



Spiritual Gifts
Continued
Part 4

Gifts for *Strengthening*

❖ Exhortation/Encourager

❖ Healing

❖ Mercy

❖ **Prophecy**

❖ Music



Prophecy

The spiritual gift of prophecy is an extraordinary and unique gift.

The messages from those with the spiritual gift of **prophecy** must be tested.

(1 Corinthians 14:29-33; 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21; 1 John 4:1-3)

Prophecy:

The gift of prophecy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to receive and communicate an immediate message from God to His people through a divinely anointed utterance.

The Greek word for the gift of prophecy is propheteia which is the ability to receive a divinely inspired message and deliver it to others in the church.

These messages can take the form of exhortation, correction, disclosure of secret sins, prediction of future events, comfort, inspiration, or other revelations given to equip and edify the body of Christ.

(1 Corinthians 14:3-4, 24-25)

These messages do not constitute the authoritative Word of God, but are the human interpretation of the revelation that was received.

They are spoken in human words through a human mind which is why they must be tested against the Scriptures.
(1 Thessalonians 5:20-21).

The Holy Spirit gives the gift of prophecy to some believers to make God's heart known and to edify the church.

This gift is for the benefit of both believers and unbelievers and is a sign that God is truly among His church.

(1 Corinthians 14:22-25)

Those with this gift are sensitive to both the prompting of the Holy Spirit and the needs of the church body.

They should be humble and continually study the scriptures in order to test these revelations before speaking them.

Characteristics of the gift of **Prophecy:**

- He/she is not very patient, especially with people and their problems.
- He/she is disorganized and depends on others to keep him on schedule.

- He/she is very discerning.
- He/she is usually much more pleasant when not speaking or preaching.
- He/she has a strong self-image of duty, not caring what others think about what he/she does because of it.

- He/she is very opinionated.
- He/she is more likely to be depressed and serious than lighthearted about life.
- He/she desires to be alone frequently.

- He/she is not usually inhibited, but is usually expressive.
- He/she will be more interested in his/her own aims and desires than others'.

- He/she is more likely to be authoritative, especially about scriptures.
- He/she will be dominant, not submissive.

Burdens, Desires, and Strengths of the gift of **Prophecy:**

- He/she is burdened to expose sin to others.
- He/she must preach and wouldn't be content just writing.

- He/she wants to make all the "softies" in the church stronger.
- He/she speaks with urgency and presses for rapid decisions.
- He/she desires to see a world without sin and wants to see *revival*.

- He/she wants to stir your conscience.
- He/she preaches for conviction.
- He/she enjoys speaking publicly and does it with boldness.

- He/she is more likely to be hostile than tolerant, especially about sin.
- He/she is usually a disciplinarian and wants things done right.
- He/she is able to make quick decisions and is seldom indecisive.

- He/she is sometimes less discerning than they think they are.
- He/she sees problems where others do not.
- He/she is idealistic.

Special Needs and Weaknesses of the gift of **Prophecy**:

- He/she doesn't like to study and relies on others to do the his/her background work.
- He/she has a small memory for details.

- He/she doesn't relate well one-on-one and doesn't worry about being gracious.
- He/she over-categorizes. The words ***mostly, sometimes, and often***, are not 80% a part of his/her vocabulary. He/she replaces those words with ***"ALL"***.

- He/she tries to convict rather than letting the Spirit convict.
- He/she judges others quickly.
- He/she jumps to conclusions and makes decisions before all of the facts are available to him/her. He/she does not analyze the details.

- He/she tends to look at the negative side of things.
- He/she does not make or follow through with long-range goals and plans.
- He/she tends to be selfish.

- He/she uses sarcasm and teasing to get his/her point across and is not tactful.
- He/she is bossy and impatient; has little tolerance for mistakes; wants things done *his/her way now*.

- He/she is likely to stir up trouble.
- He/she is cautious about making friends and is suspicious in nature.
- He/she is able to hold the audience's attention.

How Those with the Gift of **Prophecy** is Misunderstood by Others:

- Others think he/she is not understanding.
- Others think he/she looks at a congregation as all bad.

- Others think he/she makes some people doubt their salvation.
- Others think he/she is insensitive and cold and has no love for people.
- Others think he/she is a poor listener.
- Others think he/she is too self-disciplined and can't have a good time.

How Satan Attacks the Gift of Prophecy:

- Causes lack of compassion.
- Causes pride and self-righteousness over lack of certain sins.
- Causes anger and bitterness.

- Causes lack of forgiveness.
- Causes discouragement because of unrepentant attitude by others.
- Causes him/her to sometimes fall into the very sins he preaches against.

- Causes him/her to never say "I'm sorry".
- Causes a pessimistic attitude.

Where to Use the Gift of Prophecy:

- As a Revival speaker.
- As a Pastor when he/she has other gifts suitable for pastoring.
- As a problem solver for a church with a sin problem.

- As a counselor to help point out sin in a person's life.
- As a preacher on Gospel teams.
- As a prison minister.
- As a migrant minister.