

Prophetic Insight

Listening to God

I. Be Aware/Listen Up

2 Peter 1:19-21 (NIV)

¹⁹ And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and **you will do well to pay attention to it**, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

II. Authority of Scripture

Hebrews 4:12-13 (NIV) logos

¹² For **the word of God is living and active**. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

A. Life Direction

Psalms 119:105 (NIV)

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Proverbs 2:1-8 (NIV)

¹ **My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,** ² turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, ³ and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, ⁴ and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, ⁵ **then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.** ⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷ He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, ⁸ for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

B. Cleansing

Ephesians 5:26-27 (NASB)

²⁶ so that He (Jesus) might sanctify her (the Church), having cleansed her **by the washing of water with the word,** ²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

C. Reveals Truth

John 17:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

¹² For **the word of God is living and active**. . . .it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

D. A Weapon

Ephesians 6:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**

E. Transformational --New Birth

1 Peter 1:23 (NASB)

²³ for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the living and enduring word of God.

F. Creative Power of God

Psalm 33:6 (NASB)

⁶ By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

Hebrews 11:3 (NASB)

³ By faith we understand that **the worlds were prepared by the word of God**, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

G. Expression of God's Power

Jeremiah 23:29 (NIV)

²⁹ "Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

III. Are You Listening?

Zechariah 7:11-12 (NIV)

¹¹ **"But they refused to pay attention; stubbornly they turned their backs and stopped up their ears."** ¹² They made their hearts as hard as flint and **would not listen to the law or to the words that the Lord Almighty had sent by his Spirit through the earlier prophets.** So the Lord Almighty was very angry.

Jeremiah 38:14-20 (NIV)

¹⁴ Then King Zedekiah sent for Jeremiah the prophet and had him brought to the third entrance to the temple of the LORD. "I am going to ask you something," the king said to Jeremiah. "Do not hide anything from me." ¹⁵ Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "If I give you an answer, will you not kill me? **Even if I did give you counsel, you would not listen to me.**" ¹⁶ But King Zedekiah swore this oath secretly to Jeremiah: "As surely as the LORD lives, who has given us breath, I will neither kill you nor hand you over to those who are seeking your life."

¹⁷ Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, **"This is what the LORD God Almighty, the God of Israel, says:** 'If you surrender to the officers of the king of Babylon, your life will be spared and this city will not be burned down; you and your family will live.' ¹⁸ But if you will not surrender to the officers of the king of Babylon, this city will be handed over to the Babylonians and they will burn it down; you yourself will not escape from their hands.'" ¹⁹ King Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, "I am afraid of the Jews who have gone over to the Babylonians, for the Babylonians may hand me over to them and they will mistreat me."

A. Enables us to believe God is at work

John 14:28-31 (NIV)

²⁸ "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I." ²⁹ **I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.**

B. When Truth Breaks Through (listen & obey)

Acts 2:36-40 (NIV)

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." ³⁷ **When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"** ³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer

Almighty God, I acknowledge You as the creator and sustainer of all. May my ears be open to your directions and my heart receptive to your invitations. I yield to your authority and wisdom for my life. Holy Spirit guide me in paths of righteousness and life. May the Word of God come alive within me as never before. In Jesus' name, amen.

