

PROPHECY WITHOUT PERMISSION



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by Jonas Clark

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.

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PROPHECY WITHOUT PERMISSION

Presumptuous prophets prophesy because they can, but should they? Does a prophet need permission to prophesy? If a prophet that has not been granted permission to prophesy and yet does, is he guilty of sin?

Answers to these questions take us into advanced prophetic training.

Prophets carry a great blessing for the body of Christ. They also have a significant responsibility to guard their ministries from demonic encroachment. As prophets mature in their ministries they quickly learn to wait for the unction of the Holy Spirit before they

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move out in their gifting. This is how they keep defilement and spiritual corruption out of their lives and ministries. The Apostle Peter made it clear that men of God wait on the Holy Ghost.

Knowing this first that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. (2 Peter 1:20-21).

Prophecy from the Holy Spirit was never spoken “*by the will of man,*” that is to say, by man's will. This teaches if one prophesies by faith only, without unction, then they prophesy according to their own wills and not God's.

Propheying is not something that is done solely by faith. Prophecy is not by the prophets faith and will alone. Faith alone does

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not make the Holy Spirit speak. Faith is involved, yes, but the prophet is not making the prophetic utterance come by faith alone. The seasoned prophet understands this and is able to protect himself from prophetic error. Prophecy is not about faith, will or emotions, it's about waiting for the Holy Ghost to move. Let's look at the pattern. Men spoke as they were moved, compelled and prompted by the Holy Spirit.

UNCTIONS

True prophetic utterance is always accompanied with unction. Unction is permission to speak. If there is no unction, then the prophet is operating by faith alone. Unction, Greek *chrisma*, means anointing. Those that prophesy by faith alone are in danger of tapping into a spirit of divination.

Divination is foretelling the future by

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occult means. It is important to note that prophecy should come after you receive unction to speak just like the prophets of old that were first “*moved by the Holy Ghost.*” As already said, unction for the prophet is the permission of the Holy Spirit to speak. After you receive permission then use your faith and let the prophecy flow.

The five-steps for prophetic release are:

1. God wants to speak.
2. Holy Spirit gives permission.
3. Prophet’s faith lays hold of the unction.
4. Prophet speaks.
5. Prophecy judged.

MANTELS AND ACTIVATION

Five-fold ascension gift prophets carry a

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prophetic mantle. When Elijah was ushered into heaven he dropped his prophetic mantle to Elisha. I have seen the effects of this mantle on the prayer lives of people. One day some people were praying together. As I listened, many in the group were prophesying. What was striking to me was these people had never prophesied before. So what was it that was different in this particular group? There was a man with a prophetic mantle on his life among them. The reason these others were able to prophesy was they were picking up on his prophetic gift. This expresses the need for five-fold ascension gift prophets in local churches because their gift activates the prophetic among the general assembly. Scripture gives examples of prophetic activation when King Saul sent messengers to capture David.

Saul sent messengers to take David:

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and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also. Then went he also to Ramah, and came to a great well that is in Sechu: and he asked and said, 'Where are Samuel and David?' And one said, 'Behold, they be at Naioth in Ramah.' And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah: and the spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah. And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, 'Is Saul also among the prophets?' (1 Samuel 19:20-24)

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Did you notice who was in these meetings? Samuel was there "*standing as appointed over them.*" There is something to be said about prophetic activation when five-fold ascension gift prophets are present.

AVOIDING FAMILIAR SPIRITS

Let's look at Ezekiel's release to prophesy for a better understanding of prophetic permission. Ezekiel was a seasoned man that knew the Holy Spirit well. He would not prophesy until told. Scripture says,

*So I prophesied as I was commanded.
(Ezekiel 37:7).*

In this verse Ezekiel, a mature prophet of God, understood that he was not to prophesy until the Lord released him to do so. We, too, can learn from this. It is all right to sense the prophetic anointing but don't speak "thus

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saith the Lord” unless God releases you through prompting by the Holy Spirit. If you prophesy by faith without unction, outside God’s permission, you are in danger of tapping into a spirit of divination. This is a sobering truth but if you tap into a spirit of divination you release witchcraft over the people. More about this later.

During a powerfully anointed service, I asked God if he wanted me to prophesy to the people. I could tell the people were pulling on me for a prophetic word. Most seasoned prophets can relate to that feeling. The Spirit of God said, “No.” Could I have prophesied anyway? The answer is “yes” but I would have been in error. If you prophesy without God’s permission, you can tap into a familiar spirit.

A man told me that he received a prophetic revelation from the Lord. I asked him to share it with me and he said, "It’s way

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to deep and nobody was ready for it.” I said, “Brother, you need to be careful with that. If you have a revelation from God you need to let the prophet’s judge.” All prophecies need to be judged, examined, and weighed against the Logos of God. Scripture says,

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God because many false prophets are gone out into the world. (1 John 4:1)

Prophets make mistakes and some prophecies are wrong. Scripture says that we “*see through a glass darkly*” (1 Corinthians 13:12). If prophets and prophecies were always accurate then people would be tempted to follow prophets instead of Jesus. All prophecy needs to be tested for accuracy. Period.

ESCAPING PROPHETIC ERROR

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Let us continue to review Jeremiah's prophetic operations as he dealt with the erring prophets in his territory.

I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem a horrible thing: they commit adultery and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them to me as Sodom and the inhabitants as Gomorrah. (Jeremiah 23:14)

This verse describes the pitiful condition of God's prophets who were:

1. Committing adultery.
2. Lying.
3. Strengthening the hands of evildoers.

How do prophets strengthen the hands of evildoers? They fortify them by prophesying that all is well to a person who is living in sin.

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Have you ever done this? I hope not. God describes this same strengthening of evildoers when he declares,

They have seduced my people, saying, peace and there was no peace.... (Ezekiel 13:10).

Because these prophets refused to repent of their smooth sayings, God allowed them to drink the water of their own rebellion. But notice what else God said, *“From the prophets is profaneness gone forth into all the land.”* It is this profaneness that all prophets must guard themselves from. Could it be possible this profaneness was the result of presumptuous prophets ministering without permission?

Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood and make them drink the water of gall: for from the

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*prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone
forth into all the land. (Jeremiah 23:15)*

As already said, prophets must be careful to receive permission to prophesy. Satan wants to stop prophetic ministry. To do this he has to interpose a counterfeit spirit. Prophets need to be careful and wise, understand the ways of the Spirit, the Word of God and discern the difference between:

1. The holy and the profane.
2. The true from the false.
3. The clean from the unclean.

Prophets should avoid low-level prophetic utterance and seek the safer high-levels of spiritual accuracy. Some prophets violate holy living and open themselves up to idolatry, merchandising and prophetic error. Because of the truths you are learning in this book, your hunger for God and love for Christ, you won't.

HYPOCRITICAL INQUIRER

Have you ever wondered if prophets should function differently around sincere believers, hypocrites and idolaters? What happens if a person approaches a prophet for a prophetic word who has idolatry in his heart? Does this affect the prophet's ministry to this person? Let's look to Ezekiel's ministry for some insight to this question.

And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumbling block of their iniquity before their face: should I be inquired of at all by them? (Ezekiel 14:2-3)

Let's understand the scene. People with idols in their heart want to receive a prophetic word. They have "*the stumbling block of their iniquity before their face*" meaning they want

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their idolatry blessed. God asked Ezekiel, "*Should I be inquired at all by them?*" Good question. Let's look for the answers.

Again, if someone comes to the prophet with "idols in their heart," and seeks the Lord for a prophetic word, God asked, "Should I answer them?" Let's see what God told Ezekiel.

*Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God, every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the Lord will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols.
(Ezekiel 14:4)*

Let's make sure we understand what idols in the heart are. Idols are not just physical objects of worship. There are also idols of:

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- Self-will.
- Self-advancement.
- Self-exultation.
- Self-fill-in-the-blank.

An idol could be anything one esteems more important than their relationship with Christ. It could be music, sports, personal relationships, even their ministries. If a person like this approaches the prophet for a word of blessing on his idol that is "the stumbling block of his iniquity" and that is a sin. How will God respond prophetically to such? Jehovah says,

I the Lord will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols.

What does God mean by this? It means that God will tell him what he wants to hear. This is profound and teaches that prophetic

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ministry is no game.

A pastor told me they had prophetic presbytery at times. A prophetic presbytery is a team of prophets that prophesy to each person that comes for prayer. He told me that he did not want any more prophets speaking at his church. I asked him why. His response was revealing,

Because every time prophets prophesy over my people, they tell them exactly what they want to hear. I know the people well and prophets only feed their rebellion and idolatry.

That's it! Could it be that God was answering some according to the idolatry in their hearts? Was God just telling them what they wanted to hear? Have you observed any of these things?

For everyone of the house of Israel or

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of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to inquire of him concerning me; I the Lord will answer him by myself: And I will set my face against that man, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people and ye shall know that I am the Lord. (Ezekiel 14:7-8)

From this verse we learn four important truths:

1. Idolatry separates you from God.
2. Idolatry is a stumbling block.
3. God opposes idolatry.
4. God will cut off the idolater.

Today many approach prophets seeking

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personal prophecy with idols of self in their hearts. They are not submissive to God or plugged into any local church. Some do not even go to church because of rebellion and a refusal to submit to any spiritual accountability. I meet people like this at apostolic and prophetic conferences. The prayer lines are full of them approaching for a prophetic word. You ask them, "Where do you go to church?" They say, "I don't go to church. I worship God in my own way." True prophets see through idolatry and say things like, "You need to repent, get that idolatry out of your heart, plug into a good local church and give your life fully to Christ."

RECEIVING PROPHETIC PERMISSION

So what happens if a prophet prophesies to a person with idolatry in their hearts without God's permission? Is that prophet in sin? God

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answers that question directly.

The prophet has not been granted permission to give an answer to the hypocritical inquirer but if the prophet does give the man the answer he desires [thus allowing himself to be a party to the inquirer's sin]. I the Lord will see to it that the prophet is deceived in his answer, and I will stretch out my hand against him and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel. (Ezekiel 14:9 AMP)

Prophets, did you hear what Jehovah just said? The prophet who prophesies without permission will be deceived in his answer. What does this mean? It means the prophet who gives the inquirer a personal prophecy that feeds idolatry, allows himself to be a party to the hypocritical inquirer's sin. From this we learn why it is important to have permission to speak from the Holy Spirit before prophesying. If the prophet does not have

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permission, then God will stretch out his hand against the prophet and will destroy him too. So we learn the prophet who has not been granted permission to prophesy and yet does is guilty of sin.

PRESUMPTUOUS PROPHETS

Notice this Scripture associates the prophet who prophesies without permission as presumptuous. A presumptuous prophet is one who thinks that God wants to speak to people according to his faith alone and not according to the will of the Lord.

And they both shall bear the punishment of their iniquity: the iniquity of the [presumptuous] prophet shall be the same as the iniquity of the [hypocritical] inquirer. (Ezekiel 14:10 AMP)

False prophecies, false prophetic

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operations, smooth sayings, people who prophesy out of their own spirit or those who prophesy by the spirit of divination release defilement on themselves and on the people they prophesy to. If we are to be prophetic people we need to guard ourselves against defilement, idolatry and taking part in another's sin. Prophets must protect themselves by being sure that they have permission from the Lord to prophesy. If they have permission to prophesy then the burden falls on the inquirer, not on the prophet. If they do not have permission to prophesy then they become partakers of the hypocritical inquirer's sin.

MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

- Presumptuous prophets prophesy because they can, but should they?
- Prophecy is not by the prophet's faith

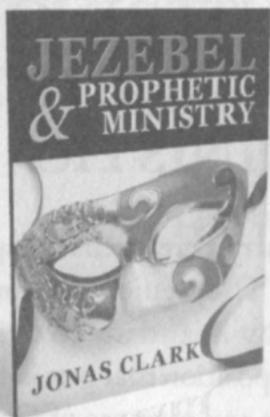
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and will alone.

- Prophecy is not about faith, will or emotions it's about waiting for the Holy Ghost to move.
- True prophetic utterance is always accompanied with unction.
- Prophets make mistakes and some prophecies are wrong.
- The prophet who prophesies without permission will be deceived in his answer.
- False prophecies, false prophetic operations, smooth sayings, people who prophesy out of their own spirit or those who prophesy by the spirit of divination release defilement on themselves and on the people they prophesy to.
- If prophets do not have permission to

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prophecy then they become partakers
of the hypocritical inquirer's sin.



JEZEBEL AND PROPHETIC MINISTRY

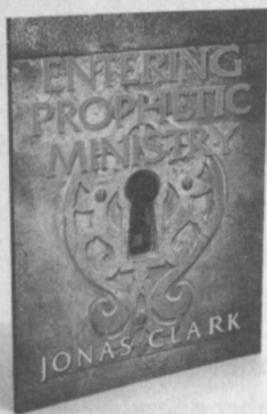
Following Jezebel's prophets can get you killed. Jezebel is a prophetess and teacher, cunning, deceptive, controlling and the number one adversary of Christ's five-fold ascension gift prophets.

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In this book you will discover truths that will protect your life and ministry:

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About Jonas Clark



The anointing on Jonas Clark's life is both strong and bold. His great passion is to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world. Fortitude and God's grace have taken the ministry international, carrying a message of divine impact and reform for this generation into over 25 nations. As a reformer, his desire is to see the nations of the world impacted by the power of God. Jonas has written more than a dozen books with an apostolic and prophetic voice that are catching the attention of the Church.

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