

## *The Prophetic Ministry in the End Times*

### I. THE END-TIME OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT (JOEL 2:28-32)

<sup>28</sup>*It shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. <sup>29</sup>And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. <sup>30</sup>I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. <sup>31</sup>The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great...day of the LORD. <sup>32</sup>It shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Joel 2:28-32)*

- A. ***Before:*** The day of the Lord refers to Jesus' second coming. The day of Pentecost was a down payment of a far greater fulfillment of this prophecy in the end times before Jesus' return.
- B. ***Afterward:*** This is after we turn wholeheartedly to God with prayer and fasting (Joel 2:12-17). The Joel 2:12-15 pattern of corporate prayer with fasting has been followed throughout church history, resulting in many great revivals. More in the Church today are seeing the importance of gathering in corporate intercessory worship until God releases the fullness of His blessing.  
<sup>12</sup>*Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting...with mourning. <sup>13</sup>So rend your heart...return to the LORD your God... <sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast... (Joel 2:12-15)*
- C. In Acts 1-2, the disciples followed the pattern described by Joel as they sought the promise of the outpouring of the Spirit given by Jesus in Acts 1:8. They gathered to pray in the upper room. After seven days, on the Feast of Pentecost, the Spirit was released with power (Acts 1:14-2:4).
- D. There is a deep connection between prayer and the release of the prophetic spirit. These seven days of prayer occurred in a strategic time frame in God's plan. They were preceded by the death and resurrection of Jesus. Before that, a long prayer history occurred including great intercessors such as Jesus, John the Baptist, Simeon, and Anna (who prayed for sixty years, see Lk. 2:37).
- E. The phrase "in the last days" is used in two ways—referring to the first century (Heb 1:2) and also to the generation in which the Lord returns (2 Tim. 3:1; 2 Pet. 3:3). The fullness of what Joel prophesied has still not yet happened. This is evidenced by the significant differences between Joel 2 and Acts 2. Only part of it was fulfilled in Peter's generation. Joel said that the sun and the moon would grow dark and signs such as blood and smoke would be seen in the context of a worldwide outpouring of the Spirit on all flesh, meaning all believers in all nations. In Acts 2, the Spirit only rested on 120 Jewish believers in Jerusalem and on 3,000 who were saved that day.
- F. ***End-time prophets:*** Acts 2:17-21; Eph. 4:11-13; Rev. 11:10, 18; 16:6; 18:20, 24  
<sup>24</sup>*In her [Babylon] was found the blood of prophets...slain on the earth. (Rev. 18:24)*  
<sup>51</sup>*And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." (Jn. 1:51)*

## II. THE INHERITANCE OF THE BODY OF CHRIST: ALL WILL PROPHECY

- A. **All flesh:** Includes Jews and Gentiles, men and women, and young and old believers in all nations.  
*<sup>28</sup>I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. (Joel 2:28)*
- B. The only qualifier that Joel made is that God’s people live as His bondservants (Joel 2:29).  
*<sup>29</sup>On My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit... (Joel 2:29)*
- C. We posture ourselves to live with a prophetic spirit by pursuing Jesus with **wholeheartedness** (not passivity), **living righteously** (not in compromise), stewarding the anointing with **humility** (not drawing attention to self with hype or exaggeration), honoring the **Scripture** (not promoting “revelations” that go beyond Scripture), properly using **finances** received from ministry (not living extravagantly), and **bearing the stigma** of the anointing (refusing fear of man).  
*<sup>6</sup>The Angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying, <sup>7</sup>...If you will walk in My ways and... keep My command...I will give you places to walk among these [angels]... (Zech. 3:6-7)*

## III. PROPHETIC MINISTRY: SIGNS IN THE HEAVEN

- <sup>30</sup>I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. <sup>31</sup>The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the...day of the LORD. (Joel 2:30-31)*
- A. The wonders in the earth will include manifestations of blood, fire, and pillars of smoke. Jesus prophesied that great earthquakes and many fearful signs would perplex the nations. Prophetic visions will provide a connection between signs in the heavens and signs on the earth. Prophets will proclaim a vision with a message, giving details of when a comet or an earthquake will occur, to confirm their message. Israel expected the Messiah to do this sort of thing (Mt. 16:1).  
*<sup>11</sup>There will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven. (Lk. 21:11)*  
*<sup>25</sup>There will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; <sup>26</sup>men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of things...for the powers of heaven will be shaken. (Lk. 21:25-26)*
- B. Joel prophesied that whoever calls upon Jesus’ name will be saved and delivered from harm.  
*<sup>32</sup>It shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance... (Joel 2:32)*
- C. There are different categories of prophetic words, miracles, and healings, including:
1. **God’s compassion to help individuals:** this is what we are most familiar with today
  2. **Movement miracles or words:** giving direction/perspective to a movement (e.g. 1983-1984)
  3. **Culture shifting miracles or words:** these release the fear of God or faith with expectancy to a ministry or to a city or region that revives the church or wins the lost (Acts 3; 5; 8; 16; 19)

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