

- g. **SORCERER**—spiritism
- h. **CHARMER**—uses charms, casts spells

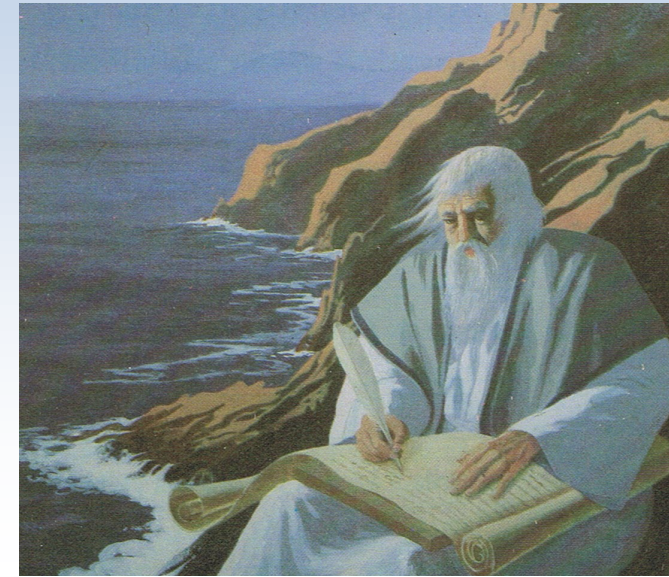
25. Whose counsel did the people reject in rejecting John the Baptist?
Luke 7:28-30

"The _____ of _____"

NOTE: John the Baptist was a true prophet yet he was not a Bible writer. The counsel of a true prophet is always the counsel of God. To reject it is to reject God.

26. Since God still speaks through prophets and since the word of a true prophet is the personal testimony of Jesus to you, are you willing to test modern prophets by the Bible and obey those who agree with scripture?

Ans: _____



MODERN PROPHETS AND VISIONS

Prophets are people signally honoured by God. In Revelation, an angel twice told John that he considered the prophets his brothers. A dozen times Revelation mentions either false or true prophets.

John was so convincing and influential in presenting Jesus that his enemies tried to kill him by placing him in boiling oil. When the oil failed to harm him he was banished to the Island of Patmos, a fortress where he was forced to work in the mines. But there Jesus gave him the precious book of Revelation.

The scripture itself came to us from prophets who were guided by the Holy Ghost. The church is indebted to prophets to a degree almost impossible to calculate.

Have you ever wondered why in these challenging and crucial days for God's people - just before the second coming of Jesus — we no longer have prophets? Is John the last prophet that Jesus has spoken through? Why did God quit speaking through prophets or did He?

Study Guide 017

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This is a most stimulating and challenging subject. As we get into it, please pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit, who guided the prophets of old.

HOW GOD COMMUNICATES

1. How does God communicate with His prophets? Revelation 1:1-4

- a. God spoke to _____ c. Angel spoke to _____
b. Jesus spoke to _____ d. John spoke to _____

2. To whom will God reveal His future plans? Amos 3:7

Ans: _____

3. Where do true prophets get their information? 2 Peter 1:21

"Holy _____ of God _____ as they were _____
by the _____"

4. Must a prophet write a book of the Bible in order to be a true prophet?

Ans: _____

NOTE: At least twelve true prophets who did not write a book of the Bible are mentioned in the scriptures. Among them is John the Baptist, of whom Jesus said there was no one greater (Matthew 11:11)

5. Does God ever prophesy through women?

Ans: _____

NOTE: Several women were mentioned as prophetesses in scripture: Anna (Luke 2:36-38); Miriam (Exodus 15:20); Deborah (Judges 4:4); Huldah (2 Kings 22:14); and the four daughters of Philip (Acts 21:8, 9).

NOTE: There is no chance for a person to prosper spiritually if he refuses to believe God's prophets. John says we must read, hear and keep the things in His prophecy (Revelation 1:3).

A PROPHET'S MINISTRY

21. Are prophets called to serve the church or unbelievers?

1 Corinthians 14:22

"Prophesying serveth them which _____"

22. What is prophecy called in Revelation? Revelation 12:17; 19:10

"Testimony of _____, which is the _____ of _____"

NOTE: When the Holy Spirit gives a message through a prophet we are to regard it as a message from Jesus.

23. Against whom did Jesus warn In the last days? Matthew 24:24

"_____ Christs and false

NOTE: Peter also warns against false prophets (2 Peter 2:1, 2).

24. What types of false prophets does God condemn?

Deuteronomy 18:9-12; Revelation 22:15; 21:8

- a. **DIVINER**—fortune teller
b. **OBSERVER OF TIMES**—astrologer
c. **ENCHANTER**—magician
d. **WITCH/WIZARD**—psychics
e. **FAMILIAR SPIRITS**—spirit medium
f. **NECROMANCER**—consults dead

Ans: _____

NOTE: A church without vision or eyesight is in a very sad condition. The Bible says, "Where there is no vision the people perish." Proverbs 29:18.

ARE MIRACLES A TEST?

17. Do miracles prove a prophet is true? Revelation 16:14

No! Because the _____ can also work miracles.

NOTE: Miracles prove only one thing—supernatural power. Such power may come from either Satan or God.

18. What are God's three methods of speaking to prophets?

Numbers 12:6-8

a. _____; b. _____

c. _____ to _____

NOTE: Crystal balls, palm reading, tea leaf deciphering, star gazing, ouija boards, and talking to the dead are not God's methods of communication with a prophet.

19. What happens to a prophet in vision?

- Loses natural—receives supernatural strength (Daniel 10:8).
- No breath in body—yet able to speak (Daniel 10:16, 17).
- Doesn't see—yet eyes are open (Daniel 10:5-8; Numbers 24:3, 5)
- Unconscious of surroundings (Daniel 10:5-8).

20. What happens to those who believe God's prophets?

2 Chronicles 20:20

"Believe His prophets, so shall ye _____"

6. Does God also speak through prophets in the last days?

Joel 2:28-31

Ans: _____

NOTE: God promises to speak through both men and women in the last days.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS TODAY

7. When Jesus ascended He left gifts for the church. What are they? Ephesians 4:7, 8, 11

"He gave some, _____; and some _____, and some, _____; and some _____, and _____"

NOTE: Here, Paul lists prophets second after apostles.

8. Why were the gifts given? Ephesians 4:12

"For the _____ of the saints, for the _____ of the ministry, for the _____ of the body of Christ."

NOTE: The body of Christ is His church. (Colossians 1:18)

9. How long were these gifts to remain in the church?

Ephesians 4:13

"Till we all come in the unity of the _____ and of the _____ of the _____ of God, unto a _____ man, unto the measure of the _____ of the fullness of _____."

NOTE: These gifts, including prophets, remain in the church until the saints become completely like Christ, which means that gifts remain until the end of the world when Jesus returns.

10. What will the church with all these gifts do for you?

Ephesians 4:14

"No more children, _____ to and fro, and _____ about with every _____ of doctrine.

NOTE: When one enters the church that has all these gifts he is immediately anchored: Satan's objective is to remove or counterfeit these spiritual gifts. If that happens, the church will drift aimlessly amidst false doctrine.

11. Did God's New Testament church have the gift of prophecy?

1 Corinthians 1:6, 7

"The testimony of _____ was confirmed in you... you come behind in no gift."

NOTE: They had all the gifts including prophecy. The testimony of Christ is the spirit, or gift, of prophecy (Revelation 19:10).

12. Will God's last day church have the gift of prophecy?

Revelation 12:17

Yes. They "keep the _____ of God and have the _____ of Jesus Christ."

13. What three things does Paul command regarding prophets?

1 Thessalonians 5:20, 21

"Despise not _____." "_____ all things." "Hold fast that which is _____."

14. How does one test a prophet to see if he is true? Isaiah 8:19, 20



"If they _____ not according to this _____ it is because there is no _____ in them."

15. What other things identify a true prophet of God?

- a. Moved by Holy Spirit—not man's will (2 Peter 1:21).
- b. Doesn't give his own interpretation of prophecy (2 Peter 1:20).
- c. Points out sins of people against God (Isaiah 58:1).
- d. Warns of coming judgment (Isaiah 24:20; Revelation 14:6, 7).
- e. Edifies, exhorts, comforts the church (1 Corinthians 14:3).
- f. Recognizes the deity of Jesus (I John 4:1-3).
- g. Works and lives in harmony with the Bible (Matthew 7:15-20).
- h. Not an astrologer, witch, medium or clairvoyant (Deuteronomy 18:9-12).

16. What is the condition of a church without the gift of prophecy?

Matthew 15:14