The Gift of Prophecy
A Manifestation of God’s Love

Since the creation, it was God’s intention to always communicate with Adam and the human family. He has never been an absent God, but after man’s creation, as sin continued to increase, the separation between the Creator and His creation also increased. “But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.” Isaiah 59:2

But the Creator would not allow sin to separate Him from Adam, who had been created in His image, and his descendants. As time continued and the earth’s inhabitants increased, God would choose certain individuals, God-fearing men and women, to speak for Him to His creation.

Are you a student of prophecy? Do you know what basic principles of prophecy are? In this short article we will review a few important principles. The first important principle that must be attached to prophecy is found in the following verses: “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.” 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

In Matthew 22:40, Jesus says that all the law and prophets hang on the following principles: Love for God with all your heart, soul, and mind and love for your neighbor as yourself.

From these verses we can see that in order for prophecy to be of value, it must be connected with God’s love. God’s messages of warning and instruction to His creation have always been based on His love for us. After instructing His messengers...
We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.

Life Sketches, 196

with the warnings to be given, He added that the messenger remind them how much He loved them. Another principle is that prophecy is a gift of the Holy Spirit and was given by God to His church.

If prophecy is a gift of God, how should it then be treated? And how should we respond? The answer is found in 2 Peter 1:19, 20: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.” And verse 21 says: “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but by holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Another principle of prophecy that we can learn from God’s word is that when a church or individuals go into apostasy, the gift of the Holy Spirit—including the gift of prophecy—is withdrawn. The verses below clearly reveal that apostasy drives the Holy Spirit away, drives away the protective care and guidance that God’s church needs to do His will.

In Ezekiel 8:6 we read, “He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? Even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary?” In other words, because the house of Israel had apostatized, God was inclined to “go far off.” So how important is it that the Holy Spirit’s gift be in God’s church?

Proverbs 29:18 says: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.”

Ezekiel makes it even clearer: “Destruction cometh; and they shall seek peace, and there shall be none. Mischief shall come upon mischief, and rumour shall be upon rumour; then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the law shall perish from the priest, and counsel from the ancients.”

Jesus instructed His disciples on many things in preparation for their work of spreading the Gospel. As His present-day disciples, we also could learn and benefit from the instructions He gave to His disciples in Matthew 10, especially what is recorded in verses 40 and 41: “He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward… “

God’s messages of warning and instruction to His creation have always been based on His love for us.
There is much more to study concerning prophecy, but we remind you here again that one of the most important principles of prophecy is that it must be based on God’s love, that it must be tested with His word and the workings of His Holy Spirit. And do not forget what the apostle Peter said: “And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts” (2 Peter 1:19). Faith in the prophets and in their messages will bring success in the Lord’s work.

“Satan is … constantly pressing in the spurious—to lead away from the truth. The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. ‘Where there is no vision, the people perish’ (Proverbs 29:18). Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God’s remnant people in the true testimony.

“There will be a hatred kindled against the testimonies which is satanic. The workings of Satan will be to unsettle the faith of the churches in them, for this reason: Satan cannot have so clear a track to bring in his deceptions and bind up souls in his delusions if the warnings and reproofs and counsels of the Spirit of God are heeded.” Selected Messages, Book 1, 48.

“In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.” Life Sketches, 196.

Benjamin Cortes and his wife Rosana have been faithful workers in the Lord’s vineyard in Colombia for many years. Their work is quite expansive and includes giving Bible studies, canvassing, distributing literature, tending a large garden and teaching gardening, and printing Spirit of Prophecy books, tracts, and other witnessing materials. Their work is made possible to a large extent with equipment that was provided through your donations to our evangelism fund.

Problems with an adequate water supply have caused them to seek a new outpost for their work. By the providence of God, they have found a suitable piece of land with an active creek that will provide more than enough water for their needs.

Their latest report provides a brief snapshot of a recent month:

This has been a very busy month: opening the new outpost, taking care of the vegetable gardens, taking care of our sister who broke her arm more than a month ago, printing, preparing new material, coming to town to send the boxes of books, etc. But it’s a blessing in being in our Father’s business!!

To assist Benjamin and Rosana and similar evangelist efforts, mark your donations Evangelism.
Mission Project
Updates

Bibles and More

We are very pleased to report that sufficient funds have been raised to send three pallets of *The Great Controversy* to Zambia. That’s over 7500 copies of the book that Inspiration says is to be distributed more than any other. It is always encouraging when God’s people come together to accomplish a worthy task such as this one. Thank you for your support in this and similar evangelistic efforts.

To support efforts similar to this one, please mark your donation *Evangelism*.$14,140 raised in 2021

Orphanages

According to Strong’s Concordance, the word translated *visit* in the verse to the far right can also be translated *relieve*, and that’s what God expects His people to do for the fatherless—relieve their destitution, in the many and varied forms it takes: lack of clothing, lack of food, lack of a stable home, lack of educational opportunities.

It is often disheartening to see the situation of so many of the youth in Africa. It seems that the fatherless can outnumber those with stable homes.

To assist us in relieving to whatever extent we can the destitution of as many as we can, please mark your donations *Orphans*.$14,140 raised in 2021

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless… .

James 1:27
In His Steps November - December 2021

**Tabloid Project**

In Cornerstone’s August newsletter, which we just received, Brother Seth Ferrell sent the following update on their tabloid printing:

Paper is getting difficult to acquire. We hear that even McDonald’s is having a shortage of paper bags. Now that affects Cornerstone also, for printing on paper is our business.

We are waiting to get the paper so we can print tabloids again, but it now looks like the tabloids will be printed and ready to ship out the first of October!

Here are the tabloids to be printed:
- 750,000 to Mexico
- 200,000 to Kenya
- 500,000 to Guatemala
- 250,000 to Australia
- 500,000 to Panama
- 800,000 printed in Romanian in Romania. (This will save on international shipping costs!)

3,000,000 total tabloids going out soon!

And how is it done? Because of your dedicate help!!

*Seth Ferrell*

$2,203 raised in 2021

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**Back after a One-year Hiatus**

Prairie Meadows Church members Janet Headrick (left) and MaryAnn Roberts prepare “kid’s bags” for distribution at the Kansas State Fair.

Steps to Life, in a combined effort with Prairie Meadows Church, had to take a break from staffing an outreach effort at the Kansas State Fair. For 25 consecutive years, visitors to the fair were offered truth-filled literature free of charge. Unfortunately, the pandemic caused cancellation of the fair in 2020, but the event was resumed this year, and we were ready and willing to resume our evangelistic efforts there.

In addition to offering a wide variety of Spirit of Prophecy books, it was decided several years ago to offer “kid’s bags” to appeal to the younger fair visitors. Even if the adults won’t accept a book, they are willing to accept something special for their children. So included in each kid’s bag is an offer for Bible studies and a small booklet or magazine on the Law of Liberty.

Please pray that there will be souls in the Kingdom as a result of this outreach effort. To support this and similar outreach efforts, please mark your donations Evangelism.

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**HISTORIC LANDMARKS OF ADVENTISM**

In November

If you’re a LandMarks subscriber, most likely you have already received the 2021 November issue. If you’re not a subscriber, you can access the magazine online at www.stepstolife.org.

We are approaching the Thanksgiving season. Being thankful is necessary for us to not only enjoy life here on this earth, but also enjoy heaven. Do we know how to be thankful and how to praise God for all the things He has done for us? Find out by reading the article “The Lesson of Thanksgiving.”

We have so much to be thankful for. Most of all it is the gift of salvation. We must first understand what it cost Jesus to pay the price of salvation if we are to truly realize its value. Read more in the article “The Value of Salvation.”

This issue has a wide array of articles for every member of the family. This includes a personal testimony on how God leads his children, yet often we think we know better. Whether you like spiritual articles or reading on health, this issue has you covered.

You can receive a complimentary subscription of this spiritually uplifting magazine.

Haven’t gotten a subscription yet? Call us today to subscribe!

1-800-843-8788
We praise the Father always for the evidences He gives us that the broadcast messages given over the airways has reached and blessed those that have tuned in to listen. In the month of June one of our radio broadcasts was a study from 2 Timothy 1:9: “Who has saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.”

We expounded on this amazing Scripture text telling us of the Father’s love for His creation and emphasizing that He had given us salvation and grace through His Son, Jesus Christ “before the world began.” What a theme to meditate! All you have to do is walk around for one day in this huge city of Guadalajara to see faces marked with anxiety and worry.

A listener to this blessed study was Frederico Navarrete who, unbeknownst to us, is legally blind. He asked a family member to dial the station where he expressed how blessed he was by the study. He requested the book offers for his family and a recording of the message to listen to again.

We again express our heartfelt gratitude for the continued support of this branch of the Gospel. God is blessing and be assured, He is blessing all those who share to make this possible.

Maranatha!

Jediael Aguilar

We have previously reported on the pending acquisition of a ministry and outreach building in Guadalajara. When that has been completed, Jadiael will relocate into that facility, which will have an A/V production studio as well as offices, a sanctuary, and classrooms. To support our effort to establish a major outreach center in Mexico’s second largest city, please mark your donations Mexico.
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**NEW**

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Vineyard Workers Needed

As we draw closer to the meeting of time and eternity, do you have an increasing desire to be more active in the Lord’s work? If so, perhaps we might be able to assist you in fulfilling that desire. We need faithful and dedicated workers who are committed to the cause of Christ and who are more interested in garnering up heavenly rewards than earthly treasures. Steps to Life needs:

- Bible workers
- Intern for our director of outreach
- Assistance in on-site audio/video editing and production
- Graphic designer
- IT support and social media management

If you have an interest in locating to Wichita, Kansas and assisting in any of these areas, please contact our office.

1-316-788-5559
1-316-768-7031
office@stepstolife.org