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Despise not prophesying and hold fast to that which is good. Read in (I Thessalonians 5:19-22). Because false prophets are gone out into the world we need to test the prophets. Read in (1 John 4:1; Matt. 7:15). The gift of prophecy will remain in the church until the end. Read in *(Eph. 4:8, 11-15)*.

Outpouring of the prophetic gift is predicted before the great and terrible day of the Lord. Read in (Joel 2:28-31). Joel predicted that sometime after the darkening of the sun which occurred on May 19, 1780, and before Jesus returns the second time, the gift of prophecy would manifest itself in the church.

The prophetic gift would manifest itself in God's remnant. Read in (Joel 2:32). God's last day remnant church will keep all ten of His commandments and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Read in (Rev. 12:17).

The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Read in (Revelation 19:10; 22:8-9). The above texts are almost identical except Revelation 22:9 clarifies that John's brethren who have the testimony of Jesus are those with the prophetic gift.

A true prophet must be associated with God's church. Read in (I Corinthians 14:4). The role of a true prophet is to build up the church and equip it for ministry. A true prophet will never contradict revealed Bible truth. Read in (I Corinthians 14:32-33). When God speaks through the prophets, they will not contradict what the other prophets have spoken. True prophets will uphold God's law. Read in (Isaiah 8:20).

Their prophecies must come true. Read in (Deuteronomy 18:21-22; Jeremiah 28:9). Sometimes God will give a conditional prophecy as in Jonah 3:4,

8-10. When this happens God will make it clear. A true prophet's message will always lead closer to Christ. Read in (Deuteronomy 13:1-4). If a prophet's prediction comes true but it leads you away from revealed Bible truth, their message is not from God.

A true prophet must acknowledge the incarnation of Christ. Read in (I John 4:1-3). Demons acknowledged that Jesus had come in the flesh and that did not make them spirits of Christ, as it says in Matthew 8:29. A true prophet will acknowledge the divinity and the humanity of Christ, yet without sin. Read in (I Tim. 2:5; Hebrews 4:15).

A true prophet will point out sin. Read in (Isaiah 58:1; Lam. 2:14; Isaiah 30:10). A true prophet will have absolutely no association with spiritualism. Read in (Deut. 18:10-12). No true prophet of God will be involved in astrology or sorcery or Wicca or anything that has to do with communication with the dead. By their fruits you shall know them. Read in (Matt. 7:20). Amen and amen.



Verses on the Gift of Prophecy

Despise not prophesying

(IThessalonians 5:19-22) Do not quench the Spirit. (20) Do not despise prophecies. (21) Test all things; hold fast what is good. (22) abstain from every form of evil.

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

(Matthew 7:15) Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

(Ephesians 4:8, 11-15) Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." (11) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, (12) for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, (13) till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; (14) that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, (15) but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.

(Joel 2:28-31) And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. (29) And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. (30) And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. (31) The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.

(Joel 2:32) And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the Lord has said, among the remnant whom the Lord calls.

(Revelation 12:17) And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

(Revelation 19:10) And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

(Revelation 22:8-9) Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. (9) Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.

A true prophet must be associated with God's church.

(I Corinthians 14:4) He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

(I Corinthians 14:32-33) And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. (33) For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches

of the saints.

(Isaiah 8:20) To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

(Deuteronomy 18:21-22) And if you say in your heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord has not spoken? (22) When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

(Jeremiah 28:9) As for the prophet who prophesies of peace, when the word of the prophet comes to pass, the prophet will be known as one whom the Lord truly sent.

(Deuteronomy 13:1-4) If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, (2) and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'let us go after other gods'— which you have not known—'and let us serve them,' (3) you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the Lord your God is testing you to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. (4) You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.

(IJohn 4:1-3) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. (2) By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, (3) and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

(I Timothy 2:5) For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.

(Hebrews 4:15) For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

(Isaiah 58:1) Cry aloud, spare not; lift up our voice like a trumpet; tell My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

(Lamentations 2:14) Your prophets have seen for you false and deceptive visions; they have not uncovered your iniquity, to bring back your captives, but have envisioned for you false prophecies and delusions.

(Isaiah 30:10) Who say to the seers, "Do not see," And to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits."

(Deuteronomy 18:10-12) there shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, (11) or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. (12) For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord...your God drives them out from before you.

(Matthew 7:20) Therefore by their fruits you will know them.