SEE THE SIGNS & WONDERS

KNOW WHAT GOD IS SAYING THROUGH PROPHECY, DREAMS AND NUMBERS



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SEE THE SIGNS & WONDERS!

Know what God is saying through prophecy,
your dreams
and
numbers you see.

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Foreword

've known Authors Phil & Lorellee for over twenty years, they are an amazing couple who have the ability along with Josh's support to make the prophetic and the supernatural accessible to every believer.

If you want to see more of the Holy Spirit and His work in your life, "See the Signs & Wonders!" is a powerful guide that will help you recognize the many ways God communicates today—through dreams, numbers, and prophecy. In a world filled with distractions, this book will teach you how to tune in to the divine whispers of God and embrace the revelatory gifts He is releasing in this season.

Throughout Scripture, God speaks through prophecy, dreams, and signs—ways that have not ceased in our day. The question is not whether God still speaks, but whether we are listening. In these pages, *Lorellee and Phil* provide practical insights and tools to help you interpret dreams, recognize prophetic signs, and grow in your prophetic gifts. Whether you're new to the prophetic or have been walking in it for years, you will find fresh understanding and spiritual tools to navigate your walk with God, it will release clarity and insight as God's communication expands and opens up in your life.

This book is more than just an introduction to the prophetic. It is a guide for personal transformation, equipping you to understand and respond to the signs and wonders God is revealing in your life. If you want to hear God's voice more clearly and see His signs at work, this book will open your eyes to the profound ways God is speaking to you today.

I am excited for you to begin this journey with *See the Signs & Wonders!* and believe it will be a life-changing resource for anyone seeking to grow in their spiritual sensitivity. I also recommend this book as a wonderful and valuable resource to all Pastors and Leaders for the training and equipping of the Body of Christ.

— Faylene Sparkes Australian Company of Seers.



Introduction

n a world brimming with distractions and noise, the divine whispers of $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}\nolimits$ often go unnoticed. Yet, throughout history, He has communicated powerfully through personal prophecy, dreams & numbers.

See the Signs & Wonders! is a call to awaken your spiritual senses and embrace the revelatory gifts God is pouring out in this pivotal time.

Are you among the Sons of Issachar, those who understand the times and seasons? (1 Chronicles 12:32). This handbook is designed for you. It is an invitation to delve into the profound insights that the Holy Spirit is revealing, equipping you to navigate your spiritual journey with confidence and clarity.

"Of the sons of Issachar, who had understanding of the times, to know what

— 1 Chronicles 12:32 (NKJV)

Within these pages, you will discover the tools to interpret what God is saying through your personal experiences and the symbols around you. Learn to discern the wisdom embedded in your dreams, unlock the significance of recurring numbers, and flow in your prophetic gifts with grace and assurance.

This book is not just for your personal growth; it is a resource for the entire Body of Christ. As you deepen your understanding and maturity, you will be empowered to minister effectively to those who have yet to encounter the love of Christ.

"But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men."

— 1 Corinthians 14:3 (NKJV)

Prophecy, dreams, and numbers you see are not meant to be enigmatic, but rather a tool that draws you closer to the heart of God. These spiritual gifts will help you understand God's will and align your life with His divine plan. In this book, you will also explore how these gifts can be used to minister to others, offering them hope, direction, and transformation.

In a culture that often dismisses the supernatural, this is an invitation to awaken to a deeper dimension of the Holy Spirit's work in your life. As you open your heart to the prophetic, you will begin to see how God speaks through dreams, numbers and symbols—not just as a way to guide you personally, but to reveal His heart for the world.

"The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord."

— *Isaiah 11:2 (NKJV)*

Join us as we explore how to see the signs and wonders God is revealing today. Prepare to embark on a transformative journey that will illuminate your path and amplify your impact in the world around you.

This book is designed to awaken the prophetic in your life, deepen your understanding of the spiritual gifts, and help you to partner with God in bringing His kingdom to earth. The time is now for you to see and understand what God is saying through the signs and wonders all around you!

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MATURING YOUR PROPHETIC MINISTRY

PART 1
Firm Foundations

PART 2
Higher Standards for Prophetic Ministry

PART 1 FIRM FOUNDATIONS

Introduction to Maturing Your Prophetic Ministry

n a world increasingly hungry for guidance and truth, the gift of prophecy stands as a beacon of hope and clarity. Yet, like any spiritual gift, it requires nurturing, understanding, and wisdom to fully flourish. This book, *Maturing Prophetic Ministry*, is designed to guide both novice and seasoned prophets on a journey of growth and maturity in their prophetic calling.

In Part 1, we will explore foundational principles, starting with **Guidelines** for Proper Prophetic Procedures that establish a framework for operating in this powerful gift. We will delve into the **True Prophetic Spirit**, distinguishing between the voices that claim to speak for God and the authentic words that come from His heart. By examining the **Differences Between Old and New Testament Prophets**, we will contextualize our understanding of prophecy within the broader narrative of scripture.

Developing the prophetic gift involves not only personal diligence but also a commitment to community. In **Encouragement: The True Prophetic Heart**, we'll highlight the importance of uplifting others as an expression of prophetic love. As we progress, we'll address **Realms of Prophecy and Boundaries**, ensuring we navigate this gift responsibly, and offer practical guidance on **What to Do with Personal Prophecy**.

Part 2 shifts our focus to the deeper dynamics of prophetic ministry. We will unlock **Keys to Anointing** and discuss the profound significance of receiving the prophetic mantle. Additionally, we will examine the **Gift of Discerning of Spirits**, an essential companion to the prophetic call. We will confront the **Pitfalls of the Prophetic**, providing insights into common missteps and how to avoid them.

Finally, we will explore Prophetic Evangelism, equipping you to share the hope of the Gospel through prophetic insight. This book is not merely a manual but a roadmap for those seeking to honor God with their prophetic gift while serving His people with integrity and love.

As you journey through these chapters, may you find clarity, encouragement, and the courage to step boldly into your prophetic calling.

CHAPTER

Guidelines for Proper Prophetic Procedures

n our journey to understand and relay God's messages through prophecy, we have discovered that following certain guidelines is essential. Over the years, we have found that these practices not only help us minister effectively to the Body of Christ but also ensure that prophetic words are shared responsibly and with integrity.

1. No Personal Prophesying Outside Designated Times

Imagine a serene church meeting filled with anticipation. The congregation gathers, hearts open, eager to receive divine insights. In these settings, under the watchful eye of church leadership, prophetic words flow with grace and order.

"Let all things be done decently and in order."

— 1 Corinthians 14:40 (NKJV)

Church leadership plays a vital and uplifting role in guiding prophetic sessions, creating an environment where everyone can thrive spiritually. When we come together under the guidance of trusted, mature leaders, we establish a framework that honours God and fosters growth within our community. This structure not only helps us remain accountable to God and to ourselves, but it also cultivates a sense of safety and support among us.

By engaging with seasoned leaders, we benefit from their wisdom and experience, which enriches our understanding of prophetic ministry. This collaborative approach ensures that prophetic words are shared in a way that reflects integrity and respect, aligning with the principle that "the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets."

— 1 Corinthians 14:32 (NKJV)

Discerning trusted leadership is crucial, especially for those who may have encountered insecure or manipulative figures in the past. Look for leaders who demonstrate humility and a genuine heart for serving others. Those who prioritize the community's well-being and foster an atmosphere of safety and respect are essential. Such leaders encourage open dialogue, are receptive to feedback, and model integrity in their actions, helping to restore confidence in the leadership within the church.

This accountability is not a limitation; rather, it's a blessing that protects the integrity of our spiritual family. It helps prevent potential misuse of prophetic words and encourages us to discern and cultivate the gifts God has placed within each of us. When we operate in this spirit of collaboration, we not only honour the prophetic voice but also uplift one another, creating an atmosphere where God's messages can flourish and bear fruit. Together, we can encourage one another to grow in our gifts and serve our community with love and purpose.

2. Be Edifying

Prophecy is meant to uplift and encourage. Imagine someone standing at a crossroads, feeling uncertain and weary. In such moments, a well-timed prophetic

word can serve as a guiding light, illuminating their path and filling them with hope and direction. This is the true essence of prophecy: to edify, exhort, and comfort.

"But he who prophesies speaks edification, exhortation, and comfort to men."

— 1 Corinthians 14:3 (NKJV)

Prophetic words should always aim to build up and inspire others. Words that guide and motivate are the most fruitful, helping individuals see their potential and encouraging them to step into their God-given purpose. However, we should never use prophecy to dictate to others what they should do simply because we think we know best. Such an approach can lead to manipulation and can distort the loving nature of God's message. Instead, our role is to encourage and support others in seeking God for themselves, rather than presuming to speak on His behalf in a controlling manner.

"Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers."

— Ephesians 4:29 (NKJV)

In our prophetic ministry, it's essential to remember that every word we share should reflect God's heart for His people. Our aim is to speak life, hope, and encouragement, fostering a culture of grace and understanding. By prioritizing edification in our prophecies and resisting the urge to impose our will on others, we not only honor God but also create an environment where everyone feels valued and empowered to grow in their faith. Together, let us strive to be vessels of encouragement, ensuring that our words lift others up and lead them closer to God's purpose for their lives.

3. Stay Teachable

A teachable spirit is a precious asset in prophetic ministry. It's like fertile soil, ready to nurture seeds of wisdom. As you navigate your prophetic journey, maintain a humble attitude toward your pastor and church leadership.

"Likewise, you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders... for 'God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.""

— 1 Peter 5:5 (NKIV)

Being teachable means welcoming correction and embracing input. Growth often comes through the insights of others. This humility not only strengthens your prophetic gift but also deepens your connection with your spiritual community.

"The ear that hears the rebukes of life will abide among the wise."

— *Proverbs* 15:31 (NKJV)

Imagine a young sapling growing under a gardener's care. The gardener prunes and shapes the plant, ensuring it thrives. By staying teachable, you allow your spiritual mentors to guide your growth, ensuring your prophetic ministry flourishes.

4. Allow Yourself to be Accountable

Personal prophecies hold immense significance and should be delivered with careful consideration and responsibility. Imagine a skilled guide leading a traveller through a dense and potentially treacherous forest; the guide's expertise helps the traveller navigate obstacles and avoid hidden dangers. In the same way, personal prophetic words should be shared under ministerial supervision, ensuring that they are clear, appropriate, and beneficial for the recipient.

It's crucial to avoid delivering personal prophecies in private settings where oversight is lacking. When individuals approach someone for a personal word without the presence of a pastor or a mature leader, it can lead to misunderstandings and confusion. Without the support of experienced guidance, the intent and meaning of the prophecy might be misinterpreted or misapplied, potentially causing more harm than good.

"Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

— *Proverbs* 11:14 (NKIV)

Instead, consider having your pastor or leadership present during the delivery of the prophetic word, or at the very least, write it down for their review and input. This practice not only helps to maintain accountability but also fosters a spirit of collaboration and unity within the church community. By involving spiritual leaders, you create a safe environment where personal prophecies can be examined, ensuring that they align with biblical teachings and the overall vision of the church.

"Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls."

— *Hebrews* 13:17 (*NKJV*)

This approach serves as a safeguard, allowing the recipient to receive the prophetic word within a context that encourages understanding and personal growth. Accountability within prophetic ministry helps protect both the giver and the recipient, creating a framework in which prophetic insights can be processed thoughtfully and prayerfully. In doing so, we honour the weight of the prophetic gift and affirm its role in building up the body of Christ.

5. Reviewing Personal Prophecies with Your Leadership

After receiving or delivering a personal prophecy, taking the time to review it with your church leadership is a wise and encouraging practice. This step is not about questioning the validity of the message; rather, it's an opportunity to seek discernment and clarity from those who are spiritually mature and equipped to guide you.

"Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but happy is he who keeps the law."

— *Proverbs 29:18 (NKJV)*

When you bring personal prophecies to your leadership, you open the door to several important benefits:

- Submit to Authority: This shows respect and obedience to those God has placed in leadership positions. It acknowledges their role in your spiritual journey and fosters a healthy relationship within the church community.
- Determine Proper Timing: Leadership can help you discern whether the prophecy aligns with God's timing and purpose for your life or the life of the church. Timing can be as crucial as the message itself!
- Gain Objective Insight: Engaging with leaders provides you with additional perspectives that can help clarify what God may be saying through the prophetic word. Their wisdom can shine a light on aspects you might not have considered.

Think of this process as refining gold. Just as raw gold goes through a careful evaluation to remove impurities and emerge more valuable, your prophetic word benefits from the same kind of scrutiny. This collaborative effort with your leadership ensures that the prophecy is received thoughtfully and acted upon in the most effective way.

Involving your church leadership not only strengthens your understanding of the prophetic word but also builds unity within the body of Christ. It creates a supportive environment where you can grow in faith and understanding together. Embrace this opportunity for growth, knowing that it leads to deeper insights and a more fruitful application of the prophecies in your life.

Final Note

Personal prophecy should never take the place of intimacy with God or diminish the importance of pastoral counsel and oversight. Instead, it serves as a supplemental gift, intended to enhance—not overshadow—your personal relationship with God. This gift is meant to guide and encourage you on your spiritual journey, not replace the vital connection you have with your Creator.

"Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 (NKJV)

It's important to remember that the gift of prophecy, even when delivered by a seasoned prophet, never supersedes the authority and ministry of the church. Prophetic words should be used to build up the community, always aligning with God's greater purpose for His people. They are meant to encourage, uplift, and provide direction, helping the church to grow in faith and unity.

Moreover, personal prophecy is a tool for discerning God's will, but it should be approached with a spirit of humility and discernment. Always seek confirmation through prayer and scripture, and be open to discussing the prophetic word with your pastor or spiritual leaders. This way, you ensure that the message resonates with the collective understanding of your faith community.

By maintaining this balance, you honour the role of prophecy in your life while ensuring that it complements your spiritual growth and relationship with God. Embrace personal prophecy as a wonderful gift that can illuminate your path, but always prioritize your direct connection with the Lord and the guidance of your church leadership. This holistic approach will lead to a richer, more fulfilling spiritual experience as you journey forward in faith.

CHAPTER

2

The True Prophetic Spirit

God Loves His Prophets

he prophetic ministry is one of God's primary methods of communication with humanity, particularly evident in the Old Testament. This ministry is close to His heart, as it transforms individuals into His chosen vessels. Through the prophetic anointing, prophets have the extraordinary ability to foresee future events, receive direct revelations from God, discern the destinies of their descendants, and provide crucial guidance for God's people. This relationship between God and His prophets illustrates His desire to interact with humanity in a deeply personal way, ensuring that His will and purpose are communicated clearly.

Take, for example, Enoch, who is described as having walked with God so closely that he was taken up to heaven without experiencing death. His life exemplifies a profound prophetic connection, illustrating the intimacy that God desires with those He chooses to speak through. Similarly, Noah received a revelation about the impending flood, which prompted him to build the

ark—a monumental act of obedience that ultimately saved humanity and the animals from extinction. Noah's story underscores the importance of prophetic insight and faith in action, as he faithfully followed God's instructions despite the skepticism of those around him.

Abraham, who is recognized as a prophet, received promises from God that would shape entire nations. The covenant made with Abraham not only established his lineage but also laid the groundwork for the future of Israel. His life, along with those of his son Isaac and grandson Jacob, is rich with prophetic insights that guided their descendants, showing how God's plans unfold through generations. The narrative of Abraham emphasizes the weight of prophetic words and the responsibility of those who receive them to trust in God's vision for their lives.

Moses stands out as perhaps the greatest prophet of the Old Testament. He had the unique privilege of speaking to God face to face and was entrusted with the monumental task of leading the Israelites out of Egypt. Through his leadership, Moses provided them with God's laws and instructions for building the tabernacle, a sacred space for worship. His story highlights not only the power of prophecy but also the role of a prophet as a mediator between God and His people, guiding them toward a deeper understanding of His holiness and purpose.

Other notable prophets, such as David, enriched the scriptures with their divine insights. David's psalms resonate with profound expressions of faith and worship, revealing his intimate relationship with God. Samuel, another key figure, anointed kings and judged Israel with integrity, embodying the prophetic role of guiding the nation toward righteousness. Even in the New Testament, Jude references Enoch's prophecies about the Lord's coming, highlighting the lasting impact of prophetic voices throughout biblical history. This continuity underscores the timeless nature of God's message and the importance of prophets in both the past and present. Through these examples, we see that God's love for His prophets is evident in how He uses them to communicate His heart and purpose to the world, inviting us all into a deeper relationship with Him.

God Takes Special Interest in His Prophets

God's love for His prophets is beautifully evident throughout Scripture. He makes it clear how precious they are to Him:

"Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm." — Psalm 105:15 (NKJV)

This promise of protection shows just how much God values His messengers. Jesus echoed this sentiment when He said:

"He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward."

– Matthew 10:41 (NKJV)

When we honour and support those who speak for God, we open ourselves to the blessings they carry. Additionally, the Scriptures teach us that believing in God's prophets leads to prosperity:

"Believe in the Lord your God, and you will be upheld; believe in his prophets, and you will prosper."

— 2 *Chronicles* 20:20 (NKIV)

This verse encourages us to trust in God's messengers as they guide us toward His plans.

A powerful example of God's support for His prophets is seen in the story of Elisha. When some boys mocked him, he called upon God's protection, and God upheld his response:

"From there Elisha went up to Bethel. As he was walking along the road, some boys came out of the town and jeered at him."

— 2 Kings 2:23-24 (NKJV)

This incident serves as a reminder of God's defense of His prophets. Additionally, the prophet Amos highlights how special it is to be a prophet:

"Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets."

— Amos 3:7 (NKJV)

This underscores the unique role of prophets in conveying God's heart and intentions.

Prophets as God's Primary Means of Communication

In the Old Testament, God established prophets as His primary means of communication. He said:

"When there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, reveal myself to them in visions, I speak to them in dreams."

— *Numbers* 12:6 (NIV)

This reveals how God chose to speak directly to His prophets, giving them insight and direction. For instance, in 1 Samuel, the men of Israel sought guidance through prophets, or seers:

"But Gad said to David, 'Do not stay in the stronghold. Go into the land of Judah."

— 1 Samuel 22:5 (NIV)

This highlights the essential role of prophets in guiding God's people in decision-making and leadership.

Prophets Wrote Almost All of the Old Testament

The impact of prophets goes beyond their spoken words; they were instrumental in writing nearly all of the Old Testament. Out of the 39 books, 29 were authored by prophets. This significant contribution showcases their vital role in documenting God's messages and actions for future generations.

Prophets Predicted the Coming Messiah

Prophets foretold the coming of Jesus, sharing incredible insights about His life and mission. For example, Isaiah proclaimed:

"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

— Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)

This prophecy points to the miraculous nature of Jesus' birth and His divine identity. Isaiah also declared:

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders."

— *Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)*

These words offer hope and anticipation, showing how prophets prepared the hearts of people for the arrival of the Savior.

Prophets Prepared the Way for the Coming Messiah

Prophets played a crucial role in preparing the way for Jesus. Malachi prophesied:

"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me."

— Malachi 3:1 (NIV)

This messenger, often seen as John the Baptist, called people to repentance, making hearts ready for Christ. Malachi also emphasized the transformative role of prophets:

"He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents."

— *Malachi 4:5-6 (NIV)*

This illustrates how prophets help restore relationships and bring healing to families.

In the Book of Revelation, the authority of prophets is highlighted during pivotal times:

"I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days."

— Revelation 11:3 (NIV)

This reminds us of the ongoing role of prophets in God's unfolding plan throughout history.

Prophets are Told the Secrets of God

God shares His secrets with His prophets, showing the intimacy of their relationship. As Amos reminds us:

"Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets."

— Amos 3:7 (NIV)

This special knowledge allows prophets to convey God's heart to His people. The psalmist adds:

"The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him." – Psalm 25:14 (NKJV)

This speaks to the wisdom granted to those who revere God. Daniel also affirms this revelation:

"He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him."

— Daniel 2:22 (NIV)

These insights empower prophets to lead God's people with clarity and purpose.

The Mystery of the Church was Made Manifest to the Prophets and the Apostles

In the New Testament, the mystery of the church was revealed to the prophets and apostles by the Spirit. Paul writes:

"In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ."

— Ephesians 3:2-5 (NIV)

This revelation signifies God's beautiful plan for His church, which encompasses all believers. Paul also shares:

"The mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people."

— Colossians 1:26 (NIV)

This emphasizes that God's purpose for His church has always been part of His divine plan.

Prophets are a Major Ministry in the Founding of the Church

Prophets are foundational in establishing the church. Ephesians reminds us:

"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone."

— *Ephesians 2:19-21 (NIV)*

This verse highlights how prophets and apostles work together to lay the groundwork for the church, with Christ at the center.

Prophets are One of the Five Gifts From Jesus in the New Testament

In Ephesians, Paul beautifully outlines the fivefold ministry gifts given by Jesus to the church:

"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers."

— *Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV)*

These roles are not just isolated functions; they are designed to work together in harmony, equipping the saints and building up the Body of Christ. Among these gifts, the prophetic ministry holds a special place, serving to guide and strengthen believers in their spiritual journeys. It fosters growth and maturity in faith, ensuring that every member of the church can thrive in their relationship with God.

The Purpose of Prophetic Ministry

The role of a prophet often includes both encouragement and correction. This dual nature is essential for spiritual growth. While correction may seem daunting, it is important to understand that it is delivered with the intent to empower rather than condemn. Prophets are called to speak the truth in love, helping individuals align their lives with God's purpose.

Ezekiel emphasizes the serious responsibility of a prophet to warn others and call for repentance:

"When I say to a wicked person, 'You will surely die,' and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways."

— *Ezekiel 3:18 (NIV)*

This verse illustrates the weight of a prophet's duty. Yet, it also highlights that correction is an act of love aimed at saving and restoring. The heart of prophetic ministry is not about bringing judgment to crush spirits but about encouraging people to turn back to God and embrace the abundant life He offers.

Prophesying Potential

When a prophet delivers a word, especially one that speaks of potential, it serves as a powerful revelation to the recipient. For example, if a prophet sees a vision of someone thriving in their calling but observes that they are currently living in a way that contradicts that potential, the prophecy can highlight this disparity. This prophetic insight can be transformative.

Rather than merely pointing out flaws or failures, the prophecy encourages the person by showcasing the good that can come from embracing change. It acts as a mirror, reflecting not just their current state but the higher calling God has for them. This approach empowers the individual to recognize their potential and motivates them to make the necessary adjustments to fulfill it.

Encouragement and Empowerment Through Change

The prophetic voice acts as a catalyst for growth. When individuals receive a prophetic word that reveals their potential, it encourages them to take steps toward that future. It highlights the areas where change is needed, not as a form of condemnation, but as a loving invitation to step into their Godgiven destiny.

In 1 Corinthians, Paul writes about the role of prophecy in edifying the church:

"But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort."

— 1 Corinthians 14:3 (NIV)

This verse underscores that prophecy is fundamentally about building up others. When a prophet reveals the good potential in someone, it becomes a source of strength and encouragement. The recipient is inspired to pursue transformation, knowing that God believes in their capacity to change and grow.

A Safe Space for Growth

The prophetic ministry creates a safe space for individuals to grow. When believers receive a prophetic word, even if it includes correction, it is meant to foster an environment of support and understanding. The aim is to help individuals see the bigger picture of God's plans for their lives, encouraging them to step into their God-given potential.

In 2 Timothy, Paul reminds us of the importance of teaching, rebuking, and correcting with the ultimate goal of training in righteousness:

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

— 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

This highlights that correction is a vital part of spiritual development. It equips us to fulfill our calling and empowers us to act according to God's purpose.

Conclusion

In summary, while prophets carry the responsibility of bringing both correction and restoration, their ultimate goal is to empower individuals and nurture their growth in faith. The prophetic ministry, when exercised in love and humility, provides invaluable guidance, helping the Body of Christ flourish.

When a prophet speaks of the potential good in someone, especially when they are acting contrary to that potential, it serves as a powerful reminder of God's plans for their lives. Prophets are not there to condemn or abandon; they are vessels of God's grace, guiding us back to His heart. They help illuminate the path to fulfillment, encouraging us to embrace change and step into the abundant life that awaits us in Him.

CHAPTER

3

Differences Between Old and New Testament Prophets

nderstanding the distinctions between Old Testament and New Testament prophets can deepen our appreciation for the way God communicates with us today. Both serve essential roles in His divine plan, but their functions and contexts differ significantly. Let's explore these differences in a way that highlights the encouraging nature of the New Covenant.

Old Testament Prophets

In the Old Testament, prophets were highly visible figures, often playing dramatic and public roles in the life of Israel. Think of Samuel, Elijah, and Elisha — these men were known throughout the land, and their presence commanded attention and respect. For instance, when Samuel arrived in a town, the people trembled, unsure if he came with a blessing or a warning:

"So Samuel did what the Lord said. And he went to Bethlehem, and the elders of the town trembled at his coming and said, 'Do you come peaceably?"

— 1 Samuel 16:4 (NKJV)

People depended heavily on these prophets for guidance and divine insight. They were seen as the primary mouthpieces of God, conveying His messages directly to the people. When Saul was searching for his father's donkeys, he sought Samuel's help, acknowledging the prophet's role in revealing God's will:

"He said to his servant, 'Come, let us return, lest my father cease caring about the donkeys and become worried about us.' And he said to him, 'Look now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honourable man; all that he says surely comes to pass."

— 1 Samuel 9:5-6 (NKJV)

Old Testament prophets often addressed issues related to sin and the flesh, calling people to repentance and correction. Nathan's confrontation with David over his sin with Bathsheba is a striking example of this focus on moral and spiritual rectitude:

"Then Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel: "I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul."

— 2 Samuel 12:7 (NKJV)

Their messages brought fear and awe, emphasizing the gravity of their role in delivering God's word. When Samuel came to anoint David, the elders of the town trembled, highlighting the reverence and fear that prophets inspired:

"And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?"

— 1 Samuel 16:4 (NKJV)

Old Testament prophets received unique revelations from God, often involving visions and direct divine communication. Daniel's detailed visions about future events illustrate this unique access to divine mysteries:

"He revealed deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him."

— Daniel 2:22 (NIV)

Their lifestyles were often unusual, with methods that seemed unconventional. For instance, Elijah lived in the wilderness and was fed by ravens, showcasing his dependence on God:

"Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Iordan."

— 1 Kings 17:2-3 (NKJV)

The credibility of Old Testament prophets was tied to the infallibility of their prophecies. Their words had to come true, as stated in Deuteronomy:

"But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

— Deuteronomy 18:20 (NKJV)

These prophets often operated independently, without accountability to any human authority. They would deliver their message and then withdraw, as seen with Ionah's brief mission to Nineveh:

"And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, 'Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

— *Jonah 3:4 (NKJV)*

Their periods of activity were often short but intense, like Jonah's impactful ministry. They also addressed kings and nations, influencing the course of significant events, such as Elijah's confrontation with King Ahab over the worship of Baal:

"And Elijah came to all the people, and said, 'How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him."

— 1 Kings 18:21 (NKJV)

New Testament Prophets

In contrast, New Testament prophets often work behind the scenes, forming part of the church's foundation rather than being high-profile figures. Ephesians 2:20 tells us that the church is built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, with Christ Jesus as the chief cornerstone:

"Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone."

— Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV)

New Testament prophets equip and release believers to operate in spiritual gifts, fostering a community where everyone can participate in God's work. Ephesians 4:11-12 explains that prophets are among those who equip the saints for the work of ministry, building up the Body of Christ:

"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry."

— *Ephesians 4:11-12 (NKJV)*

Their focus is more on spiritual matters and less on earthly issues, emphasizing spiritual warfare and the realities of the heavenly realms:

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

— Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)

New Testament prophets aim to bring hope, joy, and encouragement, building up the church through edification and exhortation. Paul in 1 Corinthians emphasizes that prophecy is for building up the church:

"But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men."

— 1 Corinthians 14:3 (NKJV)

They help believers understand and move in revelation, equipping them to hear and respond to God's voice themselves. This is a significant shift from the exclusivity of revelation in the Old Testament.

New Testament prophets integrate their faith into everyday activities, embodying the principle that every moment can be an opportunity to worship God. Romans 12:1-2 encourages believers to live their lives as a spiritual act of worship:

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

— *Romans 12:1 (NKJV)*

Their credibility comes from their character and the fruits of the Spirit in their lives, as taught by Jesus:

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits."

— *Matthew 7:15-16 (NKJV)*

They are part of the church community, maintaining accountability and working collaboratively. Acts 13:1-3 describes prophets and teachers working together in the church at Antioch:

"Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers..."

— Acts 13:1 (NKJV)

Their ministry spans a lifetime, bearing continual fruit and impacting the church over the long term. Paul's letters often mention long-term relationships and ongoing ministry efforts, such as his partnership with Timothy and Titus.

New Testament prophets focus on building up the church and advancing God's kingdom, rather than addressing earthly kingdoms. Ephesians 4:12-13 speaks of building up the Body of Christ until it reaches unity in faith:

"...for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God."

— *Ephesians 4:12-13 (NKJV)*

Some people in the New Covenant mistakenly believe that adopting the dramatic and authoritative demeanor of Old Testament prophets is a more powerful approach to ministry. They might think that by emulating the boldness of figures like Elijah or Isaiah, they will have greater impact or authority.

However, this perspective can lead to claiming a role that is not aligned with God's current design for His people, resulting in confusion and misunderstanding of His nature. This approach often brings damage and hurt, as it can create an atmosphere of fear rather than one of love and encouragement. By recognizing and understanding the differences between the Old and New Testament prophetic roles, we can bring clarity and maturity to our ministry. Emphasizing the nurturing and empowering aspects of New Testament prophecy fosters an environment that encourages growth, unity, and a deeper understanding of God's heart. This awareness helps us to reflect God's true character, allowing us to minister in a way that uplifts others and promotes spiritual development in the body of Christ.

Application and Encouragement

As we reflect on the differences between Old and New Testament prophets, we can be encouraged by the shift that has taken place in how God communicates with us today. While Old Testament prophets were often solitary figures delivering heavy messages, New Testament prophets work within the community of believers, fostering an environment of collaboration, encouragement, and empowerment.

This means that every believer is invited into a relationship with God where they can hear His voice and respond to His leading. Prophecy is no longer confined to a select few; it is a gift available to the entire Body of Christ. As we learn to operate in our spiritual gifts, we are all called to build each other up, embodying the love and grace of God.

We can approach our spiritual journey with the confidence that God desires to speak to us and through us. The Holy Spirit empowers each of us to live out our faith in everyday life, making our entire existence a testimony of God's goodness.

In this new covenant, we are reminded that we have access to God's heart and His plans for us, and we are encouraged to step boldly into our identities as His children. With every prophetic word shared, may we remember that the intent is to encourage, empower, and bring hope to one another, fostering a vibrant and loving community that reflects the heart of God.

CHAPTER

4

Developing the Prophetic Gift

1. Desire

Imagine standing on the shore of a vast ocean, feeling the waves crash in a relentless rhythm. Just like the ocean's ceaseless waves, developing your prophetic gift begins with a deep and unyielding desire. This isn't just a fleeting wish; it's a passionate yearning that drives you to seek God's voice and share His messages with others. The Apostle Paul encourages us in *1 Corinthians* 14:1 and 39:

"Pursue love and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues."

— 1 Corinthians 14:1, 39 (NKJV)

Here, "desire" signifies an intense longing—a craving to prophesy that is active and transformative. This kind of desire requires commitment and a resolute heart. It's about letting your passion shape your spiritual journey, pushing you to become a vessel for God's prophetic messages every day.

2. Who Should Prophesy?

Think of prophecy as a grand banquet where everyone is invited to partake in a sumptuous feast. The opportunity to prophesy is open to all believers! As Peter declares in *Acts 10:34*:

"Then Peter opened his mouth and said, 'Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons."

— Acts 10:34 (KJV)

This means you can prophesy too, because we all have access to the Holy Spirit and His manifold gifts. Paul highlights this inclusivity throughout his letters:

"Desire spiritual gifts."
— 1 Corinthians 14:1 (NKJV)

"But covet earnestly the best gifts (plural)."

— 1 Corinthians 12:31 (KJV)

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."

— 1 Corinthians 11:1 (NKJV)

"But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."

— 1 Corinthians 12:11 (NKJV)

These verses remind us that we can all move in the gifts of the Spirit, experiencing various operations and manifestations. It's vital, though, that we exercise our gifts alongside the fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, kindness, and more—as stated in *Galatians* 5:22-23:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."

- *Galatians 5:22-23 (NKIV)*

This ensures our prophetic ministry is rooted in Christ-like character.

3. Prophesy According to Your Faith

Think of faith as a muscle that strengthens with use. Romans 12:6 advises us:

"Let us prophesy in proportion to our faith."

— Romans 12:6 (NKJV)

This encourages us to evaluate our faith and allow it to grow. Faith is dynamic; it expands as we engage with God. *Romans 1:17* emphasizes this journey:

"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith."

— *Romans 1:17 (NKJV)*

Having faith is crucial; as stated in *Hebrews 11:6*:

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

— Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

We should actively ask God to develop our faith, trusting that He will respond. As our faith grows, so does our capacity to prophesy.

4. God Responds to Faith

Picture a child confidently asking their parent for a gift, knowing their loving parent will provide. Jesus illustrates this in *Matthew 7:9-11*:

"Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"

— *Matthew 7:9-11 (NKJV)*

When we ask God for prophetic insight in faith, He responds. We can trust that what He gives us will be good and uplifting, aligning with Scripture. This faith helps dispel doubt and fear, empowering us to step confidently into the prophetic.

5. Practice, Practice, Practice

Consider a musician who becomes skilled through consistent practice. *Hebrews 5:14* teaches us:

"But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

— *Hebrews 5:14 (NKJV)*

Just like musicians, the more we practice our prophetic gift, the more skilled we become. Each opportunity to prophesy—whether in a safe environment or real-life situations—is a chance to grow and refine our gift.

6. The Spirit of the Prophet is Subject to the Prophet

The prophetic ministry is not just about delivering messages from God; it also requires a deep sense of self-control and accountability to others. In *1 Corinthians* 14:32, Paul emphasizes this responsibility:

"And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets."

— 1 Corinthians 14:32 (NKJV)

This profound statement carries two essential truths that every prophet should embrace.

a. Exercise Self-Control

Self-control is foundational to the prophetic ministry. It means having the discipline to manage one's thoughts, emotions, and actions in alignment with God's will. Prophecy can stir strong feelings and passions, but it's crucial to filter those through the lens of Scripture and the Holy Spirit's guidance. A mature prophet recognizes that their emotions should not dictate the delivery of a message.

Practicing self-control ensures that prophetic words are given at the right time, in the right manner, and with the right intent. This doesn't mean suppressing the Spirit's leading but rather exercising discernment about when and how to speak. Self-control allows us to wait for God's timing, to avoid speaking out of impulsiveness, and to ensure that our words are rooted in love and truth. This discipline creates a safe environment for receiving and delivering prophecy, where both the prophet and the recipient can grow.

b. Submit to Other Prophets

In addition to self-control, submission to other prophets is vital for accountability and growth in the prophetic ministry. When we choose to submit to others—whether they are more experienced prophets or leaders in the church—we invite a culture of humility and collaboration. This

accountability helps to ensure that prophetic words are weighed and tested, aligning with God's heart and purpose.

Submitting to other prophets fosters an environment where feedback is welcomed and encouraged. This is not about stifling creativity or expression but rather creating a safeguard against misinterpretation or personal bias. By sharing our prophetic insights with others, we allow them to be assessed and affirmed within the body of Christ, promoting a sense of unity and collective wisdom.

Accountability also protects against pride and isolation, reminding us that we are part of a larger community. It is through the process of sharing and receiving input that we grow in maturity and effectiveness as prophets. Just as iron sharpens iron, being subject to one another strengthens our prophetic voices and enhances our capacity to hear and respond to God's messages accurately.

Conclusion

In summary, the call to self-control and submission to other prophets is essential for anyone operating in the prophetic ministry. These two aspects not only enhance our effectiveness but also reflect the heart of God for unity, love, and mutual support within the church. By exercising self-control, we honor God and those we minister to, ensuring that our words are delivered with wisdom and care. By submitting to other prophets, we foster a healthy, accountable community where God's voice can be heard clearly and accurately. Together, these principles help cultivate a prophetic culture that uplifts, edifies, and glorifies God.

Don't Be Mystical

Prophecy doesn't require an ethereal or mystical demeanour; it thrives in the everyday, utilizing our unique personalities and life experiences. God often communicates profound truths through simple aspects of life. Just as Jesus used relatable parables—like seeds and bread—we can draw from our surroundings to make prophetic messages accessible and relevant.

Speak in Relatable Language

It's crucial to communicate clearly, avoiding overly formal or archaic language. When we use jargon or complex terms, we risk alienating our audience. Instead, we should aim for an authentic tone that invites connection. Jesus met people where they were, using language that resonated with their lives. This doesn't dilute the message; it enhances understanding and encourages warmth. Prophetic words should feel inviting and uplifting, not confusing or intimidating.

In essence, the prophetic gift is about embodying God's love in everyday life. By embracing our uniqueness and speaking in relatable ways, we foster a vibrant prophetic culture where God communicates through the ordinary to achieve the extraordinary.

8. Dig a Ditch for God

In 2 Kings 3:16-17, Elisha instructs the people to dig ditches in the desert by faith. Though no rain fell at that moment, those ditches were miraculously filled with water. This act symbolizes the importance of preparing ourselves spiritually, creating the capacity for God to move in our lives. Engaging in spiritual disciplines—like praying, worshiping, journaling, and practicing our gifts—allows us to expand our spiritual capacity. Just as the ditches were a tangible preparation for God's provision, our spiritual practices cultivate a space for His work in and through us.

9. Find What Unlocks Your Flow

Imagine holding a key that opens a door to a vibrant new realm of prophetic flow. There are specific practices or "keys" that can help unlock this flow, such as speaking in tongues, stepping out in faith, or immersing yourself in worship. Take the time to identify what resonates with you and integrate it into your spiritual routine. The more you take risks in prophesying, the more confident you will become in recognizing and delivering God's messages. Each step you take creates a pathway for deeper revelation and connection with Him.

10. Bring Fresh Living Water from the Well

Prophetic words should be fresh and relevant, much like the life-giving water from a well. Just as a well nourishes, our prophetic messages should bring clarity and vitality to those who hear them. Avoid getting bogged down in excessive details or personal biases that might cloud the message. Instead, focus on sharing insights that are clear, digestible, and directly from God's heart. This way, your words can truly uplift and inspire those receiving them.

11. Ask God Questions

Learning to prophesy is like learning a language; it starts with simple words and grows into deeper expressions. By engaging with God through questions, we can enhance our prophetic understanding and connect insights into a clear message. God delights in revealing His heart, and our questions guide us to specific insights.

For example, in Acts 9:10-12, Ananias, a devoted follower of Christ – not a prophet, received direct words of knowledge about Saul of Tarsus. His attentiveness and willingness to listen resulted in a powerful moment of obedience.

By asking questions like, "Lord, what do You want to say to this person?" we express our dependence on His guidance and desire for His will. This practice refines our understanding of His voice, helping us recognize the subtle nuances that enhance our discernment.

Ultimately, asking God questions creates a dynamic relationship where we are both learners and messengers. This collaborative process enriches our ability to communicate God's truths, allowing us to deliver impactful insights that bring encouragement and hope to those around us.

12. Listen for Hook Words

"Hook words" are special phrases or terms that catch your attention and pull you deeper into a prophetic message. If you sense a word like "restore," take time to Ask God its significance further. By branching out into various areas—like finance, family, or ministry—you can transition from a general word to more specific revelations. Remember, while specifics may feel riskier, they also carry the potential for greater impact and connection with others.

Developing your prophetic gift is a rewarding journey filled with passionate desire, faith, and ongoing practice. It's important to recognize that prophecy is accessible to all believers, not just a select few. God responds to our faith-filled requests, and by blending our spiritual gifts with the fruits of the Spirit, regularly practicing, and maintaining accountability, we can flourish in our prophetic ministry.

Keep your prophetic practice grounded in everyday experiences and relatable language. Prepare yourself spiritually, find what unlocks your flow, and listen for key words that guide you deeper into God's revelation. By asking questions and remaining attentive, you can deliver precise and impactful prophetic messages. Ultimately, God values your willingness to step out in faith and use your prophetic gift to edify, encourage, and comfort others.

CHAPTER

5

Encouragement and Teamwork: Strengthening Authentic Ministry

ncouragement is a powerful tool in the hands of a believer, and nowhere is this more evident than in the life of Barnabas, whose name means "son of encouragement." Though he appears only a few times in Scripture, each mention highlights his unwavering support for others.

In Acts 4:36-37, we see Barnabas selling his field and laying the proceeds at the apostles' feet, a clear demonstration of his belief in the church's mission and his desire to encourage others.

"And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, sold his field and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet."

— (NKJV)

When Saul (later Paul) converted, many were skeptical of his transformation. Yet Barnabas recognized his potential. He took the initiative to vouch for Saul, bringing him to the apostles and convincing them of his genuine change.

"And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles."

— (NKJV)

Without Barnabas's encouragement, Paul might not have become the influential leader he was destined to be. Similarly, Barnabas showed remarkable faith in John Mark. After Mark had deserted them, Paul hesitated to give him another chance, but Barnabas insisted on offering him support, believing in his potential. This encouragement allowed Mark to grow and ultimately write the Gospel of Mark.

"Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, 'Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing.' Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark."

— (NKJV)

Barnabas is described in **Acts 11:24** as a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, contributing significantly to the spiritual growth of others.

"For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, and a great many people were added to the Lord."

— (NKIV)

Encouragement Reflects God's Nature

Encouragement is not merely a nice idea; it reflects God's very character. In **Romans 2:4**, we see that the goodness of God leads us to repentance.

"Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?"

— (NKIV)

God uses prophecy to infuse hope and potential into our lives, especially during tough times. However, as we minister, it's crucial to handle the details of people's lives with care. Not everything revealed by God is meant to be shared immediately.

"But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart."

— Luke 2:19 (NKJV)

When we receive a prophecy or vision, it's essential to share only what has been directly revealed to us. This approach requires discernment and humility, as embellishing the message with our interpretations can lead to misunderstandings. Trusting God for the correct interpretation means surrendering our desire to control the message and relying on the Holy Spirit to guide us.

Sharing a prophecy with integrity not only preserves its purity but also invites others into a deeper conversation with God, allowing the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. This practice helps maintain the impact of what God intends to communicate.

The Power of Teamwork in Ministry

The concept of teamwork runs throughout the New Testament, especially in prophetic ministry. Rather than adopting a lone-ranger mentality, true prophetic ministry thrives on collaboration. In Acts 11:27 and Acts 13:1-2, we see prophets traveling and ministering together, showcasing the strength and support derived from working as a unified Body of Christ.

The natural world provides a beautiful example of teamwork through the Sandhill Crane, known for its long migrations. These birds rotate leadership, allowing different members of the flock to take turns against the wind, demonstrating their commitment to shared responsibility. When one bird leads, the others "honk" in encouragement, affirming their fellow bird. This dynamic mirrors the essential elements of ministry: shared leadership, the ability to navigate challenges together, and a spirit of constant encouragement.

As Bill Hamon discusses in his book *Apostles*, *Prophets and the Coming Moves of God*, the restoration of the five-fold ministry in the 20th century reflects a similar dynamic in the church. Each decade emphasized different roles, from evangelists in the 1950s to apostles in the 1990s, highlighting the need for collaboration.

In Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, we learn that "two are better than one" because they bring greater reward for their labor and ensure no one is left behind.

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up."

— (NKJV)

Teamwork in ministry brings provision, security, accountability, comfort, protection, and strength. **Proverbs 11:14** reminds us that "there is safety in the multitude of counselors," while **Mark 6:7** shows Jesus sending His disciples out two by two, emphasizing the importance of partnership.

The ultimate example of teamwork is found in the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—working in perfect unity. In **Romans 12:10** and **Philippians 2:3**, we are called to give preference to one another and to act without selfish ambition.

"Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honour giving preference to one another."

— Romans 12:10 (NKJV)

Selfish ambition can create competition and strife, but lifting others up fosters a culture of support and growth. In this environment, everyone benefits.

Jesus taught that true greatness in God's kingdom comes through servanthood. He said, "the first shall be last, and the last shall be first." Joseph's story in **Genesis 39** illustrates this principle; despite being unjustly imprisoned, he served faithfully, putting others' needs above his own.

"He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much."

— Luke 16:10 (NKJV)

Building teamwork in ministry requires intentional effort. **Ephesians 4:29** encourages us to speak words that uplift and edify others, while **Proverbs 10:11** describes our words as "a well of life."

"The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked."

— *Proverbs* 10:11 (NKJV)

Effective teamwork nurtures the fruits of the Spirit, such as humility, patience, and love. By embracing a spirit of collaboration, we create a vibrant ministry that reflects the love of Christ and uplifts everyone involved. Together, we can accomplish far more than we ever could alone.

Conclusion

As we engage in both encouragement and teamwork, let's commit to building one another up and celebrating the potential in those around us. By sharing only what has been revealed to us, we avoid misunderstandings and maintain the purity of God's messages. Together, we can foster a loving community that reflects God's grace and creates an uplifting environment that nurtures faith, hope, and joy. Let us be intentional in our efforts to uplift, ensuring that our words and actions align with the heart of God.

CHAPTER

6

Realms of Prophecy and Boundaries

n the exciting journey of prophetic ministry, it's essential to recognize the different realms we operate in and the boundaries that keep us safe and effective. As we grow, we must humbly acknowledge where we are and avoid the temptation to assume we are further along than we truly are. This awareness can prevent misunderstandings and help us thrive in our gifts.

Spirit of Prophecy - External Anointing

The Spirit of Prophecy is an external anointing that can manifest in specific circumstances:

- 1. **Divine Atmosphere**: When the spiritual atmosphere is charged with God's presence, prophetic words often flow more freely.
- 2. **Gathering of Prophets**: A group of prophets coming together creates an intensified atmosphere, leading to a powerful outpouring of prophetic words.
- 3. **Teaching of Prophetic Principles**: When we learn about prophetic principles, it can awaken the Spirit of Prophecy within us.

4. **Sovereign Moments**: Sometimes, even those who don't typically prophesy may find themselves speaking God's words during special moments.

For example, in *Numbers 11:25*, we read about the Spirit coming upon the seventy elders, allowing them to prophesy:

"And took the spirit that was upon Moses and gave it unto the seventy elders, and they prophesied and did not cease."

— *Numbers* 11:25 (*NKJV*)

Another powerful example of the Spirit of Prophecy at work is found in *1 Samuel 19:18-24*. In this passage, we see King Saul, who was initially known for his attempts to capture David. His heart was far from God at that time, and he was driven by jealousy and anger. However, when Saul encountered a group of prophets after sending strong men twice to capture David and they failed something remarkable happened.

As Saul approached Naioth in Ramah, he was overwhelmed by the presence of God. The Scriptures tell us that "the Spirit of God came upon him" in such a profound way that he began to prophesy alongside the prophets.

The profound effect of this encounter also reveals the nature of prophetic ministry. Saul, a man who had previously sought to harm David, found himself caught up in a prophetic act, demonstrating that even those who are distant from God can experience a profound shift when they come into contact with divine influence. It showcases the power of community—when Saul was among the prophets, he was enveloped by their faith and their connection to God, which triggered a transformation in him.

It reminds us of the importance of being in a prophetic community. The presence of the prophets created an atmosphere where the Spirit could move freely. This underscores the significance of fellowship and support among believers. We are called to uplift and encourage one another, creating environments where the Spirit of God can work in powerful ways.

Gift of Prophecy

The Gift of Prophecy is an internal, personal gift that's available to all believers:

- 1. **Available to Everyone**: As stated in *1 Corinthians 12:7*, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all." This gift is for every believer!
- 2. **Desire to Grow**: Paul encourages us to earnestly desire spiritual gifts, especially prophecy (*1 Corinthians 14:1*). This means we should actively seek to cultivate our prophetic abilities.
- 3. **Stirring Up the Gift**: We can choose to activate & develop this gift within us (*2 Timothy 1:6*). Like a flame, we must keep it stirred up and ready to shine!

Boundaries for the Spirit and the Gift

To ensure that we use the Spirit and the Gift of Prophecy correctly, we need to understand and respect certain boundaries:

1. **Edification**: Prophecy should always aim to build up the Church.

"But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men."

— 1 Corinthians 14:3 (NKJV)

- 2. **Exhortation**: It should encourage and inspire others, offering motivation and support.
- 3. **Comfort**: Prophetic words should console and uplift those who are weary or facing challenges.

These boundaries help maintain the integrity of prophecy, ensuring it remains a source of positivity and encouragement within our community.

Basic Pitfalls to Avoid

It's vital to steer clear of common pitfalls in prophetic ministry:

No Hatches, Matches, or Dispatches: Avoid meddling in personal
matters like marriages or uncertainty of some ones passing that don't
align with the goals of edification, encouragement, and comfort.

Levels of Prophetic Ministry

Understanding the various levels of prophetic ministry helps us recognize where we fit and where we can grow:

- 1. **Simple Prophecy**: Most believers start here, sharing messages that begin as feelings or partial words before becoming clearer.
- 2. **Prophetic Giftedness**: Some believers receive dreams or visions and share these without full clarity.
- 3. **Prophetic Ministry**: Those recognized for regular prophetic ministry have a deeper understanding and experience.

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith."

— *Romans 12:6 (NKJV)*

Prophets in Training (PIT) and Sons of Prophets

Prophets in Training (PIT) are individuals developing their prophetic gifts under the mentorship of experienced prophets. This guidance is crucial for navigating prophetic ministry, helping them grow in their ability to edify, exhort, and comfort the Church.

Purpose of Prophets in Training

- 1. Mentorship and Guidance: PITs gain invaluable insights from seasoned prophets, enhancing their ability to discern God's voice and deliver messages effectively while remaining accountable.
- 2. Practical Experience: Training involves hands-on opportunities to practice prophetic gifts in safe settings, such as participating in prophetic teams, small group discussions, or workshops.
- 3. Focus on Edification, Exhortation, and Comfort: The main goal for PITs is to encourage and support others, learning to share words that build up the Church and inspire action.
- 4. Building Character and Integrity: PITs are taught the importance of love, humility, and integrity in prophetic ministry, helping them avoid the pitfalls of pride or presumption.
- 5. Testing and Confirmation: They learn to discern the authenticity of their insights by testing them against Scripture and the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Sons of Prophets

The "Sons of Prophets" refers to biblical groups of trained prophetic individuals who supported one another in their calling, much like PITs today.

- 1. Community and Support: Both PITs and Sons of Prophets thrive in community, fostering an environment where individuals can express their gifts and receive constructive feedback.
- 2. Cultural Legacy: The Sons of Prophets represent a long-standing tradition of prophetic training, emphasizing that prophetic ministry is part of God's larger work.

- 3. Collective Prophetic Voice: This community aspect allows for shared insights and confirmation of what God is saying, ensuring messages align with His heart.
- 4. Leadership Development: Sons of Prophets were often prepared for leadership roles, equipped to guide others and shape the prophetic direction of their communities.

Conclusion

PITs and Sons of Prophets are vital for the growth of prophetic ministry. Through mentorship, practical experience, and community support, they are equipped to serve the Body of Christ effectively, emphasizing humility and accountability. By nurturing these emerging prophets, we help cultivate a vibrant prophetic voice that encourages and edifies the Body of Christ for generations.

Gift of the Prophet

The Gift of the Prophet is a vital aspect of the fivefold ministry described in *Ephesians 4:11-12*, where it states:

"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

— (NKJV)

This role is distinct and carries specific responsibilities and boundaries that set it apart from the Spirit of Prophecy or the Gift of Prophecy. Here are some key points to consider:

 Called by Jesus Himself: Prophets are appointed by Christ as part of the fivefold ministry, emphasizing the divine nature of their calling. This appointment is typically done by others in authority and is confirmed by multiple leaders within the Church. It is not merely a title or role; it is a sacred responsibility to serve the Church and fulfill God's purposes.

- Danger of Self-Appointment and Presumption: It is essential to recognize that stepping into the role of a prophet without a genuine calling can lead to significant consequences. Self-appointment is dangerous, as it can distort the prophetic ministry and lead to confusion or harm within the Church. It's crucial to discern whether one is truly called to this office, as assuming such a mantle without divine confirmation can be spiritually perilous.
- Variety of Levels and Abilities: The boundaries of authority for prophets are broader than those for individuals operating under the Spirit or Gift of Prophecy. Prophets may function at various levels, each with its own scope of influence:
 - Local Church Prophets: These prophets minister within a single congregation, providing guidance and encouragement to that specific body of believers.
 - Denominational Prophets: They serve a group of churches within a particular denomination, offering insights and prophetic words that impact a broader network of congregations.
 - City Prophets: These individuals operate at the city level, influencing and speaking into the spiritual climate of a specific location.
 - National Prophets: They hold authority across an entire country, often addressing issues that affect the nation as a whole.
 - International Prophets: These prophets have a global reach, providing prophetic insight that crosses national boundaries and impacts multiple countries.

 Influence in Politics and Business: Prophets like Joseph and Daniel serve as examples of individuals who operated in realms beyond the church, influencing areas such as politics and business. Their prophetic gifts were instrumental in shaping cultures and guiding leaders in critical decisions.

A Prophet's Authority and Boundaries

The authority of a prophet differs significantly from those functioning in the Spirit or Gift of Prophecy. While God may call upon a seasoned prophet to function in various capacities, it's vital to understand that their ministry must consistently reflect the nature and character of God. The fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—will be evident in their lives and ministry if they are indeed a true and seasoned prophet.

This distinction ensures that the prophetic ministry remains grounded in biblical principles and exemplifies Christ-like character. The role of a prophet is not only to speak God's truth but also to embody His love and grace, fostering a nurturing environment within the Church and beyond.

In summary, understanding the Gift of the Prophet and its accompanying boundaries is crucial for cultivating a healthy prophetic culture. By respecting the divine calling and adhering to the character of God, prophets can effectively edify and equip the Body of Christ, bringing clarity, direction, and encouragement to those they serve.

Key Points to Remember

- 1. **Spirit of Prophecy:** An external anointing that operates under specific conditions.
- 2. **Gift of Prophecy:** An internal gift available to all believers, activated by faith.
- Boundaries: Prophecy should always edify, exhort, and comfort, maintaining security and integrity.

- Levels of Prophetic Ministry: These range from simple prophecy to the office of a prophet, each with varying responsibilities.
- 5. Prophetic Authority: Prophets have distinct roles that include correction, ordination, and impartation. Importantly, prophets are appointed by other leaders within the Church, not through self-appointment.

By understanding these realms and boundaries, we ensure that prophecy aligns with biblical principles, fostering a healthy and encouraging environment within the Church. Remember, it's a journey of growth, and every step you take in humility and faith brings you closer to the heart of God's purpose for you!

CHAPTER

What to do with your Prophecy

eceiving a personal prophecy can be both exciting and overwhelming. It's a profound experience, and it's essential to approach it with discernment and understanding. Here's a simple guide on how to navigate personal prophecy and ensure it aligns with God's will.

The Journey of Judging Prophecy

When you receive a prophetic word, it's crucial to evaluate it carefully. Think of this as a spiritual checkpoint to ensure the prophecy aligns with Scripture.

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy... Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation."

— 2 Peter 1:19

The prophecy should resonate with the Spirit of the Word. Jesus reveals God's true nature, characterized by love and truth.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

— Romans 8:1

Your spirit also plays a vital role.

"The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit..."

— Romans 8:16

This means the prophecy should align with the inner confirmation you feel from the Holy Spirit. Don't hesitate to seek confirmation from others.

"By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established."

— Deuteronomy 19:15

The Process of Engaging with Prophecy

1. Write It Down: Once you've received a prophecy, start by writing it down.

"Write the vision, make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it."

— Habakkuk 2:2

 $Recording \ the \ prophecy \ helps \ you \ keep \ track \ of its \ details \ and \ significance.$

Meditate on It: Take time to reflect on the prophecy and ask God for clarity.

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night..."

— Joshua 1:8

- 3. **Seek Guidance:** Discuss the prophecy with your spiritual mentor or leader. Their perspective can provide valuable insight. Comparing it with previous prophecies can reveal consistent themes, helping you see the bigger picture of what God is saying.
- 4. **Be Open to Layers of Meaning:** Understand that the first interpretation might not be the final one. Prophecies can have multiple layers, and further insights may unfold over time.

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"That by them you may wage the good warfare."

— 1 Timothy 1:18
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This verse encourages you to actively participate in fulfilling the prophecy. Ask God, "What is my role in this?" Understanding your part helps you engage with the prophecy meaningfully. Consider how you can "wage a good warfare" in prayer, action, and faith. This might involve praying over the prophecy, declaring it in faith, or taking practical steps toward its fulfillment.

Acting on Prophecy

5. **Stay the Course:** Continue on your current path unless the prophecy provides clear new directions. It's essential to maintain your path and trust in God's timing. Receive the prophecy with faith and humility.

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"But without faith it is impossible to please Him..."

— Hebrews 11:6
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6. **Obey the Word:** Add obedience to your faith.

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only..."

— James 1:22

- Practice Patience: Prophecies may take time to unfold. Understanding this helps prevent discouragement if things don't happen as quickly as you hope.
- 8. **Guard Your Heart:** Be cautious of wrong spirits that can undermine the prophetic word. Keep your heart and spirit pure.

Understanding Prophetic Timing and Process

God's timing often differs from our expectations. Terms like "immediately" or "very soon" may have different meanings in God's timeline.

Personal prophecies can involve various stages of growth and development. Recognize that difficulties and delays often precede breakthroughs. God uses these times to build character and deepen faith.

Key Principles

- 1. Work with the Prophecy: Actively engage with and apply what you've received. This requires a deliberate choice to see the fulfillment of prophecy in your life.
- **Understand Timing:** Be patient and aware of God's timing.
- 3. **Personal Development:** View the process as a journey of spiritual growth.
- 4. Warfare: Use the prophecy as a tool in your spiritual battles. Consider how you can participate in bringing the prophecy to fruition through prayer, faith declarations, and action.
- 5. Overcome Hindrances: Address any issues that might prevent the prophecy from being fulfilled.

By following these steps, you can navigate the journey of personal prophecy with wisdom and faith, ensuring that you align with God's will and purpose for your life.

When we give prophecies, we ensure they can be recorded. We also provide a Duty of Care brochure titled "What to Do with Your Prophecy." Additionally, we offer a free ebook on our website called Prophecy Decoded, which helps you understand how to engage intentionally with your prophecy and the outcomes God has promised. Remember, a prophecy is an invitation to engage with God and embrace the potential that He is highlighting through it.

CHAPTER

8

Ways God Speaks & Practical Activation Scriptures

od, in His infinite wisdom & delight, speaks to us in many ways.

Each method is tailored to our unique relationship with Him, drawing us closer to His heart and guiding us in our walk of faith.

Understanding these ways can enhance our ability to hear from God and respond to His leading.

How God Communicates

"The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the Lord has made both of them."

— Proverbs 20:12

One of the most intimate ways God communicates is through the still, small voice.

This gentle whisper requires a quiet spirit to discern. Some people may be more attuned to "hearing," while others may find they "see" in the spiritual realm. This still, small voice expresses God's care, guiding us with quiet assurance.

God also speaks through internal visions or mental images. These images often form during prayer or reflection or when we are choosing to activate the gifts and asking God questions.

At first, they might seem hazy or general, but as we wait and step into the prophetic flow, they become clearer and more specific. Interpreting these images requires faith. By asking God and trusting what comes, what begins as a simple image can unfold into a profound prophetic word. Just as Jesus saw Nathaniel under the fig tree in the Spirit, we too can see and speak forth what God reveals to us.

Feelings or impressions are another way God communicates. Sometimes, a prophetic word or insight comes through a deep sense or a physical sensation in our bodies. This is often referred to as a "witness of the Spirit." These feelings can powerfully indicate what God is saying or doing in a moment, prompting us to act or speak according to His will and the protocols of the setting where are in.

Dreams are a familiar way that God communicates with us. Throughout the Bible, we see many examples of God using dreams to share important messages. For instance, God spoke to Joseph through dreams, revealing not just his future, but also the future of his family (Genesis 37). These dreams often contain rich symbolism and can carry significant meaning. However, interpreting dreams can be different and sometimes mysterious, as they may not always have a clear message at first. Today, dreams remain a powerful way for God to connect with His people. If you're curious to learn more about understanding dreams, don't worry—we have a whole section dedicated to this later in the book, complete with a guide on how to interpret your dreams!

On rare occasions, God may speak audibly that everyone present can hear.

"Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"
— Acts 9:4

This direct communication is profound but not something we can force. When God chooses to speak this way, it often conveys an important message.

Another extraordinary way God communicates is through external visions—supernatural occurrences. In 2 Kings 6:17, Elisha prayed, and the Lord

opened the eyes of the young man, who then saw a vision of a heavenly army. Similarly, in Acts 10, God spoke to Cornelius through a vision. These vivid, dramatic visions provide clear revelations from God.

The verse "For God speaks once, yes, twice, yet man does not perceive it" highlights a key truth about how God communicates with us.

"For God speaks once, yes, twice, yet man does not perceive it."

— Job 33:14

While God continually seeks to reach us through dreams, visions, scripture, and the Holy Spirit, we often miss His messages due to distractions or a lack of awareness.

The phrase "once, yes, twice" underscores God's persistence in making His will known, emphasizing His desire for us to understand our purpose. However, the second part reminds us of our responsibility to listen and be attentive. Our busy lives can cloud our perception, making it hard to recognize His voice.

This verse calls us to cultivate a sensitivity to God's communication, encouraging us to slow down and create space for prayer and reflection. It invites us to be open and ready to receive His guidance, reminding us that while God is actively speaking, it's up to us to tune in and respond. By fostering a heart that seeks Him, we can better perceive His messages and deepen our relationship with Him.

Practical Activations

As we grow in our prophetic gifts, we learn to identify and act upon these divine communications. Think of this process like a tree: the trunk represents a general word or impression, while the branches represent the areas of our lives where God might be speaking—family, ministry, finances, health, past, future, or emotions. The key to unlocking deeper insights lies in seeking more specific information—often found at the tips of the branches or out on a limb where the fruit is.

In practice, this means asking more questions, speaking confidently and boldly, and looking for "hook words"—phrases or impressions that lead to

deeper understanding. Start in your strongest area, family, ministry, finances, health, past, future, or emotions and explore what else God might be saying in that context by asking God questions. By seeking out specific details in three areas, you can deliver a word that is not only accurate but also life-changing for the person receiving it.

Activation Gifts Scriptures

In our journey with God, activating spiritual gifts is both a privilege and a responsibility. The Apostle Paul encourages us in

"Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy."

— 1 Corinthians 14:1

This isn't just a suggestion; it's a divine invitation to step into a supernatural realm where God's power and love intersect to edify the Body of Christ. Prophecy holds a special place in God's heart.

"Desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues."

— 1 *Corinthians* 14:39

The gift of prophecy is about speaking life, encouragement, and comfort to those around us.

"He who prophesies speaks edification, exhortation, and comfort to men."

— 1 Corinthians 14:3

When exercised in love, this gift builds up the Church and strengthens believers, drawing people closer to God.

The importance of edifying the Church through spiritual gifts is emphasized in

"He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church."

— 1 Corinthians 14:4

Here, Paul contrasts the personal edification from speaking in tongues with the communal edification that prophecy brings. While both gifts are valuable, prophecy has a unique ability to uplift the entire body of Christ, making it an essential gift for every believer to desire.

So how do we activate these gifts?

Paul gives us guidance in

"Stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands."

— 2 Timothy 1:6

Stirring up the gift involves intentional action—fanning into flame the spiritual gifts God has placed within us. This requires faith, obedience, and a willingness to step out of our comfort zones.

Jesus highlighted the incredible generosity of our Heavenly Father when He spoke about the good gifts He gives to His children.

"Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"

— *Matthew 7:9-11 (NKJV)*

In this passage, Jesus contrasts earthly parents with God, reminding us that even imperfect humans know how to bless their children. If we, with our limited understanding, strive to give good things, imagine how much more our perfect Heavenly Father desires to bless us!

These verses reassure us that God is not only willing but eager to give us spiritual gifts. He invites us to come to Him in faith, asking for the gifts we need. Our loving Father delights in showering us with good things,

encouraging us to seek Him for wisdom, guidance, and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. This promise invites us to approach God confidently, knowing that He longs to fill our lives with His goodness and grace. By asking in faith, we open ourselves to receive the abundant blessings He has in store for us. In the right settings Ask God questions and trust what come is His response.

However, as

"Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

- Hebrews 11:6

Faith is key to unlocking the gifts of the Spirit. We must believe in God's existence and His goodness, trusting that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

By embracing the ways God speaks and actively developing our spiritual gifts, we deepen our relationship with Him and fulfill His purposes for ourselves and others. It's crucial to recognize that the responsibility lies with us to grow in hearing God's voice and activating these gifts.

Positioning ourselves in the right settings—such as with prophetic people and through prophetic training—enhances our ability to discern God's guidance. Without these supportive environments, our spiritual sensitivity can become dull. Regardless of our experience, there's always more to explore and develop in our journey with God.

Let's be eager to embrace this journey, knowing that God continually invites us to discover more of Him and share it with the world!

CHAPTER

Prophetic Protocol

n our prophetic journey, it's important to find the balance between operating in God's anointing and maintaining order. The story of Elisha and the sons of the prophets in 2 Kings 2:1-16 illustrates this beautifully. While the sons of the prophets had prophetic gifts, they were content to watch from a distance, lacking the deep commitment that defined Elisha. His heart burned with a desire to fully embrace what God had in store for him.

"Then it happened, when the Lord was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal."

- 2 Kings 2:1

Elisha's Character: The Foundation of Protocol

Elisha's character was foundational to his success in prophetic ministry. He was faithful, humble, teachable, and motivated by pure intentions. His unwavering loyalty to Elijah demonstrated a willingness to pay the cost for his calling. Elisha's life shows us what God can achieve through someone who is fully committed and flexible in His hands. While others remained on the surface, Elisha pressed in for more, eager to experience God at a deeper level.

The Importance of Protocol and Integrity

In prophetic ministry, having clear protocols and integrity is crucial. Many people view prophetic ministries as "weird" due to a lack of structure. Without guidelines, prophetic expressions can easily become disordered or even harmful. Training in the prophetic helps cultivate growth and character, rather than simply granting titles or status. Adhering to protocol honours God and helps us operate within the boundaries He has set.

Knowing Your Authority

Understanding your God-given authority is key to maintaining proper protocol. One of the biggest challenges in prophetic ministry is stepping outside of the authority granted to us. Protocol keeps us grounded and ensures we stay within our calling. Being willing to submit to others and have our lives checked is a sign of humility. Resistance to this often stems from pride, which can hinder our prophetic journey.

God's Appointment, Not Man's

It is God, not people, who appoints us. When God appoints someone, others often recognize it before the individual does. The story of Gehazi in 2 Kings 5:1-26 serves as a cautionary tale about how failing God's tests can compromise our destiny. Gehazi had the potential to be the next Elisha, but his greed and lack of integrity caused him to fall short. As *Proverbs 17:3* reminds us, "The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the hearts."

"The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the hearts."

— Proverbs 17:3 (NKJV)

Adapting Protocols to Different Environments

In prophetic ministry, protocols can vary greatly depending on the setting, the people, and the specific call. Flexibility is essential because the way prophetic words are delivered in one environment may not be suitable in another. For example, what works in a small, intimate prayer meeting may not fit in a larger church service or a conference.

Each setting you enter may have different protocols, and sometimes these guidelines aren't explicitly communicated. Just because you have ministered prophetically in one place does not mean the same approach applies in another. Leadership in each environment may have specific expectations or limitations for how prophecy is expressed, and it's important not to assume you can freely give prophetic words just because you've done so elsewhere.

Awareness, submission, and honour to leadership's protocols are key to operating as a mature prophetic minister. It is not about insisting on being heard or pushing your own agenda. A mature prophetic voice knows how to submit to the leadership of the house and respect the boundaries they've set. This shows maturity and understanding that prophetic ministry is meant to edify and align with the vision of the local church or ministry, not disrupt it.

Before ministering in any new environment, take the time to check with leadership to understand their expectations. Even if no formal protocol is communicated, ask questions to ensure you're on the same page. This can help avoid misunderstandings and ensure that your prophetic words are delivered in a way that supports the leadership and the vision of the church or ministry.

Being sensitive to the leadership's desires and direction also demonstrates spiritual maturity. Sometimes, it may be wise to hold back a prophetic word until it is appropriate, or to share it privately rather than publicly. Recognizing when and where to speak is a key part of operating with integrity in prophetic ministry.

Ultimately, honouring the protocols of each environment ensures that the prophetic word is not just given but received in the right way, at the right time, and with the right spirit. This leads to more effective ministry and helps build trust between the prophetic minister and the community they serve.

Key Points to Remember

- 1. Be humble, faithful, teachable, and maintain pure motives.
- 2. Tests and challenges are a part of the journey.
- 3. Stay aware of God's activity in every situation.
- 4. Serve another person's vision faithfully before pursuing your own.
- 5. Remember, you represent God in all you do.
- 6. Know your authority and the specific protocols for your environment.

By grounding our prophetic ministry in integrity, humility, and proper protocol, we align ourselves with God's calling and embody the heart and character needed to walk it out faithfully. Each step in this journey not only draws us closer to God but also empowers us to make a positive impact on those around us!

CHAPTER

Who Are We in Christ

he Bible reveals a powerful truth about who we are in Christ—an identity that can often feel hidden beneath the weight of our daily struggles, doubts, and failures. It's easy to see ourselves through the lens of our shortcomings or the expectations of others. But what if we started seeing ourselves the way God sees us? What if we looked at ourselves through His eyes, full of grace and purpose?

How do we walk in all that God has for us?

"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree'), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

- Galatians 3:13-14 (NKJV)

Made in His Image

From the very beginning, God declared our worth. "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

— *Genesis* 1:27

This means that you are a reflection of God's character, creativity, and love. You carry His image! Yet, how often do we forget this truth and allow the world's view of us to shape our identity?

Children of God

One of the most powerful truths we can embrace is that we are children of God. "Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

— 1 John 3:1-3

As God's children, we are heirs to His promises. We have access to His blessings and His authority through Christ. This is not just a future promise—it's a present reality.

God's Unfailing Truth

God is not a liar. "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent."

— *Numbers* 23:19

God keeps every promise He makes. If something in your life feels out of alignment, remember—it's not because God has failed. It's because we may not fully understand or apply His truth yet.

The Comforter and Guide

You are never alone. The Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Guide, is always with us. "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you."

— John 16:7

The Holy Spirit leads us into all truth, convicts us of sin, and helps us live out God's will for our lives.

A New Creation

When we come to Christ, we are made new. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

— 2 Corinthians 5:17

Our past mistakes no longer define us. In Christ, we have a fresh start. So, why let our old selves control who we are today?

Forgiven and Free

In Christ, we are forgiven. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace."

— Ephesians 1:7

We no longer carry the weight of guilt and shame. Jesus has paid the price for our sins. Yet, how often do we struggle to accept this forgiveness fully?

More Than Conquerors

No matter what challenges you face, you are more than a conqueror through Christ. "Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

— Romans 8:37

Even when things seem tough, God's Word promises you have the victory. Choose to walk in that victory, even when it feels impossible.

Sanctified and Set Apart

In Christ, we are sanctified—set apart for God's purposes. "But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God."

— 1 Corinthians 6:11

Sanctification is a continual process of becoming more like Christ, growing in our faith, and living for God's glory.

Justified and Righteous

We are justified and made righteous through Jesus. "It is He who justifies."

- Isaiah 45:24-25

We cannot earn righteousness; it is a gift from God. When God looks at us, He sees us as righteous because of Jesus' sacrifice, not because of anything we've done.

Holy and Blameless

In Christ, we are holy and blameless. "He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before

- Ephesians 1:4

This truth calls us to live in a way that reflects our holy calling, showing God's love and truth to the world.

Dominion and Authority

God has given us dominion over the earth and the authority to walk in His power. "Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle."

— Genesis 1:26-28

This authority is not about control, but stewardship—using our influence to bring about God's purposes on earth.

Healing and Wholeness

Through Jesus, we have access to healing—spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically. "By His stripes we are healed."

— Isaiah 53:5

God's power to heal goes beyond physical healing—He wants to restore you completely.

Strength in All Circumstances

With Christ, you have strength for every situation. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

— Philippians 4:13

No matter what you're facing, remember that Christ gives you the strength to endure and overcome.

The Mind of Christ

We have the mind of Christ. "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ."

— 1 Corinthians 2:16

As believers, we can tap into divine wisdom and understanding. We're not bound by worldly thinking—we have access to God's thoughts and purposes.

To grow in our faith, we must learn to see ourselves as God sees us. Our self-image is often shaped by our past or circumstances, but God's perspective is unchanging. His Word is truth, and what He says about us is final. No matter how we feel or what our circumstances tell us, God's truth stands firm. In Christ, we are new creations, forgiven, righteous, and empowered. These truths are not just ideals—they are our reality.

Embracing our identity in Christ—His righteousness, holiness, and victory—transforms the way we live. As we align with His promises, we step into the fullness of the life He has planned for us. Every promise God made is "yes and amen" in Christ. This means we can walk confidently, knowing His provision, healing, and peace are already ours.

Understanding who we are in Christ empowers us to live victoriously, rise above challenges, and make a difference in the world. We are free from fear and insecurity and are equipped to fulfill God's calling. As we live in this truth, we become a reflection of His love and power, impacting those around us and stepping into the abundant life He has for us.

PART 2

HIGHER STANDARD FOR PROPHETIC MINISTRY

CHAPTER

11

Keys to Anointing

he Holy Spirit is not just a vague force or distant presence; He is a Person who desires a close, personal relationship with us. Often referred to as our *Comforter*, *Helper*, *Guide*, and *Advocate*, the Holy Spirit is intimately involved in every part of our lives. He isn't just there to empower us for ministry—He desires to lead us, teach us, and walk alongside us daily. The Holy Spirit is God Himself, embodying love, holiness, and righteousness, and He longs to reveal these qualities to us so that we can reflect them in the world.

When we receive the Holy Spirit, He doesn't just equip us with spiritual gifts—He begins a process of transformation within us. His presence works not only to empower us externally for ministry but also to develop godly character within us. This transformation is deeply personal, changing us from the inside out. The Holy Spirit makes us more like Christ, shaping us to reflect His love, peace, and power in the world around us.

What is the Anointing?

The *anointing* is the divine empowerment given to believers by the Holy Spirit. It's a supernatural ability to accomplish God's will in ways that go beyond our natural abilities. The word *anointing* comes from the Greek word

Chrisma, which speaks of a divine influence on the believer's life, enabling them to do things they could never do on their own. This anointing allows us to carry out God's mission in the world, and it makes us more effective in everything we do—whether it's in ministry, our jobs, or our relationships.

The anointing is not about us being deserving or worthy. It is about God's grace choosing to work through us. Just as God used a donkey to speak to Balaam (Numbers 22:28), the anointing can work through anyone who is willing to yield to the Holy Spirit. The key is not our ability, but God's power working through us. This means that even when we feel inadequate or weak, God's anointing enables us to do far more than we could imagine.

"Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, 'What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"

— *Numbers 22:28 (NKJV)*

Jesus as the Model of the Anointing

Jesus, though fully divine, chose to operate on earth as a man anointed by the Holy Spirit.

"Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

— Philippians 2:6-11 (NKJV)

Philippians 2:6-11 tells us that He humbled Himself and laid aside His divine privileges in order to walk in complete dependence on the Father and

the Holy Spirit. Jesus didn't rely on His own divinity to fulfill His mission; instead, He was empowered by the Holy Spirit to heal the sick, cast out demons, and proclaim the Kingdom of God.

"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

— Acts 10:38 (NKJV)

Acts 10:38 highlights how Jesus "went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him." This same Holy Spirit now resides in every believer. Just as Jesus operated in the anointing, we, too, are called to walk in the same power. The anointing that rested on Jesus is available to us today, and we are empowered to live victorious lives through the Holy Spirit.

Internal and External Anointing

There are two main types of anointing: *internal* and *external*. The *internal anointing* refers to the presence of the Holy Spirit within us. This anointing empowers us with wisdom, teaches us all things, and guides us into truth.

"But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things."

— 1 John 2:20 (NKJV)

"But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him."

— 1 John 2:27 (NKJV)

1 John 2:20 and 27 explain that this anointing remains with us and continues to teach us throughout our lives. It's the constant presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, and He will never leave us. The internal anointing is not just a passive force; it actively works in us, shaping our thoughts, decisions, and actions.

This internal anointing is incredibly personal. It works through our everyday circumstances, helping us make godly decisions, discern truth, and navigate challenges with wisdom. It brings peace, conviction, and a heart that reflects God's love. This anointing is continually available to us because the Holy Spirit resides within us.

One important aspect of the internal anointing is that it is linked to the Gifts of the Spirit. The Gift of Prophecy, like all spiritual gifts, is not just a one-time experience but something that is activated and developed through our relationship with the Holy Spirit. This gift is part of the internal anointing because it is a divine ability that we can choose to activate at any given time as the Holy Spirit prompts us. It's a tool for building up the church, speaking God's heart, and providing direction in times of uncertainty.

When we cultivate a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit, we can grow in this internal anointing. We can activate the Gift of Prophecy at any time by yielding to the Spirit's leading. As we grow in our intimacy with God and become more aware of His voice, we can step out in faith and release prophetic words, knowing that the same Holy Spirit who dwells within us will speak through us. This is a privilege of the believer and a way to walk in the power of the anointing on a day-to-day basis.

The internal anointing is a continual process of growth. It's not about *arriving* at a place of perfection, but about learning to partner with the Holy Spirit and become more attuned to His leading. Every believer has access to this anointing and can choose to activate the Gifts of the Spirit at any time.

On the other hand, the *external anointing* is a corporate anointing that rests upon groups of believers, particularly when they are gathered in unity. The external anointing is a powerful force that brings people together to accomplish God's purposes in the world. This anointing can be felt during corporate worship, prayer meetings, or times of unity in the body of Christ. Just as the cloud and fire guided the Israelites through the desert (Exodus 13:21), the external anointing moves the people of God forward with strength and purpose.

"And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night."

— *Exodus 13:21 (NKJV)*

Both anointings are essential.

This internal anointing is continually available, but we must choose to activate it. As we press in, we become more sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings, allowing Him to lead us into all truth. It's this anointing that equips us to move in His power. Additionally, the internal anointing activates and develops the *Gifts of the Spirit*, including the Gift of Prophecy. This is a gift that we can choose to operate in whenever we feel led by the Holy Spirit, making it a powerful tool for personal growth and ministry.

On the other hand, the *external anointing* is more corporate in nature. It is the anointing that rests upon us as we come together as the body of Christ. This external anointing is significant when we gather for ministry, as it allows the Holy Spirit to move through us collectively. We have referred to the external anointing as the Spirit of Prophecy in the previous "Realms if Prophecy" Chapter. The external anointing is not something we can "choose" in the same way as the internal anointing; however, we can be aware of the anointing that can be present. It is activated when we come together in unity, surrendering to the Spirit's leading for the greater purpose of building the body of Christ.

Both the internal and external anointing are necessary for a balanced and fruitful spiritual life. The internal anointing empowers us for personal transformation and equips us to live out our calling day by day. The external anointing, however, is crucial when we minister to others, whether in a corporate setting or when gathering as the church. Understanding the significance of both anointings allows us to function effectively in both our personal walk with God and in ministry to others.

The Anointing as God's Clothing

The anointing is a divine *clothing* that empowers us to carry out God's work and fulfill His mission. In the Bible, we are frequently reminded that God "clothes" His people with His power, righteousness, and salvation, equipping us to walk in His purposes. This clothing is not for show; it is practical and functional, enabling us to live out God's calling with grace and effectiveness.

In Isaiah 61:10, we see the prophet rejoicing over the garments of salvation and the robe of righteousness that God provides:

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

— *Isaiah 61:10 (NKJV)*

These garments are a symbol of God's righteousness and salvation, and they empower us to walk confidently in His plans for our lives. When we are anointed, we are "clothed with power from on high," as Luke 24:49 describes, signifying the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives:

"Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

— Luke 24:49 (NKJV)

This divine clothing is not a temporary covering, but a permanent equipping for the work of God. Just as a king or priest would wear robes to symbolize their authority and role, we, too, are *clothed* with the anointing to represent God's authority on the earth.

In Judges 3:10, we see the Spirit of the Lord coming upon leaders like Gideon, empowering them to act with courage and wisdom in fulfilling God's will:

"The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the Lord delivered Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-Rishathaim."

— Judges 3:10 (NKJV)

This same anointing that came upon leaders in the Old Testament is available to us today. When we walk in the anointing, we are not only empowered for great works, but we are also given strength and wisdom to overcome challenges and fulfill the destiny God has set before us.

Romans 13:14 calls us to *put on* Christ, much like we would put on garments, and make no provision for the flesh. This implies that we must intentionally choose to clothe ourselves with Christ's character and anointing every day, aligning our thoughts and actions with His purposes.

"But clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for [nor even think about gratifying] the flesh in regard to its improper desires."

— *Romans 13:14 (AMP)*

When we are clothed in the anointing, we are taking on the very nature of Christ. This means that we live by His power, wisdom, and grace. It's a daily choice to put on Christ, yielding ourselves to the Holy Spirit and allowing His anointing to shape our thoughts, actions, and decisions. We are called to reflect His character and His heart in all we do, empowered to carry out God's mission on earth.

In practical terms, this means that we should continually be mindful of both the internal and external anointing. As we *clothe ourselves* with Christ, we allow the Holy Spirit to fill us with His wisdom, courage, and strength for every task. Whether in personal decisions or in corporate ministry, the anointing—God's divine empowerment—is the garment that equips us for all things.

The Anointing and the Mind of Christ

The anointing also involves a *mindset*. Imagine living with the thoughts of God in your mind, His emotions filling your heart, and His desires guiding your decisions. This is the essence of what it means to walk in the anointing.

"For 'who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?' But we have the mind of Christ."

— 1 Corinthians 2:16 (NKJV)

To have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16) is to allow the Holy Spirit to fill our thoughts, desires, and decisions with God's will. This is not a one-time event but an ongoing process of yielding to the Spirit's work in our lives.

When we operate in the anointing, it's not just about performing tasks or carrying out duties. It's about adopting a new way of thinking and living. The Holy Spirit transforms our mindset so that we begin to think as Christ thinks and act as He would act.

Faith and Persistence in the Anointing

Living in the anointing requires *faith and persistence*. Faith is not just about believing in God's power but about continuously applying that belief in every area of life. Mark 11:24 reminds us to *believe* and *receive* by faith. But faith is not passive.

"Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."

— Mark 11:24 (NKJV)

"For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little."

— Isaiah 28:10 (NKJV)

Isaiah 28:10 teaches that growth comes line by line, precept by precept. Just as we grow in knowledge by continually applying what we learn, we grow in the anointing by persistently seeking God, declaring His promises, and acting on His Word.

Declarations are powerful tools for activating the anointing. When you speak God's promises over your life, you're aligning yourself with His will. Make your declarations personal, present, and powerful.

For example, saying, "I clearly hear and instantly obey the voice of God" isn't just an affirmation—it's an activation of faith that positions you to receive what God has for you. Declaring God's truth builds your faith and aligns your heart with His purposes.

Remembering Prophetic Words

One of the most important ways to sustain the anointing is to remember and hold on to the prophetic words spoken over our lives. In 1 Timothy 1:18, Paul encourages us to "wage the good warfare" with the prophetic words that have been given to us. These words are not just promises—they are weapons of warfare that help us stand firm and keep moving forward in our faith.

"This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare."

— 1 Timothy 1:18 (NKJV)

When we face difficulties or doubt, remembering what God has spoken over our lives strengthens our faith. Stir yourself up in your most holy faith by praying in the Holy Spirit (Jude 1:20) and meditating on those words. The anointing grows as we keep our focus on what God has spoken.

"But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,"

— Jude 1:20 (NKJV)

Manifesting the Anointing

Ultimately, we manifest in the natural what we behold in the Spirit.

"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

— 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

The more we behold Christ, the more we become like Him. What we focus on determines what we become. Whether we focus on the promises of God or the fears of this world, our focus shapes our reality.

If you focus on the greatness of God's power in your life, you will see His anointing manifest through you. If you focus on your weaknesses or failures, you may miss the opportunity to see God move through you. Therefore, keeping your eyes on God's power and purpose for your life is essential to walking in the anointing.

Conclusion

The anointing is available to all believers who are willing to yield to the Holy Spirit and walk in God's purpose. It's not reserved for a select few—it's for everyone who chooses to pursue intimacy with God and live out His calling. As we grow in the anointing, we will see God move powerfully through our lives, impacting the world around us and fulfilling the mission He has set before us. The journey into the anointing is one of faith, persistence, and alignment with God's will, and as we walk in it, we will experience the fullness of life He has planned for us.

CHAPTER

12

How to Receive the Mantle

n our spiritual walk, it's easy to overlook the seemingly ordinary moments, but often these are strategic places where God has positioned us. He has placed us in the path of others who carry something we need to receive. We are all the product of those who have gone before us—spiritual fathers and mothers who carry a mantle of divine empowerment. This mantle is something we can receive, but it comes with a price.

The Role of Submission

One of the keys to receiving God's mantle is submission to leadership. We see this principle clearly in Scripture. Joshua submitted to Moses. Elisha submitted to Elijah. The seventy elders under Moses received his spirit. The anointing—also known as the mantle—comes down when we submit to those placed in authority over us.

In Greek, the word "submit" means "to arrange under, to yield, or to obey." It involves a voluntary attitude of cooperation and humility. When we practice this, we set ourselves up to receive more from God.

The Bible teaches us that submission brings blessings.

"Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you."

— *Hebrews* 13:17 (NKJV)

Similarly, 1 Peter 5:5 encourages us to be humble and submissive to one another:

"Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders; yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

— 1 Peter 5:5 (NKJV)

When we humble ourselves under leadership, we open ourselves to receive what God has for us.

Waiting on God's Timing

In our walk with God, there's an essential practice: waiting. The word "wait" in Scripture means "to entwine"—it's a deep connection with God's timing. When we wait upon the Lord, we align ourselves with His purpose and timing. It's not a passive waiting, but an active waiting, like entwining ourselves with God's heart.

Isaiah 40:31 promises:

"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

— *Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV)*

When we wait on God, He renews our strength. This waiting doesn't mean inactivity; it's about staying connected to God, trusting His timing, and letting Him prepare us for what's next.

Faithfulness in the Little Things

Faithfulness is another key to receiving the mantle. Luke 12:42 tells us:

"And the Lord said, 'Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season?"

— Luke 12:42 (NKJV)

God calls us to be faithful in every situation. For some, like Joseph, the journey may involve waiting and serving under others. Joseph was always second in command—first in Potiphar's house, then in prison, and finally as Prime Minister in Egypt. He was faithful to the vision of others, and God elevated him.

Joseph's life shows us three areas where we must be faithful:

1. Be faithful in the little things.

Luke 16:10 says:

"He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much."

— Luke 16:10 (NKJV)

2. Be faithful with money.

Luke 16:11 asks:

"Therefore, if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?"

— Luke 16:11 (NKJV)

3. Be faithful in another's vision.

Luke 16:12 says:

"And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own?"

— Luke 16:12 (NKJV)

Joseph was faithful in everything God asked him to do. He never promoted himself, but he served others with integrity and humility.

Avoiding Self-Promotion

One thing we must guard against is the temptation to promote ourselves. Self-promotion is a sign of wrong motives and pride. **Philippians 2:3** says:

"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself."

— Philippians 2:3 (NKJV)

God values humility over self-promotion. True greatness in the kingdom comes when we lift up others, not ourselves.

Surrender to the Holy Spirit

There are two sides to walking in God's calling:

- 1. **The Lamb Side**: This is when we are completely surrendered to God—offering ourselves fully to Him. We say, "Here I am, Lord, use me," with everything held in an open hand.
- 2. The Lion Side: This is when we boldly step out in faith, unafraid of opposition, confident in God's calling. Faith always involves risk, and it's through boldness that we take action in God's plan for us.

Acts 4:13 describes the boldness of Peter and John:

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus."

— Acts 4:13 (NKJV)

Boldness comes when we have spent time with Jesus. It's not about our qualifications, but about the power of the Holy Spirit working through us.

Sensitivity to the Spirit

When we step into the dimension of the Holy Spirit, we shift into a new gear. We become more aware of God's presence, His Spirit, and His angels surrounding us.

"The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them."

— *Psalm 34:7 (NKIV)*

When you tune into the Holy Spirit, you become a powerful instrument in God's hands.

"But the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits."

— Daniel 11:32 (NKJV)

We are called to do mighty things for God, but we must first be sensitive to His Spirit.

Moving in the Gifts of the Spirit

Learn to move when the Holy Spirit prompts you. 1 Kings 19:11-13 shows how God was not in the wind, earthquake, or fire, but in the still, small voice:

"Then He said, 'Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice."

— 1 Kings 19:11-13 (NKJV)

When we wait and listen to God's still, small voice, we can hear His promptings clearly and move in the gifts of the Spirit. We must learn to be sensitive to God's gentle leading, which may not always be loud or dramatic but will always be powerful.

Be a Confident Minister

"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

— 1 Peter 4:11 (NKJV)

We are to speak with confidence, knowing that we are equipped by the Holy Spirit.

"Who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

— 2 Corinthians 3:6 (NKJV)

Don't Pray Religious Prayers

Prayers don't need to be long or eloquent.

"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

— Acts 10:38 (NKJV)

It's the anointing, not the length of our words, that brings results.

Impart the Anointing

Impartation is powerful—it can break yokes, change lives, and impart blessings. Speak from your spirit and minister with faith.

In conclusion, **receiving the mantle** is a journey of submission, faithfulness, and humility. Just as we see in the lives of Joshua and Elisha, the anointing often flows through our willingness to align ourselves under godly leadership. By waiting on God's timing, remaining faithful in the small things, and surrendering our own agendas, we position ourselves to receive the divine empowerment He desires to give us. The path to carrying God's mantle requires a heart of humility, an awareness of the internal and external workings of the Holy Spirit, and a readiness to serve without self-promotion. As we grow in sensitivity to the Spirit and step out in boldness, we are equipped to fulfill our God-given purpose and become vessels of His power. Ultimately, when we live in obedience and stay open to His leading, we can confidently walk in the mantle of His calling, impacting others and advancing His Kingdom.

CHAPTER

13

Gift of Discerning of Spirits

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant."

— 1 Corinthians 12:1 (NKJV)

he gift of discerning of spirits is one of the most powerful and essential gifts for those called to walk in spiritual maturity, particularly for those with a prophetic calling. The Apostle Paul makes it clear in 1 Corinthians 12:1 that believers should not be ignorant concerning spiritual gifts. Among these, the gift of discerning of spirits is often misunderstood but deeply significant. It enables believers to distinguish between the spiritual influences at work in a given situation, allowing them to identify whether something is from God, human, or demonic.

The Importance of Discernment: A Spiritual Antenna

Think of discernment like a spiritual antenna or radar. Just as a radio antenna picks up signals that cannot be seen but are present in the air, the gift of discernment allows us to sense spiritual signals and influences that are often hidden from the natural eye. When the antenna is well-aligned and functioning properly, it picks up a clear signal. If it's broken or misaligned, however, the signal becomes fuzzy or unclear.

In the same way, discernment helps believers detect spiritual realities—things that are beyond the natural world. In the natural world, pilots use radar to detect things that they cannot see with their own eyes, like bad weather or other planes. Similarly, the gift of discernment allows believers to "see" and "sense" things in the spiritual realm that aren't visible or immediately perceptible. This is why it is often referred to as a supernatural gift—it helps us navigate spiritual situations that would otherwise be invisible.

Spiritual Discernment

We all have a natural, innate level of discernment. For instance, when you hear someone speak, you might get an inner sense of whether what they're saying is true or false. This "gut feeling" is often the first form of discernment, a feeling or knowing deep within that tells us whether something aligns with truth or not. For example, when we hear a prophetic word, we either experience a deep sense of peace and agreement that the word is from God, or we might feel a check in our spirit that warns us something is off.

"But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

— Hebrews 5:14 (NKJV)

Training Our Spiritual Senses and the Importance of Mentorship

In **Hebrews 5:14**, we see that spiritual maturity requires training our spiritual senses to discern good from evil. Just as children develop their physical senses through practice, we grow in discernment through prayer, Bible study, and listening to the Holy Spirit. The more we engage with God, the sharper our spiritual senses become.

However, discernment isn't developed in isolation. It's important to be surrounded by mature believers—mentors and spiritual leaders—who can

guide and sharpen us. Just as a child learns from parents, we grow through the wisdom and correction of those who are further along in their faith.

"As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend."

— *Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV)*

Being with the right people helps us avoid emotional bias and ensures our discernment aligns with God's Word. Wise mentors help refine our understanding, guiding us to use our spiritual senses accurately and in alignment with God's will.

The Need to Avoid Emotional Distortion in Discernment

One of the biggest obstacles in developing the gift of discernment is letting emotions cloud our judgment. Emotions, when unchecked, can easily distort how we perceive a situation. For example, if we are angry or hurt, we might misinterpret someone's actions, reading them as hostile or dismissive when they might not be. Similarly, fear or insecurity can skew our perception, making us think we are discerning something demonic when, in reality, it might just be a misunderstanding or miscommunication.

This is why self-awareness and emotional control are so crucial when walking in the gift of discernment. We need to regularly ask ourselves, "Am I reacting emotionally to this situation? Is my discernment being clouded by my own fears or biases?" The ability to separate our own emotions from the spiritual discernment we are receiving allows us to better interpret what God is trying to show us.

God's Truth vs. Human Bias: Discerning with Purity

Our past experiences, teachings, and even religious beliefs can also influence our discernment. If we've been raised in a certain religious tradition or have experienced particular situations, we might unknowingly interpret things through a biased lens. For example, if someone has had negative experiences with authority figures, they may feel a sense of unease or distrust whenever a leader speaks, even if that leader is speaking truth.

In such cases, it's important to ask God to refine our discernment and correct any biases we have developed. When we approach discernment with a pure heart, free from personal agendas or past wounds, we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us into a more accurate understanding of what is happening in the spirit realm.

Three Realms of Discernment: The Demonic, The Natural, and The Godly

The gift of discernment operates in three primary realms:

- The Demonic Realm Discerning evil spirits, witchcraft, and other demonic influences. Many believers are sensitive to this area of discernment, especially in situations where there is spiritual warfare. In these cases, discernment helps us understand the strategies of the enemy so that we can pray against them.
- 2. The Natural Realm Discerning the hearts, motives, and attitudes of people. For example, we might sense that someone's words or actions are being driven by insecurity, pride, or selfish ambition. Discernment helps us see beyond the surface and understand what's happening in the heart of a person.
- 3. The Godly Realm Most importantly, the gift of discernment helps us understand what God is doing. Once we have discerned whether a situation is influenced by demonic forces or human motives, we need to ask, "God, what are You doing here? What is Your will in this situation? How do You want me to respond?"

It is easy to focus on the demonic or natural elements in a situation, but discerning what God is doing is the ultimate goal of discernment. Our role is to align ourselves with God's purposes, bringing His truth and love into every circumstance.

Responding with Faith, Not Fear

Discernment is a powerful gift, but it can sometimes lead to fear if we're not careful. When we discern spiritual realities, especially in the realm of warfare or darkness, it's easy to become overwhelmed by what we sense. In these moments, we might allow fear to take over, and instead of focusing on God's agenda, we may inadvertently come under the influence of what we've discerned. This can skew our responses, making us react with anxiety or dread instead of faith and confidence in God's power.

However, discernment should not lead us into fear. Rather, it should drive us to respond in faith, trusting in God's ability to handle any situation, no matter how difficult it may seem. Romans 5:20 reminds us that even when sin or darkness abounds, God's grace is always greater:

"But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more."

— Romans 5:20 (NKJV)

Additionally, 1 John 4:4 assures us of our victory in Christ, reminding us that God within us is greater than any demonic force or adversity we may face:

"You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

— 1 John 4:4 (NKJV)

Instead of letting fear dictate our actions, we are called to declare God's victory over any negative situation we discern. Isaiah 54:17 reassures us that no weapon formed against us shall prosper:

"No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn."

— *Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV)*

When we discern the enemy's schemes, our response should be to stand firm in faith, pray in alignment with God's will, and bring His truth and power into the situation. Fear has no place when we know that God is always in control and that we are already overcomers in Christ.

However, discernment should not lead us into fear. Rather, it should drive us to respond in faith, trusting in God's ability to handle any situation, no matter how difficult it may seem. Romans 5:20 reminds us that even when sin or darkness abounds, God's grace is always greater:

"But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more."

— *Romans 5:20 (NKJV)*

This reminds us that no matter what evil or opposition we may discern, God's grace, mercy, and power always exceed it. When we discern the enemy's plans, we don't need to be afraid—God's grace is greater than any attack we might face.

Wisdom: The Key to Balanced Discernment

Wisdom is absolutely essential when exercising the gift of discernment. Without wisdom, the gift of discernment can become distorted and even harmful. For instance, if we discern a spirit of control or witchcraft operating in a person, we must remember that our battle is not against flesh and blood. Ephesians 6:12 reminds us:

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

— Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)

Responding with Faith, Not Fear

Discernment is a powerful gift, but it can sometimes lead to fear if we're not careful. When we discern spiritual realities, especially in the realm of warfare or darkness, it's easy to become overwhelmed by what we sense. In these moments, we might allow fear to take over, and instead of focusing on God's agenda, we may inadvertently come under the influence of what we've discerned. This can skew our responses, making us react with anxiety or dread instead of faith and confidence in God's power.

However, discernment should not lead us into fear. Rather, it should drive us to respond in faith, trusting in God's ability to handle any situation, no matter how difficult it may seem. Romans 5:20 reminds us that even when sin or darkness abounds, God's grace is always greater:

"But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more."

— *Romans 5:20 (NKJV)*

Additionally, 1 John 4:4 assures us of our victory in Christ, reminding us that the Holy Spirit within us is greater than any demonic force or adversity we may face:

"You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

— 1 John 4:4 (NKJV)

But beyond this assurance, we are also reminded that we have been given authority over all the powers of the enemy. Luke 10:19 declares that Jesus has given us the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions—symbols of demonic forces—and nothing shall harm us:

"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

— Luke 10:19 (NKJV)

This authority is a powerful weapon in spiritual warfare. When we discern the enemy's schemes, our response should be to stand firm in the authority given to us by Christ, praying in alignment with God's will, and declaring His truth and power into every situation. Fear has no place when we know that God is always in control and that we have authority over every power the enemy can throw at us.

Isaiah 54:17 further reassures us that no weapon formed against us shall prosper:

"No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn."

— *Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV)*

The Purpose of Discernment: Seeking God's Strategy

In the exercise of the Gift of Discerning of Spirits, it's essential to remember that God has a strategy and a plan for every situation. The goal of discernment is not merely to detect spiritual warfare or dark forces but to seek God's revelation on how to respond. God has specific thoughts and strategies for every situation, and our role is to align with His will, praying according to His purpose and guidance.

When we discern the spiritual atmosphere, we must immediately seek God's agenda—His thoughts and His strategy for what is happening. It's not enough just to sense what is wrong or what is operating; we need to know how to pray and what to declare. The primary purpose of discernment should be to gain insight into God's will, so that we can participate in bringing His kingdom into the situation. This is why we must always ask, "God, what are You doing in this moment? What is Your strategy? How do You want me to respond?"

Proverbs 2:6 reminds us that God gives wisdom and understanding, which are essential in navigating spiritual discernment:

"For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding."

— Proverbs 2:6 (NKJV)

In every situation, God's revelation is the key to responding correctly. When we discern the presence of evil, the state of someone's heart, or the motives behind a situation, our next step should always be to seek God's agenda. This is the essence of discernment: not merely detecting evil, but knowing how to pray according to God's heart.

The Gift of Discerning of Spirits is an essential spiritual tool that enables believers to navigate the unseen spiritual realm with clarity and wisdom. It allows us to differentiate between what is of God, what is influenced by the enemy, and what comes from human motives. However, discernment is not just about recognizing spiritual realities—it is about aligning ourselves with God's will and responding according to His strategy.

Ultimately, the purpose of discernment is to seek God's revelation and to understand His agenda in any situation. As we exercise this gift, our goal should always be to partner with the Holy Spirit, asking, "What is God doing in this moment?" and "How can I pray according to His will?" We are not called to be passive observers of the spiritual realm, but active participants in bringing God's kingdom to earth through prayer and action.

As we mature in discernment, it is crucial to remember that this gift grows through practice, wisdom, and community. It thrives best in an environment where it can be tested, refined, and guided by mentors and fellow believers. When we embrace the gift of discernment with faith, wisdom, and alignment with God's purposes, we become powerful agents for His kingdom, advancing His will with confidence and peace.

In summary, the Gift of Discerning of Spirits is not about just detecting problems but about discovering God's strategy in any given situation, responding with faith, and standing in the authority He has given us to overcome the enemy.

CHAPTER

14

Pitfalls of the Prophetic: What Goes Wrong (Part 1)

he prophetic gift is a powerful and beautiful tool given by God to edify, guide, and encourage the body of Christ. However, with great power comes great responsibility — and unfortunately, also the potential for great error. This chapter explores common pitfalls in prophetic ministry that can lead to manipulation, confusion, and even harm. We'll look at key dangers, such as prophesying to people's idols, charismatic witchcraft, and prophetic manipulation. Understanding these pitfalls is crucial for navigating the prophetic with wisdom, integrity, and humility.

BE AWARE OF PITFALLS

Do Not Prophesy to People's Idols

Prophecy is meant to bring clarity, truth, and direction. But when people come with idols in their hearts — hidden desires that are more important to

them than God's will — it can distort the prophetic process. A warning from Ezekiel 14:4-5 reveals this danger:

"Therefore speak to them and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: Every one of the house of Israel who sets up his idols in his heart, and puts before him what causes him to stumble into iniquity, and then comes to the prophet, I the Lord will answer him who comes, according to the multitude of his idols."

— Ezekiel 14:4-5 (NKJV)

This passage highlights that when someone approaches a prophet while secretly clinging to idols or personal desires, God may allow them to be led astray. The prophet may inadvertently affirm the person's desires instead of challenging them with God's truth. This can lead to deeper deception, as the individual is not seeking God's will, but a confirmation of their own desires.

In such situations, the prophet must be discerning and committed to delivering God's word, even when it confronts the idol in a person's heart. The true test of prophetic integrity is not about pleasing people, but being faithful to the message that God is speaking.

Balaam: A Case Study in Prophetic Compromise

One of the clearest biblical examples of a prophet compromising due to personal desires is Balaam. In Numbers 22-24, Balaam, who had a reputation as a prophet of God, was approached by King Balak to curse Israel. Initially, Balaam heard clearly from God that he should not go with Balak's men. However, when Balak offered greater rewards, Balaam's heart was swayed by the temptation of riches.

Despite God's initial warning, Balaam entertained the idea of going with them, revealing that greed had become an idol in his heart. In response, God allowed him to go, but it was not without consequences — God's anger was kindled, and Balaam's life was nearly taken by an angel of the Lord on the way (Numbers 22:21-31).

The New Testament further warns about Balaam's motives in 2 Peter 2:15 and Jude 1:11, where he is described as a prophet led astray by greed. His story serves as a cautionary tale for anyone involved in prophetic ministry, reminding us that unchecked desires can lead even the most gifted prophets astray.

"They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness."

— 2 Peter 2:15 (NKJV)

"Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah."

— Jude 1:11 (NKJV)

Avoiding the Pitfall: The Danger of Soul Reading

One significant pitfall is what is often referred to as "soul reading," which occurs when a prophet taps into a person's emotions, desires, or fears, instead of receiving and sharing God's heart. This can happen when the prophet's own emotions or personal biases cloud their ability to hear clearly from God.

In these situations, the prophet may give a word based on what they perceive someone wants to hear or based on their own understanding, instead of waiting on the Holy Spirit for guidance.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 calls us to "test all things, hold fast what is good," which includes discerning whether prophetic words are truly from God. A good test is to evaluate whether the prophecy aligns with Scripture and the fruit of the Spirit.

"Test all things; hold fast what is good."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:21 (NKJV)

The Distinction Between True and False Prophets

It's essential to understand the difference between false prophecy and a false prophet. Even genuine prophets can make mistakes or deliver inaccurate words, especially if they are immature, have times when they are pushing through to a new level of accuracy or lapses in judgment. However, a false prophet operates with a pattern of deception and manipulation, disregarding God's truth.

In Numbers 20:8-12, Moses, a prophet who had a face-to-face relationship with God, made a mistake in his actions. This teaches us that even the most seasoned prophets can err. But false prophets, like Balaam, allow personal motives to overshadow God's will, leading them to deceive others.

"But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies..."

— 2 Peter 2:1 (NKJV)

Balaam's love for material gain led him away from God's truth. He is used in Scripture as a warning to all who serve in prophetic ministry: motives matter. If a prophet's heart is compromised, their words will be tainted, and they can lead people astray.

Evaluating Prophetic Ministers: Signs of Integrity

When evaluating prophetic ministers, it's crucial to look beyond the accuracy of their words. Their character, motives, and the fruit of their ministry should be examined carefully. True prophetic ministry should produce fruit that glorifies God, aligns with Scripture, and builds up the body of Christ.

Here are some key factors to consider when assessing a prophetic minister:

 Spirit of Wisdom and Witness of the Spirit: Does the message carry God's wisdom? Does it resonate with the witness of the Holy Spirit within you?

- 2. Fruits of the Spirit: Are they manifesting the fruits of the Spirit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control?
- 3. Alignment with Scripture: Are their prophecies aligned with God's Word, or do they add personal interpretation or biases?
- 4. Motives and Methods: Are their motives pure, or are they driven by selfish ambition? Do they use manipulative methods or Christlike approaches?
- 5. Personal Integrity: Are they walking in righteousness in their personal life, especially in relationships and marriage?
- 6. Spiritual Maturity and Christlike Attitude: Do they display spiritual maturity and humility in their ministry?

Stay Pure in Prophetic Ministry

Prophetic ministry is a sacred responsibility, and it requires purity and integrity. Prophesying to people's idols can have dangerous consequences, not only for the prophet but also for the individuals involved. This can happen in two directions: First, the prophet, like Balaam, may have their own personal desires or idols influencing their prophetic ministry, leading them to compromise and speak words that cater to what they want to hear. Second, the individual receiving the prophecy may come with their own idols — hidden desires or personal agendas — and seek out prophetic words that align with those desires, rather than seeking God's will. In both cases, the result can be a distortion of God's true message.

By keeping our hearts pure, staying rooted in God's Word, and submitting to accountability, we can avoid the pitfalls that ensnared Balaam and others. Prophecy should always point people to God, not reinforce their personal idols or agendas. It is essential to remain pure in motive, ensuring that we speak only what God is saying, regardless of the pressure to align with human desires.

Ultimately, prophecy is meant to point people to God, to help them walk in the Spirit, and to draw them closer to Jesus. It should never cater to fleshly desires or promote personal agendas. As we step into prophetic ministry, we must do so with reverence, constantly seeking to align our hearts with God's will.

In conclusion, understanding the pitfalls of the prophetic helps us navigate the spiritual landscape with wisdom. We must remember that the true purpose of prophecy is to build up the body of Christ and align with God's agenda. When we remain pure, grounded in God's Word, and committed to speaking His truth, we can avoid the dangers of manipulation and deception, and bring glory to God through prophetic ministry.

CHAPTER

15

Pitfalls of the Prophetic: What Goes Wrong (Part 2)

n this chapter, we confront a serious and often overlooked issue within prophetic circles: **charismatic witchcraft**. This term describes the misuse of prophetic gifts for personal gain, manipulation, or control. Prophecy is meant to edify, build up, and encourage, but when it's used for selfish reasons, it can distort God's intended purpose. We will explore how prophetic words can be twisted to advance personal agendas, drawing from biblical examples and contemporary situations where the line between prophetic ministry and manipulation blurs. By understanding these dangers, we can safeguard our prophetic practice, ensuring it remains rooted in genuine discernment and obedience to God's will.

CHARISMATIC WITCHCRAFT

Prophecy is meant to be a pure, sacred communication of God's will. However, at times, human agendas get in the way, leading to what we call **charismatic witchcraft** or **prophetic manipulation**. This occurs when individuals use prophecy, prayer, or spiritual gifts to exert control or influence over others according to their own desires, rather than God's will. This

manipulation can be subtle and often appears spiritual, but in reality, it distorts God's message for personal gain.

The Story of the Old Prophet and the Young Prophet (1 Kings 13:11-32)

One of the clearest examples of prophetic manipulation is found in the story of the young prophet in 1 Kings 13. God gave the young prophet a specific command: to deliver a message of judgment to the king and then return home without eating or drinking in that place. But an older prophet deceived him by claiming that an angel had told him that the young prophet should come to his house to eat. The older prophet's lies led the young prophet to disobey God's command, and as a result, he lost his life.

"Now an old prophet dwelt in Bethel, and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel. They also told their father the words which he had spoken to the king. And their father said to them, 'Which way did he go?' For his sons had seen which way the man of God went who came from Judah."

— 1 Kings 13:11-12 (NKJV)

This tragic story serves as a sobering reminder of how easily manipulation can creep into prophetic ministry. The older prophet used his status and influence to lead the younger prophet astray. This was not a misunderstanding; the older prophet intentionally led the younger one into disobedience for reasons we don't fully understand. His manipulation, though subtle, resulted in the loss of life.

The real danger here is the misuse of prophetic influence. Even those with a prophetic calling can be used by the enemy to manipulate others if they aren't careful.

Saul's Prophetic Rebellion and Disobedience (1 Samuel 15)

Another example of prophetic manipulation is seen in the story of King Saul in **1 Samuel 15**. The prophet Samuel gave Saul a clear directive from God:

completely destroy the Amalekites, leaving nothing alive. But Saul, thinking his plan was better, spared the king and kept the best of the livestock to offer as sacrifices to God. When confronted by Samuel, Saul revealed that he had twisted the prophetic command to suit his own desires.

"So Samuel said: 'Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry."

— 1 Samuel 15:22-23 (NKJV)

Saul's actions led to a rebuke from Samuel, who declared that rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft. This shows us that when we manipulate God's word or instructions to fit our own preferences, we engage in spiritual rebellion, which can be equated to witchcraft. This is one of the most important lessons from this passage: manipulating God's word for personal gain or comfort leads to disobedience, and God sees it as serious as witchcraft.

RECOGNIZING AND AVOIDING PROPHETIC MANIPULATION

Charismatic witchcraft can manifest in various ways, and it's essential for those involved in prophetic ministry to be vigilant. Here are some common signs of prophetic manipulation:

- 1. **Using Prophecy for Personal Gain:** This occurs when someone uses their prophetic gift to gain influence, control resources, or advance their personal agenda. Prophetic gifts should never be used to manipulate people or situations for personal benefit.
- 2. **Influencing Others with Personal Bias**: Sometimes, a person may deliver a prophetic word based on their own opinions, desires, or biases rather than God's will. For example, the older prophet in 1 Kings 13 claimed that an angel spoke to him, but his intention was to

deceive the young prophet. The prophet's bias led him to manipulate God's word for his own purposes.

- 3. Manipulative Prayer: When prayer is used to influence someone's decisions according to our will, instead of God's, it becomes a form of witchcraft. We should never pray in a way that subtly coerces someone into a specific outcome, especially if that outcome serves our own desires. Prayer should always be about aligning with God's will.
- 4. Enforcing a "Prophetic Word" Against Resistance: Sometimes people insist others accept a prophetic word, even when it doesn't align with the person's spirit or biblical truth. True prophecy should resonate with the recipient's heart and be confirmed by the Holy Spirit. We must never force a prophetic word on someone, especially when it contradicts their own peace or understanding.

THE DANGERS OF PROPHETIC MANIPULATION

When prophecy, prayer, or spiritual gifts are used to control or manipulate others, it opens the door to the enemy. The devil thrives on deception and uses twisted or self-serving words to bring confusion, discouragement, or oppression into people's lives. People who engage in prophetic manipulation, knowingly or unknowingly, are participating in what the Bible refers to as witchcraft.

The ultimate purpose of prophecy is to build up, encourage, and align believers with God's will. 1 Corinthians 14:3 says:

"But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men."

— 1 Corinthians 14:3 (NKJV)

Any deviation from this purpose — using prophecy to manipulate or control — is not only harmful but also dishonouring to God's nature and character. Prophetic words should never be used for selfish gain or to control people's decisions.

STAY ROOTED IN GOD'S WILL

Prophetic ministry is a gift that should be handled with great care. The stories of the old prophet in Bethel and King Saul remind us of the subtle ways manipulation can creep into our lives when we prioritize our desires over God's clear instructions. As believers, we must guard our hearts against the temptation to use prophecy or spiritual influence for personal gain. Instead, we should strive for purity in our intentions, always seeking God's will above our own.

True prophetic ministry points people to Christ, not to our personal agendas or ambitions. It should lead others closer to God, not manipulate them into doing what we want. When we stay grounded in God's Word and walk in humility, we ensure that our prophetic practice aligns with His will and brings glory to Him.

In Summary

Prophecy is a powerful gift, but it comes with great responsibility. We must be cautious of the temptation to manipulate others through prophecy, prayer, or spiritual influence. True prophetic ministry should always build up, encourage, and align believers with God's will. Let's stay grounded in His Word and seek His will in all things, making sure that our prophetic ministry remains pure, obedient, and free from manipulation.

CHAPTER

16

Prophetic Evangelism

n this chapter, we explore the powerful impact of prophetic evangelism, which not only reveals the heart of Jesus but also meets the practical needs of individuals. Prophetic insights help us communicate God's love, character, and mission, inviting people into a deeper relationship with Jesus. By addressing both spiritual and physical needs, prophetic evangelism becomes a holistic expression of God's love, turning words into action.

PROPHECY REVEALS JESUS

In a world drawn to mysticism and New Age practices, we have a unique opportunity to introduce people to the true source of fulfillment—Jesus Christ. Many people are searching for meaning, but may not realize they are ultimately seeking Jesus. They often see the Church as disconnected from their spiritual needs, turning to alternative spiritual practices.

Through prophetic ministry, we can meet people where they are and reveal the heart of Jesus. Prophecy allows us to demonstrate that Jesus is alive and eager to connect with them personally.

"For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

— Revelation 19:10 (NKJV)

This reminds us that the purpose of prophecy is to reveal Jesus—His love, power, and personal care for each individual.

When we prophesy, there is a sense that God wants to "show off" His love, revealing intimate details about people's lives to demonstrate how much He knows them. For those receiving prophecy, it's an invitation to encounter the living God and experience His fullness. Rather than seeing those involved in mysticism as adversaries, we can approach them with love and empathy, offering a prophetic word that reveals Jesus as the true source of spiritual fulfillment.

MINISTERING TO PSYCHICS

When encountering psychics or those involved in New Age practices, we must understand that they are seeking answers, often with good intentions. Psychics may have honed their gifts but rely on sources not aligned with the true God. As Christians, we have a gift far greater—the Holy Spirit, who reveals God's truth to us.

"Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you...."

— *2 Timothy 1:6 (NKJV)*

While psychics may offer insights, they are connected to the wrong spirit. As believers, we carry greater authority in Christ and should minister with confidence, knowing that the Holy Spirit in us is greater than any counterfeit power.

"You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

— 1 John 4:4 (NKJV)

This truth gives us boldness when engaging with those involved in alternative spiritual practices.

THE POWER OF PROPHECY TO REVEAL JESUS

The goal of prophetic evangelism is not just to give a message, but to lead others to Jesus. When we prophesy, we testify of His love, power, and desire for a personal relationship with each person. Through prophetic words, we can bridge the gap, revealing to seekers that Jesus is the true source of the spiritual connection they long for.

ENGAGING WITH PSYCHICS: KNOW YOUR AUTHORITY

When ministering to psychics or those in New Age practices, we must remember our authority in Christ. Just as Daniel stood confidently before Babylon's magicians and astrologers, we too stand firm in God's wisdom and power.

"In all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm."

— *Daniel 1:20 (NKJV)*

We carry access to higher wisdom and greater authority, and we should minister with boldness, knowing the Holy Spirit empowers us to fulfill God's will.

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR MINISTERING TO PSYCHICS

To effectively minister to psychics or those involved in similar practices, here are some helpful tips:

Use Everyday Language: Avoid Christian jargon. Speak in a way that's clear and understandable to everyone, no matter their background.

- 2. **Be Authentic**: Don't try to impress with fancy words or spiritual clichés. Be real and show genuine love and care.
- 3. **Reflect God's Nature**: Demonstrate God's love and acceptance. You are not there to judge, but to offer hope.
- 4. **Speak with Confidence**: Know your identity in Christ. Understand that you carry the **Holy Spirit** and have authority over spiritual forces.
- 5. Work as a Team: This provides support and protection. The strength of unity and mutual support is powerful.
- 6. **Practice Prophecy Regularly**: The more we use our prophetic gifts, the sharper and clearer they become. Develop your gift, but always remain humble and obedient.
- 7. **Stay Under Authority**: Always submit to the authority of your church or spiritual leadership to avoid giving the enemy a foothold.

IN SUMMARY

Prophetic evangelism is a powerful tool that can bridge the gap between the world's spiritual hunger and the transformative power of Jesus Christ. By revealing the true heart of Jesus through prophetic insight, we can lead people to a personal encounter with Him. At the same time, we can meet their physical and emotional needs, showing them that God cares for every part of who they are.

As we minister to those involved in New Age practices or seek answers from psychics, let us remember our authority in Christ. Through prophetic words, we can introduce them to the living, omnipotent God who alone can fulfill their deepest needs.

For further exploration into how prophetic ministry can be used to bring life-changing encounters, especially to those who are hungry for spiritual truth but have been hurt or disillusioned by religion, we recommend:

Lorellee's two powerful books:

- Revealing: A Christian Handbook This book is a comprehensive guide that delves deeper into the prophetic gift from a Christian perspective. It offers practical advice, scriptural insights, and real-life examples of how prophetic ministry can be used to bring healing, understanding, and revelation to those who seek truth.
- Still Small Voice: A Guide for Unchurched Seekers Written with those outside the traditional Church in mind, this book opens the door for unchurched seekers to discover the prophetic gift and how it can lead them to a personal encounter with Jesus. It is designed to help those who may have been hurt or disillusioned by religion, offering hope and encouragement through prophetic insights and spiritual encounters.

Both of these books provide specific examples of how the **gift of prophecy** can be used in a compassionate and life-changing way, especially to those who are spiritually hungry but have been damaged by religious experiences. They offer valuable tools and principles that will help you grow in your own prophetic journey and understand how to engage in **prophetic evangelism** effectively.

Conclusion & Call to Action for Maturing Your Prophetic Ministry

Conclusion

As we reach the end of this book, I hope you are not only inspired but also equipped to step into the powerful ministry of prophecy. The prophetic is a profound gift—one that calls us to speak the heart of God to individuals, the Church, and the world. Whether you are just beginning to recognize the call on your life or you've been walking in the prophetic for some time, the principles shared in this book are designed to guide you toward greater clarity, deeper understanding, and more effective use of your prophetic gift.

Through the exploration of prophetic procedures, the true spirit of prophecy, developing your gift, understanding prophetic boundaries, and learning the importance of team ministry, we've laid a comprehensive foundation. We've also tackled the challenges of discerning spirits, avoiding pitfalls, and using prophecy for evangelism. By understanding these key concepts, you are now positioned to move forward with confidence and clarity.

Summary

In this book, we've covered crucial topics that will help you grow in your prophetic ministry. We've discussed **guidelines for prophetic procedures**, **the true prophetic spirit**, and **how to develop the prophetic gift** with a heart of encouragement and wisdom. The importance of **teamwork** and **prophetic**

protocol has been highlighted, showing you how to operate within the safety and power of a community.

We've also provided you with **keys to the anointing**, insight into the **gift of discerning of spirits**, and strategies for avoiding the **pitfalls** that can arise in prophetic ministry. Finally, we've focused on **prophetic evangelism**—using prophecy to connect with the lost and bring people into a relationship with Jesus.

These principles are not just for learning—they are tools to be activated. The Holy Spirit wants to equip and empower you to step into your calling as a prophetic voice in the world today.

Call to Action

Now, as you've gained understanding, your next steps are crucial. **Position yourself to be trained**, and actively pursue a deeper connection to your prophetic calling. Here's how you can move forward:

- Activate Your Gift: Begin using the prophetic gift that God has entrusted to you. Start by sharing words of encouragement with people around you, praying for others, and asking the Holy Spirit to reveal specific details to minister to them. The more you step out in faith, the more your gift will grow and mature.
- 2. **Position Yourself to Be Trained**: Don't stop here—training is essential to sharpening your prophetic gift. At **Destiny Strategies**, we offer both **in-person and Zoom training** to help you grow in the prophetic. Our teachings are designed to help you deepen your understanding, strengthen your skills, and activate the prophetic calling on your life. Training is an essential next step in your journey.
- 3. **Mentorship and Community**: As you move forward in your prophetic journey, find a community that will support and encourage you. **Join our mentoring programs** where you'll receive personalized coaching, guidance, and accountability. We believe in the power of community, and at **Destiny Strategies**, you'll connect with other prophetic believers who are on the same path.

- 4. **Prophetic Evangelism**: Learn how to use your prophetic gift to evangelize and reach those who do not yet know Jesus. The prophetic can be a powerful tool to speak God's love and truth into the lives of the lost. We'll provide you with the tools and strategies to step into prophetic evangelism with confidence.
- 5. **Stay Committed to Growth**: Keep developing your gift through practice, study, and prayer. The prophetic ministry is an ongoing journey, and growth is continual. Stay faithful to God's calling and be committed to hearing His voice clearly in your life.

Go Deeper with Us

Are you ready to take the next step in your prophetic journey? **Position** yourself to be trained with **Destiny Strategies**. Whether you prefer in-person or Zoom sessions, we offer comprehensive training to equip you in the practical and spiritual aspects of prophetic ministry.

Our **mentoring programs** are designed to provide one-on-one support and help you grow in confidence as you step into your prophetic calling. In addition, by joining our community, you will have the opportunity to learn, grow, and receive guidance from seasoned prophetic leaders and fellow believers.

We believe that the prophetic ministry is essential for this time, and we want to see you walk in the fullness of your calling. It's time to activate your prophetic gift, step into your purpose, and become a voice that makes a difference in the world.

We're here to walk with you. Together, let's journey deeper into the heart of God, discovering His voice, and bringing His kingdom to earth through the prophetic.

Join us at Destiny Strategies—let's grow, equip, and impact the world with the power of prophecy!

THE MESSAGES IN YOUR DREAMS

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Introduction

Unlocking the Messages in Our Dreams

reams are a mystery to many of us, a language of the night filled with images, emotions, and symbols that can feel confusing or even strange. But what if these nighttime messages held profound insights and guidance? What if dreams could reveal truths that our waking minds resist or overlook? Throughout history, dreams have been a significant way God has communicated with people, offering comfort, direction, and wisdom. This book is an invitation to understand and embrace that divine communication.

In these pages, we'll explore the spiritual richness of dreams, discovering how they allow us to connect with God's purpose for our lives. The journey begins with the acknowledgment that God speaks through dreams, just as He did with biblical figures like Joseph, Daniel, and Solomon. Each chapter builds upon this foundation, guiding you through the principles of recognizing, interpreting, and understanding your dreams.

This book offers practical tools for the journey—questions to guide your reflection, insights into the language of symbols, and examples of biblical and contemporary dreams that have changed lives. By the end, you'll have a new way of viewing dreams, not as random or meaningless, but as a window into what God might be saying, an invitation to growth, healing, and

understanding. Let this book be your guide to awakening the dreamer within and discovering God's voice through your dreams.

A Personal Invitation

As you read, I invite you to open your heart to the possibility that God is speaking to you through your dreams. Let's explore the divine language of dreams together, rediscovering how God desires to communicate with us through the night.

God Speaks Through Dreams

since the earliest days of humanity's story, God has used dreams as a powerful means of communication. Dreams are one of God's chosen ways to guide, warn, and comfort His people, as seen repeatedly throughout Scripture. As we journey through various biblical accounts, we see how dreams bridge the gap between heaven and earth, allowing God to communicate His purposes directly to us.

God Declares His Voice in Dreams

In *Numbers 12:6*, God makes a foundational statement regarding dreams and visions:

"Then He said, 'Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream."

--(NKJV)

This declaration reveals God's use of dreams as a specific method of communication. The directness of His words emphasizes that dreams are not a secondary form of guidance but a significant way He imparts knowledge, comfort, and direction to His people.

God reaffirms this concept in the New Testament through the apostle Peter's speech on the day of Pentecost. In *Acts 2:17*, he quotes the prophet Joel:

"And it shall come to pass in the last days,' says God, 'That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams."

— (NKJV)

This prophetic word highlights that God's Spirit will bring dreams and visions to believers of all ages. The last days are marked by a heightened outpouring of God's voice through dreams, making it clear that dreams are for everyone willing to receive them.

Dreams as Guidance and Protection

God often uses dreams to protect His people or reveal His plans. In *Genesis 20:3-8*, God speaks to Abimelech, a king unfamiliar with Israel's God, to prevent him from harming Abraham by taking his wife, Sarah. Here, God's intervention through a dream preserves Sarah's purity and upholds His promise to Abraham.

Similarly, in *Genesis 31:24*, God warns Laban in a dream not to harm Jacob. Although Laban has previously acted unjustly toward Jacob, God intervenes to prevent further harm. These examples illustrate that dreams can serve as a form of divine protection, even when people may not be aware of the threat.

Jacob's Ladder and Joseph's Dreams

In *Genesis 28:12*, we encounter Jacob's famous dream of a ladder reaching to heaven with angels ascending and descending on it:

"Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it."

— (NKJV)

This dream signifies a divine connection between heaven and earth, reminding Jacob (and us) of God's ongoing presence and involvement in our lives.

Joseph, Jacob's son, is also deeply connected to dreams. In *Genesis 37*, Joseph has dreams about his future leadership, which sparks jealousy among his brothers but ultimately reveals God's plan. Later, in prison, Joseph interprets the dreams of Pharaoh's servants in *Genesis 40:5-23*, and his interpretation of Pharaoh's dreams in *Genesis 41* leads to Joseph's rise to power in Egypt. Joseph's life demonstrates how God can use dreams to guide, warn, and fulfill His promises, even when the path seems unclear.

Dreams as Prophetic Revelation

Another compelling example of God's use of dreams as revelation is seen in *Judges 7:9-14*, where Gideon overhears his enemy interpreting a dream about his defeat. This dream, which comes to Gideon's enemies, reinforces God's promise of victory and gives Gideon courage to continue his mission.

Daniel 2:32 records Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a statue, a prophetic vision representing future kingdoms. Although Nebuchadnezzar does not serve God, Daniel interprets the dream and demonstrates God's sovereignty over all nations.

The New Testament provides more examples of dreams used for divine guidance. In *Matthew 1:20*, Joseph, Jesus' earthly father, is instructed in a dream to take Mary as his wife:

"But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit."

— (NKJV)

In *Matthew 2:12*, the wise men are warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and later, in *Matthew 2:22*, Joseph is again warned in a dream, directing him to avoid Judea for Jesus' safety. God's guidance through these dreams ensures Jesus' protection and the fulfillment of prophecy.

Conclusion

Dreams in the Bible are not just extraordinary occurrences but essential ways God interacts with His people. From Abimelech and Pharaoh to Joseph and Daniel, God's communication through dreams underscores His love, protection, and sovereignty. Dreams are a powerful reminder that God's voice is ever-present and that His guidance is available even while we sleep.

Become a Dreamer for God

o become a dreamer for God is to open our hearts and minds to His guidance through dreams, to be attentive to His messages, and to recognize His presence in our lives. Scripture shows us that dreams are meant not only for a select few but for anyone willing to listen.

Receiving Dreams as a Pathway to Wisdom

Daniel's story exemplifies the importance of openness to divine dreams. Daniel 1:17 notes:

"As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and

— (NKJV)

God blesses Daniel and his friends with wisdom, but Daniel, in particular, receives the gift of interpreting dreams. His journey highlights that God can use the gifts He has placed within us to accomplish His purposes. Daniel's

interpretations bring clarity to Nebuchadnezzar's visions, as seen in *Daniel 2:28-29*, where Daniel says:

"But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days."

— (NKJV)

Daniel's story encourages us to seek God's wisdom through dreams, understanding that He speaks to us for our growth and transformation.

Dreams Shaped by Life Experiences

Dreams are often deeply connected to our lives and experiences, as seen in *Genesis 40*, where the butler dreams of wine and the baker dreams of bread, reflecting their professions. In *Genesis 37*, Joseph dreams of stars and sheaves, symbols from his agrarian lifestyle. Even in *Matthew 1:20*, Joseph's dream regarding Mary speaks to his specific circumstances and concerns.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 encourages us to pursue God's wholeness in every aspect of our lives:

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

--(NKJV)

By being receptive to God's messages through dreams, we allow Him to sanctify and guide us toward wholeness in Him.

Conclusion

Becoming a dreamer for God involves faith, openness, and attentiveness. Just as Daniel and Joseph were used mightily by God through their dreams, so we, too, can become vessels for His purposes, allowing Him to shape our lives and guide us to greater wisdom and understanding.

3

Our Dreams Reveal What Our Minds Won't Comprehend

reams offer insight into areas we may not consciously understand, revealing hidden truths and inviting us to address issues we might otherwise ignore. Scripture shows that dreams can act as mirrors, reflecting our inner lives and prompting growth.

Dreams as Divine Instruction

In *Psalm 16:7*, David describes how God's counsel comes to him in the night:

"I will bless the LORD who has given me counsel; my heart also instructs me in the night seasons."

— (NKJV)

This verse suggests that God often uses dreams to reach beyond our conscious understanding. Likewise, *Romans 12:2* calls us to renewal:

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

— (NKJV)

By paying attention to our dreams, we can grow spiritually and confront areas that need healing or change.

Dreams as Warnings and Callings

Throughout the Bible, dreams also serve as warnings. In *Genesis 20:3-8*, Abimelech receives a dream that protects him from sinning against God. Similarly, in *Genesis 31:24*, Laban is warned not to harm Jacob, and in *Judges 7:9-14*, Gideon is encouraged by a dream overheard from his enemy.

Sometimes, God uses frightening dreams to prompt introspection. Job, for example, says in *Job 7:14*:

"Then You scare me with dreams and terrify me with visions."

— (NKIV)

In confronting our fears, God brings us closer to wholeness. *3 John 2* reminds us that God desires our well-being in all things:

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."

--(NKJV)

Conclusion

Dreams reflect deeper truths, guiding us toward transformation. As we face our fears, heed warnings, and embrace the messages God places within us, we allow Him to lead us into greater wholeness and wisdom.

Everything God Gives Us is Good

od has given us emotions, imagination, and creativity as part of His good gifts. Every aspect of our being, including emotions like desire, hate, and fear, can serve a godly purpose if aligned with His will.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."

—*James 1:17 (NKJV)*

Using Emotions as God Intended

God created our emotions to help us connect with Him and others. While some emotions may seem negative at first glance, they each have a place within God's design.

For instance, desire (or lust) can be redirected toward seeking godly things:

"But earnestly desire the best gifts."

—1 Corinthians 12:31 (NKJV)

We are also told to hate sin, not people, which aligns our hearts with God's righteousness:

"Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good."

— *—Romans 12:9 (NKJV)*

Similarly, the Bible describes the "fear of the Lord" as the beginning of wisdom, a healthy reverence for God's holiness and authority:

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."

— *Proverbs 1:7 (NKJV)*

When we use these emotions as God intended, they are good. The enemy, however, seeks to distort them for selfish and harmful purposes, leading to sin and brokenness.

Imagination: A God-Given Gift

God gave us the ability to imagine, dream, and visualize—a reflection of His creative nature within us. Unfortunately, the enemy has attempted to counterfeit and distort this gift through false teachings, such as certain "New Age" practices. These counterfeits often frighten believers away from exploring their imagination's potential, but imagination is a powerful tool when it is directed by God.

When we allow ungodly influences to shape our imagination, it leads us away from God's purposes, as seen in the days of Noah:

"Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

— *Genesis* 6:5 (NKJV)

If we consistently yield our imagination to ungodly things, our minds can become hardened, unable to receive God's truth.

"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind."

-Romans 1:28 (NKJV)

But when directed by the Spirit, imagination can be used to strengthen our faith, meditate on God's promises, and envision His kingdom purposes. God often speaks to His people through dreams and visions, a normal aspect of our Christian life:

"O Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the intent of the thoughts of the heart of Your people, and fix their heart toward You."

—1 *Chronicles* 29:18 (NKJV)

Visualizing God's Promises

God often uses pictures to help us hold onto His promises. Abraham is a prime example. God told him to look at the stars and the sand, using these images to represent his future descendants. Every night and day, Abraham saw these images and was reminded of God's covenant:

"Then He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them. And He said to him, 'So shall your descendants be."

Genesis 15:5 (NKJV)

Seeing these visual reminders bolstered Abraham's faith. Similarly, images help us understand and remember God's promises.

"Then Jesus answered and said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."

—John 5:19 (NKJV)

Jesus Himself lived in this state of vision, doing what He saw the Father doing. We are called to live in a similar way, allowing our imagination, directed by God's Spirit, to support our faith and actions.

Embracing the Spiritual Gift of Vision

God is releasing visions, dreams, and revelations to His people as a doorway into His purposes. He wants us to see the unseen and trust in His Spirit's guidance:

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams."

—Acts 2:17 (NKJV)

From writers and artists to children, each person has unique ways of using their imagination. Sadly, our culture often suppresses imagination, prioritizing reason and logic. Yet God desires both, encouraging us to integrate imagination and reason in our spiritual life. Creative expression was never meant to conflict with reason; rather, God uses our imagination to bring His Word to life in powerful ways.

Guarding Our Minds and Using Imagination for God's Purposes

Our imaginations are not ungodly, but what we feed them can make them so. When we fill our minds with God's Word, we align our imagination with His truth, and godly visions result. The Bible reminds us:

"Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

—Proverbs 16:18 (NKJV)

Prophetic people, in particular, must guard their imagination, as the enemy will often target areas of strength. Satan seeks to twist our natural gifts, using our dreams and visions to lead us away from God's purposes. We need to remain humble and vigilant, protecting these gifts through prayer and spiritual discernment.

God's prophets throughout Scripture, from Abraham to Peter, responded to dreams and visions. These spiritual senses were essential in shaping biblical history and leading the church. God's Spirit moves through dreams and visions today as part of His desire to communicate with us and transform our lives:

"Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream."

—Numbers 12:6 (NKJV)

Conclusion

God has given us every good gift, from emotions to imagination, for His purposes. When we align our minds with His Word and feed on what is godly, we open ourselves to His Spirit's leading in dreams, visions, and creativity. The Western mindset often downplays these spiritual experiences, but God's Word shows us that they are vital ways He interacts with His people. Embrace these gifts fully, using them to glorify God, deepen your faith, and bring His purposes to life.

5

Dreams Are a Valid Way God Speaks

reams have a unique place in how God communicates with us, revealing aspects of ourselves and our hearts that we may not fully understand with our conscious minds. Through dreams, God speaks to our inner selves, often in ways that bypass our thoughts, reaching into the deeper parts of our souls. Dreams can carry messages that relate to our own heart's desires, insights from the Holy Spirit, or even guidance about future events.

The Bible is clear that God speaks through dreams, using this method as a vital part of His communication.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams."

—Acts 2:17 (NKJV)

Dreams offer a unique way for God to reveal truths beyond our natural understanding. They often occur when our minds are still, allowing the Holy

Spirit to communicate more freely. Dreams can carry insights from God or simply be reflections of our own heart's condition. But, just as God uses dreams to reveal truths, it's worth noting that the Bible never mentions the devil speaking to anyone through a dream. Dreams, therefore, are either from God or are reflections of our own spirit.

Dreams and the Condition of Our Hearts

Dreams often reflect the honest, sometimes hidden, state of our hearts. They may contain symbols and scenarios that reveal fears, desires, and personal challenges. For example, recurring dreams of being chased or harmed may indicate fears or anxieties we are struggling to face. These recurring nightmares may serve as calls to address the emotional burdens within us.

"I will bless the Lord, who has given me counsel; my heart also instructs me in the night seasons."

— Psalm 16:7 (NKJV)

King David speaks here of God's guidance coming to him at night, suggesting that dreams can be a form of God's counsel, helping us confront our inner issues. If we ask God to reveal what's in our hearts through our dreams, He may guide us toward healing or clarity.

Why Recording Dreams is Important

When God communicates through dreams, He may reveal insights we need to act on or remember. But dreams are often forgotten shortly after waking, which is why it's essential to write them down as soon as possible. This helps us remember the details and meanings that might be important. Though we may think we'll remember the dream later, it can easily slip from our memory.

Dreams are often symbolic, requiring interpretation. Many Bible dreams contain symbols: Daniel's dreams of statues, Joseph's dreams of stars, and Peter's vision of unclean animals. Symbols in dreams can reveal profound truths, but they're not always straightforward.

Understanding the Language of Symbolism

Dreams speak in symbols, which is a universal language that bypasses words. However, symbols can have personal meanings for each individual. In Peter's vision of animals, for example, God used unclean animals to represent the Gentiles, inviting Peter to accept them:

"But a voice spoke to him again the second time, 'What God has cleansed you must not call common."

— Acts 10:15 (NKJV)

This vision led Peter to understand that God intended salvation for the Gentiles, not just the Jews. Here, God used a familiar image to convey a deeper message. Likewise, the symbols in our dreams can carry unique meanings relevant to our lives.

Dreams often reflect situations we are currently facing. To interpret a dream, it helps to consider what was on our minds before we went to sleep or what we are struggling with in life. The dream's setting, characters, and symbols often tie into real-life experiences, which is why dream dictionaries can be unreliable. Instead, ask God directly what the symbols mean to you personally.

Practical Steps to Understand Your Dreams

- Write Down Your Dreams: Keep a journal by your bed and write down any dreams as soon as you wake up. This preserves the details that may fade quickly.
- 2. **Pray for Understanding:** Ask God what the symbols in your dream mean. Each person's symbols are unique, shaped by their life experiences.
- 3. **Reflect on Your Life's Context:** Consider if the dream reflects a current concern or struggle. Often, the dream's themes mirror challenges or questions in your heart.

Examples of Dream Interpretation

To understand how dreams communicate, here are a few examples:

On a train that is being held up by one man. He thinks it is surrounded by his gang. I am the one who disobeys him and was able to bring him down. The police think I was foolish but I did not feel any danger.

Setting:

Concerned about my life journey, and why things are not happening faster.

Dream Interpretation:

My journey seems to be held up, but I have the ability to over power what is holding things up. Others in authority may think my actions are foolish.

2. We were at a large outdoor market. I went to make a phone call. There was a lot of change (coins) in the phone box and I collected all this change (coins).

Setting:

Thinking about my work / business as a lot of change is happening.

Dream Interpretation:

In my work / business, as I went to communicate, the change will come.

3. I went to a café for lunch with some other people (a group). I went up to pay my bill and gave the guy \$20.00, it came to about \$10 and he said he didn't have any change and could I come back. I went and put my things down and then went back again. He finally wrote out, or worked out that he owed me \$10. We [the group] were to meet at some place and now we were late.

Setting:

I was considering doing a course at that time and at the time it seemed to be a big outlay of money

Dream Interpretation:

My fear: is this OK or are they trying to rip me off?

The Divine Inspiration of Dreams in Creativity and Innovation

Dreams can also be a source of inspiration and creativity. Many great discoveries have been made through insights gained in dreams. For instance, a scientist discovered the structure of benzene through a dream about animals moving in a circle, which led to the realization of the molecule's circular structure.

God's Personal Message to Each of Us

Our dreams are deeply personal, and God uses them to speak directly to us. Just as He used dreams to guide biblical figures like Joseph and Daniel, He can still use dreams to guide us today. Joseph's dream of the stars bowing down to him symbolized his family and foreshadowed his future role, revealing the importance of symbols relevant to the dreamer's life. Dreams often reveal messages in layers, blending insights about the future with reflections on the present.

"But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known... what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these..."

— *Daniel 2:28 (NKJV)*

Conclusion

Dreams are a sacred way God reaches into our hearts, offering guidance, comfort, and revelation. They are a bridge between the divine and our inner selves, illuminating the paths God wants us to take and the issues He wants us to address. Let us approach our dreams with openness and prayer, trusting that God will use them to counsel, guide, and reveal His will for our lives. Through dreams, God shows us that He is always present, speaking to us even in the quiet of the night.

6

Bible Dream Settings

reams have long been a powerful means by which God reveals His will and speaks to the hearts of His people. The Bible gives us rich examples of how dreams impacted the lives of individuals, offering insights, warnings, and encouragement. Each dream is deeply personal, revealing truths about the dreamer's inner struggles, questions, or the condition of their heart. Dreams are a means for God to speak to us in a way that transcends what our conscious mind can perceive.

Consider Paul's experience in Acts 16:9. He struggled with knowing which direction to go in his ministry. Then, one night, he dreamed of a man from Macedonia calling him to come. God or Jesus didn't appear directly in the dream, yet Paul discerned that God was telling him to go to Macedonia. "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us'" (Acts 16:9, NKJV). Through a simple dream, Paul received guidance that shaped his missionary journey.

The Bible also tells us of Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 2, who went to bed thinking he was the greatest ruler, invincible and eternal. That night, he dreamed of a great statue crushed by a small stone. In this dream, God addressed both Nebuchadnezzar's pride and the impermanence of earthly kingdoms. "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image!" (Daniel

2:31, NKJV). "And in the days of these kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed" (Daniel 2:44, NKJV). Through his dream, Nebuchadnezzar was given a glimpse of his own limitations and the eternal kingdom of God represented by the "little stone"—Jesus.

The settings of biblical dreams show us a pattern: dreams often arise from questions, struggles, or desires present in the dreamer's life before sleep. This can apply to our lives as well. Before going to bed, take note of your thoughts and concerns. God may use your dreams to speak directly to those questions or situations.

Subjective or Objective: How to Understand Your Dreams

Most dreams are subjective, meaning they're about the dreamer's own heart and life. About 95% of our dreams are subjective, dealing with emotions, fears, desires, or unresolved issues within us. But some dreams are objective, concerning others or real-life situations. Here are a few ways to discern between the two:

- 1. **Can this dream literally happen?** If your dream involves things that defy reality, such as houses flying through the air, it's likely symbolic and subjective. Consider the emotions and symbols within the dream to find its meaning.
- 2. **Does it fit subjectively?** Ask whether the dream reflects an emotion or situation you're dealing with. Dreams may symbolize issues or conflicts within your heart or relationships.
- 3. Am I emotionally connected to someone in the dream? If you're strongly connected to someone in the dream, and it relates directly to your relationship with them, the dream may reflect a real-life situation or dynamic.

Importantly, dreams are not fatalistic; they don't dictate the future without room for change. Instead, dreams can serve as a call to repentance, self-examination, or a change in direction. Like the prophecy that God would

destroy Nineveh in 40 days, which was reversed when the people repented, dreams can often change if we respond in faith and obedience.

How God Warns Us Through Dreams

The Bible reveals three ways that God uses dreams to warn us:

- 1. **Inner voice** - The voice of the Holy Spirit can prompt us to listen.
- 2. Through dreams and nightmares "In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, then He opens the ears of men, and seals their instruction" (Job 33:15-16, NKJV).
- 3. Through physical ailments God may allow pain to enter our lives as a final call to listen (Job 33:19).

Common Challenges in Remembering Dreams

There are a few reasons people may struggle to remember their dreams:

- Cultural teaching Some cultures dismiss dreams as unimportant or irrelevant.
- 2. **Mechanical hindrances** Waking up abruptly, like to a loud alarm, can disrupt the dream state. Try to awaken quietly, allowing yourself to recall the dream before diving into the day.
- **Spiritual resistance** If we resist hearing from God, we may unconsciously block out dreams.

When we do remember a dream, it's helpful to write it down right away. Dreams fade quickly, and capturing details while they're fresh can prevent frustration and allow us to revisit them for insight.

Understanding Symbols and Repeating Dreams

Dreams often communicate in symbols, which require us to learn a "new language." A nightmare, for instance, may represent an issue demanding attention in your life. In Genesis 41, Pharaoh's recurring dream of seven cows and seven heads of grain reflected a warning of famine, prompting Joseph's preparation for the future. Similarly, if you have recurring dreams, it may be God's way of emphasizing an area you need to address.

Symbols, too, vary from person to person. Dream dictionaries may not be the best resource, as they can offer general meanings that don't necessarily apply to you. Instead, seek God for understanding. The symbols in your dreams are often drawn from your personal experiences and emotions. As you become familiar with your own dream language, you'll find that your dreams can offer specific, valuable guidance.

Nurturing and Responding to Your Dreams

Dreams require patience and practice to interpret accurately. Don't expect to master interpretation right away. The more you work with your own dreams, the better you'll understand how God speaks to you through them. The prophet Daniel, for instance, didn't just interpret dreams; he received them with great insight. "But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets" (Daniel 2:28, NKJV).

Dreams are a precious resource. They provide personal counsel, reveal blind spots, and often give warnings that protect and guide us. Even if a dream seems "small," don't dismiss it. Some of the simplest dreams can have a profound impact if heeded.

Conclusion: Embracing Dreams as Divine Communication

Dreams are a beautiful and mysterious way for God to connect with us, speaking in the language of the heart. The Bible's examples remind us of the depth and power of this form of divine communication. Whether the dreams address personal issues, provide direction, or serve as a warning, they are an opportunity to draw closer to God and grow in self-awareness.

By opening ourselves to the messages in our dreams, we invite God to shape us, counsel us, and even heal us. Write down your dreams, pray for understanding, and respond to what God reveals. As you embrace your dreams as a form of God's voice, you will experience a richer, more intimate relationship with Him, discovering guidance, encouragement, and a pathway to personal growth.

In this journey, may you find that God's voice is never limited by time or consciousness—He is ever present, even as you sleep. "For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it" (Job 33:14, NKJV). Embrace the invitation to hear Him and to walk in the fullness of His plans for you.

7

Understanding Symbols in Dreams

reams are often God's way of speaking to us, but their symbolic nature can be hard to decipher. Understanding the language of dreams takes time, patience, and a heart open to God's guidance. Let's explore how to embrace and interpret the symbols that appear in our dreams and how they can reveal God's insights into our lives.

1. Approach Your Dreams with a Heart Open to God

To receive God's guidance, you need to desire His help and be ready to listen. Accept the dreams He gives, no matter how puzzling or unexpected they may seem. God's wisdom and insight are woven into these messages, even if they're not immediately clear.

"The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever"

— Deuteronomy 29:29 (NKJV)

2. Keep a Journal and Capture Every Detail

Place a pen and notebook by your bed, ready to capture your dreams the moment you wake up. Write down everything—no detail is too small or insignificant. Often, what seems unimportant can reveal profound meaning later.

When recording, avoid deciding the dream's value prematurely. A quick summary may lose important nuances, so take the time to note specifics. Think of your dream journal as a puzzle piece that God may use to reveal a bigger picture over time.

3. Recognize and Interpret Symbols Prayerfully

Dreams often speak in symbols, and interpreting them literally can lead to misunderstandings. Symbols in dreams are highly personal, so consider what each symbol means to you. A house, for example, may represent security, family, or a time in your life. Ask God to reveal what these symbols mean in your context.

Sometimes, a symbol might remind you of someone you once knew. That person's role or personality could represent an aspect of yourself. If you dream of a friend who was rebellious, it may not be about them, but rather about your own rebellious tendencies. Symbols are often reflections of our inner struggles or qualities that God wants to address.

"But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known... what will be in the latter days"

— *Daniel 2:28 (NKJV)*

4. Be Cautious When Sharing Dreams About Others

Most dreams are about the dreamer, not others, even if they seem to involve other people. If you dream about someone else, it may simply mean God is prompting you to pray for that person, or it could be a reflection of an aspect of yourself symbolized by them.

Sharing your dreams about others can sometimes lead to projecting your own issues or feelings onto them, which can be harmful. When in doubt, keep it private or take it to God in prayer.

5. Let Interpretations Come Naturally, Without Straining

Some dream messages are easier to understand than others. While some dreams reveal their meanings almost immediately, others may remain unclear. Don't become discouraged. Keep recording and reflecting. If a dream's meaning doesn't emerge right away, be patient; it may continue over time, in a sequence or through other experiences.

Remember, God's timing and methods are perfect. He will reveal understanding when you're ready to receive it.

6. Test Your Interpretations

When you believe you've received an interpretation, test it with these four steps:

- A. Pray about it. Ask God for confirmation and further insight.
- **B.** Compare it with Scripture. God's messages will always align with His Word.
- C. Seek wisdom from trusted friends. A wise, spiritually mature friend can provide valuable perspective.
- **D.** Trust the witness in your heart. The Spirit will confirm God's truth in your spirit, not your head.

As Romans reminds us, "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit" (Romans 8:16, NKJV). When the interpretation resonates in your heart, that is often the sign that you're on the right track.

After you've confirmed the meaning, act on it. If God is calling you to change, forgive, pray, or trust, take that step. Dreams are given to help us grow closer to God and more whole in ourselves.

7. Honor the Role of God in Interpretation

The ability to interpret dreams is a gift from God. Resist any temptation to become a self-appointed dream expert, interpreting others' dreams without divine guidance. When God grants insight, remain humble, remembering that this wisdom is His alone.

Dreams ultimately serve to bring us closer to God, to encourage us, and to guide us. They're meant to reveal the "thoughts of our heart" and to show us "what shall come to pass" (Daniel 2:29-30, NKJV). Through dreams, God offers healing and direction, inviting us to a more abundant, faith-filled life.

Conclusion: Embracing God's Guidance in Dreams

Understanding dreams is a journey of faith, patience, and humility. As you grow in interpreting the symbols God uses, you open yourself to profound spiritual insight. Dreams are a divine invitation to deeper self-awareness and transformation. When you open your heart to God's messages in dreams, you're allowing Him to work in and through you, bringing clarity to your purpose and guidance for your path.

Remember, dreams are not just nightly visions but messages that God crafts to draw you nearer to His truth. Cherish each one, approach them prayerfully, and be open to what God is saying. With each dream He gives, He is calling you to grow in wisdom, truth, and understanding, to live a life fully attuned to His voice. Let this journey of discovery bring you ever closer to the heart of God, as you seek to understand the symbols He uses to speak to you.

Dreams - Communication from God

rom the beginning, God has spoken to us in many ways. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve naturally heard God's voice and felt His presence. They needed no lessons or techniques to recognize His voice—it was simply part of who they were. Over time, though, humanity has drifted from this natural communion, and we often struggle to hear Him today. Yet God still speaks to us, with dreams being one of His most powerful and consistent ways of reaching us. In the Bible, dreams and visions are second only to the inner voice of God as ways He communicates. Let's explore how dreams reveal God's heart, guidance, and care for us.

Ways God Communicates with Us

God's voice can come to us in diverse ways:

- **Inner Voice** the most common way, a quiet guidance within.
- Visions and Dreams frequent in the Bible, God uses these to reveal mysteries and speak to us while our minds rest.

- Through People God may send wisdom through others, speaking truth and encouragement.
- Angels, Revelation, and the Holy Spirit in extraordinary ways, God may use supernatural signs to communicate His will.

Each of these ways is powerful, and when God speaks, His voice may be experienced in many forms:

- Audibly, as Samuel heard it in the temple.
- A still, small voice, as with Elijah on the mountain.
- With authority, like the roar of a lion, as seen by Amos and John.
- **As a sensation or fire**, like Jeremiah who said, "*His word was in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones*" (Jeremiah 20:9, NKJV).
- **In a vision**, as prophets often "saw the word of God" rather than only hearing it.

This divine communication goes beyond psychology; it's a dialogue that penetrates the heart and spirit, reaching into places the mind can't fully grasp.

"But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God."

— 1 Corinthians 2:10 (NKJV)

How God Uses Dreams

Throughout Scripture, we see God speaking through dreams. In Abraham's life, for example, God not only spoke to him but also gave him

visions and dreams, reinforcing His promises with symbols as vast as stars and as numerous as grains of sand. In one moment, God even put Abraham into a deep sleep, using a dream to communicate promises beyond his understanding.

Dreams allow God to reveal mysteries that our conscious minds might struggle to understand. Through dreams, He brings guidance, correction, encouragement, and insight into what He desires for us.

"Then He said, 'Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream."

— Numbers 12:6 (NKJV)

Dreams Reflect God's Love and Purpose for Us

God uses dreams to reveal His love, helping us understand where we are, what He wants us to work on, and where He's leading us. Dreams are a way of drawing us closer to Him. Through dreams, He seeks to make us whole and fully aligned with His will.

Dreams are valid; both Scripture and science affirm that dreams are a natural part of life. On average, we dream about an hour each night. This time, structured by God, is vital not only for physical rest but also for our spiritual and emotional health. Even if the dreams seem strange or confusing, they are often a way for God to communicate His desires for us.

Dreams often serve as a mirror of our inner condition, revealing areas in need of growth or change. Solomon, for instance, was given wisdom in a dream. Similarly, through dreams, God can guide us when our minds are quiet, and our spirits are open.

The Continuity of Dreams and Visions

In both the Old and New Testaments, God's people received divine messages through dreams and visions, often foretelling events or giving insight. In Numbers, God describes how He speaks through these supernatural

methods to His prophets. And with the coming of the Holy Spirit, this gift extended to all believers. Peter reaffirmed this in Acts:

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams."

— Acts 2:17 (NKJV)

God's gift of dreams isn't limited to believers; the Bible shows us many examples where He spoke to unbelievers through dreams as well:

- Abimelech "And God said to him in a dream, 'Yes, I know that you did this in the integrity of your heart. For I also withheld you from sinning against Me."" (Genesis 20:6, NKJV).
- Pharaoh of Egypt God gave him dreams about the future famine, which led to the preservation of Egypt and Joseph's family (Genesis 41).
- Gideon's Enemy God used the dream of an enemy to give Gideon confidence in the coming battle (Judges 7:13-15).

If God spoke to non-believers through dreams to accomplish His will, how much more will He speak to those who seek Him? Our dreams are a powerful, valid means for God's communication.

Warnings About False Dreams

While God uses dreams for guidance, wisdom, and encouragement, Scripture also warns us of false dreams meant to deceive:

"If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder... you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams."

— Deuteronomy 13:1-3 (NKJV)

Jeremiah and Ezekiel similarly warn against dreams that come from delusions or false visions. The Bible encourages discernment, teaching us to weigh each dream carefully.

Understanding and Practicing Discernment in Dreams

Discerning God's voice in dreams is a practice that takes time and attentiveness. Ecclesiastes says, "For a dream comes through much activity" (Ecclesiastes 5:3, NKJV), reminding us that dreams can sometimes reflect our busy thoughts rather than divine messages.

When faced with a confusing dream, ask yourself: *Does it align with Scripture? Does it draw me closer to God?* A single challenging or contradictory dream should be checked against the broader teachings of the Bible. For example, while Jesus once spoke of hating one's family (Luke 14:26) as a call to prioritize Him, it doesn't conflict with His command to love.

When interpreting dreams, we should pray and seek the Holy Spirit's guidance to ensure our understanding aligns with God's truth.

Conclusion: Embracing Dreams as God's Voice

God desires to communicate with us, and dreams are a profound part of this dialogue. They are not random images or meaningless thoughts; they are crafted by God to guide us, encourage us, and even warn us when necessary. Embracing dreams as part of His communication allows us to understand ourselves better, draw closer to God, and walk more confidently in His will.

Dreams invite us to see beyond our everyday concerns, revealing God's heart and purpose for our lives. As you receive and interpret your dreams, let them be a source of inspiration, correction, and encouragement. Allow your dreams to lead you deeper into God's presence, trusting that He will reveal His will for you in ways beyond what your mind can comprehend.

Each night, as God speaks through dreams, remember He is calling you closer, shaping you to reflect His heart and fulfill His purposes. Dreams are an invitation to intimacy with God—a reminder that even as we sleep, He is lovingly and faithfully at work in us.

9

Language of Symbolism Part 1

reams, as mysterious and vivid as they can be, speak to us in a language as old as humanity itself—the language of symbols. Our minds operate through thoughts and concepts, but dreams communicate in pictures, symbols, and imagery, giving us messages from God that go beyond words.

In dreams, God speaks to us in the simplest way possible, meeting us in images that come from our everyday lives, memories, and even from places we cannot fully understand. Some symbols in dreams may tap into universal themes that connect us with humanity's shared past, revealing knowledge that's beyond our own experience.

"For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, then He opens the ears of men, and seals their instruction."

— Job 33:14-16 (NKJV)

Everyday Symbols

In our waking life, symbols surround us. For instance, a political cartoon with a bear and an eagle wrestling doesn't suggest a literal fight between animals; it implies a conflict between nations. Symbols, whether in dreams or media, represent deeper meanings.

Flags and national colours, like Australia's green and gold, carry symbolism, while even mundane objects like cars and houses in dreams can reveal a glimpse into our inner lives. But unlike waking life, dream symbols often break rational rules, such as the image of seven skinny cows devouring seven fat cows. This surreal nature, like a cartoon, tells us to focus on the message rather than the literal scene.

Changing Meanings of Symbols

In dreams, symbols are rarely straightforward or static. A river, for example, might symbolize life, movement, cleansing, or even destruction. It depends on the dream's message and the context of the symbol. This is why dreams can't be interpreted by a single "dictionary" of meanings. The same symbol can shift its meaning to convey something unique to the dreamer.

In the Bible, symbols are rich and varied: Jacob's ladder, the bowls of wrath, the bread and birds, the sun, moon, and stars. Interpreting these requires attention to context and meaning in the dreamer's life.

"And He said, 'Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream."

— Numbers 12:6 (NKJV)

Personal Symbols from the Dreamer's Life

A powerful key in dream interpretation is understanding that dreams speak directly to the dreamer's own life. Instead of imposing an outside meaning, ask, "What does this symbol mean to the dreamer?" For example:

- House: This could represent one's childhood, family memories, or a state of conflict or peace in your inner world or body.
- Car: Often a symbol of your journey control or progress. Are you
 driving carefully or recklessly? Are you a passenger, or worse, driving from the back seat? Each scenario speaks volumes about your
 current life control and direction.

Dreams also mirror our ambitions or struggles. If you dream of running but not reaching a destination, it may reflect a spiritual or personal goal you are striving toward but feel blocked from reaching.

"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."

— Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV)

Natural and Everyday Symbols

Certain symbols recur in dreams to reflect universal themes:

- Car: Often symbolizes personal control or direction in life.
- Bus: Represents crowds, public opinion, or moving along with others.
- **Tunnel**: Symbolizes periods of darkness or difficulty, but if there's light, it points toward hope.
- Bridge: Crosses to new territory, suggesting a transition or passage.
- Circle or Square: Represents completeness, unity, or wholeness.

When interpreting dreams, the simplest and most natural interpretation is often the most accurate. Yet, always consider the dreamer's personal experiences.

Animals in Dreams

The Bible frequently uses animals symbolically: lions, oxen, locusts, horses, and dragons. Animals in dreams often represent emotions or instinctive reactions. A fierce bull or rhino may symbolize an overwhelming force or aggression. If we face a threatening animal, it may point to emotions we need to confront and tame.

- Lion: Could symbolize royalty, strength, or something intimidating.
- Dove: Represents peace or innocence.
- **Snake**: Often represents wisdom or deceit, reminding us of Jesus' advice: "Be wise as serpents" (*Matthew 10:16, NKJV*).
- Fox: Slyness or cunning.

When you encounter an animal in a dream, ask yourself, "What does this animal represent in my life?"

People in Dreams

In most dreams, people symbolize parts of ourselves. Just as the parable of the Prodigal Son shows us two opposing sides—the rebellious son and the angry brother—our dreams use people to reflect our inner conflicts or hidden qualities.

When you see someone in a dream, consider: What does that person represent to me? Are they courageous, supportive, or authoritative? In about 95% of cases, people in our dreams reflect aspects of ourselves, not literal individuals.

For example:

- A leader: May symbolize the authoritative part of yourself.
- A parent or sibling: Represents foundational parts of your character or past experiences.

Objective vs. Subjective Dreams

Most dreams are subjective, meaning they reflect the dreamer's inner world. However, in rare cases, some dreams may indeed be about others—known as objective dreams. How can you tell the difference?

- If a dream has details that match reality exactly, like a real-life setting or an exact conversation, it may be objective.
- If you feel a strong emotional connection or a spiritual prompting to act or pray for someone, it could be an objective insight.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

— Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)

Life Events and Transitions

Dreams often reflect major life changes:

- Birth or Baby: The birth of a concept, idea, or new beginning in life.
- Death: Represents the end of a phase or the transformation of old habits into new life. This symbolic death-and-resurrection cycle aligns with Jesus' words:

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

— *Matthew 10:39 (NKJV)*

Dreams help us recognize where we are and show us possible paths forward. As we grow spiritually and emotionally, our dreams provide insights,

encouragement, and guidance. Keep a journal, write down your dreams, and prayerfully reflect on their meanings. Through this practice, you may find God leading you, step by step, toward greater wholeness and purpose.

10

The Language of Symbolism - Part 2

The Mask or Persona

The mask or persona represents what we choose to show to the world, and in many ways, it is like a garment that reveals or hides parts of who we are. In the Bible, Jesus frequently addresses the hypocrisy of the Pharisees, who focus on external appearances and seek praise from others rather than aiming to please God. Jesus calls us to a life of authenticity, urging us to be genuine in our actions and motivations.

"Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward."

— *Matthew 6:2 (NKJV)*

Jesus' message is clear: our true selves, stripped of hypocrisy, are revealed when we pursue our dreams and callings honestly. The more aligned we are

with God's purpose, the more we will show our authentic selves. Our persona is also shaped by how we choose to present ourselves in everyday life. For instance, we dress a certain way—whether casually or formally—depending on the image we wish to portray or what we feel is expected of us.

Similarly, a hypocrite is someone who hides their true self, masking their flaws or insecurities to present a false image. But often, even if someone hides their true self, others can sense something isn't genuine. In dreams, a mask may be symbolized by clothing, whether worn or not, indicating how we wish to be seen.

God desires authenticity from us, as true strength lies in being genuine. While God gives us freedom in how we present ourselves, it's crucial to seek His guidance, especially when interpreting symbols in dreams. For instance, a dream of being naked can suggest vulnerability or feeling exposed before God, reminding us that God sees beyond any "mask" we wear.

"But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

— 1 Samuel 16:7 (NKJV)

Personality and Its Functions

Our personality comprises various elements—heart, soul, mind, and strength. Jesus teaches us to love God with all of these:

"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment."

— Mark 12:30 (NKJV)

Each of these parts represents a function:

- Heart Intuition
- Soul Feeling, partially
- Mind Thinking
- Strength Our five senses

A balanced life involves using these functions harmoniously. We gather insights through intuition and senses, then evaluate and judge them with our thinking and perception. Just as it is unsafe to drive with our eyes closed, relying solely on one function without integrating the others can lead us astray. Dreams often reveal areas where we may be lacking, highlighting places where we can grow and achieve wholeness.

Shadow or the Silhouette Figure

The shadow is a part of ourselves that we may not fully recognize or even suppress. Jesus teaches that to find our true self, the ego must be surrendered.

"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."

— *Matthew 16:24 (NKJV)*

In dreams, a shadow or dark figure often represents a part of ourselves that we may ignore or overlook—traits, feelings, or desires that are undeveloped or hidden. God encourages us to confront these blind spots, bringing them into the light so we can integrate them healthily.

For example, in the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32), we see two contrasting characters: the younger son, who had freedom but lacked discipline, and the elder son, who had discipline but missed the experience of freedom. Each represents a "shadow" for the other, a quality they need to recognize and bring into balance.

Similarly, dreams often reveal aspects of ourselves we suppress due to pain or past wounds. These suppressed parts may include anger, fear, or vulnerability—emotions we may not want to face. However, by addressing them, we can allow healing and transformation in our lives. Consider Paul's words:

"Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil."

— Ephesians 4:26-27 (NKJV)

Healthy integration of our shadow aspects means acknowledging and accepting these parts of ourselves, not rejecting or despising them. For example, someone who struggles with anger might suppress it until it erupts uncontrollably. However, when anger is properly managed and directed, it becomes a tool for setting boundaries and asserting oneself in appropriate situations.

The shadow also represents the "Good Samaritan" aspect within us—qualities we often undervalue or even disdain. Accepting and integrating these parts enables us to become whole. Often, this shadow appears in dreams as someone of the same gender, reminding us that we cannot "cast out" what is inherently a part of us; rather, we must accept and balance it.

Desires, Temptations, and Growth

Desires often bring us face-to-face with qualities we wish we had. The attraction we feel for certain people or qualities reflects something we admire and potentially lack. James explains this dynamic well:

"But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

— *James 1:14-15 (NKJV)*

Satan tempts us by suggesting that we can obtain these qualities through wrong means, but the qualities we desire can only be developed by turning to God and allowing Him to cultivate them within us. When we bring these

qualities into our lives through God's process, we are not merely avoiding temptation; we are transforming into the whole person God created us to be.

In every struggle, we have the assurance that growth is a journey. Spiritual growth is ongoing, and while crises may demand immediate responses, true wholeness is achieved through steady progress. Rather than rushing the process, we are encouraged to allow God to shape us over time, embracing each step as an essential part of our transformation.

11

The Language of Symbolism - Part 3

Masculine and Feminine: The Completeness of God in Us

In understanding ourselves, we find that both masculine and feminine qualities exist within each person. Just as God embodies the fullness of both aspects, so too do we carry these traits within us, reflecting His image.

"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

— Genesis 1:27 (NKJV)

In Genesis, we see that God's image encompasses both masculine and feminine characteristics. The Hebrew term "El Shaddai," meaning "the breasted one," hints at God's nurturing, compassionate, and gentle aspects. Similarly, the Holy Spirit manifests several traits traditionally seen as feminine—gentleness, creativity, and patience, the qualities represented in the fruit of the Spirit:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."

— *Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJV)*

In God's design, men and women both contain aspects of the masculine and the feminine. In men, masculine traits tend to be more dominant and conscious, while feminine traits reside in the unconscious. In women, this relationship is reversed. Yet, God's purpose for us is to bring balance, harmonizing these qualities within ourselves.

Traits of the Masculine and Feminine

Each set of traits serves a vital role in who we are and how we function:

- Masculine traits: Authority, leadership, logic, determination, planning, and goal orientation.
- Feminine traits: Creativity, receptivity, relational focus, gentleness, and unconditional love.

An imbalance in these traits can lead to one-dimensional personalities. For instance, a man who leans excessively into masculine traits without a touch of gentleness may be strong but also harsh or even cruel. On the other hand, if a man is overly feminine, he may struggle with assertiveness or even become uncertain in his relationships. A balanced man will have both strength and gentleness.

Similarly, a woman who is overly masculine may appear domineering or contentious, while a woman with no masculine traits might lack inner strength, appearing overly sentimental or fragile. A balanced woman will exude grace and gentleness but have a core of inner resilience, like the "virtuous woman" of Proverbs:

"Strength and honor are her clothing; she shall rejoice in time to come."

— *Proverbs 31:25 (NKJV)*

A balanced person reflects the harmony of both sets of traits, which can be seen in examples throughout Scripture. David, for example, was both a fierce warrior and a compassionate leader. However, when his son Absalom died, David's grief was so intense that he neglected his responsibilities as a king. Joab, his commander, had to remind him of his duty to his people.

"Then Joab came into the house to the king, and said, 'Today you have disgraced all your servants who today have saved your life... Now therefore, arise, go out and speak comfort to your servants."

— 2 Samuel 19:5,7 (NKJV)

How Dreams Reveal Our Inner Balance

Dreams often bring to light our unconscious qualities, revealing areas that need balance. For example, when a man dreams of a woman—whether she appears as a mother, lover, or teacher—she typically represents aspects of his feminine side, qualities like creativity or nurturing that may need integration. Similarly, when a woman dreams of a man, she may be encountering her inner masculine, which could manifest as leadership, courage, or logic.

These figures in our dreams may even appear in romantic or seductive roles, capturing our attention and inviting us to explore the qualities they represent. Rather than merely symbolizing romantic attraction, these dreams often serve as invitations to bring out parts of ourselves that are underdeveloped. The relational or sexual imagery in dreams symbolizes the desire for unity and creativity within.

The Apostle Peter speaks of this process of growth, which brings us into a fuller experience of God's character:

"Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness."

— 2 Peter 1:2-3 (NKJV)

Negative Traits and Imbalance

When our masculine or feminine side is out of balance, it can have negative effects. A man with an overly dominant feminine side may become moody, touchy, or overly sensitive, while a woman whose masculine side is too dominant may become harsh, argumentative, or overly critical. In both cases, dreams can bring these imbalances to our attention, guiding us toward a healthier balance.

Bad moods or unexplained irritability are often signs of our unconscious self, attempting to surface, urging us to address neglected areas of our personality. By examining these moments and reflecting on what they might reveal, we take steps toward wholeness.

Positive Traits and Integration

When balanced, our masculine and feminine traits bring out the best in us. For a man, balanced femininity allows him to appreciate beauty, value goodness, and experience love in its purest form—not as attraction that seeks to take, but as love that seeks to give. Likewise, when a woman's masculine side is in harmony, she can stand confidently in the truth, even when it's difficult. She finds strength in facing reality with grace, bringing resilience and depth to her relationships.

Marriage often serves as a refining process for these qualities. In a balanced relationship, each partner learns from the strengths of the other, becoming whole over time. As one writer put it, "One of the purposes in marriage is that we can learn from each other, so we will eventually not need each other, but by then, can't get along without each other."

In other words, while we cannot acquire these qualities from one another simply by being in a relationship, marriage provides a unique setting for growth and reflection. In dreams, this process may appear as a struggle or confusion when encountering qualities that are unfamiliar or uncomfortable. The dream isn't about lust or dissatisfaction but rather about integrating traits we've neglected.

Integrating Our Unconscious Self

As Christians, we may sometimes feel confused or even guilty for having dreams that highlight qualities we don't recognize in ourselves. But these dreams are often a call to integrate overlooked parts of our personality. They invite us to be whole, to accept parts of ourselves that we may have dismissed. God wants us to be in balance, just as He is. Jesus demonstrated both strength and gentleness, authority and humility, boldness and compassion.

"Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect."

— *Matthew 5:48 (NKJV)*

True balance means we are neither swayed by society's expectations nor hindered by misconceptions. A real man can be gentle, and a strong woman can be kind. If past teachings or cultural norms have caused us to dismiss parts of ourselves, it's time to seek God's wisdom for healing and wholeness. Balance is not something we achieve overnight, but through a journey of growth, one step at a time.

In this way, God leads us on a path to becoming who He has truly called us to be. Dreams, insights, and personal reflection are His tools, drawing us closer to the full image of God in which we were created.

12

The Language of Symbolism – Part 4

Dreams and Counseling

In Scripture, dreams often serve as channels through which God communicates guidance, insights, and revelations.

1 Kings 3:5 tells us:

"At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask! What shall I give you?"

— (NKJV)

Here, God appears to Solomon in a dream at a pivotal moment, marking a turning point in his life and responsibilities. This encounter illustrates how dreams can present deep insights and directions, especially during times of significant personal transition.

Many people experience an important dream before seeing a counselor or psychiatrist. If the counselor understands the dream, they can swiftly identify the underlying issue because the dream is often a culmination of the dreamer's ongoing, unresolved concerns. Dreams emerge from the dreamer's own experiences, mirroring the condition of the heart, addressing needs, and providing direction.

Solomon, for example, was wrestling with the responsibility of succeeding his father, King David. Facing the weighty question of how he would lead with wisdom, he dreamt this pivotal dream. As he pondered his insecurities and desires for guidance, his dream brought clarity to his heart's long-standing questions. Thus, like Solomon, dreams often surface after sustained reflection on a matter close to the heart.

Approach Dreams with Respect

When we work with dreams, it's essential to approach them carefully, especially when interpreting others' dreams. Begin where the dream begins and follow its path. Developing the skill to interpret dreams for others requires patience and practice. For this reason, it's recommended to avoid interpreting others' dreams until we have practiced interpreting our own for a significant time—perhaps even five years. The goal is to let the dreamer reach their own understanding rather than imposing an interpretation on them.

Dreams invite each person toward their true self, a path that ultimately leads to a place of fulfillment where Christ dwells. By following dreams, individuals may find themselves led closer to Christ, as dreams unfold hidden truths about the dreamer's condition and often target the core of their issues.

Key Points to Note from Dreams

1. Every Dream Has Its Own Message

Each dream carries a unique message, one that often goes beyond our initial understanding. In psychological studies, analysts have discovered that even dreams that seemed mysterious initially can reveal significant information about a person's physical and emotional state. Dreams contain layers of meaning and have a way of bringing unknown issues to light.

2. Adopt a Humble Perspective

When interpreting dreams, remember that we must approach each dream with humility. Even if we possess knowledge of dream symbolism, we should hold back assumptions and avoid imposing our own ideas.

For example, Genesis 41:15–16 shows Pharaoh admitting to Joseph:

"I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it." So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, 'It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

— (NKJV)

Pharaoh didn't recognize the meaning until Joseph interpreted it, and then he immediately knew it was correct. Similarly, when we interpret dreams for others, they often resonate with the interpretation if it aligns with their own inner sense of truth.

3. The Dream Will Often be Recognized by the Dreamer

Dreamers recognize when the interpretation aligns with their inner thoughts. For example, Nebuchadnezzar had a powerful dream that was troubling but clear in its symbolism.

Daniel 4:10-16 describes his second dream:

"I saw, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth, and its height was great. The tree grew and became strong; its height reached to the heavens, and it could be seen to the ends of all the earth... Nevertheless, leave the stump and roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, in the tender grass of the field. Let it be wet with the dew of heaven..." (NKJV). The dream showed a mighty tree that would be cut down, sparing

only the stump, symbolizing Nebuchadnezzar's impending fall but leaving room for redemption.

Daniel 4:28-30 narrates the unfolding of Nebuchadnezzar's pride, which led to his downfall as foretold. Later, as prophesied, he was humbled, lost his mind, and lived like an animal for seven years. But the stump represented a hope of restoration. As he repented, God restored him to his former position and power. This dream served as a warning, a guide, and eventually a promise of restoration.

Using Dreams for Counseling

Dreams can serve as invaluable tools in counseling, taking us directly to the heart of the problem. They provide clues and details that reveal the dreamer's emotional and spiritual state. While we may not always understand every detail in a dream, recording these details can still be valuable for future reflection. Like Nebuchadnezzar's dream, each symbol, action, or change in the dreamscape may hold a meaning that reveals itself over time.

To help ourselves and others, we should approach dreams with respect, learning to interpret them without forcing interpretations. By doing so, we can help others—and ourselves—move forward with insights that guide us toward healing and self-discovery. The journey may require patience and trust, but it is one that ultimately leads us closer to the heart of God.

Conclusion: The Transformative Power of Dreams

Dreams are a powerful, symbolic language that often brings profound insights and guidance. Just as God spoke to figures like Solomon, Pharaoh, and Nebuchadnezzar in dreams, He continues to use dreams to reach us today, especially in times of personal transition, crisis, or need. By learning to listen, observe, and interpret our dreams carefully, we can access a deeper understanding of ourselves and our journey with God.

In the same way that Solomon received wisdom, Pharaoh found direction, and Nebuchadnezzar was called to humility and repentance, dreams can bring clarity, warning, and hope. This process is sacred and should be approached with humility and patience, recognizing that the ultimate

interpretation often comes from God's wisdom, not our own understanding. Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

— (NKJV)

Dreams can act as counselors, leading us closer to our true selves, healing, and ultimately to the heart of Christ. When we embrace dreams with humility, patience, and an open heart, they become a guiding light, pointing us toward personal fulfillment, spiritual growth, and deeper relationship with God. By stewarding this gift responsibly, we allow dreams to reveal the hidden depths of our hearts, bringing clarity, transformation, and a renewed closeness to our Creator.

Becoming an Interpreter

he life of Joseph is more than just an ancient story; it is a roadmap for those who seek to interpret dreams. Joseph's journey exemplifies the highs and lows that often come with the gift of interpretation and shows us how God can use this ability to guide, prepare, and reveal His purposes in our lives.

Joseph's Dream Journey Begins

Joseph's journey as a dreamer and interpreter started when he had his first dreams about sheaves in the field.

"Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more."

— *Genesis 37:5 (NKJV)*

In this first dream, his brothers sensed that the dream carried weight and truth, even if it was unsettling to them. Joseph then dreamed of the sun, moon, and stars bowing down to him, hinting at a future of prominence and purpose.

"Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, 'Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me."

— *Genesis 37:9 (NKJV)*

Joseph's dreams were tied to his lifestyle and relationship with God. In the same way, our dreams can often reflect God's purpose and direction for our lives—even if we don't fully understand them at the time.

God's Preparation Through Trials

Joseph's journey teaches us that God often prepares us for our calling through unexpected and sometimes painful trials. Joseph was sold as a slave, yet God ensured he ended up in the right place, under the right master. This humbling experience was part of Joseph's character development.

"The LORD was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian."

— *Genesis 39:2 (NKJV)*

Through every step, Joseph had to keep his heart pure and his attitude right, trusting in God's promise despite his circumstances. Joseph learned that God's promise would not bow to pride or arrogance but required humility and faithfulness. Even when he was wrongly imprisoned, Joseph held onto his belief in God's word and continued to practice interpreting dreams, both his own and those of others.

Testing Through the Dreams of Others

In prison, Joseph interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh's butler and baker.

"Then the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, 'Behold, in my dream a vine was before me."

— Genesis 40:9 (NKJV)

The butler's dream was favourable, while the bakers was not. Joseph, confident in his interpretation, asked the butler to remember him.

"But remember me when it is well with you, and please show kindness to me; make mention of me to Pharaoh and get me out of this house."

— *Genesis 40:14 (NKJV)*

Joseph's trust in God's revelation gave him courage. His accurate interpretations led to a chain of events that ultimately brought him before Pharaoh to interpret a dream that no one else could. Pharaoh dreamed of seven fat cows and seven thin cows, as well as seven plump heads of grain and seven thin ones.

"And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass."

— *Genesis 41:32 (NKJV)*

Joseph explained that the repeated dream signified urgency and certainty. Repeated dreams are often a signal from God that something important is about to happen. If you've had a repeated dream, pay attention! God may be trying to get your attention, and time could be running out to respond.

Faith and Favour in God's Timing

Joseph endured two more years in prison after his interpretation, a time in which patience and faith were essential. When the timing was right, God elevated Joseph. Pharaoh recognized God's wisdom in Joseph's interpretation, and as a result, Joseph was promoted to a position of great authority.

"Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word."

— Genesis 41:39-40 (NKJV)

Joseph's journey shows that those who seek to interpret dreams must follow their own calling and submit to God's leading. To interpret others' dreams, we must live out our own. We must be willing to let God shape our hearts, remove any pride, and trust fully in His plan.

Forgiveness and Fulfilling Destiny

Years later, Joseph's brothers came to him seeking forgiveness, not knowing he had long let go of any resentment.

"But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."

— *Genesis 50:20 (NKJV)*

Joseph had come to recognize God's hand in his journey, understanding that his trials had been God's way of preparing him for his destiny. Interpretation requires humility, and a willingness to see God's higher purpose.

Guidelines for Interpretation

- 1. **Seek Understanding from the Dreamer**: Approach each dream with humility, realizing that the dreamer may have the key to its meaning, as with Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar.
- 2. **Trust Your Inner Agreement**: Do not accept an interpretation if your heart does not resonate with it, even if it feels challenging.
- 3. **Respect Others' Interpretations**: When interpreting for others, remember that they may have insight into the dream's meaning that you do not.
- 4. **Align with Scripture**: No interpretation is valid if it contradicts biblical principles. God's word is our anchor.

5. **Be Open to New Understanding:** If an interpretation challenges your beliefs, let it encourage you to seek God's perspective with an open heart.

Responding to Dreams

Dreams demand a response. Ignoring them can lead to repeated dreams until we heed the message. Dreams act as mirrors, reflecting our inner life, and change as we change. One dream may reveal a single situation, while many dreams together can reveal patterns that give us insight into our character and calling. Listen, obey, and watch as God's guidance unfolds through the dreams He gives.

14

Symbols & Settings Biblical Dreams and Their Interpretations

reams and visions are woven throughout the Bible, offering wisdom, guidance, and sometimes warning. Daniel's story is a profound example of how God uses dreams to communicate deep truths. The book of Daniel is filled with revelations that unfold through dreams and visions, helping us see that God often speaks in ways that challenge us to seek understanding beyond surface meanings.

Symbols of Nebuchadnezzar's Dreams

In the book of Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar's dreams are significant, complex symbols that reveal insights about kingdoms and spiritual matters. The first few chapters showcase dreams that carry deep meaning for both the king and all who study them.

"As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams."

— *Daniel 1:17 (NKJV)*

Daniel, gifted by God with wisdom and understanding, lived in a culture that revered knowledge but was often rooted in occult practices. He studied Babylonian literature not to conform to its beliefs but to gain insight that he could use with God's wisdom. This teaches us that God expects us to learn and discern wisely, knowing how to handle both good and evil without fear.

The Forgotten Dreams

Many people wonder why they often forget their dreams. In our culture, we've been conditioned to dismiss dreams as unimportant, and our minds may therefore be trained to forget them. Yet, dreams are an avenue through which God can speak, so we can benefit from retraining ourselves to remember them by cultivating a quiet and receptive mindset. Ignoring dreams can be like shutting God out from an important channel of communication.

When a dream frightens us, it can be an alert to a significant issue. Nebuchadnezzar's frightening dream of a statue being crushed by a stone was one such alert, showing that God speaks in ways meant to awaken us. This dream wasn't trivial; it foretold the fall of his kingdom.

"This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay."

— Daniel 2:32-33 (NKJV)

Each part of Nebuchadnezzar's statue represented different empires, from the golden head (Babylon) to the iron and clay feet (divided kingdoms). Nebuchadnezzar, symbolized by gold, was the greatest in earthly value, yet inferior kingdoms followed. This decline in value illustrates the impermanence of human power compared to God's enduring kingdom.

The stone in the dream, representing Jesus, wasn't crafted by human hands. It signifies the supernatural, enduring kingdom of God that would crush all earthly empires and fill the entire earth.

"You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces."

— *Daniel 2:34 (NKIV)*

"And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth."

— *Daniel 2:35 (NKJV)*

The Setting of Dreams

Dreams often reflect our life's setting—our problems, needs, or ongoing challenges. For example, Zechariah, who longed for a child, received a message related to his hope for an heir. In another example, Joseph's fellow prisoners, the baker and butler, had dreams related to their trades, providing context clues for interpretation.

Dreams also have a purpose. They are meant to reveal truths about the dreamer's heart and mind, sometimes exposing inner struggles or hidden desires. Nebuchadnezzar's dream was given to show him his future and his heart's attitude. He saw himself as the greatest, yet the dream warned him against pride.

"As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be."

— Daniel 2:29-30 (NKJV)

Dreams aren't trivial; they often demand a response and call for self-examination. For instance, Joseph, sold into slavery by his brothers, could have become bitter, but he chose to trust God's purpose.

"But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life."

— *Genesis 45:5 (NKJV)*

Responses to Dreams: Faith and Action

How we respond to dreams reveals much about our faith. Nebuchadnezzar initially believed Daniel's interpretation and recognized the greatness of Daniel's God.

"Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel...'Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets."

— Daniel 2:46-47 (NKJV)

However, despite acknowledging God, Nebuchadnezzar didn't humble himself and later built a statue, demanding others to worship it. Eventually, he faced consequences that led him to a genuine acknowledgment of God's sovereignty.

"And those who walk in pride He is able to put down."

— *Daniel 4:37 (NKJV)*

The Journey of Self-Discovery in Dreams

Jacob's journey shows the struggle of letting go of the "ego" to discover his true self, a process represented by his dream of a ladder.

"Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it."

— *Genesis 28:12 (NKJV)*

Jacob's dream reflects his desire for God's blessing, though his heart and mind were often at odds. Over time, Jacob learned that the blessing he sought wasn't something he could gain through manipulation but through surrender to God's will.

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

— *Matthew 16:26 (NKJV)*

Peter's Vision: A Lesson in Humility

Even after following Jesus, Peter needed God's correction to embrace God's plan for Gentiles. God gave Peter a vision that challenged his beliefs and biases, leading him to realize that God's message was for all people.

"Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance."

— Acts 10:10 (NKJV)

In the vision, God told Peter to eat animals he considered unclean, symbolizing the inclusion of Gentiles in the church. This was repeated three times, underscoring its importance.

Lessons from Biblical Dreamers

- 1. **Embrace Dreams as Guidance**: Like Joseph, who took Mary as his wife based on a dream, we are called to trust in God's guidance even when it challenges us.
- Respond with Faith: Each dreamer, whether Jacob, Solomon, or Mary, responded with either faith or doubt. God calls us to act with trust, allowing our dreams to guide us toward wholeness and maturity.
- Seek Understanding with Humility: Whether through study, prayer, or reflection, we are encouraged to seek understanding of God's messages, knowing that dreams are often meant to reveal our hearts and guide us.

When God speaks through dreams, they often reveal hidden truths or prompt us to act. Rather than rationalizing or delaying, responding to dreams can open doors for spiritual growth. Dreams and visions, whether for correction or encouragement, call us to respond and mature in our faith, seeking to become whole as God intends.

15

Working Through Your Dream Guide to Interpreting Dreams

reams are powerful tools for self-discovery, spiritual insight, and guidance. Interpreting dreams begins with the dreamer; only the dreamer can fully understand the unique meaning of their dream. This chapter provides a structured guide to help you break down and analyze your dreams, asking the right questions to uncover the significance and wisdom they may hold.

Steps for Dream Interpretation

- 1. Understanding the Dream
 - What is the dream about?
 - Briefly summarize the main events or scenes in your dream.
 - Describe any notable interactions, places, or shifts in the dream.

2. Identifying the Setting

What is the setting of the dream?

- Reflect on any aspects of your current life situation that may relate to the dream:
 - Is there a specific area in your life, business, or family on your mind?
 - Are there any ongoing problems, changes, or feelings you're experiencing?
- Context matters, as dreams often reflect our immediate circumstances or longstanding issues.

3. Analyzing Key Symbols

- What are the main symbols in the dream?
 - Write down any objects, animals, people, or places that stand out.
 - Consider what these symbols mean to you personally. Examples include:
 - Dog: Could represent loyalty, companionship, or alternatively, fear.
 - Water: Might symbolize emotions, change, or reflection.
 - Symbol meanings are often unique to each dreamer, based on personal experiences and associations.

4. Examining Emotions

- What emotions did you feel during the dream?
 - Identify and list any emotions present in the dream. Examples include:
 - Panicked: Represents anxiety or worry about an aspect of life.
 - Joy: Indicates fulfillment, hope, or peace regarding a situation.
 - Calm: May suggest confidence or ease.
 - Emotions offer clues to the dream's tone and underlying messages.

5. Considering People in the Dream

- Who are the people in the dream, and what do they represent?
 - List any people who appear in the dream and your thoughts about them.
 - Common representations might include:
 - Loving: Represents care, warmth, or affection.
 - Generous: Symbolizes kindness, openness, or abundance.
 - Controlling: Could indicate self-restraint or external pressures.

• Keep in mind: people in dreams often represent parts of yourself rather than actual individuals.

6. Exploring Possible Interpretations

• What could this dream mean?

- Using your reflections on setting, symbols, emotions, and people, begin exploring the interpretation.
- Look for any recurring themes or ideas that resonate with current challenges, desires, or fears.

7. Determining Actions from the Dream

- What actions or responses might this dream be calling for?
 - Dreams can suggest specific areas for growth, healing, or change. Possible actions include:
 - *Letting go* of something no longer serving you.
 - *Receiving healing* for emotional or spiritual wounds.
 - *Learning to relax* and trust the process.
 - Renewing your mind by adopting a positive perspective.
 - *Building faith* in a challenging area.

Sample Dream Questions Sheet

- What is the dream about?
- What is the setting or life context?
- What are the key symbols, and what do they mean to you?

- What emotions are present in the dream?
- Who appears in the dream, and what do they represent?
- What might the interpretation be?
- What actions does this dream suggest?

Working through your dreams with these questions can reveal valuable insights into your inner world, helping you grow spiritually, emotionally, and personally. Approach each dream with curiosity and openness, trusting that God may be speaking to you through them, guiding you to wholeness and wisdom.

16

Conclusion: Embrace Your Dreams as a Pathway to Destiny

s you've journeyed through this book, you've discovered the depth and power of dreams as a language God uses to speak to us. Dreams aren't just fleeting thoughts or random images; they're messages that can transform, guide, and heal when we take the time to listen and understand. Each chapter has provided insights and tools for embracing your dreams as part of your spiritual life, helping you move closer to the destiny God has set for you.

Now, it's time to act. Don't let these newfound understandings stay confined to the pages of this book. Put them into practice by paying attention to your dreams, keeping a dream journal, and using the questions and techniques you've learned to interpret them. Open your heart and mind, ready to receive the guidance, wisdom, and encouragement God may be sharing with you every night.

To continue this journey, Destiny Strategies offers practical seminars on dream interpretation, where you can deepen your understanding, learn from others, and gain insights tailored to your own experiences. In these sessions, you'll find hands-on guidance and community support to interpret your dreams with confidence and clarity. Whether you're looking to understand

your own dreams more fully or assist others, these seminars are designed to equip you with the skills you need.

You have a unique destiny, and God is already speaking to you about it. Embrace this extraordinary journey with faith and anticipation, knowing that each dream is another step toward fulfilling the purpose He has planned for you. Listen, learn, and step boldly into the path set before you—your destiny awaits.

EARING THE **VOICE OF GOD THROUGH NUMBERS**

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Introduction

n a world where numbers are often seen merely as tools for calculation, there lies a deeper, spiritual significance that transcends mathematical use. "Hearing the Voice of God Through Numbers" invites you to explore this hidden language—a way in which God communicates His presence, His promises, and His purpose through numbers.

The journey begins with an understanding of how this revelation unfolded, allowing us to glimpse that there is always "more" to perceive in our connection with God. Each chapter serves as a stepping stone, guiding us to embrace God's ways and receive a fullness that empowers us to live distinctively and purposefully. From the foundational lessons of Chapters 1 through 5, you will be equipped with spiritual insights to recognize the patterns and meanings embedded in numbers.

Chapters 6 through 20 delve into the unique significance of numbers, from one to fourteen, uncovering the messages and mysteries each number carries. These chapters provide not just theory but a practical guide to interpreting these numbers in daily life, recognizing when they appear, and understanding what they might mean in different contexts.

Whether you're new to the idea of divine communication through numbers or have sensed their presence before, this book offers a thoughtful, scripture-based approach to seeing God's voice in all things, including the numerical patterns around us. Journey with us to discover how, by listening carefully, we can find God speaking to us through the numbers that fill our lives.

How It All Started

y journey of discovering messages in numbers began in 2017, during a family vacation in Thailand. We were in Bangkok, enjoying some shopping. After a day at one of the major shopping centers, my wife Rebekah, our 2-year-old son Zephaniah, and I got into a taxi to head back to our hotel. We were familiar with the route, having taken it several times before. But this time was different.

As soon as we got into the taxi, the driver started arguing with me about the fare. He was forceful, demanding more money than we had agreed upon before getting into the car. I felt uneasy. Then I started noticing other things, like a screwdriver jammed into the air-conditioning vent and a large devil picture on the passenger window. At this point, I was more than a little concerned. Soon, the driver took a different route, one that led us into what looked like a slum area.

I was filled with fear and silently prayed for protection for my family and myself. I'd heard stories of situations like this going wrong, and all of that was running through my mind.

At one point, I glanced at the car's dashboard and noticed the time: 4:44. At the time, it didn't mean anything to me, but I was just grateful we eventually made it back to the hotel safely. It seemed the driver had taken a shortcut to avoid rush hour traffic.

A few months after that trip, I started seeing specific numbers regularly. It became so frequent that I couldn't ignore it. I knew it wasn't a coincidence because it happened almost daily. I'd check the time and see the same numbers multiple days in a row. I'd order takeout and get a receipt with the same number. I'd be driving, and the car in front of me would have the same number on the license plate. These were just a few examples, but there were many more. A real hunger stirred inside me to figure out why this was happening.

Like most people, I started by Googling it. As I searched, I recalled seeing 4:44 on my trip and began to look into its possible meaning. I found various explanations. One website said that 4:44 was related to angelic protection, which was exactly what I had been praying for during that tense taxi ride. Because of the angelic reference, I cross-checked this with different sources, including the Bible. I found several references suggesting that 444 is a message of victory and God's hand at work. Additionally, the number 4 in Hebrew symbolizes a door, and I realized that God had opened a door of understanding for me during this experience—allowing me to hear His voice through numbers.

At that point, I felt an inner conviction that God was using numbers to speak to me. This continued and even intensified, until I felt compelled to create my own reference table of numbers and their meanings. Some of these insights are shared in this book.

Around that time, I was in a season of transition, with a lot of changes happening all at once. I had quit my job, sold our house, moved to a new city, and was looking for work. It was a season of faith, and the number I kept seeing almost daily was 11:11 or 1:11. It was everywhere!

As I searched for the meaning of this, I learned that 11 represents transition. Understanding how God communicates through numbers became an exciting journey for me. It felt like I was playing a divine game of hide and seek with God.

I believe there are two main reasons for the increasing emphasis on receiving messages through numbers. First, we live in such a fast-paced world that it's easy to get distracted by everything we have to do. Second, it seems there's a growing need for supernatural guidance. Numbers can be an effective way to grab our attention and remind us that nothing happens by accident—there's a divine plan at work.

Whenever I see a number or a sequence that has significance, I now instantly recognize that there's a message or guidance behind it. It's up to me to seek it out. As we grow in this understanding, we can receive guidance and direction regularly.

More than ever, there's an urgency to understand these messages. Time itself is based on numbers, and without numbers, there is no time. I believe we are becoming more aware of divine timing, and as we learn to understand the times and seasons, we can step into our purpose and not miss out on any opportunities.

The second reason is that people are searching for meaning. Many are disillusioned with religion but are seeking spiritual experiences. We all have an internal sense that there's more to life.

There's a greater awareness of God communicating in various forms one of which is numbers. Whether you're filling up your car at the gas station, ordering lunch at a café, or glancing at the time at work, seeing a significant number in these everyday moments might be a way of receiving support and wisdom.

Numbers can be a quick reminder, a nudge to stay on the right path. They serve as messages we need to hear in that specific moment, helping us stay aligned with the direction we're meant to follow.

There is More!

here is a stirring in people's hearts—a desire to know more—and this stirring has been placed there by God, encouraging us to search for deeper meaning. Seeing and understanding the numbers that appear regularly plays an important role in this process.

There's a saying: "Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you." Many times, the answers we are looking for are right in front of us—like the numbers on your alarm clock or the digits on a gas station pump. Like everything else in life, understanding these signs is a process.

"It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter."

— *Proverbs 25: 2 (NKJV)*

This was written by King Solomon, considered the wisest man who ever lived. If the wisest person who ever lived said this, it's worth paying attention to! One of the greatest lessons I've learned is that we should always search for answers until we find them, and then act on them. Without action, there's no result. We should never give up on seeking answers. You could be just

one idea, one thought, or one revelation away from a completely new life, walking more confidently in your purpose and destiny. There are clues and blueprints for us to discover. Once we start recognizing God's voice in the world around us, it actually becomes hard to miss, as our awareness increases.

There are many ways to interpret numbers. Our job is to discern their meaning and how they apply to our lives. This can vary depending on the situations and circumstances we face, as numbers often carry multiple meanings and can be used in different ways. When certain numbers appear to us frequently and seemingly at random, it's not a coincidence.

Some might call it a coincidence, but I call it destiny. If we dismiss these occurrences as mere coincidence, we risk missing our opportunities and breakthroughs. In fact, the word "coincidence" means to coincide, coexist, or agree. What if our troubles and frustrations stem from not agreeing or coexisting with The Creator and what He is saying?

One of the key ways to understand messages through numbers is by frequently asking questions. God comes to lead and guide us, responding to our inquiries. I've found that whenever I ask God a genuine question, I always receive an answer. It might come immediately, or it might come a week, a month, or even longer later. But the answer always arrives at the right time—usually when we're ready to hear it.

Another way to gain revelation through numbers is by observing the world around us and understanding the role those numbers play in the physical world. For example, when man first landed on the moon, the spacecraft was named Apollo 11. Why not Apollo 12 or some other number? You'll learn more about the significance of the number eleven in the next chapter, so stay tuned! Or consider the fact that we have seven days in a week, or that we were created with five fingers on each hand. Nothing is accidental, and once we accept this, we will be filled with awe at how amazing God truly is.

One of the places I look for confirmation or understanding of numbers is in the Bible. Unfortunately, many people don't understand what the Bible says, because the mind alone cannot grasp spiritual things. Only through The Spirit can spiritual truths be understood. While we can understand certain things with our logic, we need spiritual discernment to perceive deeper truths.

There are countless examples of how numbers play a role in miracles and wonders in this world. Yes, miracles are real, and wonders are, too.

How do I know? I've experienced them myself and there is plenty of proof of this throughout scripture.

You may be asking, "What is a wonder?"

A wonder is something that makes you marvel—something that makes you say, "Wow!" or "How did that happen?" or "I didn't know that was possible!"

Embracing God's Ways

any of God's people are beginning to notice repeated numbers. Some of the most common examples include 111, 333, and 444, among many others. For many, there is a sense that God is trying to speak to us.

Every day, we have the opportunity to attune our hearts to hear what God is saying. We are living in a pivotal time right now, and there seems to be a sense of urgency to make the most of every moment on this Earth. I believe God wants to communicate with His people in new and fresh ways—not only to deepen our relationship with Him but also to help us understand His ways and plans for our lives. Living in this manner allows us to align with His purpose, acting like a slipstream that accelerates us into the plans and purposes He has created for us.

It's important to remember that when we live this way, our lives will look different, as God's ways are higher and His plans are greater. Knowing how to hear God in various ways, such as through numbers, can be extremely comforting and reassuring—something we all need at times, as we are still human and require the comfort of God. Many times, I have seen numbers and realized that God was speaking to comfort me, reassuring me that everything would be alright. Other times, I have encountered numbers that confirmed

something I had an inkling about, strengthening my awareness that God was at work in that particular situation.

I believe The Father deeply desires communication with us in our every-day lives. Throughout Scripture, God has revealed Himself to humanity in many different ways. For example, in the story of Joseph, God spoke many times through dreams. He spoke to Moses through a burning bush and to Gideon through an angel, just to name a few.

"The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is over many waters."

— Psalm 29:3 (NKJV)

What does this mean? It simply indicates that God has more than one method of speaking to us.

Let's explore an exciting and foundational question: What are numbers? Simply put, numbers are beautiful symbols. Many Christians believe that God speaks through dreams, which are also collections of meaningful symbols. If we embrace the idea that God can communicate through the powerful imagery of dreams, it's equally inspiring to think that He can speak to us through the unique language of numbers.

One of the things I love about God is that He is a planner. God has a plan and a purpose for everything—especially for us. From a practical perspective, a planner is one who is quantitative. Whether building a house or running a business, knowing your figures is essential. This principle applies to God as well. Everything in creation, including us, is specific, detailed, and quantified.

"And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows."

— *Luke 12:7 (NLT)*

In reading this I understand that God intentionally planned every aspect of who I am and how I look. One of the most profound revelations I received as I began to hear God's voice through numbers was an increasing acceptance

that I am special to Him. He cares about all the details of my life and the decisions I must make here on Earth. God truly wants to partner with us in both the big and the small; it all matters to Him. Being able to hear God's voice through numbers is a wonderful experience and journey.

One of the earliest revelations I received when learning to prophesy was that God always has something to say. Some suggest that at times God is silent, but I believe this is false. Such a notion implies that God doesn't want to speak to us, that perhaps He is temperamental and woke up on the wrong side of the bed. But God is not like that. He is a loving Father who always wants to speak to His children. If you have children, you know this to be true—even for us, who are imperfect.

While on this train of thought, consider the many ways we communicate. Sometimes it might be a phone call; other times, it could be a text, email, or video call. The point I'm making is that God communicates with us in many ways. The question is: Are we aware? Are we listening? Are we searching for the answers?

Hearing the voice of God in a new way can bring new revelation, confirmation, and comfort. Hearing God's voice prophetically through numbers is an amazing experience.

I believe we are living in a time when God wants to break free from conventional boxes and take His people to a new destination with Him. This is where we can be transformed and become effective not only in hearing God for ourselves but also in helping those who are lost.

Many spiritually hungry people are searching for God but are looking in all the wrong places. God has always been in the business of drawing all humanity to Himself, whether inside the walls of the church or outside. You may have heard the saying that God is no respecter of persons, which means that what God will do for one, He will do for another. I believe this applies to all people. Many outside the church are hearing God's voice too, but unfortunately, they are often going to the wrong places to interpret or understand what they are receiving.

You may have friends or family members who are into numerology, angel numbers, sacred geometry, or studies of synchronicities. Wouldn't it be wonderful to engage in conversation with these people, establishing a sense of acceptance and love, while sharing how God speaks to you through numbers? You see, God had it first, and the enemy is not a creator; he can only copy.

However, when he copies, it is a counterfeit—not the real deal. It may look similar, but it's not the same. I have found that being able to hear God through numbers has been incredibly helpful not only in my life but also when I've engaged with those who are unchurched. I know I have the better and original alternative, and I can talk about it with love and acceptance.

4

Receive Fullness to Display the Difference

hy do we need to hear from God? Primarily, it is to develop our relationship with Him. God speaks in many ways but are we listening?

Being able to hear from God in different ways, such as through numbers, is not a replacement for a true and deep relationship with Him; it should enhance it. In today's fast-paced world, many of us have numerous responsibilities, making it hard to find time for God. However, He speaks to us through numbers to capture our attention as we go about our daily lives because He still has a message He wants us to hear.

I have experienced many profound moments where God spoke to me through numbers. For example, I might see a number on a license plate while driving to a meeting, or I log onto my computer and notice the time is 3:33 or 4:44, and the message behind these numbers is exactly what I need to hear before attending to my tasks. Throughout this book, I will share some stories that only God could have orchestrated, making the message loud and clear.

It's also important to understand that there can be multiple meanings behind each number or set of numbers. I find that God often speaks to me through triplicate numbers. In Jewish culture, which is the context of the Bible and where Jesus grew up, triplicate numbers signify receiving the fullness or maximum meaning of a message. If I only see the same number once or twice, it doesn't grab my attention in the same way as when I see the same number three times in a row. A lot has to coincide for me to see that number at just the right time, and God has a unique way of arranging that.

When you see a triplicate number, know that God wants you to understand the fullness of what that number represents and see it manifest in your life. I'm reminded of the times I've heard people say, "If God is real, He should just show up and reveal Himself to me right now." For the most part, God reveals Himself to those who are already searching; another way to express this is paying attention. God loves to leave clues to see if we will pick up on them. He loves to surprise us and keep us in awe. I have found this to be true in my walk with God as He has revealed more of Himself to me and guided me prophetically through numbers. When we have those moments of realizing that God wants to speak to us, it's important to pause and take the time to search out the matter if we don't know the answer.

I often see certain numbers just before or just after making major life decisions because God wants to help us. The Holy Spirit is called the Helper for a reason, but He can only assist us to the level of our attention. For example, if I have an important decision to make and suddenly see 444, I know that in Hebrew, four means Dalet, which signifies a door. This could mean that God is opening a new door or inviting me to step into a new space. Sometimes, that requires steps of faith. If I dismiss it as mere coincidence, I might miss the opportunity to take that step or lack the confidence needed. In such cases, God may withhold the next message or set of instructions because I didn't respond to the original message. I will continue to see that number until I understand its significance. If you keep seeing the same number repeatedly, it's a good indication that there is a message you have not yet received or a revelation you have not applied in your life as God intends. The good news is that God is gracious, so He will keep reminding us.

I also liken seeing triplicate numbers to Jesus saying "verily, verily." Many times in the Bible, Jesus uses this phrase, which means, "Pay attention! What I am about to say is important and truthful, and you're going to need it." If we treat hearing God's voice through numbers in this way, you will be amazed at how God will speak and what will be revealed.

Let me share a quick story to illustrate this point. One day, my wife and I were driving and discussing potential names for our third child. We had been searching for the right name for some time but couldn't decide, as nothing felt right. On that particular day, a large semi-trailer truck pulled in front of me, and in massive numbers, it displayed "999." After a while, the truck moved to a different lane, and the car that was now in front of us had a license plate with "666." Upon seeing this, I knew God was speaking, but I was trying to figure out the message. Meanwhile, my wife Rebekah, sitting next to me, was reading off different names from a website, and we kept saying no to all of them. Then, suddenly, she read the name "Ephraim" and asked me what I thought about it. I replied, "What does it mean?" She found that in Hebrew, it means "doubly fruitful man." I liked the name and loved the meaning. At that moment, everything started to make sense: nine is associated with fruitfulness. It takes nine months for a baby to be born, and there are nine fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit. The number six signifies man. So, in that moment, we both understood that God was telling us our child's name was to be Ephraim, confirmed prophetically through numbers.

Many Christians are quick to judge those who are seeking Jesus outside of the church, whether through numerology, psychic readings, or astrology. Why do people engage in these things? Is it not because they are looking for truth, fulfilment and meaning? The problem with this is that when we judge the spiritually hungry, we lose the ability to bring answers. The question we should ask is, "Why do people feel the need to go outside of the church for answers?" If we were truly effective in our roles and the gifts God has given us, those who operate in the New Age would not only be out of a job but would also find themselves in the Kingdom of God because we displayed the nature and power of God correctly and fully.

We must remember that the devil is not a creator; he copies. So, if numerology exists, what is the real thing? What does this look like?

For too long, the church has been a place that claims to have open doors, but our actions and words often show that the doors are only open to a select few who fit the rules of what we think is acceptable. God is looking for a people who will not put Him inside a box and say, "You can only speak to me this way." He seeks those who say, "God, speak to me in whatever way You need, and help me be effective in reaching those around me."

In the Bible, Daniel was ten times better than the magicians and was trained alongside them.

"In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom."

— Daniel 1:20 (NIV)

In today's world, this is akin to finding yourself being trained with the best psychics, numerologists, and astrologers, unafraid of them while displaying the difference. Daniel never claimed to be ten times better; it was said of him that he was ten times better, meaning everyone around him recognized it. Unfortunately, rather than being better, the church at large is not even making an attempt because we often run away from these opportunities.

It is important we are open to how God wants to use us in reaching the unchurched. As you read through each chapter you will build a better understanding of what each number means not just for yourself but also for others. God is speaking to all people not just those who attend a church. Those who are unchurched and spiritually hungry will look for meaning related to numbers in the form of angel numbers or numerology and what you learn from this may help you to demonstrate acceptance and love rather than shutting the person down because you don't agree with what they are doing. For example if you were to have a conservation with a friend or family member and they were said "I keep seeing 11:11 that must mean the I am in alignment with the universe" you could reply with "that's so interesting you mention that because I have been learning about the Hebraic meaning of numbers and have discovered that The Creator communicates to us through numbers to give us divine instruction or encouragement." This is a very simple example and obviously to handle a conversation of length and do it well requires a bit of training but I want to communicate that what you will learn in this book is not just about what you will learn for yourself but it can also become a tool in reaching the unchurched.

5

How Can I Do This?

he remainder of this book is dedicated to shedding light on the meanings of certain numbers and what God may be trying to communicate to you. As much as I would love to conduct an in-depth study on every number, it's simply not feasible, nor is it the focus of this book. My aim is to equip the Body of Christ to hear God's voice in new ways. If you feel that God is trying to get your attention through a number not covered in this book, I have included some tips and steps you can follow to do your own study and discover what God may be saying.

I want to preface this by stating that while we can gather information, without revelation from the Holy Spirit, whatever we find will merely be information and nothing more. We need God to open our eyes to see what He sees.

A good starting point is to examine the Hebrew alphabet, which assigns numerical values to each letter. The symbols for the letters and their corresponding numbers are interconnected. A little research will help you uncover the symbolism behind each number. Secondly, look in Scripture to see where that number has appeared; often, you will notice a common theme throughout the Bible related to that number. God is not a God of accidents; He is a God of purpose. Everything in this universe has been designed in such a way

that God can communicate to us through creation and numbers, provided we are mature enough and open to His message.

When you find the meaning behind the Hebrew letter and examples in Scripture that correlate, you'll know there is a message to be heard. There are also real-world examples that confirm these meanings. For instance, the number 12 is commonly associated with government. We have the 12 tribes of Israel, 12 disciples, and 12 hours of AM and PM, all of which represent a governing structure.

There is more revelation than we have time to receive, and it can be easy to embark on a journey of gathering more and more information. However, I advise anyone reading this to ask themselves: Am I applying what I already have? If not, perhaps you have enough revelation for the time being. When you apply what you already know, God often reveals more.

It's key to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal more to you; you will frequently receive divine insights regarding that number. Remember, you are seeing that number repeatedly for a reason. Wouldn't God want to help you understand it better when you ask?

As Christians, we often love to receive revelation from God, but how often do we reflect and ask ourselves if we are applying this revelation in our lives, or are we simply enjoying how it makes us feel? Revelation without application is potential unrealized. A wise person hears what God is saying and acts on it.

I have spoken with many Christians who love to share their knowledge of numbers. While this excitement is commendable, it is rare for someone to share their revelation and then explain how they applied it. I emphasize this point because it is crucial for us as Christians to have testimonies and examples to show others how we have allowed God to speak to us and work through us. God is seeking a people who can hear His voice and apply His instructions.

Number One (111)

Main points: Oneness, wholeness, first place, highest importance, head not the tail, strength, new encounters, miraculous provision & revelation, peace is our starting point, the affection of Father God.

n the Bible, numerous passages emphasize unity and the significance of the number one in conveying the importance of wholeness.

"So we, numerous as we are, are one body in Christ (the Messiah), and individually we are parts one of another [mutually dependent on one another]."

— *Romans 12:5 (AMPC)*

This verse highlights our unity, not only with God but also with one another as members of the body of Christ. When the body is one, it is whole, capable of fulfilling its intended purpose.

"So there are three witnesses [a] in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are One."

— 1 John 5:7 (AMPC)

This passage underscores that God, while consisting of three distinct beings, is united in such a way that they cannot be separated.

The concept of one also relates to being first or having first place and priority. God's definition of "first" often diverges from human understanding, and recognizing this difference helps us align with His perspective.

"But many who [now] are first will be last [then], and many who [now] are last will be first [then]."

— Matthew 19:30 (AMPC)

In God's kingdom, the last will be first. The story of David illustrates this principle. He was the last son considered by his father, Jesse, when the prophet Samuel came to anoint a king. God often chooses those whom the world overlooks, as He looks at the heart, as explained in 1 Samuel 16:7. If you're feeling overlooked or questioning your purpose, seeing the number 111 might be God's way of affirming that you do have a purpose, and He will use you, albeit in His timing and way. David remained humble, and in due time, God elevated him without effort on David's part.

This principle of the first being last is reiterated by Jesus himself.

"If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all."

— Mark 9:35 (NKJV)

To be first in God's eyes means to serve others. In Hebrew, the letter Aleph symbolizes the head of an ox, which signifies strength and leadership.

Deuteronomy 28:13 tells us that being blessed by God means becoming the head and not the tail. If you're seeing 111, it may indicate situations in your life where God intends to elevate you from the tail to the head, providing you with the best outcomes.

Also the word "won" sounds like "one," and when you win something, it implies you have come first. God does not endorse failure; rather, 111 serves as a reminder that situations will turn in your favor, ensuring that you are the head and not the tail.

In Genesis 1:3 (AMPC), God said, "Let there be light," and light was created. This moment signified that light was crucial for the creation process. Without light, nothing else could be accomplished. What areas in your life need the light of God? Is He prompting you to create something new in you or through you? Light serves to separate darkness from itself. Darkness does not always equate to sin; it can represent ignorance or an inability to see clearly. What are you missing that God wants you to perceive?

Throughout this book, you will encounter many questions designed to lead you to God.

"Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!"

— *Matthew 7:9-11 (NIV)*

When we ask God questions, He is faithful to provide answers. Numbers like 111 may prompt us to ask the right questions. When Adam and Eve sinned, God asked them, "Where are you?" This question wasn't because He lacked knowledge; rather, it was meant for them to reflect on their position. God desires for us to know Him and His ways. The best way to uncover what we don't know is to ask.

You may find this approach elementary, yet profound revelations often emerge from simple truths. This is why Jesus tells us in Matthew 18:2-4 that we must be like little children to enter the kingdom of heaven. Notice the emphasis on "little" children. How young is a little child? What kinds of inquiries do they make? Little children ask the simplest questions, and while

the answers may seem obvious to adults, they approach life without assumptions, eager to learn and absorb knowledge. God wants us to be like sponges, soaking up His incredible revelation.

"For I passed on to you first of all what I also had received, that Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for our sins in accordance with [what] the Scriptures [foretold]."

— 1 Corinthians 15:3 (AMPC)

Paul recognized the importance of the salvation he received through Christ's death and resurrection, which is why he passed on this message first. Prioritizing something signifies its importance. What is God asking you to prioritize? If you're seeing 111, it may be a sign that He wants you to adjust some priorities to ensure the right things take precedence.

There is no condemnation in Christ, but God desires the best for us. He wants us to witness His will manifest on earth, which often requires adjusting our priorities.

John 2 recounts Jesus's first miracle—a miracle of provision. This story illustrates God's care for our needs and His desire to provide for us. At the wedding, when Jesus turned water into wine, the guests noted that the best wine had been saved for last. This speaks to what God is doing in the world today: He is saving the best for last. You might think, "I'm not the best; why would God want me alive in this time?" Yet, He chose you for a reason, knowing exactly what He was doing. This is both exciting and encouraging, for we are the ones carrying the new wine, the best wine.

In the Gospel of John, the phrase "God the Father" appears 111 times, and the name "Absalom" is mentioned 111 times in the Old Testament. For many, God seeks to heal and realign our connection with Him as our Father. While none of us had perfect earthly fathers, God is perfect and invites us into the fullness of His love, acceptance, healing, forgiveness, and wholeness.

Earlier, we discussed how the number one relates to wholeness. God is inviting us into a loving and peaceful relationship with Him, regardless of our earthly father experiences. This journey requires effort, letting go, and a willingness to be vulnerable with a God who simply wants to embrace us and reassure us that everything will be okay.

Seeing 111 often symbolizes God's work in restoring our relationship with Him as Father. It can signify the shedding of layers of the orphan spirit. While we may profess that God is our Father, do our thoughts and actions align with that belief? Do we find ourselves worrying or feeling abandoned, despite His promise to never leave us? These feelings often stem from childhood experiences. God wants to be our healing and freedom.

Earlier, we associated the number one with light, which dispels darkness. Darkness can represent the lies we've believed about God based on our experiences. God seeks to bring us into greater wholeness, allowing us to enjoy our relationship with Him and fulfill our destiny. I have often noticed that when God orchestrates events in my life that I know are His doing, the number 111 is somehow involved. This can be seen as God's way of saying, "Look, I did that for you," just like a loving father blesses his child.

In the book of John, the word "Yahweh" appears 111 times. Yahweh means "I Am," signifying that He is the answer to whatever you face and cannot be confined or limited.

Throughout Scripture, Jesus declares, "I am the bread of life," meaning only God can satisfy our spiritual hunger. He also states, "I am the light of the world," "I am the door," "I am the good shepherd," "I am the resurrection and the life," and "I am the true vine."

In conversations with many unchurched individuals, I have discovered that many are seeing the number 111. Why is this? It signifies the Father heart of God calling the lost home. Many who have engaged in other spiritual practices have been hurt by churches due to legalism, yet God calls them to Himself. Those seeking spiritual fulfillment outside the church often did so because they couldn't find Jesus within its walls. They are not looking for another club to join or another set of rules; they crave authentic spiritual experiences that satisfy their hunger for the true God.

Having a revelation of numbers positions us to converse with those who are spiritually hungry in a loving, accepting way, offering them the true answer.

"May the Lord, the God of your ancestors, increase you a thousand times and bless you as he has promised!"

— Deuteronomy 1:11 (NIV)

When we embrace the heart of the Father, we enter the abundant life He intends for us, which comes with blessings beyond measure.

Number Two (222)



Main points: Wisdom, faithful witness, Signs, miracles and wonders, blessing, agreement, double, testimony, household

he second letter in the Hebrew alphabet, Bet, has a numerical value of two and symbolizes a tent, or house, with an open door—an invitation

This notion of hospitality and openness is echoed.

"What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said: 'I will dwell among them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

— 2 Corinthians 6:16 (AMPC)

Here, we see that we are the dwelling place of God, provided we choose to open the door of our hearts to Him.

The importance of signs, miracles, and wonders in our lives is evident in

"Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man accredited and pointed out and attested to you by God with [the power to perform] miracles and wonders and signs which God worked through Him in your [very] midst, just as you yourselves know."

— Acts 2:22 (AMPC)

This verse is unique in that it is the only one in the Bible that mentions miracles, signs, and wonders together, underscoring their interconnectedness. God desires our lives to reflect these divine attributes, each serving a distinct purpose.

When you frequently see the number 222, it serves as a sign that God is drawing your attention. It invites you to ask, "What miracle or wonder does God want to manifest in my life?" For example, I recall a time when my wife and I faced uncertainty regarding an investment that had not panned out as we had hoped. We worried we might not recover our initial investment. To our surprise, we eventually received our money back, which was miraculous in itself. Later, we used that money for a different project that yielded excellent returns. Remarkably, the address assigned to this new project was 222. This felt like a clear sign from God that He was not only restoring our losses but also opening new doors of opportunity.

The significance of 222 extends beyond just miracles; it encompasses wisdom from above. Notably, the word "wisdom" appears 222 times in the Hebrew Bible. Additionally, February 22nd is celebrated as World Be Humble Day. Practically speaking, God's wisdom often brings about miracles. While our good ideas may not always succeed, God's insights lead us to His perfect plans. Wisdom is found in listening to God, obeying His voice, and allowing Him to shape our hearts and lives.

"Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom."

— *James 3:13 (NKJV)*

It takes humility to seek wisdom, as highlighted in Mark 2:22, where Jesus speaks of new wineskins—symbolizing a new mindset capable of receiving divine wisdom. In James 2:22, we learn that faith works in tandem with actions: "Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?" Experiencing the miracles God has for us requires faith and action.

What would it feel like to witness signs, miracles, and wonders in your life? What areas need a miracle? What wisdom might God be waiting to share with you if you simply ask?

"He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him."

- Daniel 2:22 (NIV)

The number 222 invites us into a season of revelation and understanding, encouraging us to see the broader picture. Often, we think we grasp the situation, but in hindsight, we realize that God had a more significant plan all along.

A crucial aspect of the number 222 is the concept of the new wineskin. We all love hearing about miracles and revelations, but if our mindset isn't aligned with God's truth, we cannot carry what He wants to bestow upon us. A wineskin represents our beliefs and perspectives, and 222 prompts us to shift our beliefs to be receptive to miracles, revelations, and the double portion God intends for us.

As mentioned at the beginning of this chapter the second letter in the Hebrew alphabet, Bet, has a numerical value of two and symbolizes a tent, or house, with an open door—an invitation to receive. Bet symbolizes a house or dwelling place, we understand that we are the house of God—He dwells within us. Thus, when we see 222, it may indicate that God is working within us to help us experience His miracles, signs, and wonders. When we become aware of His presence within us, we can better perceive the extraordinary works of God manifesting around us and through us. I've noticed that the number 222 often appears in my life during significant transitions, such as moving or engaging with matters involving a house.

In Hebrew, the word "barak," meaning "blessing," carries the numerical value of 222. This connection emphasizes that 222 is about walking in God's blessing. In **Genesis 12**, we see God blessing Abraham, and in **Deuteronomy 28**, we learn about the effects of that blessing. God blessed Abraham so that he could multiply. Similarly, 222 reminds us that as members of God's family, we qualify for His blessings. However, receiving these blessings requires a mindset that allows us to believe in a personal way, leading to manifestation in our lives.

One significant barrier to receiving the Father's blessings is the orphan spirit. Orphans struggle to receive from their father because they feel unworthy. To walk in the blessing, we must replace any beliefs that do not align with God's nature as a good Father. We must genuinely believe that God exists and that He is good. This involves checking our hearts and subconscious thoughts for any lingering doubts. If we find ourselves worrying or fearful, it may indicate that we doubt God's goodness and faithfulness due to lies we've internalized. Identifying these lies and forgiving those who may have perpetuated them positions us to embrace the truth and, subsequently, the blessing.

Another aspect of 222 is the concept of double. The Bible contains numerous verses discussing the idea of "double," often in the context of restoration or recompense, as seen in Isaiah 40:2, 1 Timothy 5:17, and 2 Kings 2:9. In 2 Kings 2:9, we learn that Elisha received a double portion of Elijah's spirit, but his commitment in 2 Kings 2:2 qualified him for this blessing. The number 222 often signals the commitments and actions required to receive God's double portion.

One primary characteristic of the orphan spirit is rejection. Embracing God's acceptance and love is crucial; without it, we struggle to see His hand at work in our lives.

I remember a time when I was facing a mountain which was a situation, I had no control over, and I just needed to trust God for the outcome. The only problem was I was struggling to trust God and was worrying about this situation to the point where I couldn't sleep. Have you ever been there? Ever

had a situation keeping you up at night? Well one night I heard God say very clearly 'get up and pray" so I pulled myself out of bed and opened the door and right in front of me was a clock from across the room and the time was 2:22. I knew this was God and after some time in prayer I realised I had been thinking like and orphan. I was worrying and trying to work out how I was going to take care of myself when God was saying "it's my turn to take care of you now" Orphans hustle and try to do everything themselves because they have no one to look after them and this is how the world thinks. As sons of God, we have a Father who takes care of us and even if we cannot see His plan in the moment we must lean on His goodness that He is working behind the scenes to do something far greater than we could even ask for. When we look back we will realise that because we trusted Him we were greatly blessed.

"Instead of your [former] shame you shall have a twofold recompense; instead of dishonor and reproach [your people] shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double [what they had forfeited]; everlasting joy shall be theirs."

— *Isaiah 61:7 (AMPC)*

Many of us have endured difficult situations, and God desires us to receive double for what was lost or stolen. Bringing these situations to God and believing for recompense can lead to profound restoration. The idea of "double" includes the concept of a double-minded person.

"A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways." — *James 1:8 (KJV)*

This instability arises when we attempt to operate out of two wineskins the old and the new. When God offers us something new or invites us to step into a new season, we must release the old, primarily our outdated beliefs, as these beliefs drive our actions.

Three (333)

Main points: revelation, completion of a thing, character process for our purpose, call for help, provision, covenant and trust, protection, resurrection

he third letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Gimel, which has a numerical value of three. Gimel symbolizes a rich man running after a poor man, illustrating God's grace and pursuit of us. Before Christ Jesus rose on the third day, we were spiritually impoverished. He left His throne in heaven, coming to earth to complete the work of the cross, restoring our worth and blessings.

Gimel also represents God placing us in situations and alongside people who will help us. Many find themselves in need because they have lost what was precious to them; the rich man—the Lord—comes to restore what was lost, leading us into a place of abundance.

"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

— Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NIV)

The number three represents covenant, both with God and with others. God Himself is a triune being—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—showing us the strength that comes when three are united. In trust law, a trust requires at least three parties to secure its contents. According to Jewish tradition, Noah's ark had three levels, further emphasizing the importance of this number.

Three signifies strength for operation and protection. When we enter into a covenant with God, we access His blessings and promises.

Additionally, three symbolizes a character process that leads to a greater outcome. Consider these examples from Scripture:

- Abraham embarked on a three-day journey to Moriah to sacrifice his son Isaac, obeying God's command.
- Jonah spent three days in the whale before leading Nineveh to repentance.
- Jesus lay in the tomb for three days before His resurrection.
- Three men were thrown into the fire, only to emerge unscathed.
- Daniel fasted for three weeks before receiving an answer to his prayers.
- Peter denied Jesus three times before stepping into his true calling as the rock of the church.
- Saul was blinded for three days after encountering Christ before becoming the Apostle Paul.
- Paul pleaded with God three times to remove the thorn in his flesh.
- Jesus faced temptation three times in the wilderness before launching His ministry.
- In Gethsemane, Jesus prayed three times, yet He submitted to the Father's will.

In each of these instances, the number three signifies a significant process or testing period that prepares individuals for their ministry or breakthrough. If you are frequently seeing 333, God may be reassuring you that

you are on the verge of a breakthrough, and your testing phase is nearing completion. Remember, God allows tests not to burden us but to mold us into the people He has destined us to be. He desires lasting ministries, not overnight successes, cultivated through character and endurance developed during times of trial.

The examples above reveal a common thread: the importance of enduring periods of testing. Abraham had to walk for three days to a destination where he would sacrifice his son. I can only imagine the temptation to turn back. Similarly, Paul spent three days processing his encounter with Jesus before deciding to follow Him. Jesus faced temptation three times and remained steadfast each time. The encouraging truth is that, in all these narratives, significant outcomes followed the trials.

Furthermore, the number 333 can be broken down into 300 + 30 + 3. In Hebrew, 300 (Shin) means fire, 30 (Lamed) represents learning, and 3 (Gimel) symbolizes kindness or giving. Together, this can be interpreted as God saying, "If you go through the fire, I will teach you something new, and you will be able to receive what I have for you."

Three also signifies wholeness and the interconnectedness of the physical and spiritual realms. For example, we have a mind, body, and spirit; Heaven, Earth, and Hell; and the outer court, inner court, and the Holy of Holies.

In Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV) we read, "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

In Morse code, the SOS signal—a call for help—consists of three dots, three dashes, and three dots. When we call upon God, He responds, revealing truths we could not uncover without His guidance. In times of testing, reaching out to God is crucial for gaining the wisdom we need for our future.

Number Four (444)

Main points: opening and closing doors, protection, prophetic Worship, remember of God's promises, deliverance for breakthrough

he fourth letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Dalet, which has a numerical value of four. Dalet symbolizes a door, specifically a door to a tent or a habitation. In Scripture, Jesus declares, "I am the door" (John 10:9), affirming that He is the only way to salvation. Whenever I frequently see the number 444, I recognize it as a signal that I am in a season of learning to walk through new doors or to close old ones behind me. Doors serve two primary purposes: to let people in and to keep others out. The number 444 signifies our entry into new opportunities and the closing off of the past.

"To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open."

— Revelation 3:7 (NIV)

To understand the Key of David, we need to consider David's life. He was known for having a heart after God and for writing prophetic psalms. The Key of David, therefore, represents having a heart aligned with God and engaging in prophetic worship.

Prophetic worship involves singing the prophetic words God has spoken to His people. Often, our worship is limited to earthly-minded songs; however, the most powerful worship is that which opens doors that no man can shut. This worship touches the hearts of individuals, delivering the true word of the Lord.

"The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

— Zephaniah 3:17 (NKJV)

Many say they are engaged in prophetic worship however the true marker of prophetic worship is the release of a prophetic song and in many cases it will be a new song expressed through faith in the prophetic, it's not a song that another man has written rather it is a song coming straight from the Father with a specific message or instruction relevant to the person or the congregation. A prophetic song when released will always bring victory and deliverance into a person's life or the life of a church and carries tremendous power for miracles and breakthroughs. According to Zephaniah 3:17 God functions through prophetic song, it is a vital component to our faith, calling and relationship to God.

For those unfamiliar with this practice, a simple way to begin is by taking prophetic words you've received and transforming them into songs, singing them over your life. This approach is powerful because it aligns with God's intent for you, allowing His words to penetrate your heart and produce a

fruitful harvest in your life. This principle applies both personally and corporately, as God often releases prophetic words over individual churches and groups, clarifying their purpose and function. When done well, prophetic worship brings greater alignment with God's will than any other form of worship.

Interestingly, 444 also corresponds to a frequency known as the Key of David. In the early 20th century, a movement sought to standardize musical pitch worldwide, leading to the establishment of 440 Hz as the standard frequency for the musical note "A" in 1939, replacing the earlier standard of 444 Hz. Some musicians argued that this shift resulted in a loss of harmonic richness and emotional depth in music, believing that the higher frequency of 444 Hz was more in tune with the natural harmonics of the human ear. This historical context underscores the connection between the number 444 and music, reaffirming that prophetic worship aligns us with the divine.

"I will praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, my God; I will sing praise to you with the lyre, Holy One of Israel."

— Psalm 71:22 (NIV)

Our hearts act like instruments, producing a sound and frequency similar to musical instruments. Just as a musician uses a tuning fork to tune an instrument, we tune our hearts to God through prophetic worship, aligning ourselves with His frequency. There have been numerous occasions when I witnessed prophetic words given in song form, and the transformative power they hold is profound. These words penetrate deeply, bringing immediate healing, deliverance, and breakthroughs.

In Scripture, the rainbow is mentioned four times, serving as a sign of God's promises. If you find yourself seeing 444, it may be God's reminder that He is faithful to fulfill His promises. God possesses unwavering confidence in His promises because He exists outside of time and space. To Him, the fulfillment of His promises is already accomplished, yet for us on the physical plane, it remains a promise until we see it manifested. Thus, God loves to reassure us that it is done, knowing we occasionally need that confirmation.

I recall a season in my life filled with change, where it seemed everything around me was shifting. As humans, we often resist change, as it can be

uncomfortable and uncertain. During this time, I frequently saw the number 444, which was God's way of signaling that old doors were closing and new ones were opening, leading me into the purpose and destiny He had planned for me. Change is often a prerequisite for fulfilling our God-given purpose. The Bible provides many examples, such as Joseph, who was taken from his home and family, and Abram, who was called to leave his country, people, and father's household to journey to a land God would reveal. Abram obeyed, and God promised to make him into a great nation and to bless him. Frequently, change in our lives coincides with exiting old doors and stepping into new ones, requiring a higher level of trust in God.

Seeing 444 is akin to observing a rainbow, where God reassures us that we can trust Him as He leads us into greater things.

As we transition between old and new spaces, we must handle situations wisely, much like we carefully turn the handle to open or close a door. The test of whether we can enter into what God has for us often hinges on how we manage the process of entering new opportunities.

The number four is also associated with every direction. In Genesis 2:10-14, we read about the four rivers that flowed from the Garden of Eden: Pishon, Gihon, Tigris, and Euphrates. These rivers were intended to water the garden and divide the land into four regions. We also have North, South, East, and West. God desires us to live in His blessings, in a place of prosperity, with provision flowing from every direction. The name Eden means delight or paradise. Perhaps we need to walk through new doors to enter into a land of delight, where God's blessings manifest in our lives.

As mentioned in a previous chapter, God has already blessed us when we entered through the door of Jesus into His family. However, just because God has released His blessings does not mean we automatically receive them. Our beliefs and mindsets may need adjusting to fully accept what God intends for us. For instance, I recall times when I've gone out to eat, and someone generously offered to pay for my meal. I often felt a false humility arise, thinking, "Oh, you don't have to do that." Similarly, when receiving a gift that exceeds my expectations, I might say, "I couldn't possibly let you do that; you have to take it back." If we react this way over a meal or small gift, how can we ever allow God to bless us with far greater gifts?

God will never violate our will to bless us, but when we are ready to receive, His blessings will manifest.

Another significant aspect of the number four is the Four Cups of Passover, known as the "Four Cups of Wine," which are integral to the Jewish Passover Seder. Each cup represents a specific promise of redemption as described in the Torah:

First Cup: Kiddush – The Cup of Sanctification

Represents: The promise, "I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians" (Exodus 6:6).

Purpose: Used for the Kiddush, a blessing that sanctifies the holiday and begins the Seder.

2. Second Cup: Magid – The Cup of Deliverance

Represents: The promise, "I will deliver you from their bondage" (Exodus 6:6).

Purpose: Consumed after recounting the Exodus story and discussing the Haggadah (the narrative of the Passover story).

3. Third Cup: Birkhat Hamazon – The Cup of Redemption

Represents: The promise, "I will redeem you with an outstretched arm" (Exodus 6:6).

Purpose: Drunk after the meal and during the Grace After Meals (Birkat Hamazon), a blessing of thanks for the food.

Fourth Cup: Hallel – The Cup of Praise 4.

Represents: The promise, "I will take you to be My people" (Exodus 6:7).

Purpose: Drunk after singing Hallel (psalms of praise) and the concluding prayers of the Seder.

Each cup symbolizes a stage in the redemption process, celebrating themes of freedom, deliverance, and divine promise. The drinking of these cups serves as a ritual that helps participants remember and celebrate the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery.

These four cups represent the fullness of the work of the cross in our lives. Practically speaking, as we exit old seasons and enter new ones, we undergo a process involving our souls. First, God sanctifies us, setting us apart for His purpose. Then, He delivers us from the things that have held us back so we can receive the new. Following this, there is redemption, where things we have lost or had stolen are restored.

"I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm—my great army that I sent among you." Finally, we praise God for our newfound freedom and blessings.

— Joel 2:25 (NIV)

This entire process reflects our journey into Jesus, who is the door to our salvation, and it also mirrors what we experience each time God seeks to elevate us to a new level in Him.

Number Five (555)



Main points: grace, favor, empowerment, identity shift, resurrection life and multiplication

he fifth letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Hei (ה), pronounced Hey, and its numerical value is five. Hei symbolizes the breath or wind of God, which we recognize today as the Holy Spirit. It also represents a window, suggesting that if our mouth is viewed as a window, the breath we release through it is a sign of life and communication.

Scripture is full with examples of God breathing on people and things, infusing them with life or restoring them. For instance, in Genesis 2:7 (NIV), we read, "Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."

This passage illustrates how God gave life to Adam, the first human, by breathing into him.

In **Job 33:4** (NIV), Job acknowledges, "*The Spirit of God has made me;* the breath of the Almighty gives me life," highlighting that our existence is sustained by God's breath, signifying divine creation and sustenance.

Ezekiel 37:9-10 (NIV) recounts a powerful vision: "Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army." Here, God's breath brings life to a valley of dry bones, symbolizing restoration and revival.

In **John 20:22** (NIV), after His resurrection, Jesus breathes on His disciples, saying, "*Receive the Holy Spirit*." This act symbolizes a new creation and spiritual empowerment. Each of these instances emphasizes that it is God's breath that sustains life, resurrects the dead, and empowers us.

What in your life is God asking to breathe on today?

In **Zechariah 4:6** (NIV), we read, "*Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,*" *says the LORD Almighty.*" There are certain things that only the Holy Spirit can accomplish. Often, we rely on our logic or human strength, only to find ourselves exhausted and frustrated.

Job reminds us in **Job 32:8** (NIV), "But it is the spirit in a person, the breath of the Almighty, that gives them understanding." Hei is also about revelation. Sometimes, our lives do not reflect God's intended purpose, not due to lack of effort, but rather from a lack of understanding. Without recognizing that the Holy Spirit is here to assist us, we may end up striving in our own strength, ultimately failing.

The breath of God or the Holy Spirit can remove the dust from our belief systems. When beliefs accumulate over time, they can obscure our vision. Just as we breathe on something dusty to reveal what lies beneath, the Holy Spirit brings revelation that exposes our beliefs. If our beliefs conflict with divine revelation, one of them must be wrong—and it's likely not God's.

While revelation is valuable, it does not automatically become part of us. We must undergo a process of identifying the lies that oppose the revelation we've received. This involves forgiving, renouncing, letting go, receiving the truth, and consciously choosing to walk in that truth daily. The wonderful outcome is that, once we complete this process, walking out the revelation from God becomes effortless because nothing within us contradicts it.

The number five is also about grace, favor, and empowerment. When God's hand is upon our lives, we are favored and empowered to achieve victory and freedom. When the Israelites left Egypt, they did so in rows of five. This interpretation comes from the Hebrew word "םישמח" (ḥamūšīm) in Exodus 13:18, which can be translated as "armed" or "in ranks of five." This suggests that the Israelites marched out of Egypt organized in groups of five.

Despite being slaves in Egypt for 400 years, the Israelites' freedom had manifested. Five symbolizes the manifestation of promises. For something to manifest, it must transition from the spiritual realm to the physical, allowing us to sense it with our five senses and hold it with our five fingers. I believe that five represents promises being fulfilled and manifested.

Let's revisit the concept of five as a window, as mentioned earlier. Have you heard the phrase "window of opportunity"? If you are seeing the number 555, it may signify that there are windows of opportunity available for you to seize. The hand symbolizes action; when we act on the opportunities God opens for us, we become freer and witness the manifestation of His promises. The Israelites could have chosen to remain in Egypt, but God opened a window of opportunity for them to leave, and they took action.

The Hebrew word Hei is also associated with words like "look," "behold," and "reveal." In English, we say "hey!" to get someone's attention. God will use various means to redirect our focus toward what He wants us to see. Whatever we focus on will grow and ultimately manifest.

Maintaining focus is one of the most challenging aspects of human existence. We often allow distractions to lead us astray. It takes strength and courage to maintain focus. The number 555 in Strong's Concordance corresponds to the Hebrew word omets, which means "to be strong or be stronger." God will empower us with the strength needed to take the actions that lead us toward the manifestation of His promises.

Leaving Egypt required strength.

"He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes."

— Psalm 105:37 (KIV)

Remarkably, about 600,000 men left Egypt, not counting women and children. The absence of weakness or feebleness is a miracle—God will bring you out in strength!

The Hebrew word hinneh (יְבֵּבָה) translates to "here I am" or "behold." In Genesis 22:1-2 (NIV), God tests Abraham: "Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' 'Here I am,' he replied."

There is a deeper revelation here. If we break the word into two parts, we get "be" and "hold." We must first "be" the person God has called us to be before we can "hold" the promise. This principle is evident throughout the Bible, where God changes people's names to reflect their new identities. Abram becomes Abraham, and Sarai becomes Sarah. God infused His Hei, or His Spirit, into them so they could produce the promise of multiplication.

The theme of multiplication is evident in the story of the boy with five loaves and two fish, a well-known miracle of Jesus recorded in John 6. Jesus feeds a crowd of 5,000 men (plus women and children) with just five loaves of barley bread and two fish. The boy who provides this food is mentioned in John 6:9. Jesus takes the loaves and fish, gives thanks, and distributes them to the crowd. Not only is there more than enough food, but twelve baskets of leftovers are collected after everyone has eaten.

This miracle showcases significant multiplication: turning five into 5,000 is a remarkable one-thousand-fold increase. Considering the women and children, the multiplication is even more astonishing, especially since the boy himself would have eaten five loaves. When we offer to God what we have, give thanks, and act in faith, the result is overwhelming multiplication that nourishes everyone, with plenty left over. How incredible is that?!

Let's examine this story closely, as seeing the number 555 may indicate that similar applications need to occur in our lives.

First, we note that the crowd is following Jesus. Only those who follow Him qualify for the miracle because we must be where He is. Sometimes, we may think we're following Jesus, only to find He has moved on. We need to remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit to stay aligned with Him.

Before the miracle happens, Jesus tests Philip, the fifth disciple, in John 6:5: "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" The passage notes that Jesus asked this only to test Philip, for He already knew what He was going to do.

Secondly, when the boy arrives with the food, Jesus gives thanks before distributing it to those who are seated. To whom does He give thanks? Presumably to His Father. Do we perceive God as our Father? Do we see Him as one who desires to bless us? Do we view Him as a God who multiplies?

It's important to note that only those who were sitting received food. If you weren't seated, you didn't get anything. This emphasizes that we must be in a position of rest to receive from God. When we are at rest, we can receive as much as we desire.

In this context, faith is akin to rest. I know that, in English, the two words are not directly related, but in practice, they are. Are you resting or wrestling? To rest is to find peace and cease striving in your own efforts because you recognize that it is done. While this doesn't mean we become passive, our internal posture must be one of rest.

Imagine being there and having the opportunity to take as much as you want, only to realize there were still loads of leftovers after everyone had eaten. This revelation prompts us to consider how we often approach God. We must ask ourselves if we view Him as one who runs out of supply or as the God of more than enough.

God has given us promises, but often we struggle to see their manifestation in our lives. When we see the number 555, we may need to evaluate our understanding of His grace and favor in our lives. The more we view God as our Father, the easier it becomes to receive from Him.

In closing, let us remember that in the midst of challenges and needs, God's grace and empowerment are available to us. Like the boy with five loaves and two fish, when we present our limited resources to Him with thanksgiving, He can multiply them into an abundance that surpasses our expectations.

Number Six (666)

Main points: Human effort, there is a better way an easier way, reminder to live by faith, the moment before breakthrough

he sixth letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Vav (I), which has a numerical value of six. Vav symbolizes connection; visually, it resembles a hook, designed to link one thing to another. Many liken Vav to the word "and", which serves as a connective term. Additionally, Vav can represent a ladder, like Jacob's ladder, which connects Heaven to Earth.

The number six is also associated with humanity, as man was created on the sixth day. This number signifies that we all fall short of God's glory, yet through Christ Jesus, we are made perfect. Jesus is our Vav, the connection between us and the Father. Just as God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh, many of us work for six days and rest on the seventh. Thus, six represents human effort.

According to science the human body is made of carbon. Each carbon atom is made up of three fundamental particles of which there are 6 protons, 6 neutrons and 6 electrons. The number of our flesh or the beast nature which is our animalistic nature is 666. This part of us only knows how to operate from effort. The flesh functions in a lower dimension and tries to change situations and circumstances through effort and intellect. That is why Paul wrote in

'For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.'

— 2 Corinthians 10:4 (KJV)

To be carnal is not just about sinning it is also to be worldly as in living and operating from this world, the world or dimension of effort. The Spirit of God within us is the only thing separates us from the animal kingdom, when we see 666 it is a reminder to us to function from the dimension of the Spirit where real and permanent change happens.

In John 2:6, Jesus turned six stone jars of water into wine. This highlights the creative power of God to turn something into something else as well as foreshadow His redemptive to fill humanity through the New Covenant. So how is this relevant to you? The power of God or God's power within each of us has the power to change natural things, things that others would say are impossible. Many Christians feel uncomfortable about the idea of God in us. Religiosity likes the idea that the power is somewhere else and can only be accessed if you plead and beg for it. The only problem with that is it makes certain portions of the Bible irrelevant such as;

'Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us'

— Ephesians 3:20 (KJV)

The power spoken of in this scripture is within you, but it is not your intellect or physical effort. It is the divine nature of God within us. The spirit of God in us is a creative power that causes change and can only be activated by faith. It is God who does the exceedingly abundantly above but only if

we do our part which is to use the power that works in us. You see a car has power but if I don't know how to start the engine I'm not going anywhere, so it's only as good as you know how to use it.

In the book of Isaiah God tell us His ways are different to our ways.

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

— Isaiah 55:8-9 (NKIV)

So what are our ways? Well put simply and truthfully our ways are carnal and fleshly, full of human effort containing no creative power or ability to produce true or create lasting change. The spirit of God within us is creative, full of power and causes true and lasting change.

The number 6 or 666 is about ceasing from your own efforts and learning the way of faith giving results from a higher dimension known as the kingdom of God causing change to the lower dimension known as the earthly realm or the physical world.

There have been several occasions when I had seen 666 and at the time or just before I was engaged in an activity or thought process that was filled with own human effort and intellect, I was trying to solve my own problems, I recall one particular occasion I was standing in a shopping center faced with what was a financial challenge that I just couldn't stop thinking about. Whilst standing on the escalator going up I heard God say to me as clear as day "you've tried to take care of yourself now it's my turn to take care of you!" In that moment it hit me that I had been carnal, I was trying to be my own savior and it is a worldly way to think. The world does not have a loving Father to which they can relate to, however we do! God will allow certain things to happen to position us help us go deeper in Him for God does not want us to remain shallow in our faith or in our walk with Him. God wants a deep people who know the truth not in their head but in their heart, that means you know truth subconsciously just like you know your name. If anyone tried to convince you that your name was something else it wouldn't work, you would be incapable to doubt it! This is where God wants to take us, He

wants to take us to a place where we become incapable of doubting Him and what He has said.

Our fleshly nature always wants to work it out and get us back to self-reliance We love to work out how something will happen or should happen, we love to help God however God doesn't need our help, we need His! Isn't it wonderful that He lives inside of you and me and we can access His power at any moment.

In Luke 17:20-21 KJV we find out that the kingdom of God is within us:

"Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; 21 nor will they say, [a] 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is [b] within you."

— Luke 17:20-21 (KJV)

Many Christians struggle to believe the kingdom of God is within, but if it were not true why did Jesus say it? And did you notice that it was the Pharisees who were asking where the kingdom was? A religious mind does not know where the kingdom of God is! That means they can't find it and if you can't find it you can't use it, so the only option remaining is your own effort. We all have varying degrees of this whether we like to admit it or not and God wants to break us free from this mentality. The number 6 or 666 reminds us cease operation from our carnal nature that only knows effort and encourages us access the kingdom of God within and to apply kingdom principles. God is calling His people to remember where the kingdom is and to return to what works. His kingdom principles work! Many of us have some revelation of kingdom principles but we don't apply them or apply them as much as we ought to and when we don't apply kingdom principle we automatically revert back to our own effort. Christians are very good at getting revelation, but application is often lacking.

"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him"

— Ephesians 1:17 (NKJV)

This scripture points to the fact that we need both revelation and wisdom, and it is wisdom to apply what you know. The reason I point all of this out is because if I don't many will read this and say to themselves "I just need to rest, I don't need to do anything" when in fact we need to put our efforts towards applying kingdom principles which is the type of work God wants us to engage in hence why the scripture in Luke 17:21 say "according to the power that works within you" The power has to be put to work so you don't have to work or work it out.

"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His."

— *Hebrews 4:9-11 (NKJV)*

Paul encourages us to direct our efforts toward entering God's rest to avoid falling into unbelief. Striving is often a manifestation of unbelief; the remedy lies in entering God's rest and knowing Him intimately as our Father and as only the Father can do is give identity to His children. When we relationally know who God is and know who we are through revelation from God and know where the kingdom of God and how to apply kingdom principles the issue of human effort will be a thing of the past.

In Joshua chapter 6, we learn that the Israelites marched around Jericho for six days before the walls fell on the seventh. This illustrates that six can symbolize being on the verge of breakthrough or significant victory, encouraging us to persist until we witness those walls come down. God requires our obedience for the breakthrough. The Israelites likely felt fatigued physically if not mentally after all that marching but it is important to do as instructed to get the result.

After six days of marching, the mental challenge may have loomed large—"We've done this for six days, and nothing has changed." Many of us experience this temptation to give up just before a breakthrough. If God instructed you to march for seven days, then march for seven and not six because six won't bring the walls down, partial obedience doesn't bring walls down.

If you find yourself seeing the number six repeatedly, it may be a message from God regarding these themes. Consider asking the Holy Spirit the following questions:

- Are You inviting me to know you as my Father in a deeper way?
- What actions do I need to take or stop taking?
- Do I actually know what kingdom principles are?
- Do I know how to use them? And, If so have I been applying them?
- Am I on the verge of a breakthrough?
- What words of encouragement do You have for me today?

While there are numerous examples of six in the Bible, the key takeaway is our profound need for God. It may be time to bring your needs before Him and recognize that only He can change your situation—only He can transform water into wine. Sometimes, God allows circumstances in our lives to remind us of our dependence on Him.

12

Number Seven (777)

7

Main points: rest in God's perfect completion & meditate on prophetic promises

he seventh letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Zayin, with a numerical value of seven. Zayin symbolizes a crowned man and a sword. It is often said that a man's crown is his wife. Throughout the Bible, the number seven signifies perfect completion. For instance, the rainbow, with its seven colors, represents God's promises to us. Additionally, the seventh day of creation and the Sabbath in Jewish culture are designated for rest.

With these foundational points in mind, let's explore how they connect and how God might speak to us through the number seven.

Zayin's connection to the sword highlights its purpose: to cut. The letter resembles a sword pointing downward, which emphasizes the importance of the Word of God. In Ephesians 6, Paul instructs us to take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, alongside prophetic words God has

given us. When these words penetrate the soil of our hearts—not just our intellect—true change begins to take place within us, and ultimately, in our outward circumstances.

Zayin is also linked to the Hebrew word for "remember," pronounced zachor. This word appears frequently in the Torah and Jewish liturgy, notably in the commandment to "remember the Sabbath day" (Exodus 20:8). When we allow the Word of God to take root in our hearts, we can truly rest, as we move beyond mere head knowledge to an intimate acceptance of truth. If God's Word resides solely in our minds, we cannot find true rest because we haven't fully embraced it.

If you are seeing the number 777, it may be God's reminder to "remember, remember," But remember what? Remember to rest! One of the greatest challenges Christians face is learning to rest. What does faith look like? It looks like rest. We shouldn't strive to make things happen that we know are already completed in Christ.

Consider how you approach sleep at night. Do you hope and pray that the sun will rise in the morning? No, you go to sleep (rest) with the assurance that it will rise. In the same way, we can have unwavering faith in God's promises.

To "re-member" means to reconnect and revive our memory. We are to remember God's goodness, rest in the finished work of the cross, and recognize our identity in Christ. When we rest, we also eliminate distractions that prevent us from finding peace. Have you ever struggled to fall asleep due to racing thoughts or noise? Seven represents the need to cut off distractions to enter His rest.

In Genesis 5:31, we read that Lamech lived for 777 years. The name Lamech means "to make low." The number seven symbolizes rest; however, to truly enter rest, we must let go of all striving. This involves humbling ourselves and accepting that God's Word is ultimately the truth in our lives.

Jesus came to give us abundant life, available to all who choose, in humility, to elevate God's Word above their experiences. It can be challenging when our circumstances feel overwhelming, but ultimately, we hold the remote control. We can choose to change the channel to the program of truth that proclaims we are rich, healed, and whole. If you feel overwhelmed or unable to rest, remember that you can change the channel.

Lamech was also the father of Noah, who embodies the faith to grasp God's promises and facilitate new beginnings for future generations. What if

our decision to rest in God and His finished work led to the end of old cycles and the dawn of fresh starts—not just for ourselves, but for our families?

Finally, as we conclude our exploration of the number seven, we recognize that we are the bride of Christ. As mentioned earlier, the crown of a man is his wife. God desires that we, as the bride of Christ, be at rest. The role of the bride is to trust in her husband's provision and protection. In our union with Christ, we lean on His promises, confident in His faithfulness. Just as in any marriage, we must remain faithful to Him, primarily by trusting in what He has said.

The renewal of the mind is essential to entering rest. This renewal requires repeatedly embracing the truth and uprooting lies revealed by the Holy Spirit. Those who know the truth are free, and those who are free are at rest.

13 Number Eight (888) 7

Main points: new beginnings, new missions, new perspectives—following Christ to a greater Level

he eighth letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Chet (**n**), with a numerical value of eight. Chet symbolizes a man and woman walking together in unity to bring life, highlighting how our connection with God allows us to receive new life. Additionally, eight can be expressed as 4 + 4, where four (Dalet) represents a door. Thus, eight can be viewed as a double door leading to new life or new beginnings.

In my own life, I've experienced many transitions where I sensed the end of a season and the beginning of something new. During these times, the number 888 frequently appeared, reassuring me that I was on the right path toward a new beginning.

In the story of Noah and the Flood, eight people were saved in the ark—Noah, his wife, his three sons (Shem, Ham, and Japheth), and their wives (1

Peter 3:20). This group of eight represented a fresh start for humanity, free from the sin and iniquity of past generations.

We also see that David, the eighth and youngest son of Jesse, became the king of Israel and was known as a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 16:10-13). His anointing marked a new beginning for the kingdom of Israel.

The first biblical mention of eight occurs when God commanded Abraham to circumcise every male child among his descendants on the eighth day after birth (Genesis 17:12; Leviticus 12:3). This act signified the beginning of a new life in covenant with God, representing purification and dedication.

As we embark on new beginnings, God often leads us through a process of cutting away our flesh and circumcising our hearts to ensure we start fresh. It is essential that we enter new seasons under His grace rather than through our own strength. God desires for us to start well and finish well in whatever He calls us to, with eternal implications.

When we see a triplicate number like 888, it signifies maximum meaning. It often indicates we are engaging in something related to a new beginning that will have lasting significance.

Interestingly, the name Jesus has a numerical value of 888. He is the new Adam who redeemed us from the curse, offering us a new covenant. As believers, being accepted into the family of God under this covenant signifies that the areas of our lives where blessings have yet to manifest are about to change.

So, what is our role in this? We must allow God to purify us and circumcise our hearts. Scripture teaches us that the issues of life flow from the heart (Proverbs 4:23). Thus, new beginnings must occur internally before they can manifest externally. This transformation will look different for everyone, but one thing is certain: we must undergo a renewal of the mind.

When the Bible refers to the heart, it often denotes our subconscious mind, where we store our beliefs. New beginnings require new beliefs and trust in God, and shedding false beliefs represents an internal circumcision.

Biblically, the eighth tribe of Israel was Asher, known for its prosperity and rich food. God desires us to be fruitful and prosperous, and the new things He has in store for us will always exceed our past experiences.

What new things does God want to do in your life? Take a moment now to ask Him this question and write down what you feel the Holy Spirit is

saying. The answer may surprise you—God is a big God, interested in doing new things.

New beginnings often accompany uncertainty. When the children of God were led out of Egypt, it marked a new beginning filled with moments of uncertainty, where their trust in God was tested repeatedly. If the Israelites faced such trials, what makes us think our journeys will be any different? The encouraging truth is that we know where God is leading us. By keeping our eyes on Him and His faithfulness, we will persevere.

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

— *Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)*

This passage emphasizes that our perception is key to experiencing the new things God wants to do. Consider your own life—if you have experienced a wasteland, do you believe God can cause streams to flow in that area? New beginnings demand a new identity, fresh perspectives, new environments, and obedience to God's voice.

This truth is evident in the lives of Noah, Abraham, the Israelites, David, Peter, and Paul. Each of these figures experienced a transformation of identity and perspective, entered new environments, and demonstrated a remarkable level of obedience.

Number Nine (999)



Main points: fruitfulness, time of birthing, moving in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, living from the fruits of the Spirit & new responsibilities

he ninth letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Tet, with a numerical value of nine. Tet symbolizes a womb that contains new life. In nature, a woman carries a baby for nine months before delivery, and this number represents fruitfulness, as a child is the fruit of the womb. Biblically, nine appears prominently in the context of the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit and the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Several significant events occurred at the ninth hour. For example in Matthew 27:46 (NKJV) when Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" as He gave us His Spirit while on the Cross.

Acts chapter 3 Cornelius had a vision of an angel at the ninth hour, and Peter and John went to the temple at that hour of prayer, where a lame man was healed at the temple gate.

In Exodus 29:30, the priests offered sacrifices and prayers at twilight, aligning with the ninth hour of the day. This act foreshadows what Jesus accomplished through His death.

In Christianity, we often focus on the idea that Jesus died for our sins, but we rarely hear that He died so we could be fruitful. God is not only interested in our salvation; He wants us to be fruitful and exercise dominion.

Consider the twelve spies sent to explore the Promised Land—they encountered enormous fruit that they could not unsee. This experience expanded their vision and created a deep desire for the promises God had for them. God desires us to be grateful yet uncomfortable in our journey of faith, always seeking expansion and multiplication. This often requires a birthing process—a season of carrying a "baby," which symbolizes a calling or vision that God has placed within us.

As we reflect on the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit and the nine gifts of the Spirit, we recognize that the gifts are essential for bringing forth new life, while the fruits sustain what has been birthed. When you receive a prophetic word, you become impregnated with that promise. If you engage in spiritual warfare over that word—agreeing with it and standing in faith—it will eventually manifest. Afterward, there comes a time to nurture this promise so it can grow and mature.

God desires for us to embody both the fruits and gifts of the Spirit, ensuring that we operate with integrity and longevity. Speaking of maturity, have you ever tasted fruit that wasn't ripe? It lacks flavor. Similarly, God guides us through a process of maturation—both in our character and in the development of the gifts of the Spirit, particularly prophecy.

In 1 Corinthians 14:1, we are encouraged to "earnestly desire to prophesy." Those who prophesy can make others pregnant with the promises of God, fostering fruitfulness in the Body of Christ. Do you wish to be fruitful? Do you desire your church to thrive? If so, embracing the gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy, is key.

Furthermore, if we look at the ninth book of the Bible and its ninth chapter, verse nine, we find

"Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he spoke thus: 'Come, let us go to the seer'; for he who is now called a prophet was formerly called a seer."

— 1 Samuel 9:9 (NKJV)

This verse underscores two critical points: the necessity of the prophetic and Saul's visit to Samuel to be anointed as Israel's chosen leader.

Applying this to our lives, we can see that it takes the prophetic to birth the new and guide us into our destinies, allowing us to be fruitful for God. Sometimes, we engage in periods of prayer or fasting to birth something God has placed on our hearts, seeking breakthrough.

"Four days ago, I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour, I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God."

— Acts 10:30-31 (NKJV)

Nine symbolizes breakthrough, fruitfulness, birthing, and answered prayer. Understanding what nine represents is valuable, but without application, there can be no fruit. If you are frequently seeing the number nine or 999, consider these questions to discern what God is communicating to you:

- What is God birthing through me currently? What is required of me to steward this well?
- What has God asked me to do or complete?
- Am I bearing the fruits of the Spirit? Which fruits specifically is God developing in me right now?
- Am I flowing in the gifts of the Spirit, particularly the gift of prophecy?
- Do I have a prophetic word that I need to agree with, declare, and stand in faith for?
- Is there an increase in fruitfulness occurring or about to happen? What is my responsibility in harvesting it, and what does God want me to do with it?

Number Ten (1010)



Main points: order, completion, choosing Wisely, ownership for relationship

he tenth letter in the Hebrew alphabet is Yod, which has a numerical value of 10. This letter symbolizes an arm with a hand, reflecting the divine order that God brings to His people throughout Scripture. Whether it is seen in the ten plagues of Egypt, the Ten Commandments, or the ten virgins, each instance illustrates God's desire for order.

God brings order when things are out of alignment. Noah, for example, was the tenth generation from Adam, called to execute God's plan for order in a chaotic world. The concept of tithing also embodies order, as it involves placing God first in our finances, leading to His protection over the rest. Understanding God's order means recognizing His laws and principles that align us with His Kingdom and purpose.

In the New Testament, Jesus fulfilled the law, freeing us from condemnation. However, the principles God established remain relevant, providing peace and stability to our lives. When circumstances around us fall out of order, whether due to others' actions or the enemy's interference, we, as sons and daughters of God, should expect His hand to restore order. For instance, when Pharaoh resisted God's command to let His people go, God unleashed ten plagues to demonstrate His authority and bring about liberation.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

— John 10:10 (NIV)

This highlights God's intent to establish order, especially where the enemy has attacked. Just as arranging something puts it in order, God has created a new arrangement through Jesus Christ, allowing Him to make things right and restore fullness to our lives.

The number 10 also signifies completeness. When the ten plagues were enacted, God completed His work against Pharaoh, paving the way for His people's exodus. Similarly, the Ten Commandments constituted God's complete law, designed to bring peace and order to Israel while revealing our need for Him.

Moreover, the letter Yod, with its value of 10, is often prefixed to Hebrew words to indicate ownership or relationship. For example, the word Av means "father," but when a Yod is added, it becomes Avi, meaning "my father." This transformation illustrates God's desire to deepen our relationship with Him. He wants us to transition from understanding Him as a father and provider to recognizing Him as my Father and my provider. This personalization reshapes our perception of God and aligns us with His promises.

The number 10 also represents our ability to make wise decisions which is means to respond correct to God and what He has said. Whether in times of testing or when entrusted with stewardship of what God has given us. Here are some biblical examples:

In Matthew 25:1-13, there are five wise virgins and five foolish ones.

In Numbers 13:32-33, ten out of the twelve spies sent to the Promised Land gave a negative report.

In Luke 17:11-19, ten lepers were healed by Jesus, but only one returned to express gratitude.

In Luke 19:11-17, a nobleman entrusts ten servants with ten minas to invest and grow.

These examples reveal a consistent theme: each group faced a choice that distinguished the wise from the foolish. Whether we acknowledge it or not, our choices significantly impact God's ability to bring order into our lives. The encouraging news is that even if we find ourselves out of order, God can restore rightness if we seek His voice and follow His ways.

Number Eleven (1111)

Main points: faith to transition well, entering a new day, embracing change to claim the promise

n the Hebrew alphabet, Yod-Alef holds the numerical value of 11. As discussed in previous chapters, Yod relates to order and choices, while Alef signifies being the head or prioritizing something as first. As sons and daughters of God, we are called to live by faith. In Romans 1:17, we read, "The righteous shall live by faith." Unfortunately, many Christians interpret this to mean that simply reading the Bible and attending church on Sunday constitutes a faithful life. This perspective, however, is quite immature.

Living by faith means exercising our faith every day and in every situation. It is not merely trusting God to make everything work out; it is about trusting Him to deliver on His promises. And those promises encompass far more than just things turning out okay.

You might wonder what all of this has to do with the number 11. Great question! The number 11 represents transition. The 11th hour signifies the moment just before a new day begins. If 10 represents the completion of a cycle, then 11 marks the start of something new. The first mention of 11 in the Bible occurs in Genesis 32:22, where Jacob and his eleven sons crossed the Jabbok River before Jacob wrestled with God and became Israel—a pivotal moment of identity change.

In Matthew 20:1-16, we find the parable of the workers in the vineyard, where the 11th hour is the last opportunity for laborers to join the harvest. This final hour represents a time of significant change as we prepare to step into a new day. Hebrews chapter 11 is often referred to as the "Hall of Faith," as it showcases individuals who chose to live by faith. Another notable example is Joseph, Rachel's 11th son, whose life was characterized by major economic and governmental transitions in Egypt.

Transitioning well requires faith; it takes no faith to remain in the familiar and continue doing what we've always done. The number 11 serves as a reminder that we are in a season of transition and must remain steadfast in faith. When the Israelites moved from Egypt to the Promised Land, the most perilous period was the transition itself. While they were enslaved in Egypt, they were safe, but it required immense faith to embark on that journey through numerous challenges. The good news is that God never leaves us nor forsakes us; we can depend on Him for help.

During my own times of transition, I frequently see the number 11:11. It serves as a reminder to stay aware of the season I am in and to keep the faith. Transition periods can be challenging, and we may find ourselves needing to ask God for support in ways we never have before. Thankfully, in Luke 11:11-13 (NIV), Jesus reassures us, "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

We can—and should—ask the Holy Spirit for help, especially during times of change. God invites us to do this as a demonstration of our trust in His character and love, assuring us that we can ask and expect good things from Him.

In Genesis 37:9, Joseph dreams of 11 stars bowing down to him, symbolizing his future with his brothers, which ultimately comes to pass when they seek his assistance during a famine in Egypt. At that moment, Joseph may not have realized that this dream initiated his journey to Egypt, where he would fulfill his divine calling.

Deuteronomy 1:2 notes that it takes 11 days to travel from Horeb (Mount Sinai) to Kadesh Barnea by the Mount Seir route, emphasizing the Promised Land's proximity. This stands in stark contrast to the 40 years of wandering due to the Israelites' disobedience, serving as a reminder that we can expedite our transitions by remaining faithful.

Lastly, in Jeremiah 52:1, Zedekiah, the last king of Judah, reigned in Jerusalem for 11 years before Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon conquered Jerusalem, destroyed the Temple, and exiled the people. This marked a significant transition for God's people.

In all these examples, 11 is clearly a number of transition and profound change, requiring faith to navigate successfully. Is God initiating change in your life? Does it demand a greater level of faith from you? If so, take heart! God believes in your ability to persevere and embrace the promises He has in store for you.

17

Number Twelve (1212)

Main points: Godly government structure, wisdom to govern, renewing the mind, provision, reward for faith in action, aspects of God and ourselves to carry out the work of Chist

Before delving into the Hebraic meaning of the number 12, it's essential to recognize that throughout Scripture, this number is consistently associated with godly government—the divine order through which God establishes His Kingdom and entrusts individuals to carry out this work. Notable examples include the 12 tribes of Israel, 12 Apostles, 12 minor prophets in the Old Testament and the 12 spies sent by Moses in the book of Numbers. This is all to do with authority and Godly appointed government.

In the Hebrew alphabet, there is no single letter with a numerical value of 12; however, the twelfth letter, Lamed, symbolizes learning and teaching—core functions of the fivefold ministry that serves as godly governance over the Body of Christ, equipping the saints. The word Lilmod means "to learn," while Lelamed means "to teach."

Moreover, if you combine Yod (10) and Bet (2), you arrive at 12. Reflecting on previous chapters, we see that Bet embodies wisdom, faithful witness, signs, miracles, wonders, blessing, agreement, and doubling. Yod, on the other hand, represents divine order and wise choices. Wouldn't you agree

that when godly governance makes wise choices and agrees to be faithful witnesses, miracles, signs, wonders, and blessings naturally follow?

Now, you might wonder who constitutes this godly government. The answer is you and me—as the Body of Christ. Within this Body, we have the saints and the fivefold ministry, which is designed to equip the saints. This is the order God has chosen to establish His Kingdom on Earth.

An interesting fact about the word government is that in Latin, it is derived from two words: 'gubernare,' meaning to steer or direct, and 'mens,' meaning mind. The purpose of government, regardless of the context, is to steer or direct the mind.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

— *Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)*

While you and I represent God's government on Earth, we must also remember that Jesus is the Head, the one who steers and directs our minds. Therefore, we should ask ourselves: Am I allowing Jesus to steer and direct my mind?

"For, 'Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?' But we have the mind of Christ."

— 1 *Corinthians 2:16 (NIV)*

A key indicator of someone operating in the government of God is that they know they have the mind of Christ and understand how to utilize it while also teaching others to do the same.

Indeed, we have the Holy Spirit to guide us, but we must also recognize that the fivefold ministry exists to equip the saints. As saints, we should be trained to use the mind of Christ practically; without such instruction, how can God's Kingdom be established on Earth? The answer is: it won't!

It is vital that we do not view the mind of Christ as a secondary issue but rather as a primary focus. "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

— *Romans 12:2 (NIV)*

From this scripture, we can conclude that the mind of Christ is a fully renewed mind! Godly government understands how to renew their minds and teaches others to do the same.

Godly governance doesn't merely discuss the importance of renewing the mind or its reasons; they actively engage in the process. I realize this may sound blunt, but if we aim to possess the land and lead others in doing so—like godly governance should—we must ask ourselves: Am I thinking like Christ? Am I renewing my mind? Do I even know how to renew my mind? Who can I learn from who knows how to do this?

In John 6, we read about how Jesus fed 5,000 people, and afterward, there were 12 baskets of food left over. This not only illustrates God's provision but also His abundance. It also signifies the miracles that lead others to the knowledge of Christ. Immediately after collecting the 12 baskets of leftovers, the disciples noted

"After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, 'Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

— John 6:14 (NIV)

God stamped His government on this miracle so that all witnesses would recognize who He is.

Godly governance operates in the miraculous, drawing others to the knowledge of Christ, while also understanding how to release God's abundance for the world to see who Jesus is. Unfortunately, due to religion and legalism, Christianity is often perceived as something that makes one poor and miserable. However, if we renew our minds and operate as God intended, the world will quickly realize that we have the answers, and that following Christ is a life of adventure, abundance, and freedom.

It is also noteworthy that the 12 baskets could symbolize the 12 disciples who assisted Jesus in distributing the food. It would make sense that these baskets were meant for the disciples to eat from or to take with them. What we do for others in obedience to Him is also what God will do for us—abundantly! Also, if you are someone who is considered in fivefold ministry or operates in a governmental role within the Body of Christ let this be an encouragement to you that God provides for those who carry out His work.

If we diver a little deeper into the number 12 and take a look at the 12 disciples, we will find aspects of ourselves within each of them and when each aspect is functioning as it should we are able to carry out the work of Christ to the fullest. It also highlights the fact that we all have areas in which we are stronger or weaker in hence reinforcing the need to work together with others and utilize the strength that comes from a group or a team of people. Let's take a quick look at just some of the disciples to see aspects highlighted within them:

- Peter became the rock representing faith or having a firm foundation.
- Andrew was known for humility and service towards others as he brought others to Jesus like Peter.
- James was known for perseverance and courage needed to follow Jesus when hardship arose.
- Thomas is commonly known as doubting Thomas and represents the struggle we face between doubt and belief and our fleshly desire to physically see before believing.

As you study each of the disciples, what they did and what they were like you will see aspects of humanity within each. For God to raise up people into governmental roles whether that be in the body of Christ or in society the aspects of ourselves will be challenged and go through a process of transformation. Does this mean we cannot make mistakes; no, it just means God's grace is sufficient. God always raises people up that allow His strength and His grace to flow and often picks the most unlikely of choices.

18

Number Thirteen (1313)

Flow with the Holy Spirit, openness, teachability, alignment with God's Will

n the Hebrew alphabet, there is no single letter with a numerical value of 13; however, the thirteenth letter, Mem, is often associated with water. The Hebrew word for water is mayim, and the wavy shape of the letter Mem is said to resemble waves. In Jewish thought, water symbolizes life, purification, and wisdom—it flows, adapts, nurtures, and sustains life. Mem has both open and closed forms; the open form represents revealed knowledge or wisdom, while the closed form signifies the mysteries of God. This number serves as a reminder for us to remain open to the Holy Spirit and the revelation of God, enabling us to be obedient and to understand His ways.

The significance of 13 lies in being open to the Spirit of God and responding promptly to His guidance. I recall a well-known minister stating, "delayed obedience is still disobedience." Often, as Christians, we fall into habitual routines, mistaking our "godly" activities for obedience. Yet, if God instructs us to do something and we hesitate or refuse, we find ourselves in rebellion, no matter how benign our actions may seem.

I remember a specific instance when I felt God prompting me to give a man at a shop a certain amount of money. At first, I reasoned it away and resisted. However, I later realized I needed to obey that prompt. I returned to the store, found the man, and gave him the money. While some might assume he needed it desperately, the more critical lesson for me was recognizing my need to yield to God, highlighting that my responsiveness at that moment was lacking.

Rebellion can often be subtle; it may manifest as partial obedience or a selective response when it's convenient. In many cases, such rebellion is rooted in unbelief—unbelief in who God is or in what He has promised. Our flesh struggles to trust God, but our spirit knows the truth. When our flesh dominates, it hinders our ability to obey God and believe in His promises.

Throughout the Bible, there are instances where the number 13 represents rebellion. In Genesis 17:25, Ishmael, Abraham's son, is circumcised at the age of 13. This is significant as Ishmael was born out of unbelief, while Isaac was the child of promise born out of faith. The act of circumcision symbolizes a cutting away of the flesh. The Apostle Paul warns in Galatians that the way of the flesh opposes the Spirit of God, resulting in destruction.

In Genesis 14:4, a group of kings served Chedorlaomer for 12 years, but in the 13th year, they rebelled. Additionally, the Hebrew word for rebellion, 'mered,' carries a numerical value of 13.

In the Book of Esther, the number 13 is associated with Haman's plot to annihilate the Jewish people. He cast lots to determine the date for the massacre, which was set for the 13th day of the 12th month.

"Now the people of Sodom were wicked and were sinning greatly against the Lord."

— *Genesis* 13:13 (NIV)

Conversely, when examining the lives of Jesus and the Apostles, we see them in rebellion against religious and cultural norms. For instance, in Matthew 12, the Pharisees plotted to kill Jesus because He healed a man on the Sabbath. Jesus rebelled against religion by prioritizing His love for people and the demonstration of the Spirit over the rigid rules that kept people bound.

Many of us still carry remnants of religion within us, but God desires us to break free from these constraints to experience His power and abundant life. If you frequently encounter the number 13, I encourage you to ask the Holy Spirit: Is there anything in me that is in rebellion? Do You wish to bring me into a deeper understanding of Your love and power? What area of my life requires the cutting away of the flesh so that the Spirit of God can reign?

Reflecting again on Mem, with its representation of water, we should strive to flow with the Holy Spirit. Blocking the Holy Spirit effectively blocks God and His power, which is essential for bringing freedom to ourselves and those around us. It's crucial to learn how to hear God's voice for ourselves and, just as importantly, to act in obedience.

19

Number Fourteen (1414)

Main points: faithfulness and humility. growing into leadership, legacy and generational blessings

n the Hebrew alphabet, there is no single letter with a numerical value of 14; however, the fourteenth letter, Nun, is often associated with being a faithful and humble servant. Pictorially, the letter represents one who is bent over in humility, eventually becoming a strong leader. Interestingly, throughout the Old Testament, Joshua is frequently referred to as the son of Nun, symbolizing that from the faithful and humble will arise strong leaders who can guide themselves and others into the promise of God.

What does this mean for us? It signifies that if we remain faithful and humble to our calling and purpose in God, we will become the strong leaders He intends us to be—leaders who can guide others into their inheritance.

In Genesis 29, we see how Jacob served Laban for 14 years to marry his daughter Leah. This narrative illustrates humility and faithfulness in pursuit of a promise. If you're familiar with the story, you know Laban took advantage of Jacob on multiple occasions. In Genesis 31:7, it states that Laban changed Jacob's wages ten times. Imagine having a boss who changed your salary ten times to keep you financially unstable! Despite Laban's attempts to undermine him, Jacob continued to prosper and ultimately received Leah

as his wife. This demonstrates that God will always prosper and honor those He has blessed, regardless of human manipulation. The essence of 14 is about remaining faithful and humble.

The 14th day of Nisan, which is the first month in the Hebrew calendar, marks the sacrifice of the Passover lamb, as noted in Exodus 12:6 and Leviticus 23:5. This event foreshadows what Jesus accomplished for us through His humility and faithfulness to the Father as the ultimate sacrifice.

The themes of humility, faithfulness, and leadership extend beyond individual lives; they resonate generationally. For instance, there are 14 generations from Abraham to David, as recorded in Matthew 1. Abraham is renowned for his faith, expressed through obedience and humility, while David is celebrated as a great leader with a heart after God.

It's important to understand that being faithful and humble does not equate to living a perfect life. Both Abraham and David made significant mistakes, yet God still used them. Faithfulness and humility revolve around having a loyal heart toward God and His calling on our lives. If God sought perfect individuals, there would have been no need for Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

If you find yourself encountering the number 14 frequently, it may be God's way of signaling that you are growing into a leader as you remain faithful and humble. You may carry something within you that will help others step into the promises God has for them. Additionally, God might be working through you to release generational blessings and increase.

I encourage you to ask the Holy Spirit, "What am I being called to remain faithful to? In what areas do I need to cultivate greater humility? What is God doing in and through me to release generational blessings? How can I cooperate more fully to see His promises manifest?"

20

Numbers One, Two, Three (123123)

Main points: Order for Increase

nother interesting sequence of numbers I frequently encountered is 123. I would often walk into a room only to find the clock reading 1:23, or I would receive a receipt displaying 123123. This occurrence became particularly notable during a specific season of my life when I was taking various steps to be organized in preparation for something that required consistent attention over time.

After noticing this pattern, I finally asked God, "What does 123 signify? I keep seeing it, and it happens so often—it must be You." Almost immediately, I sensed in my spirit, "It's order for increase." I would see this number whenever I was actively taking steps toward my goal or discussing it with someone.

There are aspects of life that require consistent daily effort and taking one step after another to achieve meaningful or long-term benefits. In hindsight, I realized that this number was a form of encouragement from God, particularly as I began to feel weary from the steps I was taking, despite knowing that my efforts would yield good and beneficial results in the long run. It was God's way of saying, "Keep going; you are preparing for your increase."

I'm reminded of how God created everything in a specific order. If He had chosen to create things on different days, you and I might not be here

today. Order is essential; without it, increase cannot take place. Order involves thinking ahead, planning, and knowing the necessary steps to take.

The sequence 123 also speaks to the stages of our growth. From a general perspective:

The number 1 symbolizes unity with God and the beginning of something new.

The number 2 represents being a witness and collaborating with others.

The number 3 signifies completeness and divine perfection.

In our journey through life, these elements are always present. We must maintain unity with God—agreement with His plans—and learn to work together with those He has placed around us. Finally, as God completes His perfect work in us, we will see a manifestation of completeness.

21

Conclusion and Call to Action

s we come to the close of *Hearing the Voice of God Through Numbers*, we hope you have gained a fresh perspective on how God communicates through the language of numbers. Each chapter has offered a glimpse into the unique way numbers can reflect God's character, reveal His purposes, and help guide our lives. By learning to recognize and interpret these signs, we become more attuned to His presence in our everyday experiences, grounding ourselves in His wisdom and direction.

This journey doesn't end here. Interpreting and applying these insights requires both ongoing practice and a supportive community. That's why Destiny Strategies regularly hosts practical seminars, designed to help you grow in maturity and confidence in hearing God's voice. These gatherings provide an opportunity to connect with others on this path, deepen your understanding, and receive mentorship in applying these principles to your life.

We invite you to join us at Destiny Strategies. Let's continue this journey together, discovering and embracing the full depth of God's guidance. Come, join our community, and learn to walk boldly in the fullness of what God has for you.

That's a Wrap! See the Signs & Wonders

As you reach the end of *See the Signs & Wonders*, you stand on the edge of a new level of spiritual awareness. God is speaking to you—through dreams, numbers, and prophetic words—revealing guidance, encouragement, and insight for your life. Now is the time to step forward and let these revelations shape your journey.

The insights you've gained in this book are only the beginning. Destiny Strategies offers regular events, workshops, and online gatherings designed to help you grow in interpreting prophetic signs, understanding your dreams, and finding confidence in the messages God is giving you. These sessions provide a welcoming space to practice your gifts, refine your discernment, and strengthen your spiritual walk alongside others on a similar path.

Ready to Take the Next Step?

If you're feeling inspired to delve deeper, join Destiny Strategies at one of our live events or Zoom sessions. There, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Develop your prophetic gifts in a practical, encouraging environment.
- Workshop your dreams and symbols to unlock their meanings.
- Gain confidence in interpreting the signs and numbers you see around you.

Let this be a call to action—a reminder that God is inviting you to partner with Him in a more profound way. Embrace the signs He's sending and step boldly into your calling!

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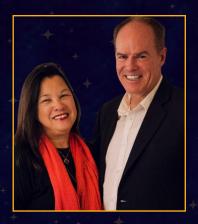
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Phil and Lorellee Colley are prophetic ministers, teachers, and mentors with decades of experience empowering believers to hear God's voice and develop their spiritual gifts. Since 1993, they've led Destiny Strategies Prophetic Ministry, ministering both across Australia and internationally. Through seminars, schools, and events, they equip individuals to interpret the divine messages in their lives, offering both practical and prophetic insight.

Phil and Lorellee also bring expertise from their mentoring, coaching and property businesses and hold Diplomas in Christian Ministry and Theology as credentialed ministers with Australian Christian Churches (ACC).



Joshua Snopek has been serving as a prophetic minister with Destiny Strategies since 2012. In 2017, a profound encounter with God led him to discover the powerful messages God speaks through numbers. This experience sparked a passion in Joshua to explore and teach the prophetic significance of numbers, helping others recognize divine guidance in their lives. Through his ministry, Joshua equips people to hear God's voice and understand His messages with clarity and faith.

SEE THE SIGNS & WONDERS!

Unlock God's Voice through Prophecy, Dreams, & Numbers

In the chaos of our modern world, God is speaking—through prophetic words, dreams, and even the numbers that appear in our daily lives.

See the Signs & Wonders!

Is your invitation to awaken your spiritual senses and attune yourself to God's divine messages, empowering you to walk in clarity and purpose.

Much like the Sons of Issachar, who "understood the times and knew what to do" (1 Chronicles 12:32), you too can learn to interpret the signs God places in your life. This book is a practical guide to maturing in prophetic ministry, discerning dreams, and uncovering the hidden meanings behind the recurring numbers you see—tools designed to deepen your relationship with God and guide your every step.

Discover how to:

- Embrace and activate your prophetic ministry
- Unlock wisdom from your dreams and visions
- · Interpret numbers you see with confidence

Whether you're new to the prophetic or seeking to deepen your understanding, See the Signs & Wonders! will equip you to recognize and respond to God's voice in the world around you.

Engage. Learn. Grow. It's time to See the Signs & Wonders!

Join our community of believers growing in spiritual maturity and prophetic insight.

Start your journey today!

Visit destinystrategies.com.au or connect with us on Facebook and YouTube.

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