

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HIS GIFTS #5

JULY 27, 2022

REVIEW:

- * The Gifts are supernatural manifestations of the Spirit of God.
- * They have nothing to do with natural abilities, power or education.
- * They are for all believers and for the benefit of everyone.

CONTINUE:

JOHN 7:37-39

Jesus said every believer should receive the Holy Spirit. Out of the belly or stomach will flow rivers of life-giving water.

1 COR. 12:10, 31

We are to covet the best gifts. Covet means to desire earnestly. Prophecy is one of the vocal or inspirational gifts we are to covet (1 COR. 14:39).

Prophecy Defined

Supernatural utterance inspired by God in a tongue known to the speaker. He's speaking under the influence of the Spirit in a language he understands. The prompting is spirit inspired.

Purpose - 1 COR. 14:3-4

- * Edification (build up or strengthen).
- * Exhortation (to call near, teach or admonish).
- * Comfort (console, cheer, encourage).

The simple Gift of Prophecy has no element of prediction, that comes through the office of the prophet.

What It's Not

- 1.) Fortune Telling: **DEUT. 13:1-4** We are not to get involved with psychics, astrologers, or false prophets. Jeane Dixon was a self-proclaimed American psychic and astrologer who claimed her ability to predict future events was the Gift of Prophecy. Her predictions were more wrong than right.
 - A.) We shouldn't confuse simple prophecy with the prophetic office.
- 2.) God's primary means of guidance. **ROM. 8:14-16**
 - A.) Lives have been ruined and marriages destroyed by personal prophecies.
 - B.) **2 PETER 1:18-21** Our lives are primarily to be governed by God's Word.
 - * A woman was prophesied over and told her mother would die in six months and her husband would leave her in a year. Neither happened.
- 3.) To be despised (**1 THESS. 5:19-20**).
 - A.) Misuse caused many to despise the gift and quench the spirit.

What It Is

- 1.) Inspired utterances that can encourage our faith (**2 CHRON. 5:1-7**). Azariah ministered the simple Gift of Prophecy. He gave words of edification, exhortation and comfort.
 - A.) **2 CHRON. 14:2-5** Asa started out well.
 - B.) **2 CHRON. 16:7-9** Hanani, the prophet, prophesies Asa's future. These two examples reveal both aspects of prophecy.
- 2.) Inspired utterances that can help us fight battles (**1 TIM. 1:18-19**).
 - A.) **2 CHRON 20:15-17** The prophet Jahaziel's prophecy demonstrates all aspects of prophecy: edification, exhortation, comfort and prediction.
 - B.) **ACTS 21:8-11** Another example of simple prophecy, and prophecy that predicts the future.

Conclusion: All believers are to covet prophecy, but not all believers are prophets.

