



If you asked someone today what a prophet is, the answer might be that they were old guys in the Bible that proclaimed doom and gloom on people or that they were some sort of soothsayer like a psychic or fortune teller.

Religious Christians today don't think much different than this logic as most would say prophets or the gift of prophecy no longer exists, even though God says in **1 Corinthians 12** that it is a gift for everyone!

"7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all...¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy..." 1 Corinthians 12:7, 10

Anyone that says the gift of prophecy no longer exists or is no longer possible is a deceived liar bordering on blaspheming the Holy Spirit!

Jesus said, **³¹"Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. ³²Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come."** **Matthew 12:31-32**

Beware speaking and coming against the Holy Spirit and His manifestation through people which includes those who operate in their spiritual senses and in the spiritual realm with tongues, tongues interpretation, wisdom, knowledge, faith, working of miracles, discernment healing and prophecy.

In examining prophecy in the 21st century, when it comes to Biblical and modern day prophets they're all usually lumped into one of two words... prophet or prophecy.

Biblical prophets were categorized by man into "major" or "minor" prophets based on length of book but still called prophets regardless of what they said, saw or did. Modern day prophets are usually considered prophets if they "get a message from God about the future".



But is this the correct interpretation of God's meaning and really what His Word says?

Is the Holy Spirit's gift that simplistic or is there more depth to this gift everyone calls prophecy?

In the books of the Bible, prophets and prophecy were broken down into at least three (3) categories.

English translators, not God, took the Hebrew words and their meanings and lumped them all into one word... prophet or prophecy.

1. The person could perhaps be a ra'ah or Seer.

⁹ (Before this in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, thus he spoke: "Come, and let us go to the seer"; for he that is now called a prophet was formerly called a seer.) ¹⁰ Then said Saul to his servant, "Well said; come, let us go." So they went unto the city where the man of God was. ¹¹ And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them, "Is the seer here?" 1 Samuel 9:9-11 (21st Century KJV)

The Hebrew word for seer is or ra'ah (pronounced raw-aw) meaning to see; discern; gaze at; look at; perceive; stare at; to view; see visions or know the purpose of God. Usually referred to a person that sees more clearly and completely than a chozah.

2. Sometimes they were called chozah or Beholder.

The Hebrew word for beholder is or chozah (pronounced kho-zeh) meaning one who has visions or supernatural revelations. It is mistranslated from Hebrew as seer, seers, stargazers and prophets over 15 times in the English translation.

3. Sometimes they were called nabi or Spokesperson.

The Hebrew word for spokesman is or nabi (pronounced naw-bee) also interpreted as an inspired man; foretell events; pray and make supplication; a preacher of righteousness; speaker for God. The Hebrew word is mistranslated over 300 times in the English Bible as prophet, prophets, prophet's or prophecy.

Men in these 3 categories were also called a "man of god".

These separate distinctions were further broken down into two (2) areas. Most predictions in the Bible were conditional; involving warnings to repent and turn from wickedness to obtain God's mercy to alter a prediction. There are also unconditional predictions (fixed plans) of God that won't be changed such as doing away with sin and rebellion in God's eternal plan (i.e. Book of Revelation).

Now here comes the fun part!

Today each Christian can at different times be a seer, a beholder and/or a spokesperson for God!

The Bible says it... "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills." 1 Corinthians 12:11

"... as He wills." The Holy Spirit works in each one of us (if we allow Him) to demonstrate power and manifestations of God, "as he wills". He works in each one of us allowing us to be a seer, a beholder and/or a spokesperson for God when it is necessary.

If anyone years ago asked me if I was a prophet I would have said, "No". I imagined someone like Isaiah or Ezekiel and didn't picture myself in their league. My dumb mistake was in believing satan's lies that I wasn't worthy of such a "special position"! Each of us through Jesus Christ and with the Holy Spirit under the perfect will of the heavenly Father can do anything... including "as he wills", being a seer, a beholder and/or a spokesperson for God!

At different times I have been a seer, a beholder and a spokesperson depending on what God needed me to accomplish for Him. God has done many other things through me as well. Don't put God in a box like so many do which restricts God and restricts our bountiful life. Hard to imagine God being restricted, yet He is when we don't let Him work with each of us to accomplish His will on earth as it is in heaven and to offer us the wonderful blessing of working with Him! Don't restrict yourself or God to one Holy Spirit gift either, thinking that's all anyone gets. This was the common thinking during the Charismatic movement in the 1960's and '70's and still is with many today who categorize themselves as a "faith healer" or "interpreter of tongues", etc.. What did Jesus do?

So if ever anyone asks you if you're a prophet you can say, "What kind?". When they don't understand what you mean you can teach them and say, "I'm open to anything my Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit wants me to be"!