

Heart of God Ministries International (HGMI)
Greater Works TEAM Building

Part 3 Understanding the Apostolic-Prophetic Living - Church

The Church requires attention to form and structure just as life and health require vigilance, diligence and care for maintenance for its life system and purpose. Leaders have the responsibility to work in apostolic fellowship to allow for building open and faithful relationships with each other that they may stay humble before God to receive all He has ordained on behalf of the Church Body (local assembly and the city church). In this letter we will focus on the *prophetic applications* of scripture. The *apostolic applications* have been well defined and documented on HGMI Website: www.thepropheticvoice.com

1. Academic and prophetic brothers and sisters should walk hand in hand as those in Antioch where prophetic and teaching gifts worked together. [Acts 13:1]
2. Nothing can replace the exposition of Scripture for the instruction and edification of God's people.
3. Prophecy excessive constraint is not scriptural and cannot be the beck and call of church leaders. Prophecy cannot be conscripted to time, place and form.
4. Prophecy is spontaneity in its nature. It is as valuable to the Church as the predictability of teaching. It is the language of 'higher inspiration' rather than the logical exposition and logical demonstration. It is the 'hidden disclosure' of God.
5. Both teaching and prophecy are essential for balance. When prophetic Spontaneity is exchanged for routine and religious practices, the "movement' Of God destined for the assembly's meetings are standardized and therefore loses its spiritual life and energy becoming deadening effects of institutionalism.
6. Christ is the "Anointed One. His anointing was without measure. The Lord's Church has been given His anointing mantle of the 5-fold gifts of men for the perfecting and equipping of the saints that they may do the works of ministering toward building up the Church. "Both teaching and prophecy is needed for balance. When the investment of religious power and controlled ruling attributes and allows "Traditionalists" and "Legalists" to capture the authority [power, privilege and right] in manipulation of the Body for self-directed purposes and schedules [through intimidation, domination and control], the effects of these actions diminish and eventually eliminate God's voice in prophetic form as guide and counsel for the Church. When such self-directed leaders arise, the nature of the Church changes to an unscriptural, ungifted bureaucratic entity void of an unpredictable, dynamic, confirming Presence of the Holy Spirit. It is tragic to see such an exchange of hierarchal very predictable and "self abased bishopric" dominate the Lord's Church with loss of "messianic consciousness" and emerging ecclesiastical rule. When traditionalism and legalism wholly control the functions of the Church, the sacred Presence of God through the gifts of the Spirit are sacrificed.
7. The Lord Jesus gave His Body His patterns for apostolic-prophetic Church building. He did not give authority [power, privilege and right] through ordinations for men to promote their own ideas and agendas for the local and CITY Church He is the Head! The Instrumentality of the Church is the Body

Modern day "bishops" perpetuate a Tradition!

Through their "*leadership*" [control], church order and ministry is falsely sanctified through prescribed methods and orders. Ordered forms of ministry replace unpredictable and enthusiastic ones. Prophecy must be exercised or the church becomes marginalized!

Prophecy is an indication of God's approval and blessing on the congregation because it demonstrates that God is actively present! The "rite" of ordination in most churches controls the Spirit. Appointments to *Offices* and *Titular* status create hierarchal organizational structuring that is ritualistic and controlling rather than facilitating and allowing spontaneity through fellowship with the Godhead yielding guidance through the apostolic-prophetic gifts. The seriousness of placing individuals in "Offices and Titular appointments releases tragic results. Instead of flowing in the "pattern of the Son," and Holy Ghost, ministry is shifted from spiritual participation of every member of the Body of Christ to only certain "ordained" ones... causing clergy-laity: division. As in ancient Israel, the priest was the intermediate between God and man. Standardization of appointments within the worship order of services becomes the "order of service." The body is captured and placed in bondage in their worship. The creativity of God and His planned purposes for the assembly are stifled. His divine order is ignored by the will and designs of men!

"Sophistication" of the Church and the "domestication" of the Spirit results in a spiritually dead Body. The "greater works" of Jesus is to be working in the midst of the Father's people in a vibrant, life-giving activity of the Body in the corporate gathering... to worship in Spirit and Truth... is taken from the assembly of believers. Personal participation energized by the Holy Ghost is no longer experienced. Extemporaneous and demonstrative touches and supernatural unction of God are quenched. Sacramental unity (man's plan) replaces spiritual unity (God's plan). The atmosphere is changed from one of marvelous expectation and anticipation to one of dullness and boorishness. The will and plan of God to be viable in the midst of His people therefore can no longer exist. The losses of the energized spiritual atmosphere diminishes. The spark of anticipation and expectation to see and experience God wanes. Man's systems destroys what constitutes salvation. Salvation becomes a substitution of religious works... a response to a set program of words and behavioral expectations rather than God's lively and spirit empowered salvation by faith in Christ. "Salvation" becomes a "decision" for Christ rather than a dynamic encounter with Him!

The Church is responsible to yield wholly to the Holy Ghost through communion with Him, worship, the teaching of the Word and the operative gifts. The Church is built upon the foundations of Christ: *His patterns and teachings" demonstrated through apostolic-prophetic spiritual gifting. When it assembles, (1 Corinthians 11:17-18, 20; 14:26; 23, 25) leadership and the whole body is to cooperate in a unified effort to share the rich diversity provided in the gathering of Christians. The service is not to be static and fully structured. There is to be sharing of Holy Spirit inspired psalm that has been placed upon the heart of a saint: But, not one purposely and randomly selected by leadership or an appointee.

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Music prophetically inspired and that which is learned, should be shared. Teaching should be wholesome with truth flowing out of the resources of the Body: that is called by God, not through a man's "setup order" but recognized in the biblical "pattern of the Son."

2 Tim 2:15 AMP

15 Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.

Other spiritual foundational treasures that may be shared are:

- A revelation (prophetic insight)
- A tongue (an unlearned language given supernaturally)
- An interpretation (the intelligent explanation of the tongue)

These are by no way an inclusive list, they are examples of the unified diversity that Paul discusses in his introduction to the Gifts of the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 AMP

4 Now there are distinctive varieties and distributions of endowments (gifts, extraordinary powers distinguishing certain Christians, due to the power of divine grace operating in their souls by the Holy Spirit) and they vary, but the [Holy] Spirit remains the same.

5 And there are distinctive varieties of service and ministration, but it is the same Lord [Who is served].

6 And there are [distinctive] ways of working [to accomplish things], but it is the same God who produces all things in all believers [inspiring, energizing, and empowering them].

7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit [the spiritual illumination and the enabling of the Holy Spirit] for the common good.

Our prayer is for each who receive of the golden nuggets of spiritual truth Contained within our study and considerations giving attention to the precious patterns of our Lord and King... Jesus Christ.

It is He who Calls, Chooses and Appoints through Holy Ghost encounters.

He is the GIVER of the ASCENSION GIFTS: His Gifts to the Church.

Holy Ghost ANOINTS! He re-presents (represents All things pertaining to Jesus!

Ephesians 3:16-21 AMP

16 May He grant you out of the rich treasury of His glory to be strengthened and reinforced with mighty power in the inner man by the [Holy] Spirit [Himself indwelling your innermost being and personality]. 17 May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love, 18 That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God's devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the **breadth** and **length** and **height** and **depth** [of it]; {*note*: these are spiritually measurable apostolic dimensions}

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19[That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]!

20 Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]-- 21 To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen (so be it).

are distinctive varieties of operation [of working to accomplish things], but it is the same God Who inspires and energizes them all in all.

[Note: The City Church is the Spiritual Fellowship and Communion of which The Lord created and demonstrated in the unity of the 12 forerunners He chose. They carried forth the "pattern" He taught them!]

It is seen in Acts 2.:41-47 (AMP)

41 So then, those who accepted his message were baptized; and on that day about 3,000 souls were added [to the body of believers].

42 They were continually and faithfully devoting themselves to the instruction of the apostles, and to fellowship, to eating meals together and to prayers.

43 A sense of awe was felt by everyone, and many wonders and signs (attesting miracles) were taking place through the apostles.

44 And all those who had believed [in Jesus as Savior] were together and had all things in common [considering their possessions to belong to the group as a whole].

45 And they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing the proceeds with all [the other believers], as anyone had need.

46 Day after day they met in the temple [area] continuing with one mind, and breaking bread in various private homes. They were eating their meals together with joy and generous hearts,

47 praising God continually, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord kept adding to their number daily those who were being saved.