

Prophecy for the 21st Century

The Holy Spirit &
Spiritual Gifts Series

Prophecy for the 21st Century

■ PROPHET

One who proclaims the will / word of God

cf. word for heathen diviner or soothsayer

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

- 1 Cor 14:3

he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to

1. edification, and
2. exhortation, and
3. comfort...

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

■ 1 Cor 14:26

How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

Inerrancy Matters

Thinking God's Thoughts After Him

- Revelation
- Inspiration
- Canonization
- Translation
- Interpretation & Application

How did a book become recognized as “Scripture”?

Canonization The process by which God’s people
recognized writings as inspired (i.e. from God).

Canon Measure, rule (literally “reed” or “cane”)

Canonization does not **make** a writing inspired;
it measures whether it **already is** or
already is not inspired.

How did a book become recognized as “Scripture”?

Criterion of authorship
authority
acceptance

John writes
Revelation
(A. D. 90)

Irenaeus
(list of 4 gospels)
(A. D. 160)

Origen of Alexandria
*(first major figure
to make a list;
almost identical to the
eventual 27 NT books)*
(early 3rd C.)

Athanasius
(list of 27 books)
(A. D. 367)

0

100

200

300

400

(end of 1st C.)
collections of Paul's
letters circulating

(A. D. 170)
Muratorian
fragment

(A. D. 397)
Council of
Carthage

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■ SOLA SCRIPTURA

**The Word of God as the sole authority
for doctrine and practice**

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■ 1 Corinthians 4:6

I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, **that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written**, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.
(ESV)

Prophecy for the 21st Century

- Spiritual Gift of Prophecy

Communicating God's truth
in a common language.

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Theme

1 Cor 14

Prophecy:

Seek to edify, not to confuse!

Prophecy for the 21st Century

A. Declare God's truth in the church to edify.

1. Purpose – edify!
2. Effect – positive! (believers and unbelievers)

B. Declare God's truth in a way which avoids confusion.

1. Observe God's order of control.
2. Observe Gods order of creation design.

Prophecy for the 21st Century

A. Declare God's truth in the church to edify.

Purpose of communicating God's truth
– to edify!

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

- 1 Cor 14:1,3,4

Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy...

..he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort...

.. he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

Prophecy for the 21st Century

A. Declare God's truth in the church to edify.

2. Effect – positive!

(both believers and unbelievers)

cf. potential negative effect of tongues

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

- **1 Cor 14:21**

In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

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- 3 recorded occurrences of tongues in Acts

Acts 2: Day of Pentecost

Acts 10: Gospel open to Gentiles

Acts 19: Gospel open to John's disciples

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

- **1 Cor 14:22 (KJV)**

Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying *serveth* not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

- **1 Cor 14:22 ESV**

Thus tongues are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign[c] not for unbelievers but for believers.

(c). 1 Corinthians 14:22 Greek lacks *a sign*

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

- 1 Corinthians 14:22 NASB

So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy *is for a sign*, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

■ 1 Cor 14:23-25

If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?...

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

■ 1 Cor 14:23-25

...But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.

Tongues: Why the Confusion?

■ 1 Cor 14:26

How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. **Let all things be done unto edifying.**

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B. Declare God's truth in a way which avoids confusion.

1. Observe God's order of control.
2. Observe Gods order of creation design.

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■ 1 Cor 14:29-31

Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

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- **1 Cor 14:32**

And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

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- 1 Cor. 14:33

For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace...

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B. Declare God's truth in a way which avoids confusion.

1. Observe God's order of control.
2. Observe Gods order of creation design.

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- 1 Cor. 14: 34-35

Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

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- 1 Tim 2:12-13

But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

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Prophecy for the 21st Century

Benny Hinn - April 99 TBN Praise-a-thon

“...Now here is the message, No. 1 Give to God, what you give to God will come back, but there is additional truth now God is giving the church in these days. Do not give the same amount you have given for the last 20 years. Because that amount carries you this far. It may not carry you tomorrow...”

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Benny Hinn - April 99 TBN Praise-a-thon

“...Now it’s time that you increase your portion, you increase your giving, you increase the amount you give to God, because evil days are ahead. What you give today ... has carried you this far and has done you well.. has brought back enough to sustain you today...but it’s now time to know that there are evil days ahead economically and otherwise so we believers must increase our seed in order that tomorrow the evil will not harvest...”

Prophecy for the 21st Century

Benny Hinn - April 99 TBN Praise-a-thon

"...I'm giving you a prophetic word. You know the scripture says they prospered because they obeyed his prophets. I'm telling you tonight, I'm speaking prophetically. Obey the Lord!"

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- 1 Cor. 14:36-37

What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only? If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

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- 1 Cor. 14:40

Let all things be done decently and in order.

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Theme

Prophecy:
Seek to edify, not to confuse!

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- Declare God's truth in the church to edify.
 - Purpose – edify!
 - Effect – positive! (believers and unbelievers)
- Declare God's truth in a way which avoids confusion.
 - Observe God's order of control.
 - Observe Gods order of creation design.

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