

The Truth About Spiritual Gifts
The Truth About the Gift of Prophecy

I. Introduction**II. What Is the Spiritual Gift of Prophecy?**

- A. I Corinthians 14:1-3 (NAS) ¹ Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. ² For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. ³ But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.
- B. Prophecy -- Speaking forth a message from God, in a known language, under the immediate inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
1. I Corinthians 14:3 (NAS) *But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.*
- C. I Corinthians 14:29-30 (NAS) ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. ³⁰ But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent.
- D. I Corinthians 12:28 (NAS) *And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.*

III. What Are Some Objections to the Gift of Prophecy?

- A. "If we prophesy, then we are adding to the Scriptures."
1. "The Sufficiency of Scripture" means that the Bible contains all of what God intends to communicate to us about salvation, and the way of salvation.
2. Philippians 3:15 (NAS) *Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you.*
- B. "If we prophesy something wrong, then we should be put to death."
1. Deuteronomy 18:20 (NAS) *"But the prophet who speaks a word presumptuously in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."*
2. In the Old Testament, "prophets" were the communicators of right doctrine to the entire nation of Israel!
3. I Corinthians 14:29 (NLT) *Let two or three people prophesy, and let the others evaluate what is said.*
4. I Thessalonians 5:19-21 (NAS) ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit; ²⁰ do not despise prophetic utterances. ²¹ But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good.

IV. What Is the Purpose of Prophecy?

- A. I Corinthians 14:3 (NAS) *But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.*
- B. Non-typical purposes of prophecy
1. Telling the future
- a. Prophecy is not primarily fore-telling! It is forth-telling!
2. "Directional" prophecy
- a. We are never to turn the responsibility for the decisions in our lives over to someone else!
- b. I understand "directional prophecy" to be an underlining of what God is already saying to you.

V. How Should Prophecy Work in a Church?

- A. I Corinthians 14:26-33 (NAS) ²⁶ When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; ²⁸ but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God. ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. ³⁰ But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted; ³² and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; ³³ for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

1. Everything that Paul is talking about regarding spiritual gifts is written in the context of house churches that were meeting in homes.
- B. The fact is, I Corinthians 12-14 have very little application to a large church setting like we have here on the weekends.
- C. Our primary purposes for meeting here on the weekends are to:
 1. Worship God together as a church family. We want to experience His Presence!
 2. To be taught from the Bible.
 3. To minister to one another through healing prayer.
- D. The Bible draws a distinction between "strong spiritual gifts" and "weak spiritual gifts."
 1. The place we learn to prophesy is in our Small Group!
- E. I Corinthians 14:1 (NAS) *Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.*

VI. Conclusion

PAGE

PAGE 2

M/SR/SN/Series/The Truth About Spiritual Gifts 2018/3-Gift of Prophecy outline
DATE \@ "M/d/yyyy" 11/29/2018