LESSON 4



The Gift of *Prophecy*

NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS

MEMORY TEXTS:

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
5 And there are diversities of ministrations, and the same Lord.
6 And there are diversities of workings, but the same God, who worketh all things in all.

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NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS

Luke 16:16 (NABRE)

16 The law and the prophets **lasted** until John; but from then on the kingdom of God is proclaimed, and everyone who enters does so with violence.

Luke 16:16 (ASV)

16 The law and the prophets ***were*** until John: from that time the gospel of the kingdom of God is preached, and every man entereth violently into it.

Matthew 11:13 (ASV)

13 For all the prophets and the law **prophesied** until John.

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NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS

THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS:

The Law (Torah): Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

The Prophets (Neviim):

a) Earlier Prophets: Joshua, Judges, Samuel (both books) and Kings (both books).
b) Later Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the Twelve Prophets (in a single scroll).

The Writings (Ketuvim):

a) Poetic: Psalms, Proverbs, and Job.
b) Five Scrolls (Megillot): Ruth, Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, and Esther.
c) Historical: Daniel, Ezra-Nehemiah (in one book) and Chronicles (both books).

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NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS

THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS:

The Law (Torah)

The Prophets (Neviim)

The Writings (Ketuvim)

TANAKH

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NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS

Luke 24:44, 45

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

45 Then opened he their mind, that they might understand the scriptures;

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NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS

Hebrews 1:1, 2

1 God, having of old time spoken unto the fathers in the prophets by divers portions and in divers manners,

2 hath at the end of these days spoken unto us in his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom also he made the worlds;

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SUNDAY – Jesus as Prophet

MOSES ANNOUNCES THE COMING OF THE GREAT PROPHET

Deuteronomy 18:15-19

15 Jehovah thy God will raise up unto thee **a prophet** from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;
16 according to all that thou desiredst of Jehovah thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of Jehovah my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not.
17 And Jehovah said unto me, They have well said that which they have spoken.
18 I will raise them up **a prophet** from among their brethren, like unto thee; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.
19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.

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SUNDAY – Jesus as Prophet

JESUS IS THE GREAT PROPHET FORETOLD BY MOSES

Acts 3:22-24

22 Moses indeed said, A prophet shall the Lord God raise up unto you from among your brethren, like unto me; to him shall ye hearken in all things whatsoever he shall speak unto you.
23 And it shall be, that every soul that shall not hearken to that prophet, shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.
24 Yea and all the prophets from Samuel and them that followed after, as many as have spoken, they also told of these days.

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SUNDAY – Jesus as Prophet

1. Read Matthew 16:13-16; Mark 8:17-29; Luke 9:18-20. What is the prophetic role of Jesus? How was this question answered in Jesus' time?

A:

1) Jesus is the Great Prophet foretold by Moses.

2) When Peter declared that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God.

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MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

List of spiritual gifts:

a) Romans 12:6-8;

b) 1 Corinthians 12:8-10;

c) 1 Corinthians 12:28-30;

d) Ephesians 4: 11.

MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

List of spiritual gifts from 1 Corinthians 12:28:

28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondly prophets, thirdly teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, divers kinds of tongues.

GIFT OF THE APOSTOLATE

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MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

Apostles:

a) The twelve apostles;

b) Paul (Rom 1:1; Gal 1:1; 1 Cor 1:1; 9:1, 2);

c) Barnabas (Acts 14:4, 14; 1 Cor 9:5, 6);

c) James, the brother of Jesus (Gal 1:19).

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MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

Requirements for the apostolate:

a) Having seen the resurrected Jesus:

1 Corinthians 9:1
1 Am I not free? **am I not an apostle? have I not seen Jesus our Lord?** are not ye my work in the Lord?

1 Corinthians 15:5-9
5 and that he appeared to Cephas; then to **the twelve**; 6 then he appeared to above five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain until now, but some are fallen asleep; 7 then he appeared to James; then **to all the apostles**; 8 and last of all, as to the child untimely born, **he appeared to me also**. 9 For I **am the least of the apostles**, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

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MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

Requirements for the apostolate:

b) Being called to be an apostle:

Galatians 1:1

1 Paul, an apostle (**not from men, neither through man, but through Jesus Christ**, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead),

1 Corinthians 1:1

1 Paul, **called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God**, and Sosthenes our brother,

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MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

Requirements for the apostolate:

b) Being called to be an apostle:

Acts 26:15-18

15 And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.
16 But arise, and stand upon thy feet: for to this end have I appeared unto thee, **to appoint thee a minister and a witness** both of the things wherein thou hast seen me, and of the things wherein I will appear unto thee;
17 delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom I send thee,
18 to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive remission of sins and an inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith in me.

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MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

Requirements for the apostolate:

c) Potentially performing miracles:

2 Corinthians 12:12

12 Truly the **signs of an apostle** were wrought among you in all patience, by **signs and wonders and mighty works**.

MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

Group of the TWELVE APOSTLES:

Special requirement: to have witnessed Jesus' earthly ministry.

Acts 1:21, 22

21 **Of the men therefore that have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and went out among us,**

22 **beginning from the baptism of John, unto the day that he was received up from us**, of these must one become a witness with us of his resurrection.

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MONDAY – Apostles and Prophets

2. How do apostles and prophets function in relation to Christ and the church? Eph 2:20; 3:5

A: The teaching of the apostles and prophets is the foundation of the church, with Jesus Christ Himself being the cornerstone, who gives guidance and unity to the entire building.

Ephesians 2:20

20 being built upon the **foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone;

Ephesians 3:5

5 which in other generations was not made known unto the sons of men, as it hath now **been revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit**;

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TUESDAY – Functions of New Testament Prophets

3. What do 1 Corinthians 14:3, Ephesians 4:11-13, and Revelation 22:6 tell us about the role of New Testament prophets?

A: The prophets edify, exhort, comfort, and perfect believers in their service to God, and they proclaim faithful and true words about the future.

1 Corinthians 14:3

3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men **edification**, and **exhortation**, and **consolation**.

Ephesians 4:11-13

11 And he gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 for the **perfecting** of the saints, unto the **work of ministering**, unto the **building** up of the body of Christ: 13 till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

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TUESDAY – Functions of New Testament Prophets

Ephesians 4:13

13 **till** we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ**:

1 Corinthians 13:8–12

8 Love never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall be done away; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall be done away.
9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part;
10 **but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away.**
11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child: now that I am become a man, I have put away childish things.
12 For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know fully even as also I was fully known.

ADVENTISM ALIVE

WEDNESDAY – Female Prophets and Young Pastoral Associates

4. Read Luke 2:36-38 and Acts 21:9. What do these passages tell us about female prophets?

A: The texts teach that God also grants the gift of prophecy to women.

Luke 2:36-38

36 And there was one Anna, a **prophetess**, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher (she was of a great age, having lived with a husband seven years from her virginity, 37 and she had been a widow even unto fourscore and four years), who departed not from the temple, worshipping with fastings and supplications night and day. 38 And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks unto God, and spake of him to all them that were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Acts 21:9

9 Now this man had **four virgin daughters, who prophesied**.

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WEDNESDAY – Female Prophets and Young Pastoral Associates

Exodus 15:20

20 And Miriam the **prophetess**, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

Judges 4:4

4 Now Deborah, a **prophetess**, the wife of Lappidoth, she judged Israel at that time.

2 Kings 22:14

14 So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asaiah, went unto Huldah the **prophetess**, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the second quarter); and they communed with her.

ADVENTISM ALIVE

WEDNESDAY – Female Prophets and Young Pastoral Associates

1 Corinthians 11:5

5 But every **woman** praying or **prophesying** with her head unveiled dishonoreth her head; for it is one and the same thing as if she were shaven.

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

5. Read Matthew 24:23, 24. What does Jesus warn us about here? Why should we take this warning so seriously?

A:

1) Jesus warns against false Christs and false prophets.

2) The warning should be taken seriously because, if possible, they would deceive even the elect.

Matthew 24:23, 24

23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is the Christ, or, Here; believe it not.
24 For there shall arise **false Christs**, and **false prophets**, and shall show great signs and wonders; so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament



ADVENTISM ALIVE

THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament



PETER POPOFF

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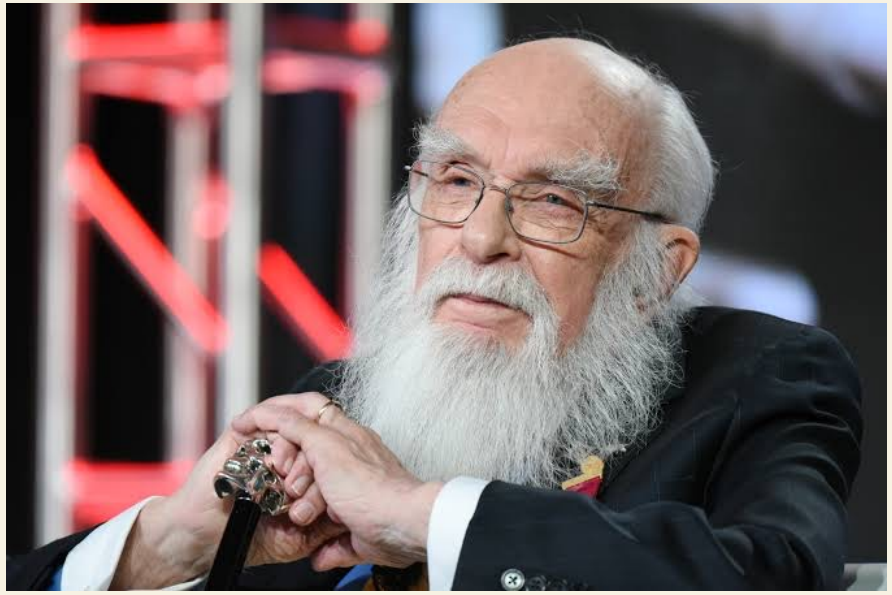
THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament



PETER POPOFF AND WIFE

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament



JAMES RANDI

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

Revelation 16:14

14 for they are **spirits of demons, working signs**; which go forth unto the kings of the whole world, to gather them together unto the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

The Great Controversy, p. 553

Many endeavor to account for spiritual manifestations **by attributing them wholly to fraud and sleight of hand on the part of the medium.** But while it is true that the results of trickery have often been palmed off as genuine manifestations, **there have been, also, marked exhibitions of supernatural power**. The mysterious rapping with which modern spiritualism began **was not the result of human trickery or cunning, but was the direct work of evil angels**, who thus introduced one of the most successful of soul-destroying delusions. **Many will be ensnared through the belief that spiritualism is a merely human imposture**; when brought face to face with manifestations which they cannot but regard as supernatural, they will be deceived, and will be led to accept them as the great power of God.

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

The Great Controversy, p. 553

These persons overlook the testimony of the Scriptures concerning the wonders wrought by Satan and his agents. **It was by satanic aid that Pharaoh's magicians were enabled to counterfeit the work of God.** Paul testifies that before the second advent of Christ there will be similar manifestations of satanic power. The coming of the Lord is to be preceded by "the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness." 2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10. And the apostle John, describing the miracle-working power that will be manifested in the last days, declares: "He doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do." Revelation 13:13, 14. **No mere impostures are here foretold. Men are deceived by the miracles which Satan's agents have power to do, not which they pretend to do.**

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

Matthew 7:21-23

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

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, **did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works?**

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

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

ἀνομία

(anomia)

ἀ = no

νόμος = law

THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

6. According to Ephesians 6:10-18, how can we shield ourselves from any kind of deception?

A: By putting on the full armor of God.

Ephesians 6:10-18

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might. 11 **Put on the whole armor of God**, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Wherefore take up the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, **having done ALL**, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, **having girded your loins with truth**, and having put on the **breastplate of righteousness**, 15 **and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace**; 16 withal taking up the **shield of faith**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the evil one. 17 And take the **helmet of salvation**, and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**: 18 with all prayer and supplication praying at all seasons in the Spirit, and watching thereunto in all perseverance and supplication for all the saints,

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THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

Isaiah 52:7

7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

THURSDAY – False Prophets in the New Testament

Matthew 23:34

34 Therefore, behold, I send unto you **PROPHETS, and wise men, and scribes**: some of them shall ye kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city:

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FRIDAY – Keeping Jesus and His Word at the Center



ADVENTISM ALIVE

FRIDAY – Keeping Jesus and His Word at the Center



FRIDAY – Keeping Jesus and His Word at the Center

John 5:39

39 Ye search the scriptures, because ye think that in them ye have eternal life; and these are they which bear witness of me;