the secret is. Unless and until you have a relationship with that office angel you never reach to the fullness of your office. So if you are in the business world and you are called to that area. Unless in your own special way not necessarily to discerning of spirit or open vision you understand the relationship between your business and the angel who was sent to build up that business, your business will never reach the fullness of what God called you to be. None of us want to live life half full and half empty. No, He has given us abundant life. Not to get by but to have more than sufficient and overflowing.

So whatever God has called us to do there may be one angel or more angels involved. And the day I met my ministering angel is the day my ministry reach that point of fullness. And it reach what I call the full entrance into your five fold or into whatever call that God has in your life. Not many prophets enter into this fullness in their secret life because they don't know that there is this realm. Agong Bangau, the prophet who led a mighty revival among the tribals in East Malaysia got into it and remained in it until he died.

Your scale as a true prophet of God in your fullness of your five-fold office can only come if you encounter an angel. Please note I am very careful with my choice of words. I didn't necessary say see or talk or converse because each one will relate in their own special way that God has called. Not everyone will relate in the same way. To some God will give a very visual experience. To some God will give a very quiet inner voice experience. So no spiritual experience can be duplicated or what is good for one is not necessarily good for the other. But in your own way you must have an encounter with the angel of yours. When we teach like that it causes you to desire and you need to understand in order to move to the fullness of it. How you encounter an angel is not necessarily through an open vision. So don't pray for an open vision. Angels are not allowed to show themselves without the permission direct from God the Father on the throne. So don't push them in that area. They may not like it. They can only have permission to show themselves as God the Father tells them to show it. I am not even talking about seeing inner vision, or faint impression and all that. Those will have to do with your human spirit. I am talking about direct appearance of angel to you.

They need the permission of God the Father.

But if you are called to the office of a prophet, a five fold office prophet, to the body of Christ, you need to move into an encounter very visually unlike any other ministry into the angelic realm. This is because a prophet functions very much like an angel. He brings a thus says the Lord, He speaks up and he shuts up exactly precisely to the

command of the Lord. There is no addition and no subtraction to what God have called the prophet to say or do. That's one of the secrets of a prophet. And if after this teaching people start claiming to see things and start building a ministry around it, ignore them. Because a true prophet doesn't speaks much about what he sees. He only speaks because God tells him to deliver a word of the Lord. He doesn't go about to talk about the glories of the spiritual world because the spiritual world would be natural to him. So when people talk about the spiritual world as if its something special and try to use it as more authority over your life and dominate your life, there is something wrong with them.

But that realm is a very dangerous realm. Because if you don't discern between the things of God and things of the devil, the devil can appear in an angel of light and you can not recognize it. In one of Sadhu Sundar Singh's encounter the devil appeared as an angel to him. The devil came as he was praying and said, "I will give you riches and fame if you follow after me right now." He looked exactly like an angel. But when Sadhu Sundar Singh looked into his eyes, that was the only part the devil couldn't counterfeit, he saw the glimpse of evil. And then he rebuked the devil and he disappeared and Jesus came and talked to him. That was when he wrote the book, "At the Master's feet," and he talked to the Master. But before that the devil came not as a devil but as an angel.

Don't go to the extreme of what some New Testament people did in the bible in Paul's time where they started worshipping angels. That is an extreme. Angels don't want you to do that. But we need a balance understanding to know that if one is called to the office of a prophet, if you haven't met or encounter the angel of your ministry, you haven't reached to the fullness yet.

How that angel encounters you can be in different forms. You can hear it as a voice or you can hear it as a thought. He can appear to you in a dream like he appeared to Joseph. In whatever form but you are acquainted with that angel who is over your ministry. That's the first secret of a prophet. They see angels and they know the angelic realm. And you see here in the book of Daniel. It was the angel that teaches Daniel. You see Elijah. He is acquainted with the angelic realm. He sees angels in that realm. If you asked am I called to be a prophet. I am not. I am called to other offices. And the office that I am called to requires also some measure of the entrance into the spirit so I can speak about that. But there is a necessity and since we are talking about prophets and prophecies, so that I could encourage and stir those who are called to that office to understand that if you have thought that you have arrive you have not unless you reached that realm.

The strange thing is that there is nothing you can do to quicken that realm. There is a timing of God to bring you into the fullness of that office. However there must be a readiness for it. Kenneth Hagin in his book "I Believe in Visions" talk about how when Jesus appeared to him an angel was on the right side. Every time he looks at the angel, the angel opens his mouth and was about to tell him something. But he looked back at Jesus and Jesus continued talking. Finally when Jesus has finished speaking to him, Jesus said your angel here has a word for you. And then of course he argued with Jesus and say since you are here why can't you deliver the word. And Jesus literally rebuked him. Because Jesus was trying explain that this is God's way of working. He says, "Didn't you read the Word? My word shows that the angel delivers the word." Finally when he was subdued, he turned to the angel and the angel said, "I have come

to you about sometime last year, but you did not open yourself to me. But I come to tell you now not to do these things and to tell you that my angels are bringing in all these money for you to do this at this point.” And he asked, “What do you mean by my angels?” Then he said, “The angels under me.” In that realm office angel have angels under them. Then he thought back about what the angel said and remembered. When he was living in the trailer, one night he felt someone enter the trailer. And he was asking who was that. Then he felt that the person left. When the angel said that he remembered that there was someone who came invisible and then he realized it was his angel. And the Lord said because he did not open himself. He did not understand that realm nor was he opened into that realm.

So our task here is a bit difficult. We have to open you to the realm of angel, yet we have to prevent you from going to the extreme once you have opened yourself. But that’s where God needs to tell us here. Do you notice that everyone who is called to the prophetic office understands the realm of angels? Abraham was called a prophet of God. When he sent his servant out for a bride for Isaac he says, “The angel of the Lord will go with you.” He is acquainted with his angel. That’s why he reached his fullness. We need to be acquainted with our angels.

David talks about the angels of the Lord pursuing his enemies in the book of Psalms 34. He talks about the angels of the Lord surrounding him. Do you think he is just singing a melody? No, he has an encounter with angels. He was called to rule over the nation. That means that he has to acquaint himself with the national angel and the angels under the national angel. We need to understand that realm. The first secret of a prophet is the realm of angels.

William Branham never really moved into his prophetic office until he met his angel. And none of us will move into the fullness of the office and calling in our life until you encounter your angel, whether it is in a dream or in a vision or in deep prayer or through an inner voice. The angels and us are doing God’s work in this earth. So prophets, there is a whole big realm for you to enter into. Daniel only entered into that realm of that angel in the fullness of his office of a prophet in Daniel chapter seven many years after he was faithful. He knew angels. He talked about angels shutting the mouth of lions. David in the New Testament was called a prophet. This is the secret life of a prophet. All prophets know their prophetic angel. Now the Holy Spirit will give you visions and dreams. But it is these angels that are working with you in your prophetic office that bring a special word from the Lord.

The second secret of a prophet.

Lets turn to the book of I Sam. 3:1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. We know the story of how the Lord called Samuel. And Samuel had his first prophecy. Then verse 19-20 And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord.

From that day onwards the second big secret of a prophet started taking place in Samuel’s life. A prophet walks in the realm of the spirit and sees in the realm of the spirit all the time. The second secret of a prophet is in the other word for prophet. There are two words for prophet and they are used interchangeably. One is the word

Nabi an Old Testament word. Hebrew word is Nabi, which means one that brings forth the word. The other is the word Hozeh, which speaks about the visual area, seeing. And that is why in Samuel's time a prophet is called a seer. Let's not forget that the gift of prophecy is not the office of a prophet. You can prophesy and speak of the things of the Lord. Drown in the Spirit and prophesy like Hananiah. Be filled with the Spirit and prophesy like Zechariah. But you are not a prophet. You have a gift of prophecy. Let me draw the line so that people who have a gift of prophecy don't claim to be prophets. If you cross that line after hearing these words you are accountable to God. A prophet is also a seer. Now there has been some teaching by school of prophets that there are two types of prophets, one a Nabi type and the other is a Hozeh type. In the bible here there is only one: Nabi and Hozeh are interchangeable.

Then what's the secret here? Remember this when people move into the prophesying forth it is only the first part of the office. So what happens through the wrong teaching these things happen. Firstly those who have the gift of prophecy and the ministry of prophesying began to assume that they are called to be prophets because they experience the Nabi kind of phenomena a speaking forth or utterances. And even though they try and try they will move very accurately but they never move into Hozeh, a visual encounter. That just means that they were never called into that fullness.

Secondly this is what happens. When a person who is actually called to the prophetic office gets satisfied with the wrong teaching that they are just the Nabi kind of prophet who doesn't see visions, then it will stop them from having the visions. A wrong teaching produces a wrong application. God spoke this to me and said, "A true prophet sees visions and dream dreams." One of the qualifications that are mentioned about prophets in the Old Testament in Deut. 13 and 18 it says a dreamer of dreams. And so the words Nabi and Hozeh are not used as two departments. They are used as two steps.

When Samuel trained the prophets in prophesying forth, they began to prophesy forth and began to have it. Just because they have accurate words from the Lord doesn't mean they are prophets. And even if you predict fantastic things under the spirit of prophecy doesn't make you a prophet. Now it doesn't mean that if you are not a prophet you can't do it. But when one is called to the office of a prophet the secret is that he would have visions and dreams. Firstly that means a lot of people are not in that call. They mistake the ministry of prophesying for the office of a prophet. Secondly it means that there are a lot of people who are called to be prophets haven't matured yet.

When I share the secret life of a prophet it is to show people the bible standard of a prophet. We begin to realize that if we have it we have it. If we don't have it we don't have it. If you have a call that is the direction you will be led into, wait on that date. Daniel was an old man before he went into the realm of seeing angels. He was faithful. Why, because God never wanted him to function in the prophetic office yet. He had a Prime Minister's role to fulfill. So don't be anxious at all. Some takes twenty years some thirty years and they give up. O I am only a Nabi prophet. That's a wrong teaching. God began to speak to me of that area to correct that teaching since we are in the last days of the Spirit. If this wrong teaching comes back into people's life they will begin to open themselves and just be satisfied where they are. They

won't realize a realm that they need to enter into in order to be a real Nabi and Hozeh prophet of God.

Third secret of a prophet's life.

Because of the first two you began to live almost like an open vision. The third happens it is very hard to live in the natural life. This is why many people who are actually called to the office of a prophet are also called to celibacy. However it is not impossible. Enoch was called to the prophetic office and the bible says he walked with God and he begot sons and daughters. So that tells us that it has nothing to do with the sin of the marriage or sexual act. But rather it has to do with understanding and the grasp of the realm of the spirit and the natural realm. In the book of Genesis chapter 5 we are told that Enoch walked with God after he beget Kenan and he walked with God three hundred years and he begot sons and daughters. So that means that he had sexual encounter with his wife while he was a prophet and while he walked with God. He was considered walking with God all through those times. I had to bring those scriptures out to balance it so that you realize that it doesn't mean that you had to be a celibate to walk with God to the extent to the teaching that we are bringing forth. If you are married its still possible in God. If Enoch can do it you can as a married person.

But some things happen to your physical body when you enter into the spirit like that in the secret life of a prophet. What are some of the things that will happen? Look at the book of Daniel. We see here as he enters this stage he never enter and have this experiences that he had. Chapter 7:15 As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious and the visions of my head alarmed me. He was grieved in his spirit and within his body. When you enter into a certain realm of the spirit and encounter so real like the spirit realm as if it is natural. It is very hard to live a natural life. That is why Daniel was single. So God to preserve whoever would have been miserable with him had to keep him single. There are others things happening in his body.

Chapter 8:27 And I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for some days; then I rose and went about the king's business; but I was appalled by the vision and did not understand it. The word sick is not a natural sickness. But he was so weak like he was sick. The physical frame and body starts being affected until, sometimes I believe in Enoch's life, he could be so in the spirit that he had hardly time for anything natural. But that is a strange realm out there in point No. 3. The secret life of a prophet in point three is his natural life is unnatural. He many not eat at times people eat. He may eat funny food that people don't eat. How do you like John the Baptist's diet? Don't you think that's strange? So they would be naturally unnatural. Don't expect them to be normal.

Incidentally yesterday the Lord gave me a word for you. In 1995 there will be a change of phrase for you. Your desire is to move into the visual area. There will be a change of phrase in 1995. Like he changed Daniel from six to Daniel seven. He will change your life and you will move into that realm. So its important for us to understand that there is a secret realm. Now we understand that many people who claim to be this and claim to be prophets really they don't understand that realm. Not only prophets. People claim to be apostles. And they don't understand that realm. Do you know what qualification for an apostle in the bible? They should have visions and revelations almost same like prophets. If you don't have a vision you can't really get

into the apostolic office. And you may give me historical examples of some people who have apostolic office. I can only say you argue from the Word. It only means that they haven't entered in the fullness of the Word. Don't give me an example that Billy Graham is an evangelist but didn't heal, didn't lay hand on the sick. It is not necessary because God didn't want him to. He is not the pattern of the bible for evangelist. The pattern is Philip. So you see you can't base a theology on history or on experience. You base your theology on the Word. It doesn't mean if we call ourselves by anything we would become what we called ourselves. How important it is that we will lay everything at the feet of Jesus and say, "Lord whatever you want I will be. And without you I am nothing." And all we ever want in life is to be what God wants us to be. And anything else will be miserable. And those are the three realms of the secret life of a prophet that any prophet needs to understand to move into that dimension that God has for them.

## 5. HAZON AND MARA

We concluded two weeks ago on how a real prophet moves into the area of vision and is sometimes called in the Old Testament a seer. There are two Hebrew words for prophet *hazon* and *nabi*. *Nabi* speaks about a bringing forth of the Word. *Hazon* speaks about the seeing of visions. So in the Old Testament a prophet is called a *hazon* and *nabi*. In the book of Samuel the words have been used changeably for Samuel. So Samuel is both a *hazon* and a *nabi* type of prophet. We have established a fact that many prophets move into the *nabi* type of ministry. They prophesy but they don't really see visions. And we have said that, that is only the beginning part of their ministry. Like in Daniel's life he started mainly in the area of wisdom. And it was only in his later years that he moved into *hazon* and started seeing visions.

So let's consider the ministry of Daniel. There are three types of visions and two levels of vision. We speak about three different types of vision. Just to summarize for you they are spiritual vision that you see with the eyes of your spirit. Open vision where you see both the natural and the spiritual world at the same time. And closed vision where you see only the spiritual world and you could be in a trance like state and completely unconscious of the physical realm. So there are three types of visions. This morning we will look at two levels or two degrees by which a person moves into the area of vision.

So let's look at the book of Daniel chapter 7 onwards begins the vision part. The book of Daniel is divided into two sections. Chapter 1-6 is historical. Chapter 7-12 is prophetic. All his visions occurred in the second half of the book. Chapter 7:1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon. Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed.

I came upon on this understanding of the two levels of vision while I was studying the bible using and comparing different versions at times. Sometimes I read along in the literal translation and observed particularly the Septuagint, which is the Greek translation as well as in the Hebrew transliteration. I noticed that there is a marked change in the language of the Hebrew. Part of Daniel is written in Hebrew and part is in Aramaic. And there is a marked change from chapter 7, 8 and 9 to chapter 10, which we don't get it if we just read the English translation. We will read like chapter 7 he has visions and dreams, chapter 8 he had visions and dreams, chapter 9 he had visions and chapter 10 he had vision and chapter 11 he had vision and chapter 12 conclusion. We don't see the flow that is there in the Hebrew.

In chapter 7, 8 and 9 they use a particular Hebrew word for vision. And from chapter 10 there was a distinct change in the usage of the Hebrew word for vision. It is so demarcated that you can not fail to see it if you were reading it in the Hebrew Old Testament. There are basically two Hebrew words for the word vision. There are also two Greek words, which we will look at that later.

One of the Hebrew words for vision is the word *hazah*, which means to "see, behold, select for oneself." It is the development of the word *hozeh*, or the seer. Then are developments like *hizzayon*, which means vision. And all these are different development of the root word *haz* or *hazo* or *hazah*. So there is a usage of the word *hazah*, which is one of the words that means to see, to behold. And places like in Daniel 7:1 I put the Hebrew words in, In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon,



Daniel had a dream and visions (hazah) of his head. So he had certain types of visions. Then in verse 7, After this I saw in the night visions (hazo). Then we look on verse 15. I Daniel was grieved in my spirit within my body and the visions (hazah) of my head troubled me. So something affected him as he was having the hazah kind of vision.

Daniel 8:1 In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision (hazon) appeared to me, Daniel - after the one that appeared to me the first time.

Verse 2 I saw in the vision (hazon), and it so happened while I was looking, that I was in Shushan, the citadel. And he goes on to describe what he saw.

In Daniel 8:15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision (hazon) and was seeking the meaning. So he had been having the hazon type of vision so far.

Daniel 9:21 yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision (hazon) at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering.

Everything is very consistent in the Hebrew hazah, hazo, hazon and these words continue to be used in the same manner until suddenly in chapter 10 there was a different degree of vision. There was a different experience in his vision.

Daniel 10:2-3 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks; I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth. In case you didn't know it that's one of the best types of fast. A partial fast that is a long one where he ate no pleasant food. Nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

After he fasted 21 days the following took place in verse 4 Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, Tigris. Here it was some time after he had fasted. You may not receive your answer during your fast. You may not receive your answer immediately at the end of your fast. But you may receive your answer some time after the fast. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month he was by the riverside.

Verse 5 I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz. His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

Now whom did he see? The person who spoke to him is Gabriel. And he said in verse 13 the prince of Persia withstood him and Michael the Archangel came and helped him. It's the same Gabriel the Archangel whom Daniel saw in his earlier vision. By now Daniel should be very familiar with Gabriel. And here in the spirit realm he had seen Gabriel before. He saw Gabriel earlier on and Gabriel spoke to him in chapter 8 in verse 16, And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision." So he had seen Gabriel before. Then in chapter 9 it was still Gabriel who came to him the same angel as he had seen before. Daniel called him a man because angel Gabriel looked like a man.

Then what a difference. Suddenly here in Daniel 10 comes the same Gabriel but he looks different. He looks different, he sounds different. His voice was like a multitude of waters. He heard these words. See in Daniel 10:5 it is not Jesus. It looks like Jesus but it's still Gabriel. Gabriel was in his full glory. You ask, "Can angels look like that?" Yes. Have you not read the book of Revelation? When some of these angels come in their full glory they look very majestic. For example, Rev. 10:1 This is not Jesus. This is one of the angels. And we know that God has a throne with a rainbow behind Him. And here is an angel who was in his full glory. In verse one, Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. This is an angel we are talking about and not Jesus.

The reason I show that is because many Christians may not believe it as they just read from Daniel and tell them that's an angel. They try to argue that was Jesus they saw and then later on Gabriel appeared. Not a single theologian dares to say that it was Jesus in chapter 10 of Daniel. If that person was seated at the throne it would have been a different story. We would definitely say that it was Jesus. But this was a person who came stood by the river. This shows that angels can appear in might and glory.

And so in chapter 10 there was definitely something different about the kind of vision he was having. There was a depth of vision that he had during his experience in chapter 10. Let's read on in Daniel chapter 10:7 And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision. But a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled to hide themselves. There was something definitely different. Before that he had visions but the people around never reacted like that day. Just cross-reference to the one he had earlier. Chapter 8 he saw Gabriel in verse 16. As he saw it there was no record of the people around him being affected at all. Notice in Daniel 8:15 When I, Daniel had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; and behold, there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai. There would probably be people walking around that day. But there is no record that the people around him were affected. All he had was a personal vision.

But in Daniel 10:7 nobody saw the vision but everyone around felt something. For the word vision is a different Hebrew word. In verse 7, I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, and the men who were with me did not see the vision (mara). It's a different type of vision. So here mara is a totally different meaning. Here the word mara is used to bring out the depth of the vision that he was having.

With all these Hebrew words I summarize it to be two main areas hazon and mara. The other words are just deviations. If I were having a hazon vision I could be kneeling down or sitting down and worshipping. It can be in three different types. It can be a closed vision, an open vision or a spiritual vision. And you wouldn't know it. You would have thought that I was just praising the Lord.

But if I were to be having a mara kind of vision, and you were around me something will affect you. Maybe you began to shiver and shake. Maybe you would feel a holy awe and terror striking you, even though you don't know what's going on. A mara vision is of a very high degree.

Lets read on to establish this fact here in Daniel 10:8. See everybody ran when he had a mara vision. Although they didn't see Gabriel they felt something that was frightening to the natural man and they ran. Verse 8 Therefore I was left alone and saw this great vision (mara). Even though you don't understand Hebrew you can see the adjective great added to the noun vision; never before has Daniel use the word great to describe his previous visions in the previous chapters. He calls that vision a great vision. The word vision again is the word mara. He saw a great mara. And it affected him more than it affected him before. It says, and no strength was left in me; my radiant appearance was fearfully changed, and I retained no strength. Then I heard the sound of his words; and when I heard the sound of his words, I fell on my face in a deep sleep with my face to the ground. And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees.

Definitely this is a different experience. Before that he had different types of experiences. Like in chapter 8 verse 27 he felt weak for some time. But now he was so affected that he fell into a deep sleep. And then when Gabriel's hand touched him, his body couldn't stand the amount of power that was being transmitted and his palms were vibrating and his knees were shaking. Understand that Daniel was a very spiritual man and he has seen visions before. But this was different.

There are two degrees of vision. Most people's vision is of the first degree. But there is a higher and greater degree that begins to affect your natural body. We are talking about visions and revelations. And we need to understand that most people when they start having visions they have an inner vision or spiritual vision. But as they grow in God their type of vision may change to a close vision and sometimes an open vision. But yet it is all of the first degree.

There is another level that they can enter into. So we outline some of the things. We used to teach before that there is one area when you have a vision. And you are having faith in that which God has shown you. You are acting on that vision. You have the vision. It moves you, it propels you and it motivates you. But you enter a realm where the vision has you. You are like possessed by a vision. It controls your very life and you live for that vision which God has shown you. That is partially the difference between hazon and mara.

Then there is an area where you are having a vision and the vision grows in you day by day. You still have your free choice to meditate, to think over that vision. But when you reached mara, you are bound to that vision. Its like you are captive audience of that vision. It has a greater controlling power over your being. Now God doesn't move us straight into mara. But if we don't teach about it people will not know about it therefore never ever experience it at all. At least when we know about it we can be ready should God desire that we experience it.

There are different things that take place between mara and hazon. No. 1 when we move from hazon to mara it began to affect our physical body. It will have a supernatural effect on the natural realm. One of the reasons why Enoch was translated was because he moved so much into mara. You can not move into mara too long because your physical body can not take it any more. It will either have to be renewed or your physical body will either have to die or be transformed. Our physical bodies are not made to sustain mara. It is too powerful for our physical frame. Our mortal bodies can not take on this immortal experience. Which is why I can see the people

like Enoch moved so much into mara until his physical body was virtually transformed and he was translated.

People like Elijah moved so much into it so that it was hard to tell the difference between natural and spiritual. He moved so much into the spiritual until the spiritual was like the natural. When an angel speaks you know exactly where the angel is and it is so natural. The spiritual becomes so natural so that God said, "Elijah you might as well come on home." And He sends him a fiery chariot and he rides on the fiery chariot and goes on home. You can tell that he was a man that can see the spiritual world all the time as a natural eye. He did not have the gift of discerning of spirits. He has spiritual eyes permanently. When the young man who was with him saw that the Syrian army surrounded Elisha, Elisha said, "Do not be afraid because those who are for us are more than those who are against us." The young boy looked around and wondered what he was talking about. Here was this host of the Syrian army and Elisha said they who are with us are more than they who are against us. And Elisha said, "God open his eyes." And the young man saw these fiery chariots around and they were more than the Syrians. Elisha saw it all the time. It took a gift of discerning of spirit for the young boy to see.

There is a realm out there in the prophetic world where people walk into it. Which is the reason why if one is called into the fullness of a prophetic mantle, it is a very peculiar call and you may move into strange things to the natural people. If you talk to people like Agong Bangau (the mighty prophet who led a revival in East Malaysia) who has gone to be with the Lord, you would know that he is familiar with the spiritual world and converse with angels all the time. I just met him once. Its just like when you are in the spirit and someone is in the spirit. You are like an old friend with him because you both know the spirit world. And I sort of know what kind of life he had and what kind of experiences he had. I know that he would be probably someone who sees visions all the time and hears God's voice as a human voice speaking to him. That is one of the depths of a prophetic realm that a person can move into.

So here is the first application that we see here between hazon and mara. Mara began to affect our physical body. Our physical body becomes touched and we notice here in chapter 10 that there was a contact made between a spirit world and a natural world. A hand touched him. It does not mean that in hazon vision there is no contact. There are some contacts but they are not as great. See most of the time when you see a vision its just seeing a vision. And sometimes you can see an angel as you worship. But if you were to walk you could walk through the angel. You still had a vision but the angel is there. And you try to touch the angel your hand go through thin air. But when you are having a mara kind of vision and you try to walk you will bump into that angel. At the mara stage the spiritual has materialized into the natural realm. There is a small degree of hazon having materialization. Just like the angel earlier has some contact in the physical sense with Daniel but there was no contact made like the one made in chapter 10 in his full glory.

In the spiritual world there are different degrees of glory. When we go to heaven there are still different degrees of glory. We can all have access to God's throne but there are different degrees of glory. So those who are in a higher stage of glory when they visit the lower stage of glory, they would have to be clothed with a special covering so that those on the lower glory can stand the depths of the glory that the higher ones are carrying in their person. It has to do with development. Sadhu Sundar Singh in his

book "Spiritual World" speaks about how he was taken on a trip to heaven and God showed him all the different realms of glory. And he asked a question to the angel who was instructing him. "Can they visit one another?" And the angel said, "Yes they can. For they put on different degrees of glory and covering as they move to different levels. Then those who are not used to the depths of God's glory, when they move into a higher glory they are also given a covering so that they can stand the greater glory that they are experiencing." So there are different degrees of glory.

And mara is a manifestation of the highest degree. So great that it is impossible to come out of the mara vision the same. When you come out of mara vision something physically takes place on your natural body. Let me illustrate also with the New Testament. In the New Testament there are two Greek words for visions. One is the word optasia, which means an apparition and the other is horasis, which means to see. In the New Testament there are different places where optasia takes place and where horasis takes place.

Lets look at some incidents in the book of Acts 10:3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision (horasis) an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius". So he saw a horasis kind of vision.

Look over at the book of Acts 26:19 Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision (optasia). Suddenly there is a change. Paul says that he calls his horasis as optasia. To compare it to the Hebrew hazon vision is like horasis. Mara kind of vision is like optasia. Paul was talking about his vision in Acts chapter 9 when he met the Lord Jesus Christ on his way to Damascus. It was a mara or an optasia kind of vision. As we said when you have a mara or optasia something physically happen. Paul was riding on his donkey. As he came near suddenly the windows of heaven opened. He not only saw Jesus. I mean later on he saw Jesus and there was no such happening. We are told that Jesus appeared to him after he has been in prison and said Paul be of good cheer. And that vision is also horasis. When that mara kind of vision takes place Paul was knocked off his horse. Mara can be dangerous because if you have a very deep mara we may never see you again. Things can happen in mara kind of vision. There is a physical encounter. Paul got knocked off his horse and the light that he saw was so bright that his natural eyes could not see for three days and three nights. He was totally blinded.

Remember what we say about mara. All the people around Daniel ran away. All the people around Paul also had some sort of presence affecting them. Look at Acts 26:13 At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, Jesus had not always appeared that way to him. When someone says I saw Jesus although I don't ask questions, I listen carefully to see what kind of vision that person had. I know there are three types of visions and two degrees of vision. Listen very carefully and you begin to see a different level that is operating. Shining around me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground. So now is the latest thing we see here. Not only Paul fell from his horse but everybody else also fell. There was this huge big thunderbolt and everybody was on the floor. That is a mara kind of vision. So if anybody claim to see a mara don't believe it because you will know it when it is a mara. If one of you were having a mara here today all of us would be thrown off our feet. Something awesome would be present. It is not often that we see mara because if you get it often we may not see you again. The only way we can communicate is in the spirit.

Lets look at other incident in the book of Acts 9:3 Now as he journeyed he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed about him. And he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting; but rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one.

They heard something, but the Greek doesn't actually say that they heard an intelligible voice. They just heard some sort of sound. Cross reference to Acts 22:9 Now those who were with me saw the light but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me. They heard something but they didn't hear the exact voice speaking to Paul. Its just like when the voice said from heaven in the gospel of John "this is my Son whom I love." And some said it thundered. Some heard different things. They didn't actually hear it in the spirit. But here they heard something and they saw something. It says those who were with me saw the light and they were afraid. That is an optasia, a mara kind of vision.

Firstly, a mara vision will have an effect on the natural world, whether in your physical body or on the natural world around you. During the great revivals, when Charles G. Finney goes to a place, it is said it was like a blanket of God's presence coming upon the entire city and anyone who crosses the boundary of that city gets under conviction of sin. So here is the truth that we are bringing forth. Anyone who has crossed the threshold into the depths of mara carries with them a different degree of presence. The reason why Charles G. Finney carries it is because he got touched in that realm of mara. You carry in your body and in your spirit a different degree of that presence. It resides permanently in the very cells of your body. When people like Elisha died and his spirit has already left his body, the anointing was still in his dead bones. So powerful that when a dead man was thrown into the place where his bones were the moment the dead man touched his bones the dead man woke up. Where was the presence and power? In his dead bones. It resides inside us. That's to motivate us that there is a realm we could move into in the spirit.

So the next time you see a vision don't just get excited and run away. These things grow on us. Just like a little child first time having ice cream, I got ice cream, I got ice cream. Be still and know that He is God. The next time in your prayer closet you feel the presence of God coming wait on Him. Maybe mara is supposed to take place. When you begin to see some sort of apparitions wait on Him. Don't run off until you have spiritual encounter with Him.

Lets look at the Old Testament at the book of Isaiah and see the other truth about mara and hazon. Isa. 1:1 The vision (hazon) of Isaiah the son of Amos, which he saw (hazah) concerning Judah and Jerusalem (hazon is a noun, hazah is a verb) in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Isaiah was a prophet. And as a prophet he is also a hozeh kind of prophet. He has vision. He is not just nabi. In chapter one he is a prophet. Chapter two he is a prophet, chapter three he is a prophet, chapter four he is a prophet, chapter five he is a prophet, chapter six something took place. He began to experience mara. This is to show that there is a transition from hazon to mara even in Isaiah's life, same like in Daniel's life, same like the apostle Paul's life.

Isa. 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died I saw (ra'ah) the Lord (he didn't use the same word hozeh like in chapter one verse one. The same Hebrew word hazah translated in chapter one as saw. But now the word saw in chapter six verse one is the word ra'ah. It's a different Hebrew word, not the same word. This is trying to tell us that the depths of what he saw is related to mara. Sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and his train filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim, each had six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said; "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of his glory." And the foundations of the thresholds shook the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.

I have to say this again mara may contain hazon. But hazon doesn't contain mara. Something was happening here in Isaiah's life. He was having an experience that was life changing. Point one when you have a mara there is a supernatural effect on your body and on the surroundings.

Point two there will be a fresh commission. Isaiah was already called. He already had the call of God in his life in Isa. 1:1. He was already functioning as a prophet. But something took place when he had mara kind of vision. There was a fresh commission on his life. Mara is not to be taken lightly. Everyone can have discerning of the spirits operating in their life. They can have hazon different types of vision. But God doesn't play around with mara. When He brings forth a mara there is a special commission that you are responsible to.

Notice that when apostle Paul had his optasia the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew mara there was a commission on Paul's life. We are told in the book of Acts 22:10 And I said, "What shall I do, Lord?" And the Lord said to me, "Rise and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do." And when I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus. Also cross reference to chapter 26 :15 And I said, "Who are you, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon our feet for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen and to those in which I will appear to you. In other words Jesus commissioned him on that day. There is a special commission that takes place.

Samuel had the difference between hazon and mara too. I Sam. 3:1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision (hazon). Verse 15-16 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. and Samuel was afraid to tell the vision (mara) to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." From that day onwards he was called. Verse 19-20 And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all of Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord. Many people have a vision but their vision hasn't developed to the degree that is recognized. But when they enter into some measure of mara everyone knows.

And this principle can be applied not only in hazon and mara but in principle there is a time when you have a vision and the vision has you. When the vision has you just by encountering you perhaps your vision in the business world to become a Joseph generation provider. Perhaps you have the vision. If you have the vision you got to

convince others about the vision. When the vision has you there is no need to convict anyone. Just by hearing you they are convicted. Just by being with you they are convicted. That's the difference.

Here there is a commission that was upon the life of Samuel and Isaiah. When Samuel saw that mara he said, "Woe unto me for I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips. Again mara vision has a physical encounter. God brought a coal of fire on a tong and the angel brought it and it touched Isaiah's lips. And on that day something physical happened to him.

There are some people who have this type of encounter. People like Roland Buck "Angels on assignment" published by Charles and Francis Hunter. He talked about how one day an angel came to him and brought a scoop or something to him. And says God has a special gift for you. He drank it and says it taste like honey. At that time he was slightly overweight. When he drank it his body began to shrink to normal and he became healthier than ever before. There was something physical imparted when he partook of that heavenly substance.

You remember when the angel fed Elijah. As he was running away from Jezebel an angel fed him one meal. And that one meal lasted him for forty days and forty nights. See there is a natural effect but besides the natural effect there is a commission. Let me describe when you reached mara something happens on your inside. You die on your inside.

In the year Uzziah died Isaiah also died. You can not be the same person anymore. It will affect you naturally so that there is some supernatural force that now controls you. There is some sort of dying that takes place. Paul had a vision. He was Saul when Saul met Jesus. Saul died and Paul resurrected. Something happens when the commission is given. There is an inner death that takes place. You are no more your own. There is something supernatural that fills you and possesses you. And you are driven by something more powerful than you. Like Paul he says I go bound in the Spirit. You may be called to the five-fold ministry. You may have a different vision in different areas. But remember Isaiah was already a prophet. Something additional came into his life. He entered into uninhabited ministry. A lot of people are under someone else's ministry but they are afraid of people. They are afraid of this, afraid of that, and can not be themselves in God. When you have that mara experience you could be like Isaiah. Think about it. Isaiah was the one whom God told to be naked for a long time as part of the prophecy. It is very unlikely that it will happen in the New Testament. I don't want to see some of you coming to church naked the next Sunday saying God came to test your obedience. Can you imagine, even in the Old Testament sense, that kind of obedience was required. And how God asked him to take his underwear and bury it until its stinky and smelly and wear it again. You feel humiliated. But something happened to Isaiah. He has died. And a greater commission has come upon his life. So we have time to look at two areas in mara. One is in the supernatural effect on the natural. The other is there will always be a commission that comes in. And it will be part of what God wants to do on this planet earth.

Now we close with I Samuel. All the keys are inside I Sam. 3:1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. No. 1 it only takes place to people who minister to the Lord. I have examined it in this scripture and I find that there is a law that operates for people to move into mara. One week before Jesus appeared to me in



1986 there was a spirit of praise and worship that came on me. All I wanted to do was to worship God. It is important to take note that there is a ministry onto the Lord that is required. In your mind you could be asking what about the apostle Paul. How is it that before he was born again he could have some optasia. The law was still tapped in the negative sense. If you read Paul's life in the book of Galatians he said, in Timothy he said he did it ignorantly, but he actually did it thinking in his heart that he was doing it to God. So God worked in his life partly because of that law tapped in a different sense and also because of the intercession of Stephen for his life. That covered the other part. I mean he didn't get away with it. But the law still operates that there is a need to minister onto the Lord.

The other bible example that you see in fact there are two. One is in the book of Acts 13 and the other is in the book of Acts 16. When they ministered to Lord and fasted the great missionary journeys were born. When they ministered to the Lord in prison Paul and Silas sang hymns onto God in prison. The prison doors were shaken and there was what I call a natural effect taking place. So the first law is the law of ministering onto the Lord. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. There must be a purity of heart that comes where we are turned in our inward eyes and in our outward life to worship God. The bible says in the book of John chapter 4:23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seek. In other words the Father will seek you out and will manifest. So there is a promise in that law ministering onto the Lord.

Then we see here in I Sam. 3:3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down within the temple of the Lord.

No. 2 There is a timing for mara to take place. And mara is a higher degree. You could learn how to see vision and how to have spiritual vision. But there is nothing you can do about hastening mara. There is a proper timing for it to take place. There must be a fullness of the timing of God's dispensation to take place in your life. So be obedient to all the other levels of vision but be opened to mara should it be God's destiny in your life to bring it about. When the lamp of God was about to go out, it speaks about timing: an end of something and something new coming about. Not only was that taking place. You see the lamp of God was never supposed to go out. And there was a need in the spiritual world that there was a time when God decides that he is going to work powerfully. Daniel didn't have any mara until late in his life. There is such a thing as fullness of time. The second law is the law of the fullness of time. There is no way you could hasten it but you could delay it. You could never hurry it but you could delay it. In other words it could be God's destiny to have a mara in your life after 15 years of ministry. But because of your disobedience in God after 15 years and 20 years you still don't have it. You can not hasten it. There is a pre-determined time. It is just like a pregnancy period. It is better to let the pregnancy go in its full term. By hastening it you will cause the child to be born weak and subject to many more hostilities in the natural realm. So there is a fullness of time but the strange thing is that it can be delayed because of our disobedience. Delayed because the conception is delayed.

Then we read on in verse 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the Word of the Lord had no yet been revealed to him. Now take that along with verse one Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. There is another truth in that. There is faithful diligence before a revelation. Look at verse 7 he did not yet know the

Lord. He didn't have the word of the Lord come to him yet. He never had a vision. But he worked hard in the temple. This is the law of diligence. So even though you may not have heard the voice of God, even though you may never have seen a vision but you are a diligent person who seeks God's face, you are tapping on one of the laws that move you into that realm. These same laws are the same laws that you tap on if you want to be translated in your life. Because when you move into the depths of mara you will be translated in the end. That's the law of faithful diligence in your life. Those who seek after God must believe that He is and that He rewards those who diligently seek after Him. And I found out that one of the rewards of God is mara. We read in Heb.11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him. And we found out this morning that among His many rewards is mara when He encounters you in the depths of the spirit realm.