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DON'T TAKE PROPHECY LIGHTLY

Greetings in Jesus!

The first time I attended a Spirit-filled church I experienced what is referred to as a prophetic word from the Lord. The praise and worship transitioned into a time of quiet, holy reverence before God. Then, someone began speaking in tongues. Moments later, another person gave the interpretation. I have since learned that such prophecies do not have to be preceded by tongues and they do not always address future events. A prophetic word from God is whatever He wants delivered at that moment and whatever is spoken will **ALWAYS** line up with scripture.

In the past, I haven't always taken such prophecies as seriously as I should. In fact, it seems as though a great many Christians do not take such words seriously at all. It is true that prophecies are not an attempt to write new scripture. However, a prophetic word comes from the same source as scripture: Almighty God. That being so, we should receive every prophetic word as being very critical. When we ignore prophetic words - especially those in which God is giving us a warning - we are setting ourselves up for conflict and problems. Consider the following:

- In 1 Kings chapter 16 we are introduced to one of the most wicked and evil kings in all of Jewish history: Ahab. Verse 30 reveals that he did more evil than all the kings that reigned before him.
- 1 Kings 17:1 - Elijah shares a prophetic warning with Ahab that a severe drought is going to take place. However, Ahab does not ask why or what can be done to avert the drought.
- 1 Kings 18:1-40 - Elijah prophecies to Ahab that he is the cause of Israel's problems. Ahab refuses to repent and the end result is that God's holy fire falls and over 800 false prophets are killed by Israelites who recognize they have been misled. However, Ahab still refuses to repent.
- 1 Kings 20:1-22 - An unnamed prophet tells Ahab that God will help him defeat a Syrian invasion so that Ahab will know that God is the one, true God. Ahab's army wins the battle, just as the prophet said, but he does not repent.
- 1 Kings 20:23-34 - Syria again attacks Israel. An unnamed prophet tells Ahab that God will again help him be victorious over the Syrian army because the Syrians have declared that God is not who He claims to be. As prophesied, Ahab wins the battle, but he ignores how the hand of God moved on his behalf, allows Ben-Hadad, the Syrian king, to live and even makes a covenant with him.
- 1 Kings 20:35-43 - Another unnamed prophet confronts Ahab and tells him that because he allowed the pagan king Ben-Hadad to live and made a covenant with him, he will die. Though Ahab was very upset about that prophecy, he again refused to repent.

- 1 Kings 21:1-29 - Ahab wanted the vineyards of a man named Naboth. He allowed his wife, Jezebel, to frame Naboth for blasphemy so that Naboth could be executed and his vineyard taken. Elijah confronted Ahab and delivered a strong prophetic warning of judgment. Though Ahab appeared to repent, it was only a superficial repentance that did not last.
- 1 Kings 22:1-40 - Once again there was conflict with the Syrian armies. Ahab's "yes men" false prophets guaranteed his victory, But Micaiah, a true prophet of God, told Ahab he would die in battle. Once more - and for the final time - Ahab refused to acknowledge a word from God and repent, and he died as the prophet said.

God spoke to Ahab over and over through His prophets. Ahab repeatedly rejected the words of God and did what he wanted. Had he paid attention, recognized that every prophecy came to pass and repented for his wickedness, his end result would not have been so tragic.

It's very doubtful that anyone reading this letter is as evil as Ahab. Nevertheless, all prophetic words from God are just as important to us as they were to him. The key is that the prophecies must truly be from God. Just as there were false prophets in Ahab's day, a great many Christians today call themselves prophets, yet so many of their prophecies are not from God and some do not even line up with the Bible. This is why it is so important for us to know scripture and pray about prophecies to receive confirmation from God as to their validity. *(I strongly encourage you to visit our website and download my series "Prophets and Prophecy" for an extremely detailed teaching on how to distinguish between genuine and false prophets and prophecies.)*

For the remainder of this letter I am sharing prophetic words that have come forth during services at our church. I trust they will bless your life.

In His Grace,

Jim

ACCESS TO GOD

Your access to Me lies within. You see, in the Old Covenant they had no access to Me from within, they could only access Me from without. But now, now that the blood of My Son has been shed, now that you have become born again with My life and My nature inside you, you have access to Me from within.

So stop looking without. Stop seeking without, and start seeking within, start seeking within. For everything that you desire and everything that you have hoped for and everything you have wanted to see manifest is within you, because I am within you.

LET GOD WORK

You must lay down your religion or I cannot work the fullness of My work in your life. You must lay down your traditions or I can never take you beyond where you are right now in Me.

You have reached the limit of your walk in Me if you do not reach the point of being willing to lay these things down. You are rendering My power and My work in you of none effect because of what you are clinging to from your past. Turn it loose and let Me take you beyond where you've ever been and you will know and understand a greater realm of who I am in your life than you ever have before. So turn loose of your past and come walk with Me and I will take you into a realm of glory that you have never known.

GOD SEEKS WORSHIP

Give to Me that which I am truly seeking, that is your love, and your worship. There are many churches that profess Me and many churches that preach Me; but out of them all, there are so few that give Me what I am really after: your heart, your love and worship.

You've begun to enter into a realm of worship that you have not known in the past. For many of you, this has been a challenge. Many of you are still reserving yourselves because your flesh is uncomfortable with releasing out of your mouth the praise, the worship and the adoration that is in your spirit. I say unto you, you must go beyond your flesh, you must go beyond your emotions and your feelings and you must open your mouth. You must release unto Me that which is in your heart. For you see when you became born again, worship became a part of your nature.

So I would say to you, submit to the operation of your spirit. Dominate your flesh and do that which now seems uncomfortable but will soon seem very natural. For there are many churches, but few give Me what I am truly seeking: your heart, your love and worship. But you have been pressing deeper as a church into My presence through your worship. Your songs have rung through Heaven. Your songs have reached My throne. Your worship has reached My ears; for the greatest worship is that which is not planned, but that which is birthed out of your heart.

Your worship has reached My ears and I say unto you, if you will continue, if you will press deeper into this, you will continually dispel the powers of darkness in greater and greater measure. You will open up a realm of the spirit where My glory and My presence can penetrate and fill this place. And I say there will come a day when sinners will not need to hear a sermon preached, but My presence released through your worship will convict them, will draw them to the cross, will draw them to repentance, will draw them to salvation..

I say unto you, you are a church that is pleasing unto Me, for you have come so far. Yes, there is further yet to go but you have come so far. There are other churches which have begun like this but they have faded. Some have even come to the point of stopping this worship before I could complete the work that I wanted to do in these times of worship.

But you are a learning people, you are a growing people. And I say to you be encouraged. I say unto you, be encouraged, for I am pleased with what you are doing. I am pleased with where you have come from to where you are. I say unto you continue in this. Continue in this and always, always press beyond your flesh to enter into these times of worship, for it is there you will begin to experience Me in a new dimension. Your worship is a key to this revival.

OPEN YOUR HEART AND WORSHIP

I have made My best available unto you and I have held nothing back. I have never held anything back from you. I have always made My best available to you. The deeper you go into

My glory, the more that you are transformed from glory to glory, is the more you will experience those things that I have already laid aside for you. I have given you My best. And the best that you can give to Me is your worship.

For you see, you can pray in tongues, you can speak My Word and meditate My Word and you can fast; but your worship, your worship is the best that you can give unto Me. Because, you see, it is those who worship Me in spirit and truth, they are the ones that I seek. Yes I want you to pray, yes I want you to meditate on My Word and yes I want you to fast; but I *seek* for those who will worship in spirit and truth, because that is the one thing that you can give unto Me. When it pours forth from your heart it is the best that you can give Me.

There is nothing greater that you can give to Me beyond your worship. For it is your worship which will usher you into realms of My presence in the special places. It is your worship that will take you deeper into Me. It is your worship that will help accelerate your spiritual growth and maturity. When you worship and you focus your mind on Me, you're giving Me the best you can give Me. I want you to know I honor that, I honor that.

The Old Testament saints longed for the day that they could worship Me like this; but in all of their lives on earth they could never do what you have done here tonight. Only now are they able to do that as they are in My presence. But you, you have the ability to do this now; you have the ability to worship Me as they never worshiped Me and you can do it while you are still on the earth.

I say unto you, there is a dimension of worship that could never be experienced under the law; a dimension of worship that could never be experienced until My Son was crucified and risen again. And now, now there is a realm of Me that all mankind can experience. There is a realm of Me that you can know. Your worship will take you there. I am God. I love you. I love you and I want you to know My love. Therefore worship Me, worship Me. Open your heart and worship Me.

WORSHIP AND THOUGHTS

If you would only learn to praise Me, if you would only learn to worship Me, you would find out how that your worship will have a purging and cleansing effect in your thought life. There are too many people, too many Christians, who are going through a lot of junk in their minds that if they would just worship, all of that could change, all of it could change, all of it could change.

A CHANGE IS COMING

Listen to Me and I will give you directions. I'll show you what to do. I'm drawing from your past. I 'm drawing from your past and I am pointing you into the right direction. Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Don't hold back. Let Me lead you. Let Me lead you. Let Me lead you. Follow My direction and do what I tell you to do. Go where I tell you to go. Make the change that I am telling you to make, because as you make this change, you'll be stepping into the next level of what I have for you to do.

Emotionally, this is going to be a challenge for you. But you are going to find a greater joy if you'll just follow what I am leading you to do. For My hand is upon you; at times you have wondered, (but) yes My hand is upon you. I am ministering to you and I am speaking to you. I

love you very much; that is why I am taking this time with you. It's because I love you and I only want the best for you. So follow Me, follow Me. Take the step and follow Me. I will lead you into pastures of peace and joy and blessings in My presence.



P.S. - The sermon on which this month's letter is based is available on CD. You can order a copy using the form below.

>>>> **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT** <<<<

Our 2017 Prayer and Power Conference will be Sunday, April 23 - Friday, April 28. Our host hotel will again be the: Country Inn and Suites
3971 Colonel Glenn Highway, Fairborn, Ohio 45324
(937) 429-2222, email shekira.kanemoto@countryinns.com,
web site <https://www.countryinns.com/beavercreek-hotel-oh-45324/ohfairbo/rooms>

Rates per night (tax not included): Double Queen: \$105; King Standard \$105; King Suite \$120. Room space is limited. Those attending are responsible for making their own hotel reservations.



_____ Check here to receive a CD of the sermon, "Don't Take Prophecy Lightly."

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My love gift is: \$_____ (Make checks payable to "Jim Martin Ministries.")

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