

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Topic: Prophecy & Alignment (2 of 2)
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Text: John 14-16
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Recap from Session 1

- **Alignment increases our capacity to hear God more clearly i.e., greater prophecy**
- **Prophecy boosts our faith and can aid our obedience**
- **Spiritual alignment helps us to discern wrong prophecies**
- **We ought to check our spiritual alignment from time to time**
- **Prophecy is a natural expression of the Holy Spirit in our relationship with Him**

Drunkenness is Key to Prophecy & Alignment

Drunkenness is often associated with the abuse of alcohol. The bible in so many instances cautions against the evils of strong drink. But could drunkenness ever be a good thing? First of all, we need to realize that Satan is merely offering a counterfeit of a powerful spiritual concept – the power of intoxication.

In the natural world, alcohol is normally consumed during “downtime”; however, in the spiritual realm, we are encouraged to be filled in the spirit at all times. Recall during the Pentecost experience, the disciples were being rebuked for appearing to be drunk early in the morning (Acts 2:13-15)

In the natural when you are on a road trip DUI is a big no-no. However, when it comes to our spiritual journey, the scriptures encourage us to be constantly drunk in the spirit. In the natural, it is impossible for a drunk person to be in alignment. In fact, one of the simplest tests the police usually conduct involves asking the suspected driver to walk in a straight line! Interestingly in the spirit realm, it is equally tough for anyone to be in perfect alignment without being drunk in the Spirit.

Lastly in a drunken state, people tend to behave in exaggerated terms – speaking or singing loudly, speaking inappropriately etc. In the spiritual realm however, people who are drunk with the Holy Spirit are poised for the Spirit to find expression in them.

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17Therefore do not be foolish but understand what the Lord’s will is. 18Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, 19speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, 20always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:15-20

Question: Is it possible for Christians today to be filled with the Spirit? What did others around you experience?

Prophetic Expressions of the Spirit

When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we are truly carriers of His presence. Because God is love, the more conscious we are of His presence, the more love-centric we become. Now love is naturally seeking to meet the needs of others; hence why it is so much easier to flow in spiritual gifts when we are love-centric.

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) (John 7:38-39)

Since our needs are unique and diverse, the Spirit in kind provides different administrations of his gifts. Said differently, different forms of living water flows out of our bellies as children of God.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. (1 Corinthians 12:7-11, NIV)

Question: Do you think it is possible for a Christian to achieve their true potential without the gifts of the Spirit?

Question: Is it possible for us Christians to operate in all of the gifts? Should we aspire for such?

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:13 NIV)

For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him (John 3:34 KJV)

He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us in full measure through Jesus Christ our Savior (Titus 3:5-6 NIV)

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you (John 14:26 NKJV)

Conclusion

Since God created us as spirit beings before housing us in human bodies, we naturally yearn for the supernatural. Satan however is constantly looking for ways to corrupt this desire and counterfeit the spiritual tools that God has given us. His objective is simply to steal, kill and destroy.

On the other hand, we must never take our eyes off the prize. Our calling is to glorify Jesus Christ our savior and the surest way of doing this is by following his instructions to have a daily fellowship with the person of the Holy Spirit. When we allow Him, we are able to express perfect love via prophecy.

Prayer: Lord, I am available today to be a carrier of your presence. I want to be that person who dispenses God's love to those around me. Holy Spirit find expression in me and through me in Jesus name. Amen!