

Remnant Life Church
01.22.23
False Prophecy and the Word
Deuteronomy 18:9-22

Last Sunday we began to look at prophecy by recognizing that God created the prophetic as a way to encourage, warn, and instruct His people

- But along with that comes the understanding that satan, as with all things given by God, wants to twist and pervert it
 - That is why we have things like seances, mediums, and psychic readers in the world today
 - The prophets of God received their knowledge from Him while the others are all at the direction of the demonic specifically through witchcraft, the occult and far-eastern religion influences
 - We also know that witchcraft, in any and every form, is specifically condemned for the believer throughout the Bible
- And so, we asked the question is there a difference between the prophecy of the Bible and the reading of a medium to tell one's future?
- Of course, the answer is absolutely YES

We also looked at the origin of prophecy to be from inspiration given by God through the Holy Spirit

- The word "prophecy" is a combination of two Greek words
 - The first "pro" meaning before
 - And the second "phemi" meaning to speak
 - 'Speaking before' – in this definition telling of something that has not yet occurred

We also then examined the difference between prophecy and a prophet

- The act of prophecy, as written by the Apostle Paul, is a spiritual gift that God gives at His direction and in His time for an individual
- A prophet is a spokesman for God who is NEVER WRONG
 - Those who claim to be prophets are many times not
 - Or they do not make the correct distinction between a prophet and the gift of prophecy
 - All prophets prophesy, but not all who prophesy are prophets
- The only way you can judge whether someone has the gift of prophecy is not by what they tell you or claim, but only by the exercising or evidence of prophesying itself
- In the same way, the only way you can judge that someone is a prophet is by the perfection of their spoken word by its fulfillment every single time

READ – Duet 18:9-22

In this passage Moses and God are in essence having a conversation regarding the people of God and the pagan nations they will be encountering

- This warning is not just for that time but very much for us today
- It comes down to will – whose will are you following?
 - **V 20** – *But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.*
 - A medium is a person with a prophetic gift that has been twisted
 - It is not the voice of God they listen to
 - If not God, who are they hearing
 - The voice and plans of satan and his demons
 - One third of the angelic host fell with Lucifer and make up the demonic host that are active in our world today – the spirit world
 - So to listen to the voice of a medium or anything associated with the occult is to follow a will that is taking you away from the truth and love of God
 - It is not God’s will leading your life it is a lie
 - Jesus said that satan is the author, the father of lies
 - It is his native tongue
 - **Zech 10:2** – *The idols speak deceit, diviners see visions that lie; they tell dreams that are false, they give comfort in vain. Therefore, the people wander like sheep oppressed for lack of a shepherd.*
- There are a great number of television programs being broadcast today that deal with ghosts, mediums, and communicating with the dead or spirits
 - Again, see what God says in His Word
 - **Isa 8:19-20** - *When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? Consult God’s instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn.*
 - What does the prophet Isaiah point out regarding what they say?
 - They whisper and mutter
 - IOW they are hard to hear
 - They are things said in secret in darkness
 - What does the Bible say about where evil things dwell?
 - **Psa 11:2** - *For look, the wicked bend their bows; they set their arrows against the strings to shoot from the shadows at the upright in heart.*
 - **John 3:19-20** - *This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.*
 - Once again, the Bible is clear regarding those who have died
 - They do not speak from beyond the grave
 - **Isa 19:3** - *The Egyptians will lose heart, and I will bring their plans to nothing; they will consult the idols and the spirits of the dead, the mediums and the spiritists.*

- If it is a sin for us to try and communicate with the dead then God is not permitting the dead to speak to us!
 - When a medium is saying to someone that their dead grandmother is speaking a message to give them you can be sure that is not their grandmother it is a lying, deceiving demonic spirit.
 - And God forbids any contact of that sort for that very reason
- Yet God still guards and protects His children
 - Katerina's experience
 - Late teens very early 20's
 - Without vices so the enemy attacked her gift – discerning of spirits
 - Praying to God for a word from the psychic
 - Innocent ignorance
 - Once she began to read what the Bible said regarding mediums and how God forbids His children from using them, she immediately stopped and asked forgiveness

Prophecy is a very powerful tool of God to use within the body of believers for encouragement, strengthening and comfort.

- But since it can be such a meaningful part of the believers walk when given by God, it is also a very dangerous one when twisted and perverted by satan
- We must be always on guard but never afraid