

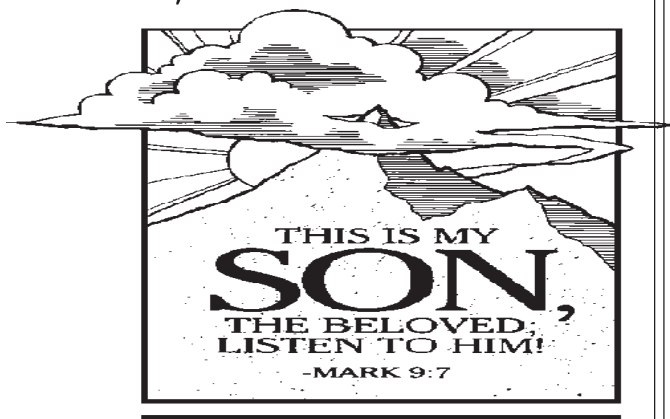


An Eagle's View!

A Prophetic God Produces a Prophetic People!

Part of the nature of God is that of prophetic expression and power. What He says, what He does, what He expresses, what He demonstrates, all affect the unfolding of future events, conditions, circumstances and the like. Jesus was the prophetic expression of God made know to us in the flesh. He was the express image of God and by His very nature He was the creative expression of life to the earth:

Col. 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.



When God communicates with us in any way it is prophetic in power, simply because of who God is. God is the one who declares the end from the beginning (**Isa. 46:10**). He is the one who speaks, and the future unfolds. His inspiration is one which causes life to break forth wherever He desires. God meets all of the criteria for the ultimate in prophetic communication. Some simple definitions of prophecy could be:

- 1. The act of telling what will happen; the foretelling of future events.*
- 2. Something told about the future; an indication of something to come.*
- 3. A divinely inspired expression; utterance, revelation, visual manifestation or writing.*

Since God is Himself the author and creator of all the future holds, we can simply define prophecy as “God communicating” (with man). When God communicates with us it cannot help but carry the substance of His prophetic nature. His expression may be vocal, visual, musical, written, demonstrated or in any form He chooses to “express” Himself.

The Bible teaches us that we were created in the likeness and the image of God. What is born of God is also born of His nature. We are being changed daily into the likeness and image of Him by the wonder working power of His Holy Spirit. Part of that change is producing within us the ability to be a people who manifest the prophetic nature of God. A prophetic God requires a responding



An Eagle's View!

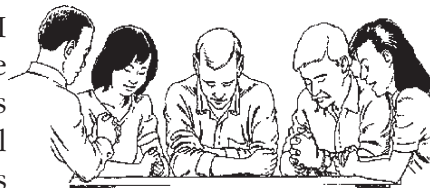
prophetic people. His prophetic word of power will bring about change both within us as well as through us.

Pet.1:23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

Gen.1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our Image, according to Our Likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

2Pet. 1:4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

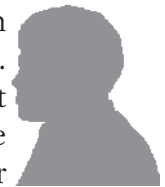
The source of the prophetic power of life is always found in God. The source is found in Him, but it is expressed through His Body (**Jn. 7:37-39, Rev. 1:12-20**). If the nature of God is prophetic, then God's people are to be prophetic in some way. I believe this is true because God is prophetic in all of His ways. Let's look at some different functions of prophetic ministry within the body of Christ.



First of all let us look at the ministry of the prophet (**Eph. 4:7-12**). The ministry of the office of the prophet is one of equipping the saints of God (**Eph. 4:12**) for the work of ministry. This is a headship ministry. Keep

in mind that headship is not a position of "control" or "lording". The office of a prophet is not "over" the body of Christ. It is a position of "serving" the body of Christ as one gift that equips the body for the work of ministry. When we think of the ministry of headship we must also think of the functions that take place within the confines of the head that we find connected to the neck on the top of our own shoulders. There are numerous functions that happen within the confines of our head.

There are many "members" that work together to accomplish the full task of headship within our own bodies. In the same way, there are many "members" that accomplish the task of "headship" ministry in the Body of Christ. Just as the Holy Spirit gives us diversity of gifts that are only in part (**1Cor. 13:9**), so are the gifts that Jesus gave to the Body as a means of equipping and strengthening them. No two people in the office of the prophet are alike. Some may minister by a prophetic anointing to activate and release spiritual gifts within the saints. Some may foretell future events. Some may strengthen and confirm words or callings from God to individual members of the Body. Some may serve to prophetically reveal hidden truths of Scripture. Some may serve to help set direction for a local congregation, while others may serve to help set direction for nations. No two functions are exactly alike, nor is any function greater than another. Each is necessary to accomplish all of the tasks required to express God's prophetic nature though His equipping gift know as the prophet. Each carries a different level of responsibility and authority. No two have the same responsibility nor do they have





An Eagle's View!

the same measure of authority. Ultimately, each prophet will seek to interconnect with other prophets in order to release the prophetic nature of God within the saints. Together they will work to equip the saints to accomplish their task of ministry with the power of a prophetic God. Prophets prophesy by the anointing of the office, not necessarily by the gift of prophecy. They have been anointed by God to function in a position of equipping the saints with His prophetic power in some respect.

The second function of the prophetic that we will look at is the gift of prophecy (**1Cor. 14:3**). The gift of prophecy is a gift given by the Holy Spirit as He wills. When the Holy Spirit gives this gift an individual can prophesy regardless of the anointing in the service. The power to deliver the prophetic word of the Lord is not dependent upon the level of anointing within the room. It is determined by the anointing given within, and upon, the person prophesying. It is a gift given by the Holy Spirit and it is not dependent upon the works of an individual (although righteous works are the result of righteous hearts and will produce unblemished results). It can produce the same prophetic results as the mouth of a prophet, but it is a gift of the Holy Spirit intended to bring comfort, encouragement and exhortation to those to whom it is expressed. I have heard teaching that the gift of prophecy cannot bring correction. I don't believe that this is true. We must remember however that correction will come through a mouth that is "*responsible to correct*". It is important that we all define our areas of responsibilities and stay within the

boundaries of them. When we move out of the areas of our responsibilities we do not have authority and we will cause damage to ourselves and to others.

Another area of prophetic expression in the Body of Christ is that of prophetic preaching. A good example of this is found in **Acts chapter 7** in the testimony of Stephen's preaching just before he was stoned to death. Prophetic preaching is a spontaneous prophetic utterance via preaching. It is not just a "*flow*" in preaching, it is precise words for a specific people at a specific time. This most commonly will happen with those in the office of the prophet who have a specific gifting in that area but it is not limited to the office of the prophet. Stephan was a deacon who simply had the anointing of God upon his life.

We can find another expression of prophetic ministry when the spirit of prophecy is present in a given place or gathering (**1Sam. 10: 5,6,10; 19:18-24; Num. 11:25-26**). This can happen to any individual when there is a strong anointing for prophecy. It is a result of His presence and is intended to release a prophetic testimony of the Lord (**Rev. 19:10**).



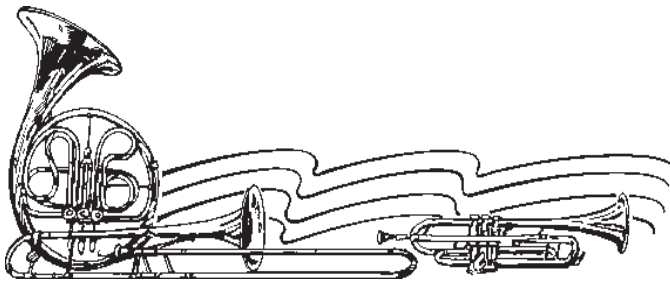
Another prophetic expression in the Body of Christ is one that is found through the expression of music. Music can be used by the Holy Spirit to release prophetic anointing,



An Eagle's View!

gift and power. Music can be used by God to open up our hearts to receive the prophetic power of God.

2Kin. 3:15 "But now bring me a musician." And it happened, when the musician played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him.



There can be several different expressions of the prophetic found in the ministry of the new song. It can be one way that God expresses His prophetic power to bring exhortation and comfort toward the body. This is generally part of a ministry that can come upon the prophetic psalmist (one who is gifted to sing various songs of the Lord with a prophetic unction and power) or a saint who is gifted in song.

Eph 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

1Cor. 14:3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

1Cor. 14:12 Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel. 13 Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. 14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is the result then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

Zep. 3:17 "The LORD your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you in His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

A second expression of prophetic song is found in the ministry of the song of the Lord directed toward the Father. This is part of prophetic ministry that is a manifestation of the Spirit of Christ within the believer that expresses love and exhalation of the Father through the heart of the believer. It can be an expression of the Spirit of Christ within the individual or it can be an expression of Christ on behalf of a corporate gathering of believers.

Heb. 2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12 saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the congregation I will sing praise to You."

There is also the prophetic expression of the song of the Bridegroom. This is usually



An Eagle's View!

manifested as a love song toward the Bride. God will often release this prophetic song in order to “draw” His Bride closer to Him in a love relationship of intimacy.

Jer 33:11 'the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who will say: 'Praise the LORD of hosts, for the LORD is good, for His mercy endures forever'--and of those who will bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause the captives of the land to return as at the first,' says the LORD.

An appropriate prophetic response to the song of the Bridegroom is found in the song of the Bride. This is prophetic response of love to the Bridegroom. I have seen the song



of the Bride and the song of the Bridegroom prophetically respond to one another at a specific time of ministry. It carries a tremendous power to open the hearts of the saints to receive more of God's presence and love.

The next prophetic expression of song is that found in the song of deliverance. The song of deliverance brings about healing, deliverance or restoration. Miriam sang the song of deliverance when the Lord parted the Red Sea, which brought about the deliverance of the children of Israel from the hand of Pharaoh (**Ex. 15:1-18**). The song of deliverance can prophetically tear down strongholds, mend breaches and even bring

physical healing to individual's minds, spirits and bodies. The song of deliverance carries with it a “substance”. That “substance” is an oil of God's presence intended to break yokes of bondage (**Isa. 10:27**).

Ps. 32:7 You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah

The last type of prophetic song that I need to mention is the prophetic song of the Lord for war and victory over the enemy.

Ps. 149:5 Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds. 6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand, 7 To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples; 8 To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron; 9 To execute on them the written judgment--This honor have all His saints. Praise the LORD!

Isa. 30:30 The LORD will cause His glorious voice to be heard, and show the descent of His arm, with the indignation of His anger and the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, tempest, and hailstones. 31 For through the voice of the LORD Assyria will be beaten down, who struck with a rod.

It is Biblical for warfare to be directed toward the enemy. The prophetic song of the Lord can be an awesome means of proclaiming this with great power.

1Sam. 17:45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword,



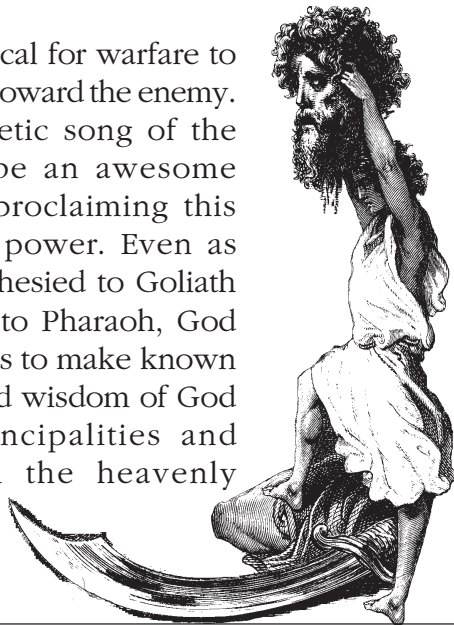
An Eagle's View!

with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 "This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

Ex. 5:1 Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.' "

Eph. 3:10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,

It is Biblical for warfare to be directed toward the enemy. The prophetic song of the Lord can be an awesome means of proclaiming this with great power. Even as David prophesied to Goliath and Moses to Pharaoh, God has called us to make known the manifold wisdom of God to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places.



This type of song does not judge the enemy. It simply enforces the "written judgments" which the Lord has already decreed against our foe. This song enforces the victory of the saints! The power of this song is not found in the declaration to the enemy, it is found in the declaration of God's praise before the enemy. It is a song of the testimony of the Lord "in the face" of the enemy.

By Ted J. Hanson

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