

The Truth About The Gift of Prophecy



By Sister Sharon Roach

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 1 Cor. 13:2

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What is Prophecy?

*Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another **prophecy**, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.*

1 Cor. 12:7-11

Truth is undisputable, unmovable because it is the essence of God whom is all powerful. Truth cuts through illusions, confusion and deception and restores clarity and reality. Prophecy is the truth of God revealed to mankind, Prophets are carriers of this revealed truth who deliver the message to the intended.

In Genesis 1 God speaks creation into existence demonstrating the power of the spoken word. As the word was uttered, Spirit captured it and worked to bring it into

manifestation. In prophecy as the prophetic word goes forth from God, the Prophet captures it and sends it forth to the intended where it will manifest in some form. I call this whole process the prophetic flow and regardless of how the Prophet receives the message from God this prophetic flow is always at the foundation of prophecy. The entire process is sacred because it begins with God and is founded on truth and involves a high level of spirituality.

Who can get the gift of prophecy?

To be included in the distribution of God's prophetic messages of truth is a high honor and is only extended to those who have proven worthy of this honor. Prophecy is a sacred gift that God bestows on individuals who have reached a high degree of spiritual maturity. Because the presence of God is so strong, convicting and illuminating only a spiritual person who has established a close relationship with God can handle the prophetic messages of truth. It's not enough to be religious you must be born of the spirit and live a spiritual life to be blessed with the gift. ***That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit John 3:6***

From my own experience I didn't ask for the gift of prophecy it was bestowed upon me by God's choice. I received my gift after many

years of spiritual growth and refinement. Although God gave me the gift I still had a choice as to whether I would acknowledge it but also pursue it. After many years of trying to find my purpose, identity and passion in life, the gift of prophecy has grown to answer all of these helping me to better understand my role in life.

Moses was an outcast, a murderer unable to speak correctly before finding his purpose in prophecy. Through the years his gift of prophecy helped to define who he truly was, brought out his potential and greatness. There is always a little apprehension when the gift of prophecy first manifests itself in a person's life but as they grow strong in their spirit they overcome this. At first the gift will be weak in its newness but with time and experience it will grow stronger.

How Prophecy Works?

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. 2 Pet. 1:20

The prophetic flow begins with God. A prophet may inquire of something or God may send a message without inquiry to the prophet. The prophetic message is birthed out of the essence of God and is therefore truth. Truth goes forth through the prophetic flow to its designation and manifest in spirit or chaos depending upon the reactions to it either way it causes change to occur. In this whole process the prophet acts as a carrier delivering the message/truth from one point to another.

I have given many personal prophecies for people and inquiring to God for a message is a fascinating experience. The prophetic inquiry is more than prayer it is direct communion with God and it's not good enough to believe or have faith it is mandatory that the Prophet "knows" without a shadow or doubt that God is real without a shadow or doubt that God is real without and is listening. "Believing" is open to

doubt but "knowing" is concrete and sure, a Prophet does not "believe" but "knows." This type communion with God is self-affirming; every time an inquiry is made the Prophet grows closer to God. The inquiry is a key component of the prophetic flow and it must be done with humility, sincerity and correct motives.

God is not a crystal ball the Prophet must be discerning in what is placed before God for an answer, only those inquiries of a serious nature should be considered. Flippant questions from people who are seeking amusement or entertainment are not worthy of a Prophets gift, they seek entertainment but would receive truth, if God honored them with a reply (and as stated before the prophetic message goes forth to accomplish a will) because they are not serious and prepared for the truth this could bring chaos into their lives.

A Prophet must always have correct and sincere motives when inquiring to God. Seeking to impress others of the gift of prophecy will invite ruin likewise if done for fame or material gain. Because the Prophet is asking for truth any impure motives on their part will cause truth to convict and bring change upon themselves before the prophetic message passes on to its intended. Truth can be a double edged sword it has no respecter of persons its loyalty is solely to God, those who seek to become carriers of it must be sure they can handle it themselves.

Whether by inquiry or through Divine Will God will send a prophetic message of truth to the Prophet bestowing a great responsibility and task upon the Prophet. The Prophet now holds the truth within their hands and during this sacred moment they must be careful not to cloud it with their own judgments, prejudices, biases, opinions and beliefs before passing it on to the intended. The delivery of this message from God to the Prophet can come in many forms.

God made the heavens and earth and is free to use any part of His creation to deliver His truth to a Prophet. There is no one way in which God delivers a message of truth each Prophet

“receives” in different ways according to their own personal relationship with God and His creation. Some Prophets may hear the voice of God directly while others may receive in their spirit, through dreams, visions, revelations of the mind, even through nature and animals.

Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. Numbers 12:6

And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee. And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay. Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face. Numbers 22:28-31

And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out. Luke 19:40 (If God can make the rocks cry out and praise him He can send Divine Messages to a stony hearted mankind).

One thing is for certain, no matter how the message is sent, a Prophet will recognize and know it as the Divine Voice of God.

When delivering the prophetic message a Prophet must be firm and faithful to God's message. Not all prophetic messages are as “cheerful” as a fortune cookie message; sometimes there is bad news to deliver. A Prophet must deliver the message and not hold back to soften the blow or spare feelings, the truth oftentimes hurts but it also manifest change. A tainted, sugar coated, low fat prophetic message will not usher in change but

will make situations worse. Deliver the message as it was meant.

In my own experiences I have delivered many messages of truth that were warnings, convictions and wrathful and I delivered them as instructed. In such prophecies I have seen these type messages result in positive changes that brought blessings to the individuals. As a Prophet it was not my place to question the prophetic flow of God's truth, only to deliver that truth. On other occasions I have seen individuals ignore or reject these type messages and have seen chaos take over their lives. As a Prophet I realize I have no control over the end results that is completely up to the individual, I am merely the delivery person.

Once the individual receives the prophetic message it is their choice of how they will act on the truth given them. A Prophet can guide them with the truth given but must never try to force them into a decision. The whole situation is a part of their spiritual growth and the decision must spring from within them. Through their choices and actions often the truth given them they will do either of two things: Make correct choices and actions and invite Spirit to further develop their growth and assist them. Make wrong choices and actions and invite chaos to further strip them down bringing decay into their lives.

As you can see the role of the Prophet in the prophetic flow of God is very important but it also carries tremendous moral and ethical responsibilities. A Prophet must never compromise the truth entrusted to them, to do so is to invite their own ruin and judgment by God.

Ethics in Prophecy

There is a difference between a fortuneteller and a Prophet. People pay a fortuneteller and the fortuneteller tells them what they want to hear and can walk away from the business transaction, a Prophet must tell the truth no

matter how it may hurt them or others and holds the lives of others in their hands. A Prophet must have ethics, standards and responsibility where as a fortuneteller just needs a bank account and be able to accept credit cards.

As a carrier of truth a Prophet must have a high code of conduct at all times and in all aspects of their life. It's impossible to be a true prophet without a code of conduct. It's hypocritical to try and deliver a message of truth on for example faithfulness in marriage while cheating on your own spouse. Because of the high code of conduct many Prophets are loners because their life is devoted to pleasing God not man, their heightened state of spirituality actually helps them to meet the high code of conduct. A Prophet is not worth their salt if they are known to be a drunkard, fornicator, their, liar or any other negative vice. Yet, a reformed person who has put these things behind them and has raised themselves to better conduct is capable of carrying God's truth with a greater understanding and appreciation for it.

Having the gift of prophecy carries tremendous responsibility because people's lives, well being and decisions are guided by the prophetic message. To speak anything other than the truth given by God is to invite disaster in others lives. A Prophet is held accountable for the words that come from their mouth. A Prophet is also responsible for any relationship that cultivates with others through the exchange of prophecy; they are responsible for any in appropriateness, dependency or criminality. If someone goes astray because of a Prophets incorrect and untruthful words the Prophet is held accountable and they will suffer the wrath of God.

Because a Prophet presents truth they are always in danger of others ill-fated reactions to the truth. John the Baptist lost his head, John the Apostle was exiled to the Isle of Patmos and Daniel was thrown in a lion's den. A Prophets loyalty is to God alone which means they must follow and walk with truth; this truth comes before anything and often bumps heads

with religious beliefs, other leaders and the ideologies of this world. This principle alone is what separates a true prophet from a false Prophet.



When a Prophet receives the gift of Prophecy it is like a seedling which must be nourished in order to grow. Good stewardship over the gift of prophecy is essential and mandatory or it will be taken away. Not only must the gift be well cared for, acknowledged and appreciated it must also be allowed to grow and evolve. The gift of prophecy is not like a pretty vase sitting on a shelf for decoration it is to be used and must be allowed to grow into its highest possible potential.

- 1) One requirement for increasing the gift of Prophecy is through usage, the more you use it the more sacred knowledge about it is opened up to you. Use the gift correctly and appropriately and it will grow stronger with each prophetic flow that you experience. Use the gift incorrectly or inappropriately and it will fade away and return to God.
- 2) The more you are able to rise above and step outside your own personal views, beliefs, biases and opinions and experience situations and people from a spiritual and holistic view the more heightened your intuition and understanding will become.
- 3) Begin to look for and accept the undisputable truth in all things. Everything in creation holds a grain of truth within it; seek to discover what that truth is without judging.
- 4) Have a solid "knowing" of God as Christ exemplified and taught in his ministry of truth, from this seed of truth your experiences with the prophetic flow can be enhanced to a greater degree.
- 5) Two way communications with God is essential. We are often taught how to pray but hardly ever how to listen to God. A true Prophet spends time each day praying and listening to God.

As you move forward with the gift of prophecy I hope this book will guide you in your progress. As long as you remain faithful to God and His truth you will be okay. Remember, being successful in prophecy is different than other professions in which you receive the approval of the people, in prophecy you only need the approval of God.

The following are some extra tips on the gift of prophecy that I would like to share with you. These are things I have learned from my own trials and errors:

- 1) Always follow and stick to truth. Truth will stand when everything else crumbles and falls. In all things truth will eventually surface and win. Make sure your prophecies are built on truth anything else will fall.
- 2) Don't feel as if you have to follow the pack and chase headlines, when you base your prophecies off of the latest

- news items you become reactionary and fall out of the prophetic flow of God.
- 3) People will challenge you and come against you, do not take it personally, a majority harbors a contrite spirit and is opposed to truth. Most of these will be fellow religious people but don't allow yourself to become tangled up in arguments or debates with them, stay focused on the mission that God has given you and keep moving forward.
- 4) Let the Holy Spirit guide you in all things it will never lead you astray, even when you cannot understand its ways, trust in it and you will never fail.
- 5) Never let anyone think they can or have bought you, make it clear that your loyalty rest with God and you operate by His prophetic flow not by the whims of individuals.
- 6) Live a God conscious life, acknowledging the presence of God in all things.

May the mantle of the Holy Spirit cover you and protect you as you carry the truth of God. May you forever stay in the prophetic flow, proving yourself worthy of the gift of prophecy that God has given you. At the close of your days on earth, when you cross over the celestial skies and meet the blessed Creator, I pray you hear these words:

"Well done my good and faithful servant, well done."

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