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This booklet is dedicated to all those Holy Spirit-filled believers who sincerely and genuinely desire to see God released in and through their lives to impact this 21st century generation. God's love and power are released through us when we accept, then cultivate and prove His voice to us by our simple obedience to what He says. It is our obedience to what He says that releases the power of the prophetic today.

Acknowledgements

Unless stated otherwise, Scripture quotations are taken from the “New King James Version” of the Bible.

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Foreword

THERE IS no doubt in my mind that the prophetic ministry is on the rise. Even though there is much opposition to it, this ministry does and will play an important role in the last days.

I have known Rodney for more than forty years and value his friendship. It is just great to see the passion that God has placed within him concerning the prophetic. This is the area that God is greatly using Rodney in at present. In his writings, seminars and practical teachings Rodney is reaching and releasing people from many countries and varied Christian backgrounds into this dynamic, life-changing ministry.

In this booklet, “The Power Of The Prophetic,” Rodney has captured what I believe is the essence of the prophetic ministry. That is the ability to impact people with revelation knowledge. This supernatural knowledge in turn transforms people, changes their circumstances and releases them to fulfil their destinies in God. The true nature of the prophetic is that *“He must increase, and we must decrease”* (John 3:30).

Harvey Walker

(Founder: “Mission IMPART,” Tauranga, New Zealand)

THE POWER OF THE PROPHETIC

looking at four examples of the power of the prophetic
from the ministry of Jesus.

THE WORD OF GOD never ceases to amaze us, as it is so full of the unfolding revelation of Jesus and His plans and purposes for our lives and ministries. So much of what Jesus said and did was right outside the realm of logic and natural knowledge and human ability. He ministered in the power of the prophetic, the supernatural of God, which “operates” as a result of hearing the voice of God, and obeying whatever He says to us. If we look at John 1:35-51 we see there Jesus at work in the calling of two men to Himself – Simon Peter and Nathanael. The first encounter and words they heard from Jesus were personal prophetic words that impacted their lives from that point on.

1. SIMON PETER

Regarding Simon Peter’s meeting with Jesus, the Scripture simply states: **“Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, ‘You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas’** (which is translated, ‘A stone’) (John 1:42). What can we learn from the way Jesus ministered to Peter?

1. **“Jesus looked at him.”** Jesus used the eye-gate to look at Peter to see beyond the natural exterior of the man and to look into that which would be in the future.

2. He called Peter by name and told him whose son he

was. Jesus demonstrated He knew Peter before Peter knew Him.

3. Jesus told Peter of his future as a man of God.

These three points are all aspects of the prophetic ministry. Jesus knew Peter's past, his present and his future. At His very first meeting with Peter, Jesus impacts him with revelation knowledge that was so accurate that Peter became a follower of Jesus from that point on. Peter experienced the power of the prophetic.

Jesus always saw the potential in genuine enquirers of Himself. He saw in Peter that the day would come when he would be a man of strength and stability to inspire and lead multitudes of people in the ways of the Lord.

In Matthew 16:13-19, Jesus ministered further to Peter in a prophetic way when He told him his understanding of Who Jesus is was a revelation he had received from the Father in Heaven. It was the revelation of God of Who Jesus is that the Church of Jesus Christ is built upon, and Peter's revelation and understanding of that revelation of truth enabled Peter in time to rise to be the "stone" that Jesus prophesied over him the first time they met. By revelation knowledge Jesus walked with Peter through his trials and natural instability traits that he battled with, to the point where Peter became the great Apostle Peter, a leader of the New Testament Church, and the one who brought the Holy Spirit baptism to the Gentiles (Acts 10). This is what the prophetic ministry is all about – bringing people through to a place of fulfilling their divine potential and destiny. It does not happen by natural means or academic brilliance, but by the power of the prophetic.

2. NATHANAEL (*John 1:45-51*).

When we look more closely at this amazing passage of Scripture, we see Jesus ministering prophetically about Nathanael. Jesus' first words of Nathanael were, **"Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit"** (v.47)! At his very first meeting with Jesus he gets a word of knowledge, a prophetic word.

1. Jesus saw him. Notice again the place of the eye-gate in the way Jesus ministered.
2. Jesus knew Nathanael's ancestry.
3. Jesus knew Nathanael's heart and life. He was a man of purity.

The impact of those few words to Nathanael from Jesus was such that Nathanael responded with, **"How do You know me?"** (v.48). How could Someone Who he had never met before know those things about him? Jesus' answer was even more impacting: **"Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you"** (v.48).

What was Jesus demonstrating here? He was flowing in the prophetic – the power of the prophetic. The prophetic is activated when we recognize and hear what the Spirit of God is saying to us. The Holy Spirit of Truth knows everything about us – past, present and future. As we listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit, He reveals things to us to minister to people in a variety of ways, i.e. the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit are all revelatory gifts that are to be used by Holy Spirit-filled Christians today to build up people and the Church. Those nine Spiritual gifts are the "Christians' tools of the trade."

Rightly understood and used they enable us to minister in the power of the prophetic!

Jesus revealed to Nathanael that He saw him under the fig tree. Jesus saw Nathanael when they were both in separate places! The prophetic realm does not limit us to having to be personally in the presence of someone before we can have prophetic insight into or of his/her situation. In my own experience I have had it up to two weeks before I have met someone that I know I will be ministering to. In other situations, especially to do with what is going to happen to churches, it can take quite a bit longer, years in some cases. But the Word of the Lord always proves to be right, regardless of the time factor.

The way Jesus ministered to Nathanael was “mind-blowing.” A total stranger revealing intimate truth in such a way it gave Nathanael a revelation of Who Jesus was (and is). He exclaimed, **“Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”** (v.49). True prophetic ministry always brings a clearer revelation of Jesus, causing people to behold Him in His rightful position. True prophetic ministries do not draw attention to themselves – they always exalt JESUS!

Jesus then went on to tell Nathanael that what he had just experienced was only the beginning. The prophetic brings an unfolding revelation of Jesus and His purposes for us! The prophetic also causes people to believe God. That is because it is outside the realm of sense or learned knowledge. It is revelation knowledge that comes through the Holy Spirit of Truth Who resides in the lives of Holy Spirit filled believers in Jesus Christ. It is that knowledge that the Christian Church of the 21st century so desperately needs to be ministering in the power, love and truth of.

The prophetic is unfolding and ongoing. Jesus told Nathanael he would see greater things than these (v.50). He would see heaven open, and he would see the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man (Jesus) (v.51).

Stephen was a **“full of the Holy Spirit”** man and he saw into heaven. He saw the glory of God. He saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God (Acts 7:55-56). That kind of “seeing” is of the Holy Spirit. It gives revelation of the real, true and eternal realms of life, where Jesus is seen in His true and exalted position.

It is no different today. Jesus wants you and me **“to see greater things than these”** – greater things than that which we experience at the beginning of our prophetic journey. He wants us to discover the greater things of God by our commitment to the voice of His Holy Spirit, Who speaks to us those things that are **“freely given to us of God”** (I Corinthians 2). Because our true position is that of being **“seated together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus”** (Ephesians 2:6), we are very privileged to be able to **“see greater things”** of Jesus as we listen, cultivate and obey His voice.

How amazing is this prophetic ministry! And how amazing it is that more of our Christian leaders do not commit to living and ministering in the prophetic realm. It is so impacting, so life-changing. It also holds the keys to revival and the growth of the Christian Church!

What about other people Jesus impacted prophetically? Let us look at one or two more:

3. THE SERVANTS AT THE WEDDING (*John 2:1-11*).

The instructions Jesus gave to the servants when they told Him there was no wine for the wedding guests were very illogical. He said to them, **“Fill the water pots with water”** and then, **“Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast”** (v.7-8). Those water pots were at the doors for the washing of people’s feet as they came inside. What did they have to do with providing wine at the head table? Those instructions of Jesus were words of knowledge – prophetic words – that when obeyed, they brought about the answers to the need of that moment. As Jesus listened to the voice of the Spirit within, He knew what to say. We, likewise, have to learn to listen to the Holy Spirit’s voice, recognize how and when He is speaking to us, then demonstrate our trust in Him that we do believe He is speaking, and then commit to obeying what He says. That is the power of the prophetic – obeying what He says! Obedience comes out of recognizing that God the Holy Spirit is speaking to us. My experience is that when God speaks He usually requires an act of obedience from us. Far too often we Christians do not trust the voice of God! We’ve become so locked up in logical, analytical thinking that we’ve robbed ourselves of the supernatural of God. For that is how the supernatural is released – through our obedience to the Holy Spirit’s voice. Out of that obedience the power of the prophetic is released.

Those servants trusted Mary’s voice; for it was she who told them to **“do whatever He (Jesus) tells you”** (v.5). Mary pointed them to Jesus, and Jesus gave them the prophetic word to **“fill the water pots with water,”** etc.

The servants’ obedience to the instructions of Jesus released

Jesus to commence His public ministry. Their obedience brought a manifestation and revelation of the glory of God. Their obedience saw the need supplied. It was all supernatural and miraculous – yet it only happened when the servants did what Jesus told them to. And that released and demonstrated the power of the prophetic.

Life and habits haven't changed very much. We'd still prefer to trust someone we can see rather than the Holy Spirit Whom we cannot see. That's why we Christians need to know Jesus and the Holy Spirit in such a way that we know when He is speaking to us. From there we learn to prove that voice by our obedience and the consequent results that our obedience brings about.

- If we Christians cannot trust the voice of God, then WHO CAN?

When we cannot trust the voice of God it is because we either doubt it, or do not believe that it is God Who is speaking. The key to the prophetic is in our ability to recognize and know the voice of God the Holy Spirit to us – and in us – for the prophetic ministry is all about doing what God says. It is our obedience to Him in the “seen world” as a result of our hearing from Him in the “unseen world” that releases the power of the prophetic.

When we can conquer the doubts and unbelief about the voice of God in our lives, then we will become much more fruitful and impacting in our walk and ministry with Jesus Christ.

4. THE WOMAN AT THE WELL (*John 4:4-42*).

Jesus ministered in the power of the prophetic. We have seen this in the way He touched the lives of Peter, Nathanael, and the servants at the wedding. Now we see Jesus ministering to a woman of Samaria. The meeting place was a well, not a church. The ministry of Jesus and the prophetic is not limited to church meetings. It can happen anywhere when we Holy Spirit-filled believers are available to God, e.g. at work, at home, on the street, in a car, on an aeroplane, anywhere.

Jesus talked to the woman about living water that she needed in her life. When she got to the point of asking for that living water, Jesus said, **“Go, call your husband, and come here”** (v.16). I can imagine the woman laughing inside herself and thinking that Jesus was somewhat ignorant. So she replied, saying, **“I don’t have a husband.”** To which Jesus responded with a word of knowledge, with prophetic insight, **“You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’ For you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke the truth.”** (v.17-18). That got through! Suddenly the woman knew she was totally “exposed” by this Stranger at the well with her. It was revelation knowledge by the Holy Spirit that went beyond the natural mind and understanding, and penetrated right into her heart and spirit. She quickly realized she was talking to Someone Who was – and is – different to any other man. She perceived Jesus was a Prophet, a Man of prophetic insight. She was a recipient of the power of the prophetic!

The words from Jesus “hit” that woman as a revelation, for she ran back to her Samaritan village, exclaiming to the people, **“Come, see a Man who told me everything I ever**

did! Is this not the Christ?" (John 4:28-30). I can imagine that that woman would not have been (up to that point) a very popular woman in that village, as it is likely that she got all her husbands from there. She would have been talked about, and warned about, by the other women of the village. But this time – after she had been ministered to prophetically by Jesus – she was convincingly different. She had a positive testimony about a change in her life, all because Jesus had given her a word of knowledge. The people were impressed. Many believed in Jesus because of her testimony. Others were moved to go and hear Jesus for themselves. They went and were likewise convinced. They, too, believed on Him. Virtually a whole village of people came to believe in and follow Jesus because of one word of knowledge! They saw and experienced the power of the prophetic. And it happened through a very unlikely character known as an adulterous woman.

That's why Jesus has sent these Spiritual Gifts to the Church. We need them to powerfully convince men and women of their need of a Saviour, and to show them that He knows all about them, even before they meet Him.

So, why don't more people give themselves to prophetic ministry? As far as I can understand from the Scriptures it is available to all Holy Spirit-filled Christians. The prophetic operates outside the realm of the natural, logical thinking process. It is about learning to know and trust the voice of God to us, and to recognize that voice in whatever way it comes. It is learning to break through all the doubts, fears and negativities that the devil sows into our minds, telling us it is a crazy way to go. He has been very successful at defusing Christians from operating in the prophetic, deceiving us into believing that we need to explain the Gospel to people, rather than to release the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit

(I Corinthians 12:1-11) to reveal their hearts, and their past, present, and future.

Until the Holy Spirit-filled Christians get more serious about prophetic ministry, they will struggle along and continue to be ineffective in impacting lives for Jesus. He can only be known by revelation! And revelation is released through the prophetic ministry. Let's not fool ourselves here. The Gospel is supernatural – always was, and always will be. It was never meant to be academic. **“The kingdom of God is not in word, but in power”** (I Corinthians 4:20). The word “power” here is “dunamis” meaning “acts of power” (Young’s); “miraculous power, ability” (Strong’s); “capability, power to do anything; then, power, might in action” (Bullinger’s). “Dunamis” is a power that only works when we activate it – otherwise it sits inside of us waiting to be released. Nothing happens until we are willing to release it.

The men and women who impacted the world for Jesus in Bible days were – in the world’s eyes – uneducated and untrained, but they acknowledged **“They had been with Jesus”** (Acts 4:13). We may have our diplomas and certificates, but are we known for being with Jesus?

Jesus was, and is, our Supreme Example. He set the ministry example by ministering prophetically into the lives of people. What started as a prophetic word, or word of knowledge, or discernment to an individual, soon grew to touch large numbers of people. We would be very unwise to ignore His way of ministering. So let us learn from Him, expect that revelation of the Holy Spirit of Truth to flow to us, and then through us to touch our present generation – a generation that desperately needs the Jesus we represent.

The prophetic works! The prophetic is powerful! It is God's

way, and it brings results that glorify God. Don't ignore the prophetic any longer. Open up to it. Be more available to the Holy Spirit! Let Him reveal His will and purposes through the nine Spiritual gifts, so that when we minister, people will know we walk with Jesus. This is His way for the Church of the 21st century.

“Earnestly desire the best gifts” (1 Corinthians 12:31).

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you . . . ” (2 Timothy 1:6).

Notice, we are to do the desiring and the stirring! It is time to get much more serious about the prophetic ministry, and the releasing of Spiritual gifts out of our lives. They are so necessary for the life, growth and health of the 21st century Church.

Other books, booklets and manuals by **Rodney W. Francis**

- The Prophetic In The Exodus
- You Can Measure Your Love For God
(*English and Italian languages*)
- Do You Know And Understand The Prophetic Foundation Of Your Life And Your Church?
- School Of The Holy Spirit(*English and Italian*)
- Unbelief – The Power That Needs To Be Broken
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