

YAHWEH, THE GOD OF ISRAEL, IS WITH US!

“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins...”

([Isaiah 58: 1](#))

Sermon Notes

Study Carefully & Study Prayerfully

Bible Prophecy

Bible prophecy is the **news in advance**. It is **100% accurate** and is the **divine stamp** on the Bible that it is the **Word of God**. Every Bible prophecy will come to pass: for the scriptures cannot be broken.

Isaiah 42: 9: *“Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.”*

John 10: 35: *“If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;”*

1. One Third of Scripture

It is said that ‘**a third of the Bible is prophecy;**’ and if you pause to consider that statement it is easy to see how true it is. The Bible is divided into clearly recognizable categories, **but prophecy doesn’t appear as a separate section;** it is found throughout the Scriptures in virtually every one of the **66** books that go to make up the Holy Bible.

2. Why Was Prophecy Given?

Yahweh wants us to know the future.

The Almighty will not do anything that involves the salvation or destruction of mankind, but He will first tell us His plans. He does this through His servants the prophets.

Amos 3: 7: *“Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.”*

Genesis 18: 17: *“And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;”*

Yahweh wants us to prosper

2 Chronicles 20: 20: *“And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; **Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.**”*

3. Is There Counterfeit Prophecy?

Sad to say even the priceless gift of prophecy has been counterfeited by Satan (Lucifer) the Devil. Consequently we have **‘false prophets’** whose messages are often accompanied by [miracles](#) to give them credibility. A steep rise in **false prophecy** and **miracles** is one of the signs of the Saviour's return.

Mark 13: 22: *“For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.”*

Revelation 19: 20: *“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.”*

Matthew 7: 15: ***Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.***
16: *Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?”* (see point [4](#))

A clear picture of false prophets and their devastating effect upon a land is given in Jeremiah 23. Read the whole chapter and note the following:

Jeremiah 23: 10: *“**For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their force is not right.**”* (false prophets who adulterate Truth with Error.)

Verse 11; *“For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD.”*

Verse 13: *“And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my people Israel to err.”*

Verse 14: *“I have seen an horrible thing in the prophets of Jerusalem, 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 unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.”*

Verse 21: *“I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.”*

Verse 25: *“I have heard what the prophets said, **that prophesy lies in my name**, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.”*

Verse 30: *“Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, **that steal my words every one from his neighbour.**”*

Verse 34: *“And as for the prophet, and the priest, and the people, that shall say, **The burden of the LORD**, I will even punish that man and his house.”*

Verse 36: *“**And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more:** for every man's word shall be his burden; for ye have perverted the words of the living God, of the LORD of hosts our God.”*

The only sure way of knowing that the preacher you listen to is not a **false prophet** is to compare what he says with the **Word of God!** If he is teaching man-made traditions, human ideas or plausible suppositions, **beware!** The questions we must continually ask ourselves are found in (verse 37):

“Thus shalt thou say to the prophet, What hath the LORD answered thee? and, What hath the LORD spoken?”

4. How Can We Recognize Truth From Error?

There are certain tests we may apply to safeguard falling into error. They are based on the fact that **‘Yahweh doesn’t change’** and therefore what He has considered right in the past is right today, and what He denounced as sin in the past is still sin today. When evaluating a prophet, especially one claiming the

power to do [miracles](#) the following guidelines should also be used:

Take note of is/her personal life.

Matthew 7: 15: ***“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.***

16: Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17: Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18: A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19: Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20: Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

*21: Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; **but he that doeth the will** of my Father which is in heaven.*

22: Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23: And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

Verse 21: ***“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”***

Consider his/her popularity.

Luke 6: 26: ***“Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.”***

Examine the prophet’s message.

Is it consistent with the rest of scripture?

- **Is the message leading believers away from sin (disobedience) or encouraging them to sin?**

Deuteronomy 13: 1: *“If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, **and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,***

2: And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;

3: Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

*4: **Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.***

5: And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.”

- **Is the prophet's message one of warning or is it a spiritual tranquilizer?**

Jeremiah 28: 7: *“Nevertheless hear thou now this word that I speak in thine ears, and in the ears of all the people;*

*8. The prophets that have been before me and before thee of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of **war**, and of **evil**, and of **pestilence**.*

9. The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him.”

- **Is it in line with the Law and the REAL Word God?**

Isaiah 8: 20: *“To the **law** and to the **testimony**: if they speak not according to this Word, **it is because there is no light in them.**”*

No matter how appealing or popular a preacher's words may be, no matter how many **miracles** he may perform; if he as a person does not **obey the commandments of the Almighty** and if his message is not in agreement with the **Law of the Most High** and the **messages of the established prophets of Scripture**, then you may be certain that he/she is a **false prophet**. So, prove all things and hold fast to that which is **good**.

1 Thessalonians 5: 19: *“**Quench not the Spirit.***

*20. **Despise not prophesyings.***

*21. **Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.**”*

5. Prophecy... An Invaluable Possession

- **Seek It**

1 Corinthians 14: 1: *“Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, **but rather that ye may prophesy.***

2: *For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.*

3: *But he that **prophesieth** speaketh unto men to **edification, and exhortation, and comfort.***

4: *He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; **but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.***

5: *I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: **for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.**”*

- **Heed It**

2 Chronicles 20: 20: *“And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; **believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.**”*

Matthew 10: 41: *“**He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward;** and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.”*

- **Read And Live By It**

Revelation 1: 3: *“Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this **prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.**”*

- **Believe It**

Luke 24: 44: *“And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, **which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.**”*

2 Peter 1: 19: *“**We have also a more sure word of prophecy;** whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:”*

6. Private Interpretation

The Bible is its own interpreter.

Obscure passages in one place are explained in simpler terms elsewhere in Scripture. A man is no more able to understand or explain a prophecy of his own will, than he is able to **give** a true prophecy. **True prophecy comes from above; so does the understanding of it.**

2 Peter 1: 20: *“Knowing this first, that **no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.**
21: **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.”***

7. An Important Question

Acts 26: 27: *“King Agrippa, **believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.”***

How we believers react to that question will determine our future destination, for in accepting or rejecting the messages of the prophets of the LORD we are in fact showing our **regard** or **disregard** for the Most High Himself.

Believest Thou The Prophets?

It is true to say that those who do not believe **Moses** and the **prophets** would also reject the Messiah if he appeared in person today with the message of the Bible prophets. The message of all the Bible prophets in a nutshell is: **Fear God and keep His commandments**, or suffer the consequences. **That message has not changed and those who reject it are simply deceiving themselves.**

Luke 16: 31: *“And he (Jesus) said unto him, **If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.”***

There is an infinite measure of truth in that single statement. If people do not believe Moses and the prophets, (the law of God and the testimony of His prophets) **the two most powerful divine proofs available**, they will not believe even if one rose from the dead; yes, **even if the resurrected One were the Messiah himself.**

Those who profess to believe in the resurrected Messiah and at the same time **reject the law of God and the testimonies of the prophets** do not possess the kind of faith that the Scriptures recommend!

AMEN

In the Son's Name For the Father's glory.

Elder: Max W. Mader

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