

## **“THE MANIFESTATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”**

**My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.”**

***{LESSON 11A} {10/19/2008}***

### **“IS PROPHECY VALID FOR OUR DAY?”**

XXI. Yes! The Bible in the New Testament refers about thirty times to prophecy and prophesying as a continuing part of the Church.

A. This is why Peter, in his teaching on the Day of Pentecost, referenced Joel.

1. In Acts 2: 17-18 AMP we read his message, **“And it shall come to pass in the last days, God declares, that I will pour out of My Spirit upon all mankind, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy [telling forth the divine counsels] and your young men shall see visions (divinely granted appearances), and your old men shall dream [divinely suggested] dreams. V18, Yes, and on My menservants also and on My maidservants in those days I will pour out of My Spirit, and they shall prophesy [telling forth the divine counsels and predicting future events pertaining especially to God’s kingdom].”**

### **“DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WRITTEN AND ORAL PROPHECIES”**

B. I believe the prophecy of the Bible is meant to be a higher level of prophecy.

1. It will never be equaled or surpassed. Why?
2. It was given by God for the purpose of becoming His authoritative, written word for the entire Church age.
  - a. This is confirmed by the Word in 2 Peter 1:23: **“For the prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”**

### **“THE TWO GREAT EXCESSES OF PROPHECY”**

C. The two great excesses of history relating to prophecy have been , on the one hand, to lift it to a point of infallibility, and on the other hand, to “despise” it.

1. The balance we need is simple, while we dare not give it too great an

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- authority and over focus on it, neither do we dare reduce it to natural powers of man or do away with it altogether.
2. The spoken prophetic utterances today are to be judged by the written Word and subject to it.
    - a. In Deuteronomy 4:2 we are told: **“Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it....”**.
    - b. In Proverbs 30:6 we are told: **“Add thou not unto His words, lest He reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.”**
    - c. In Revelation 22:18 we are told: **“For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the Prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book; and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life....”**.

**{LESSON 11B} {10/26/2008}**

## **“THE PURPOSE OF PROPHECY IN THE CHURCH”**

- XXII. The Word of God plainly says that believers will prophesy, so there should be little argument about it in the Church today.
- A. In 1 Cor. 14:3 the Bible makes it plain that the purpose of prophecy is to encourage and comfort people: **“But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.”**
    1. We will now look at each of these special words from 1 Cor. 14:3 and learn of their meanings.
  - B. The purpose of prophecy – **Edification** – *This is an architectural word speaking of building, erecting, or putting stones into place.*
    1. This refers to a way God has provided to the Church that we may “edifi”, or build up the Church.
    2. It is vital that we build with quality materials (gifts, ministries) instead of wood, hay and stubble. (1 Cor. 3:10-15)