

PROPHESYING

The spiritual gift of prophesy during the Church Age

Prophecy is mentioned as a spiritual gift in 1Corinthians 12-14. Is the gift of prophesy for us today? What is prophesying according to the Bible? Who can prophesy?

I. Prophecy in Context: (1Cor 12-14) Spiritual Gifts

A. First Corinthians 12.1 establishes the context for the discourse that follows.

B. (1Cor 12.10; vv. 4-10) Prophecy is listed among the various spiritual gifts given by God to the members of the Church, the Body of Christ.

II. Spiritual Gifts: An Overview

A. Every Christian has a Gift

B. Every Gift is for Edification

C. Spiritual Gifts: Which are in manifestation today?

Romans 12.6-8	1Corinthians 12.8-11	1Corinthians 12.28-30	Ephesians 4.7-12
1. Prophecy 2. Ministry 3. Teaching 4. Exhortation 5. Giving 6. Ruling 7. Mercy	1. Wisdom 2. Knowledge 3. Faith 4. Healing 5. Miracles 6. Prophecy 7. Discerning of spirits 8. Tongues 9. Interpretation of tongues	1. Apostles 2. Prophets 3. Teachers 4. Miracles 5. Healings 6. Helps 7. Governments 8. Tongues 9. Interpret tongues	1. Apostles 2. Prophets 3. Evangelists 4. Pastors-teachers

1. This master list, however, needs to be “filtered” (“sifted”): Mark 16.14-20.

2. The gifts organized according to category:

I. Spiritual Gifts in Manifestation During the Church Age

A. Gifts that are also the responsibility of all saints

i. The Three Best Gifts (1Cor 12.28)

- a) *Apostle*
- b) *Prophet*
- c) *Teacher*

ii. The Rest of the Gifts

- a) *Ministry*
- b) *Helps*
- c) *Exhortation*
- d) *Giving*
- e) *Ruling*
- f) *Mercy*
- g) *Governments*
- h) *Evangelist*
- i) *Pastor-teacher*

B. Gifts that complement (supplement) other gifts (i.e., they will not manifest alone)

- i. *Wisdom*
- ii. *Knowledge*
- iii. *Faith*
- iv. *Discerning of spirits*

II. Sign Gifts which Ceased at the Beginning of the Church Age (“miracle” gifts)

- A. *Casting out devils (demons)*
- B. *Speaking in tongues (includes interpretation of tongues)*
- C. *Taking up serpents without being hurt*
- D. *Drinking deadly things (poison) without being hurt*
- E. *Healing*

III. The Gift of Prophecy: Romans 12.6; 1Corinthians 12.10, 28; Ephesians 4.11

A. The Bible mentions certain “prophets” whom God used to write portions of the Bible.

B. Prophecy in the Bible always refers to one of two things: Fore-telling and/or Forth-telling.

1. Prophecy can be “fore-telling” (predicting):

2. Prophecy can also be “forth-telling” (preaching):

C. The gift of prophesy, defined:

The gift of prophesy is the supernatural, God-given capacity to understand and announce the message of God with authoritative power.

1. We refer to those having this gift today as “preachers”.

2. The content of the preaching can include both “fore-telling” and “forth-telling.”

3. The message of the prophet (the preacher), in the Church Age...

Conclusion:

We don't need anymore direct revelation (we have all the revelation God wants us to have in the Bible). We need more gifted men to preach and proclaim the revelation we already have.

Prophets are preachers; prophesying is preaching.

The gift of prophesy is the gift of preaching.