



General Topics :: A call to Repentance

A call to Repentance - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/21 20:39

Thus saith the Lord:

Repent from your evils my children for I am about to pour out my wrath on the earth. Repent now.

It goes without saying that we are a generation intoxicated with evil and that which is contrary to God. The time has come to turn from it lest we suffer His wrath. Let us all repent. Let us repent from our idolatries and other spiritual fornications and infidelity to God. He is angry, make no mistake of that and his judgement has begun.

Re: A call to Repentance, on: 2005/5/22 6:51

And what would you say for those who suffer for righteousness sake, even to the point of giving their life for love of Jesus?

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/22 7:17

They are to be commended. There is no one who is exempt from repentance that's why this is for us all.

Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/22 7:34

Quote:

-----There is none who is exempt from repentance that's why this is for us all.

Do you mind sharing a bit of your own personal testimony in this area?

Diane

Re: I think you misunderstood me sir., on: 2005/5/22 7:41

Your original message said "Thus saith the Lord"

Repent or suffer the coming wrath.

My question is, is this be so, what of those who are suffering even torturous death even in this hour because they are Christians, living their faith by example, and giving God all the glory. They have already repented. How will your proclamation be received by them? Are they suffering the "wrath of God" because they have already repented? I'm so confused here.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/22 8:21

Those that are suffering persecution are not enduring wrath from God, that wrath is of the enemy. However this does not mean that we are always walking in the Spirit, when we are out of the Spirit we walk after the flesh and sin and we need to repent from that. I don't know how that declaration would be received. It's not my own, that's just what God told me to say. I kinda resisted God about it because I was not looking forward to how people would respond. We should let God examine us and show us what we look like in His eyes, we have all sinned and require repentance.

Re:, on: 2005/5/22 8:34

10-4

Re: A call to Repentance - posted by Spitfire, on: 2005/5/22 10:22

Ironman, I totally agree with your word here, but I've been in repentance now for about 3 years. Now, I'm a weirdo in churches. I feel like a worm in a chicken lot. I don't know what to do with myself now. I've lost all desire to go to churches. I'm just waiting, waiting, but I don't know for what. For God, I guess. He is going to have to show me where to go from here, and I don't like this feeling. It's about the worst feeling I've ever known, besides when I realized I wasn't truly saved.

I get confused on a daily basis wondering if I'm crazy. The only thing keeps me going is faith that God will not reject the humble and contrite. I wail and lie before him prostrate. I feel stupid at times. Who am I? Just some little woman in Tennessee who doesn't know much. All I know to do is worship God and tremble in his Holy presence. I tell you, I'm as empty as I've ever been in my life. Love, Dian.

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/5/22 14:36

Where's the accompanying promise that God's Spirit always gives with each warning? Balance

Re: A call to Repentance - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/5/22 14:44

For those who are really born of God's Spirit they will never receive God's wrath. Chastisement maybe, even unto physical death, but that doesn't mean that those who are dying are living a life that's displeasing to the Lord either. I know you guys say your prophets but you need to be very specific in your pronouncements and your characterization of a Holy God. And God never warns judgement without a promise attached with the rewards of mercy and comfort.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/22 17:41

Lahry
roger that...

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/22 17:44

bro dohzman
that's all He told me to say and I said it. I couldn't very well add anything else without inviting trouble on myself. Perhaps in time God will place another component of this message upon my spirit?

Warning - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/22 17:55

Thanks Lahry, Dohzman,

Coming on the heels of the long discussion of this whole realm... Felt it was more prudent to sit back and say nothing when this first came up.

It needs to be reiterated strongly and considered just what you are doing here IRONMAN. Do you understand and realize the very weight of those four words? This is exactly why the putting you through the motions earlier in the previous thread. Is it because we have a certain bent against this or is it out of concern? Will we truly bring to bear the test necessary or hold back not to offend anyone?

This does not bear witness with my spirit, even after letting go of whatever preconceived thoughts I may have had and honestly had not completely discounted the possibility that you are what you may perceive the Lord is or has been telling you. I do understand the leading of the Holy Spirit and yet also the leading of the flesh and all its inherent confusion, not to mention the adversaries and his minions tactics, which can be very, very close to the truth.

If there is anywhere to inject doubt it would be with your own thought's, I believe it to be a very healthy thing to do so. But do not let that be confused with faith or the prompting of the spirit. Surely that will sound like profound double speak, but consider, seriously consider what your own brethren are exhorting here, it is not from malice nor contention but for your own and others welfare.

Those four words ought not to be spoken unless you know beyond a shadow of a doubt just what they carry and especially if you are to bring them to bear here amongst serious saints. What you do not see and as it has been alluded to is that there are many already in this state of being and just as surely some that may be in no need of repentance at this time. Surely there is an end to specific repentance no? What of Dohzmann's and Lahry's thought's?

Do you see what is at stake here? That you are proclaiming that the Lord is *saying* these very words, not supposing and

perhaps or this is what I believe the Lord is saying but ..."Thus sayeth..." The very God of the universe is telling us all the se very words!? Are you *sure* of it?

And of all the places why here? Where a great many already are broken and busted up inwardly...This just doesn't jive. Take it to the streets, take it to Creeflo Dollar, take it to whoever it is that needs to really hear it. This is not pride I am speaking of, but why in the world would we need to hear a message that we already are familiar with in the deepest part's of our beings...

You are on some very dangerous ground here.

Praying

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/22 18:04

bro Dohzman

again, i spoke only what God said, nothing more or less. Those who walk in the spirit all the time won't receive God's wrath. i agree notall those who are dying are livivng a life that displeases GOd hence i mentioned to bro Lahry that those who are dying or suffering IN GOD'S SERVICE are suffering the wrath of the enemy.

as far as the pronouncements go, i can be as specific as God lets me. i can't add anything else or take anything from what He wants to say through me coz that corrupts the message. what God needs me to do is to just speak whatever He places on me, nothing more or less. i'm sure that at some point God will place the message of the rewards of mercy and comfort in time, but He hasn't as yet. Right now He just wanted to say through me the need for repentance. Perhaps without repentance we can't receive the gifts of mercy?

Re: Warning - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/22 18:37

bro Mike

before i typed those words i went back and forth with God about it. I didn't want to do it. i mean i felt like "why should i say it? why should anyone listen? isn't this preaching to the choir?" Eventually i did as i was told. He made it clear to me what He wanted to say through me and even humored my initial refusal. I have experienced being led astray by the enemy and God has revealed that to me and rebuked me for it. Perhaps my initial refusal to write this was more out of caution so i could avoid rebuke again. But God made it abundantly clear that's what He wanted me to do.

i know and appreciate your concern in this and i thank you bro Mike, Lahry and Dohzman. At first when i read your post bro Mike i was rather unsettled i must say. God reassured me beyond any doubt it was what He wanted me to say. i wondered why God would say this through me at this time in this place to the choir so to speak. Maybe sometimes the choir (all of us) needs this more than it realizes. It doesn't make much sense to me either but then again it probably made no sense to Noah to build an ark when it wasn't raining.

Again, i spoke only what God said. I'm sure at some point He will have me out in the streets but for whatever reason, He instructed me to start here. Perhaps the purging of the world requires that the saints themselves be purified first.

Re: repentance - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/22 19:13

Quote:

-----Perhaps the purging of the world requires that the saints themselves be purified first.

"Judgment begins in the house of God."

Yes, Son of Thunder, there is a great need for repentance - and I'm no exception. I fully admit that I do not love the Lord with ALL my heart, ALL my mind, ALL my soul. I have idolatrous trusts and rival loves. Only the Spirit can bring them into my conscious awareness, and lead me to deeper repentance. I submit to him to purge my faith through refining trials.

PS I noticed that you did not respond to my earlier post - in which I asked if you'd mind sharing your own journey through repentance? Maybe that is not my business, but I must admit that, to me, the walk speaks more FORCEFULLY than the talk. Why not speak with THUNDER?

Diane

Re: confused - posted by Spitfire, on: 2005/5/22 19:23

I guess I don't really understand the controversy here. Are we saying that Ironman shouldn't have posted a message of repentance or that he shouldn't have prefaced it with "thus saith the Lord"? Can someone help me understand the debate?

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/5/22 21:36

I have no problem with any "thus saith the Lord", but the Word of God says The spiritual man judges all things, and again the spirit of the prophets are subject unto the prophets. In scripture we see the warnings of God on an idolatrous people who became heavy laden in their sin, but with those warnings came the olive branch of mercy and grace too. That runs throughout the Bible and is very important. If I can say something to either weaken or take away HOPE, or motivate you out of anything besides love and faith, I can destroy you and bring your walk in Christ to a halt. You will do things out of the flesh. So while that's a warning, possibly, it's neither sound in its terms-----wrath-----nor is it complete. Holiness is equal to completeness, so let me ask you, where is the completeness, where is the mercy and grace? Would a God who has justified us by the cross of Christ turn around and condemn us with his wrath? Bro. Spitfire, read it again and think---if this is the only word God is speaking here to the individuals on this board, is that a valid word? should we put it to the test? How do we judge it? How do we rightly divide this word? When ever prophesy comes forth it needs to be judged, that's the pattern in the NT. That's how the body of Jesus' Christ stays safe and healthy.

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/5/22 22:10

Quote:

-----The time has come to turn from it lest we suffer His wrath. Let us all repent.

The children of God through Jesus Christ are not numbered with those who receive God's wrath. Look at Ps7:11 God is a righteous judge; and God is angry with evildoers every day. (literal translation) Psa 7:11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day. (KJV)

I do believe the message of repentance and holiness but it's the Lord's desire to move His people forward from there onto the fullness of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Re: Where are we going with this - posted by ZekeO (), on: 2005/5/23 0:58

To Ironman,

If this is what the Lord told you 'nothing more nothing less', then I suggest you read 1 Kings 13. I think it may help you in this situation.

Either it was from the Lord or not, so rest easy, did he tell you to defend yourself?

This is either this is a public forum, or it isn't. If there is a problem with a prophet, speaking what they believe the Lord has told them, then we need to say so very clearly, straight out, and right at the beginning so we all know where we stand.

I can handle testing the message, that's in the bible. So, if, like one of the posters said 'there is no witness' that's great, if someone says yes, well then that's great too. Who among us is recognised as a 'prophetic voice' on this forum? Know one that I know of. So this is the problem that we have. So Ironman, your word will be judged by the church.

Does this make sense? I'm trying to say a lot of things in little words.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/23 4:57

diane

if we are to have any success at all in spreading the gospel of God or to be useful to God we need to be purified by Him. The refinement of His saints has begun. what saint is there who can say "I have no need to repent" or "there is nothing I have to repent of" at this time? I think as saints we require repentance much more than we care to believe. the result of the purging and cleansing will be a body of saints who will indeed love the Lord with all their hearts.

indeed the walk speaks with a thunderous voice. i figure by now you'd have seen my reply to you, forgive the length of it, like I said I got carried away :-D

Re: LOVE, on: 2005/5/23 5:39

IRONMAN whatever happened to the LOVE of GOD ,he is pure LOVE so How can he be angry?He has already sent his son to die for our sins.... the only judgement that happens now is the judgement we put on our selves GOD has only Love for all his children and the pain he puts us through is for us to become aware of his true love for usif things were easy we would not want GOD ,God made us this way ,if we do not die to ourselves we can never be saved AMEN xxx

Re:, on: 2005/5/23 7:08

I haven't read all the posts, but here are my quick thoughts about God's anger and God's love:

There is a distinction between the creation of God and the children of God. There are only two families in this world. Those who are children of the devil, and those who have been grafted in and adopted into the family of God.

"God is angry with the wicked every day" Ps 7:11. God truly is love. And he loves holiness. He loves righteousness. Therefore he is angered by sin and requires punishment to satisfy justice. The anger of God is directed against the unrepentant, not towards those who have repented.

Even so, God loves the world. Have you ever been angry with someone that you love? I have. Sometimes you get angry because you love them. You see them messing up their lives and destroying themselves and you get angry because you care so much about them.

Re: messing up, on: 2005/5/23 7:58

I totally understand what you are talking about,the only time we can become more aware of who we are is when we mess up,dont you think that God cannot stop this anytime He is in control of everything ,even if we think God is mad with us its not an anger that you believe it to be,because God does not have feelings like Humans ,he is Love thats it!He puts us in these positions for us to realise that he is the only way and we can choose to except it or not AMEN ,God loves us for who we are even if we are messing up because its at these times we talk to God more... im not saying what you are saying is wrong because nobody is wrong in the eyes of the Lord ,im saying that if God is all powerful dont you think he would stop this right now and he could if he wanted.....

I get angry at Nick but thats in my feelings,GOD only has one feeling LOVE ,for he so LOVED THE WORLD ,he gave his only SONAMEN xxx.....

if he gets angry with us he would of got rid of us ages ago and made a new world,but he didnt because we are ALL perfect in his eyes and he Loves us toooo much!!!!

Re: A call to Repentance, on: 2005/5/23 8:16

Now that there have been so many comments about the above post, I thought I'd bare my heart this morning, and just share what I felt when I read it.

I had a "check" in my spirit when I read it. It was like a cotton ball stuck in my throat. It just didn't want to go down. To me , that means that it was either not from God, or I need to repent about much more than I can think of. There is something wrong in me and that may very well be the case.

I also wanted to give Ironman every benefit of doubt and the opportunity to let him clarify what he thought the Lord was speaking through him. Most of all, I wanted to respond in love. If I do not respond in love, then my efforts here are worthless.

Ok, this is me. This is not judgement. The "Quote" sounded very "generic". I've been in many a charismatic and pentecostal churches and heard what I was told was "tongues" and "interpretation of tongues". I have to be honest and tell you that 99% of what I've heard did not minister to me. I could go on and on about the gifts, but that is not what this thread is about. I've been in home meetings where the same thing happens. "Brother, I have a word for you". Or the same thing for the group. It was often like a record that was stuck in a groove. The same old thing, packaged slightly different, but it had no meat. It did not move my soul. That is how I felt when I read the above.

I don't doubt the love and sincerity of Ironman. I just didn't get a "witness" in my spirit about it. From reading your comments, I think I am not alone.

There is an element of truth as to what he had to say. There is a cry filled with grief for the saints to repent. The call is to His people. Yes we/they are bound up in idolatry. Yes they are greedy. Yes, many are intoxicated with evil. It starts at the top and works its way down. Yes it quenches the Holy Spirit. So what's the problem with the quote above?

The wrath of God is not stored up for His children. His correction is given to those who are His. It is continual and ongoing, much the same as a godly parent would watch over and correct.

God's correction is filled with mercy and longsuffering. His wrath is not. God is not obligated to save, nor is He unjustified from avenging disobedience. He can and does pour out His wrath. But the saints are saved through and during the storm. Look at Lot. Look at Noah, and so on.

But if you are really saved, you have already passed from judgement into life. You are born into the family of God. The Father chastises His own.

This is quite different from the sanctification process. That process puts us through difficult situations to give us opportunity after opportunity to present ourselves as a living sacrifice. It disciplines us and molds us into the image of Christ. It has absolutely nothing to do with the wrath of God. The wrath of God is finished for those who place their eternal hope completely in what Jesus did for us on Calvary and His glorious resurrection. Jesus suffered the wrath of God for us and in our place.

Finally, we will suffer, as disciples because of Whom we are disciplined by. We will suffer for the sake of the Cross and our loving Savior if we are His. The religious and ungodly cannot accept so great a salvation. They despise those who are Christ's. We see it on news almost daily. We read about it in the paper. There is a conspiracy to restrain christianity and its expression at every little crack in the wall. We all know we have huge gaps in the wall, so we have left ourselves as easy pickin's (that's a country term there). But the media do not blast the muslim, or the Bahi, or the mormon, or the JW. No, it's always the christian. Why? Because they crucified Christ for His anointing, and they will do the same thing to you. This occurs in church and out of church.

So beloved, there are many reasons why saints suffer. Yes, they can get off track and act very ungodly at times. But the Holy Spirit is ever there, like the true Shepherd within, to ever turn the sheep lovingly into the way they should follow. It is gentle and full of mercy. That is why God contends with our carnality for so long. If you ever get to the point where God no longer contends with you, you are in eternal trouble, and I doubt you will ever turn around. Hebrews 6. But that too is another subject.

Ironman, Paul said let one prophecy and two or more judge the prophecy. It is not easy to tell you that the witness here among us has not been favorable to what you had to say. That does NOT mean that God will not use you in the future, or does not love you. It does not mean that we do not love you. It just means that there was no anointing felt by what you said, as should be when God speaks through anyone. Your short expository further muddled the water because it was not biblically correct as best I can tell.

Oh how it causes me to tremble, and stand watch in alarm, on high alert, about what I myself write. Am I just operating keys here or is God using me as a vessel of expression. If He is using me, I am nothing. If He is not and I write anyway, I am worse than nothing. Oh it is a responsibility of such magnitude and proportion that I cannot comprehend it all. I often get so used to trusting God, that I don't give what I write the care and scrutiny I should give it. Yet if I write something inspired, I don't want to go back over it and embellish what God is trying to say.

Finally, with all I've been through, I would have to say that I would be very reluctant to write anything and say "thus sayeth the Lord". Yes, I know I am sometimes used by God. But I've seen this term and some others like it so misused, that I shake at the thought. If I say "thus sayeth the Lord" and I am not exactly and precisely correct, then I have presented the Lord in an untruthful way, and therefore totally misrepresented Him. God is truth in all its purity. He cannot be any other way.

Ironman, we love you brother. You are needed here and not rejected at all. There is none righteous, no not even one. We all desperately need His grace, His mercy, and His love. We all hope and pray that God will use you mightily. But just let God have His way. You don't need our approval for your walk with God. You can walk with God when no body else will; all by yourself. Walk on with God. Live your life to please and serve Him.

I pray that God gives us all a heart that will humble itself before Him in awe and wonder. I pray that God will give us the

burning passion for obedience that it takes to walk in His continual blessing and favor. I pray that God will continue to call saints to repentance and to seek Him first above all things. I pray that God will move in us and through us and find vessels that He can reveal His glory in and through. I pray that when He moves, we will be ready and move with God. Oh God, don't leave me alone in the desert. If You move, please let me see the cloud moving and move with You.

Lord, I pray your blessing on all of us here. I pray that You alone inhabit what we share in love. I also pray that what we share in love will always be truth, in Jesus' Holy and Precious Name I pray. Amen and amen.

Re: AMEN, on: 2005/5/23 8:54

AMEN....the Lord works in us always not sometimes, and this has been an eye opener for all of us, thank you Lord for IRONMAN and working through him this way, deeper steps are taking from one Christ being to another.... I thank God for everything he has done this day, its wonderful xxxxx :-D

Re: - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2005/5/23 9:30

Quote:
-----The wrath of God is not stored up for His children. His correction is given to those who are His. It is continual and on going, much the same as a godly parent would watch over and correct.

Please forgive me for interjecting here, but I'm struggling a bit with this quote above. If what you say is true, how do we view these verses from Exodus concerning the idolatry of Israel when they made the golden calf?

And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people: Now therefore let me alone, *that my wrath may wax hot against them*, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation. (Exo 32:9-10)

Weren't these God's people redeemed out of Egypt by the blood of the passover lamb? Weren't they baptized in the cloud and the sea? How then does God's wrath wax hot against them?

In Christ,

Ron

Re:, on: 2005/5/23 9:39

Hi Ron,
Thank you for your question. What was written in Exodus was under the old covenant. We are under a new and everlasting covenant, not of blood of goats and bulls, but that of Jesus Christ our Lord. Big difference.
Thanks again for the question, and may God richly bless your life.

Re: - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2005/5/23 9:47

Lahry, I'm sorry but I don't think we can sweep this matter neatly under the old covenant/new covenant rug. Please consider the following passage written through Paul concerning OT Israel;

But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. *Now these things were our examples*, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. *Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition*, upon whom the ends of the world are come. (1Co 10:5-11)

These old covenant things were written for our example, so that we might not fall into the same error. If God's wrath waxed hot against them, how is it that it does not wax hot against us when we have even greater light than they did, knowing and being warned of their folly?

In Christ,

Ron

Re: Truth, Honesty, Reality - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/23 10:01

Thanks Lahry,

You stated many of the same concerns that I would have here.

Lifted this statement from another thread because it needs to be applied. In your own words IRONMAN:

Quote:
-----You say you are good at teaching and yet it is hard to teach you despite you knowing that there are errors in your thinking. Interesting. Being a teacher is a hard thing, but it requires absolute surety of the truth in what you are teaching because many souls depend on this. If one iota of whatever you teach is wrong, that puts a lot of people in danger. Teachers will also be judged pretty harshly so in all the things you teach, be sure that at they are born of the spirit of God, anything less than that does only harm. This may mean abandoning prior beliefs which you may have held for as long as you can remember and conceding that you know less than you think. It's better to do that now rather than spend eternity paying for it.

Consider again just what you are willing to pronounce in the name of the Lord. And consider just what your own words are saying to yourself.

Quote:
-----Ok, this is me. This is not judgement. The "Quote" sounded very "generic". I've been in many a charismatic and pentecostal church and heard what I was told was "tongues" and "interpretation of tongues". I have to be honest and tell you that 99% of what I've heard did not minister to me. I could go on and on about the gifts, but that is not what this thread is about. I've been in home meetings where the same thing happens. "Brother, I have a word for you". Or the same thing for the group. It was often like a record that was stuck in a groove. The same old thing, packaged slightly different, but it had no meat. It did not move my soul. That is how I felt when I read the above

Lahry, this is very much the sentiment and believe a large part of the reason that it goes on to such an extent these days is because there is no one to apply a Berean mindset of interpreting all things by scripture. We have been asked to accept prophets without qualification or question, without testing, all this was what was being brought to bear from the outset of the previous posting on 'credentials'. And over and over again the primary force of the argument is one of defense rather than proof. More importantly is the following:

Quote:
-----Finally, with all I've been through, I would have to say that I would be very reluctant to write anything and say "thus sayeth the Lord". Yes, I know I am sometimes used by God. But I've seen this term and some others like it so misused, that I shake at the thought. If I say "thus sayeth the Lord" and I am not exactly and precisely correct, then I have presented the Lord in an untruthful way, and therefore totally misrepresented Him. God is truth in all its purity. He cannot be any other way.

That is the danger being warned of, that is what is contradictory to the first quote at the top here. I fully realize that we are to speak the truth in love and that all this can be misconstrued in two different ways; Either that we are too heavy handed or that we are too soft. So what motivates? Concern. Fear. Reverence.

As is the norm, the taking in of so much across all these lines of discussion in various postings... Something that is causing some distress is in slipping from our moorings. Scripture. God's Word. Our feelings and opinions, all the things we believe the Holy Spirit is bearing witness to inwardly must be brought under God's word. To muddy the situation by elevating the inner witness to override scripture or to attempt to make our experience be supported by buttressing the argument with selections is to put the cart before the horse.

It has been said before that the very reason that cults and aberrant doctrines get established is by a wrong application of scripture. This is not mere conjecture or opinion on secondary issues that foster different ranges of interpretation and/or opinion, but core, central, fundamental truths.

There is a creeping sense of the opposite, that things are somehow 'allowed' against that which has been clearly stated in scripture and by that the *whole* of scripture. Without it we are left to our own imaginations and without each other to challenge our thinking and a willingness to let go, to learn, to *consider* and yes again those who have gone on further in this walk with the Lord, who have been tried and tested, who have spent years wrestling with the text's and God's dealing with them....We would be fools not to listen and *consider* them. Wisdom does not come overnight, not even the Lord who needed in the proper sense to wait for anything still...

Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

Heb 5:8,9

I am afraid very much of a drift from a true fear of the Lord and the preceding verses bringing that sense to bear:

"For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.

*And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he **feared**;"* Heb 5:1-7

with strong crying and tears; with a most vehement outcry, with a loud voice, as when on the cross; and though there is no mention of his tears at that time, or when in the garden, no doubt but he shed them: all that Christ did, and said, are not written; some things were received by tradition, and by inspiration; Christ wept at other times, and why not at these? and there are some circumstances in his prayers which intimate as much, Mat_26:38 which shows the weight of sin, of sorrow, and of punishment, that lay upon him, and the weakness of the human nature, considered in itself: and it may be observed to our comfort, that as Christ's crying and tears were confined to the days of his flesh, or to the time of his life here on earth, so shall ours be also. Mention is made of **strong prayers** (e), in Jewish writings. The person to whom Christ offered his prayers is described in the following words,

unto him that was able to save him from death; from a corporeal death, as he could, but that it was otherwise determined; or rather to raise him from the dead, to deliver him from the state of the dead, from the power of death, and the grave, as he did; and so the Syriac version renders it, "to quicken him from death"; to restore him from death to life:

and was heard in that he feared; or "by fear"; by God, who was the object of his fear, and who is called the fear of Isaac, Gen_31:42 he was always heard by him, and so he was in the garden, and on the cross; and was carried through his sufferings, and was delivered from the fear of death, and was saved from the dominion and power of it, being raised from the dead by his Father: or "he was heard because of his fear", or "reverence"; either because of the dignity and reverence of his person, in which he was had by God; or because of his reverence of his Father.

John Gill

Re: - posted by Corneliu (), on: 2005/5/23 10:18

"What was written in Exodus was under the old covenant."

I don't say this for the sake of the argument. But only those that are "led by the Spirit are not under the Law". and "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control: against these there is no law."

How is it against the others: the works of the flesh?

In Romans, Paul says that if we walk after the flesh, we will die (spiritually). And he writes that to believers, because spiritually dead people are already dead. So the Law (God's eternal Law) is in effect for all people that walk after the flesh even God's people.

Since I am on this thread, I want to say that I have been under a spirit of repentance for years and I believe that seeing who God is, and in His Light, who we are, will drive us daily into a state of brokenness and repentance, and awe to God's goodness. But I believe that peace and joy should be part of our daily life as fruit of the Spirit. And that's where I need help. Somehow I am too broken to be joyful, and I feel a lot like Lot...

I believe the cause of that is seeing the advancement of the darkness. And the antidote would be a revelation of what God can do...

Oh, how I need to see His Glory...

Re: Just as well - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/23 10:26

Lest the wrong intent be missed, please also consider the following underlying sentiment:

"For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.

But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge you all. Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many. So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him."

2Co 2:4-8

There is no ill will, only concern brother. Please take a look at this as well, brought forth in a timely manner by Manfred, it is vitally important and need this to bear down into my soul as well. Let us keep each other in prayerful consideration.

(https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id5675&post_id41638&order1&viewmodeflat&pid41611&forum31#41638) The Great Need of this Age ~ T. Austin Sparks

Re: Corneliu, on: 2005/5/23 10:31

I could use some more of His glory myself. Oh how I thirst for a move of God in me. Just swallow me whole and consume me...like He did that first time. Even so, come quickly Lord Jesus.

At the end of the day - posted by ZekeO (), on: 2005/5/23 11:13

In an indirect way Ironmans word has created in us a desire to see him glorified by life or by death.

Bless you Lord Jesus.

Re: MARANATHA! - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/23 12:04

Hey guys

Your concerns are noted, and we (IRONMAN and I) discussed them at length this morning during our fellowship. I am one who bears witness of all that Farai says in the name of the Lord as being from Him. As God is my witness who is in heaven to whom I will have to give an account at the day of judgment, I say that Farai is a prophet not by experience or by conclusion, but because the Lord has declared to be so, and has called on me to be a witness of all things that he has prophesied and labored in the Spirit thus far. I say this with all gravity that Farai has probably done more for the kingdom of God than anyone I know personally, yet not him but Christ in him. I do bear him witness that the Lord is mighty in him. There are others who bear witness of him but they are not members of this forum, and indeed many lives have been touched by God through his spirit. And I myself have grown greatly from my fellowship with him, and most things that I have seen and heard of the Lord have been with him. My spirit is very familiar with his spirit and I bear witness of him that he has grown in the Lord through obedience, faith and great zeal.

Concerning the message that Farai has written, I understand some of the misgivings but again, I say that I bear witness with this message that it is true and it is from the Lord. For those who seek another witness as to why this call to repentance is made, it is summed up in this scripture. Thus saith the Lord:

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; or God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them

up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them. (Romans 1: 1-32)

Think on these things, knowing that the eyes of God see all and know all. This message does stir up something in me also not only concerning the "people of the world" but also many of the institutional churches, some of which have no right to name the name of Christ. I am not quite as indignant at the heretical church (Mormons, JW's, RCs) as I am with the "average church". The label "Christian" has now become synonymous with "pew-occupier" or nice-guy rather than being "in Christ". The congregations of today are pitiful, simply pitiful. The proof that we (our generation) is apostate is the lack of persecution.

The world and the devil do not even care that we meet every Sunday, because we are not a threat when we come together anyway. There is no need to persecute the church of today, in fact, the Devil does well to "let sleeping dogs lie". The church is lukewarm. We have literally hundreds of thousands of congregations of "pew-occupiers". And what think ye? That the Lord is "okay" with this gross misrepresentation of His own body. I tell you, He is not. Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division saith the Lord.

I will say once more that **the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against ALL ungodliness and unrighteousness of men**. Make your calling and election sure brothers and sisters. Save yourselves from this untoward generation. These are the last days, and I think it is good as long as we remain in our earthly tents to stir up the sense of urgency that abode in the Apostles and all the saints of old. The Lord Jesus Christ is coming to judge **all men** therefore all men have something to strive for in the Lord. The terror of our God who is a consuming fire has been concealed for a season, but when I hear and feel the grief of the Spirit, I say with tears and indignation, "Thy Kingdom come! Come Lord Jesus, come!"

Maranatha

James

God speaks through cracked pots - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/23 12:33

I don't see how a call to repent can ever be wrong, though the timing can be off, the motive can come from various causes - ex: concern, finger-pointing, anger, and self-righteousness. It's pretty hard to judge the hidden motives of anyone - and even then, I do not believe that a questionable source in itself invalidates the words. God has used all kinds of people to convict me - ex: unbelievers, my children - who often had very crude, even rude ways of speaking the truth. It is my responsibility to seek what the Spirit has to say directly to me through the flawed vessels.

The motive is between the messenger and God, and it is my responsibility to seek the Spirit for what he may be saying to me. If nothing, I must ignore it. If something then, I better listen up.

It is too easy to focus on the person, on issues, or get side tracked with theological discussion and all the while keep my own heart closed to God.

In the past I have done so much judging of people's motives, that I am deeply ashamed. I must learn to leave the judging and character analyzing to God.

My trust is not in my brother, but in God. I am not accountable for my brother's hidden motives, just for mine. If I refuse to listen because I think that the vessel is very cracked, then I have sinned against God.

I believe that God works IN SPITE of us, not BECAUSE of us. (speaking personally)

Diane

Re: A call to Repentance, on: 2005/5/23 13:11

GLORY!!

THANK YOU LORD

that spoke to me and I receive it, thank You Jesus!!

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/25 1:57

THUS SAYETH THE LORD:

My children, you have asked me to send you prophets but how is it that you don't listen to the message I send them with? You then try to instruct them how they ought to prophecy, tell me are they your prophets or my own? How is it that you look with contempt on my messengers? Is there some sort of test they must pass in order that they become prophets? Should I seek your counsel before choosing a prophet? Are the ones I choose not to your liking? Are they not ordinary people as yourselves? Shall I send angels instead? Would you listen to them? I ask that you repent and the plea falls on deaf ears, tell me is there one out of you all that has nothing left to repent of? Let him then testify before his brethren and myself. You are the church of Laodicia, neither hot nor cold therefore I shall spew you from my mouth lest you repent of your pride and idolatries and other spiritual infidelities. You say you are rich and in need of nothing, strutting proudly before the world claiming to be of me yet you are not. You have kindled my wrath and shall reap it accordingly lest you repent.

I have no patience for your fornications. The judgement of the world has begun. It has begun with you my children. My words will convict those it will convict, be accepted by those who will and likewise rejected. For those that heed the words sent of me through my prophets there shall be due reward and likewise due punishment for those that do not.

Re: a call to repentance - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/25 10:41

These words bear with my spirit, as uncomfortable as they are.

Dear God, please begin with me. Cast out every idol, work in me; mold me, break me, that I may be useful to you - to bring revival of your people - that your name may be exalted!

Diane

Re: a call to repentance - posted by tinluke (), on: 2005/5/25 11:10

Ironman,

I agree with your message. It is the same thing the Lord has laid upon my heart. There is a huge storm cloud hovering over us and the rain is about to come! My personal wake-up call came on September 11th, 2001. The Lord spoke to my heart and said "This is a wake up call to my Bride" I heard His voice and I am preparing for what is to come.

Re: A call to Repentance - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/5/25 14:44

Brother Ironman,

It is with great joy that I read this thread as it is reminiscent of so long ago when our Lord gave me my calling to proclaim His "thus saith the Lord" regarding the need then (even more dire now) for our being on our faces before Him seeking His forgiveness, and a turning of our forcing His divine hand towards judgment upon us... As I recall I got much of the same negative nay saying and warnings but from actual physically present folk ... Praise God for SI that He can give you

some basic training in "virtual" rejection of your message before "actual" ... But they're two things notably different between the 20 year time period of His telling me to proclaim His "thus saith the Lord" and yours, and they are that #1 you have "support" from other believers and "p's" (i use the initial for the calling so as not to cause stumbling and grumbling) on SI, for when i started out i had none and no one ... And #2 it seems to me that when i started there was still a window for "pro-active repentance" to curb the judgment whereas in your onset i Hear Him saying that it will now be a "re-active repentance" in that we've already blown the former time frame ... When His cups fill, they spill, and that's not His fault but our own ...

Some of us are called to be God's special road signs to the masses saved and unsaved cruising and or speeding along lifes highway ... Road signs are to be road signs, stating only what our Lord has written on us as His outward course of admonition to fellow life travellers ... And i've learned we're not put here by God to defend Him, ourselves or His message written upon our lips for we signs are His inanimate "tools" to but serve warning ... In the past He's posted such signs as "PROCEED WITH CAUTION" ... "REDUCE SPEED" ... "DO NOT ENTER" ... "STOP" ... then "DANGEROUS CURVES AHEAD", but we just kept right on cruising/speeding along as we've wished ignoring all His signs ... By the time He chose me His message to us had become "DANGER - BRIDGE OUT AHEAD", and now with your generation of road sign it's "LAST EXIT BEFORE BRIDGE" ... So i say praise God for you and His "words" thru you, for none of us can ever be repentant enough, lest we come to think that we've made it and am in need of nothing ... So amen in the acknowledgement that the first call to "repentance" is to the choir (Church of Christ), for after all that's were judgment initially starts when we've decided to cruise/speed the church van right on past His last road sign ... Now we all know that "spiritually" His Church will survive the crash because He's said that hell shall not prevail against it tho we may lose some members "physically" once we've driven off the edge into judgment, but just think of how many "God please have mercy on us and help us to recovery" choruses are gonna arise from that crash site ... Re-active repentance which could have been completely avoided had we obeyed that last road sign to "exit" from our present course ...

The following is from a word He gave me to share with "the choir" in 2004 ...

REPENTANCE AND HOLINESS:

Saints it is imperative that we allow the Holy Spirit to purge any residual sins out of all our lives via absolute repentance, deeper prayer, higher praise, elevated worship and increased Bible study, all on one accord (Joel 2:15-17). We've got to become ever freer from the "me" centered type of Christianity satan has eased us all into. All of the New Year 2004 slogans God is hearing from His children are about our "receiving more" from Him. Don't you think it would do His Almighty heart glad if He was hearing about our "giving more" to Him? Church we're already saved! We've got to become more fixated on what God wants from us, and on those on the road to Hell. **Saints a special Shekinah presence of God is about to befall us, but it cannot be contained in a dirty vessel.** He's coming back for a glorious Bride (Eph. 5: 26, 27). **We've all got to repent it up, and allow the fire of the Holy Ghost to consume our bodies as living sacrifices** (Heb. 6:1, Rom. 12:1,2, Rom. 13:11-14, Col. 3:1-24). **Multitudes of other peoples lives depend on our doing so.**

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and **turn** from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will **heal** their land ... 2Chr.7:14

"Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and **convert**, and be **healed** ... Isa.6:10

"**Return**, ye backsliding children, and I will **heal** your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the LORD our God ... Jer. 3:22

"Come, and let us **return** unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will **heal** us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up ... Hos. 6

"For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be **converted**, and I should **heal** them ... Acts.28: 27

"Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be **guilty** of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man **examine** himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eat

th and drinketh **unworthily** , eateth and drinketh **damnation** to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are **weak** and **sickly** among you, and many **sleep**. For **if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged** ... 1 Cor. 11:27-31

"**Confess** your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be **healed** . The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" ... Jas.5:16

Our Repentance = God's Healing ... Therefore let us all repent and return to our first love, and the first works, in surrender under the leadership of God the Holy Spirit ... Amen

Digital Audio Sermons in the "Discernment" category:

(http://www.charityministries.org/tapeministry/tapelist.cfm?whereMP3&valueY&refine_categoryDiscernment) [http://www.charityministries.org/tapeministry/...](http://www.charityministries.org/tapeministry/)

*Introduction to Discernment:

Mose Stoltzfus

<http://www.charityministries.org/tapeministry/audio/3283.mp3>

Re: Enough - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/25 16:49

Quote:

-----THUS SAYETH THE LORD:

My children, you have asked me to send you prophets but how is it that you don't listen to the message I send them with? You then try to instruct them how they ought to prophecy, tell me are they your prophets or my own? How is it that you look with contempt on my messengers? Is there some sort of test they must pass in order that they become prophets? Should I seek your counsel before choosing a prophet? Are the ones I choose not to your liking? Are they not ordinary people as yourselves? Shall I send angels instead? Would you listen to them? I ask that you repent and the plea falls on deaf ears, tell me is there one out of you all that has nothing left to repent of? Let him then testify before his brethren and myself. You are the church of Laodicea, neither hot nor cold therefore I shall spew you from my mouth lest you repent of your pride and idolatries and other spiritual infidelities. You say you are rich and in need of nothing, strutting proudly before the world claiming to be of me yet you are not. You have kindled my wrath and shall reap it accordingly lest you repent.

I have no patience for your fornications. The judgement of the world has begun. It has begun with you my children. My words will convict those it will convict, be accepted by those who will and likewise rejected. For those that heed the words sent of me through my prophets there shall be due reward and likewise due punishment for those that do not.

This is utter nonsense. At best this is

"Thus sayeth IRONMAN" it has your imprint all over it. I have no patience either with those who would dare to utter such things in the name of Lord without even considering those who are here and have been through a vast array of trials, heart searchings and breakings.

You search this site diligently, go all the way back two years running and you will find the same sentiment expressed by many here who are discerning of the times, without a "Thus sayeth". To think you are gifted as such is quite possibly a delusion of your mind and it is time to quit being polite about it.

None of this is prophecy, but a cooked up rebuttal to the things being challenged by some here which have been left undone and unsaid. That they provoke you and bring a sense of wanting to defend ought to be telling you something, otherwise you would go on and say what needs to be said and leave it at that.

Here is the issue. You are before brethren here, just who do you think these words are to be accepted by? Those that frequent here and listen to message after message often with very much a deep calling to repent. And you have the audacity to put a fear into some by bringing the assumption that we ought not to question the 'prophet'?

Nonsense. There is a total disregard for what others have brought forth as to credentials. A total disregard for the integrity of this site and an abuse of using it as some kind of platform to pronounce your 'prophecies'.

You may be sincere and I believe you are, but you are not a prophet and I am warning you again not to take these words with such lightness as to make the Lord say something He has in fact not said. No matter how good and right it sounds, that does not make it prophecy. Anybody and many have already said these same things time and time again. Anybody can string together scriptures and make these kinds of pronouncements.

There is far too much not being considered here, far too little consideration of the members here, far too much concern with this gift. And surprisingly far too much weight given to anybody that will say the things they want to hear, yes, that is including these type's of pronouncements, because they sound 'right.'

Where is the fear of the Lord in stating such things? The tables are turned now aren't they?
It needed to be said.

Read through Isaiah 28.

Son Of Thunder - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/5/25 18:31

Dear Son of Thunder, You know not what spirit you are of. Do you call fire from heaven and that on the Lord's redeemed? Look at the Word of God---1Co 14:29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. 1Co 14:31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

1Co 14:32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

1Co 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

There you have it. The principle by which God has chosen to speak to the churches. As for me? Amos 7:14-15 and if you need a word from the Lord for this day and time in history try this one Isa 26:20-21. That's a very accurate word, and you can claim it as your own if you'd like. I dreamed a dream not long ago where I saw a well meaning man come over and beat with a rod some children, in my dream I realized that the children he beat were my own children, Realizing they were mine and I was their father made me a little angry at that man. It was there that The Lord asked me what I thought should be done to such a one as that. I couldn't answer, but since that time I've often asked for mercy, for me and also for that man. The church is THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST on earth, I tremble at that thought to think that I might even consider approaching such a one as Jesus without humility and a sense of the fear of God. And even in posting this with a very real sense of the judicial presence of God hanging over me if my heart is in anyway lifted in any type of vanity in self preception. It's all grace--His Grace. Bro. Daryl

Re: - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2005/5/25 20:54

Ironman, as the 1 Cor 14 verse that Dohzman quoted says, "let the other judge". It is the duty of the body of Christ to exercise discernment and examine whether what has been spoken was of the truth.

That is what has been going on in this thread and I think it is especially important because none of us (other than Jimm) know you personally. Wouldn't you receive another's testimony with caution if you didn't know them? But you rebuke those here for their caution and for following Paul's advice to the Corinthians? And you do so in God's name?

There was an important question asked earlier in this thread by Diane concerning how this message of repentance you bring has been worked out in your own life. I believe that the prophets life usually *is* the message. Could you answer that question for us here?

In Christ,

Ron

Re: - posted by Spitfire, on: 2005/5/25 22:59

I witness to the word. Maybe that doesn't mean anything to anyone else. :-D Love, Dian.

For those Called to be Prophets - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/5/26 0:26

Thus sayeth the Lord to the ones He has chosen to be His prophets:

You whom I have chosen and sent as my prophets know this, I will hold up by my own hand that which I place upon you to prophecy. Speak boldly therefore and do not fear the rejection that will come from many of your brethren. The enemy shall rise up with great fury against you but I shall defend you with my hand. Know that you are a peculiar type of servant. Those that went before you experienced what you will but by my hand they endured therefore don't be afraid.

Whosoever judges those whom I have called to various positions in the kingdom be warned, I shall judge you by the same measure.

No one's judging you - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/5/26 0:56

No one's judging you brother. We are judging your prophesy and that by the precept of God in HIS WORD. The main idea of all the gifts of the Holy Spirit---of which prophesy is one --- is to exalt Jesus Christ and edify the Body of Christ. For rebuking the body of believers you should take a careful look at Revelation and how the Lord rebuked the churches and the focus of that rebuke and who they (the church individuals) were responsible to. Everything pointed back to Jesus and John the Apostle of Jesus Christ became strangely invisible in the light of the glory of Christ. Bro. You have exalted the utterance and the office, be warned ---God will share His Glory with no man. O'man this is what the Lord requires of you but to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God.

Re: IRONMAN, on: 2005/5/26 2:46

read all of John 1
these are GODS days
GOD is working this all for good! :-D

Re: Be patient toward all men - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/26 3:19

1 Thessalonians 5:16-22 Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. *Despise not prophesyings*. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil.

Hey Brother Mike

I have to say, in all love, that post did not seem to me to be inspired by the Spirit, but rather by your soul. I do sympathize with you knowing, that you have had some bad experience with false prophets, but let this not blind you from the truth. It is indeed necessary to *prove* not deny all things. What is it about the message itself and about Farai that is not agreeable with you, please do not be vague and general, target this specific prophecy and Farai if you please. Do not let your soul render judgment to spiritual things, but rather try message with all pray and supplication in the Spirit, in patience prayer and meditation. I could be wrong, but that last post did not seem very prayerful, please be patient with me dear brother. The trying of the message may take longer than you may think.

1 Thessalonians 5:11-15 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do. And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

Galatians 6:1-10 *Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.* Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden. Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

James

Does this "babbling brook" say anything worth hearing? - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/26 4:49

I'd like to take a look at an aspect of the message itself.

Quote:

-----Â... You then try to instruct them how they ought to prophecy. Tell me, are they your prophets or my own?

I can't deny this. Doesn't history bear it to be true? Our universities, and other schools of learning were once founded by those who were followers of God. Tragically, over the course of time, man exalted himself as the highest authority on wisdom. The students were taught the wisdom of man, and were instructed to teach it to others. Now MAN sets the criteria for who qualify for entrance to these schools, and who graduates. God has been squeezed out altogether, and now humanism reigns. MAN is in charge.

Now, let us examine our present Christian institutions of learning. Is God always the highest authority? Or has man taken over the reigns and decided what the students are to "prophecy", or teach to their followers?

It would seem like each denomination has its own school of learning, and they all fervently believe that they have the line on the truth and are passing it on to their students - their ministers-to-be. Surely they can't all be right at the same time. For the Spirit does not teach the Presbyterians one thing and the Baptists another, and the Methodists yet another variation of the truth.

I have all too often been in prayer meetings where we all begged for God to send us "the man (pastor) of his choosing". However, there was some unspoken criteria: He must be from OUR denomination, he must be trained by OUR seminary; he must speak what WE want to hear, he must conform to our religious ways. And he must not offend anyone, because we don't want to lose members.

Folks, for too long we have been setting the program for God, and now we wonder why we see so much lukewarmness in our churches.

Quote:

-----You have asked me to send you prophets but how is it that you don't listen to the message I send them with?

I have seen where people go to church week after week, year after year, hear God's truths and warnings, yet do not take the spoken message seriously. I have seen where people prayed for a pastor, thanked God for sending him, and then when they didn't like him, they FIRED him. Then they did that for the next pastor, and the next... They couldn't see beyond his flaws.

I confess that I have been among the vast number of Christians who were followers of man far more than followers of Christ. It took utter devastation in my life before my stubborn mind could face the reality. Now I praise God for his refining fires and his Spirit. If it wasn't for that, I would have been deceived and lost forever. I must admit that God often did use the "losers" and "babbling brooks" to speak to me. The words that really "ticked me off" sometimes were the very ones for me. They were pricking at my conscience.

God also allowed those whom I had revered and exhaled as the spiritual ideals to falsely accuse me (that hurt). That was part of the weaning process - learning to die to my reliance on faulty man.

Some more of my meandering related thoughts: "Finding the right person for the job"
<http://www.thewayback.net/articles/findingtherightperson.htm>

I think that Art Katz has some helpful words on the Role of the Prophet.
<http://www.benisrael.org/prophecy.html>

Re: To Mikey - posted by Spitfire, on: 2005/5/26 6:15

Quote:
-----I have to say, in all love, that post did not seem to me to be inspired by the Spirit, but rather by your soul. I do sympathize with you knowing, that you have had some bad experience with false prophets, but let this not blind you from the truth.

Mike, you know I love you Brother. But, I strongly suspect this is the case. I did not follow the prophetic credentials thread closely, but I did see some strong opinions on there.

I just want to say this: If Ironman's word was from the Lord, then God will lend it power, if it wasn't, God will deal with him, and speaking from one who has been dealt with by God, a Holy Ghost whippin' is like no other! I've had people tell me my words were soulful, and they were right, but God was using it all to mold me, to crush me, to make me pliable. It's called the school of the prophets. We can't help being zealous about repentance, it's in our nature. Why can't we just say, if the shoe fits, wear it?

Re: Seeing the wood for the trees - posted by ZekeO (), on: 2005/5/26 7:56

Hello folk,

I think that the only one who has any authority to question 'Ironman's' intent is Mike, who is a moderator or 'elder' on this site.

So having read what was prophesied in the name of the Lord, I will throw my thoughts into the mix.

My initial response to the last word was, gee this is coincidental, after all that has been said over the last month or so about prophetic credentials, words etc. It seems to me that after such statements from 'heaven' God is intimately involved in proving the credentials of Ironman. Rebuking those who would question the validity of the word. I am not familiar with God doing such things in the OT with any prophet, but I may be mistaken.

If anything my understanding of the prophetic function, God would let Ironman die on the altar of self validation. And letting his prophet die the painful death of never being proved right that he in fact was the mouthpiece of the Lord. The only one bearing witness to his defence is the God who has sent him, not any acceptance apparently among the brethren to whom he was sent.

In saying that I must accept that God may have said what he said through Ironman, God knows what the source was. I do not. My only comment is 'Thus saith the Lord...I do not use a King James Version' :-P

Re: false or immature - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/26 8:34

There is a big difference between a false prophet and an immature prophet.

I think of Joseph who told his brothers about some dreams that annoyed them. That didn't mean they came from his soul or whatever. Joseph still didn't have the full picture at that time about a lot of things.

I'd be very reluctant to say that a call to repentance is not for this present time, for myself, or for this site. Who doesn't need to turn more fully towards God? Who doesn't have a few "idols in their closet"?

I'd prefer not to be guilty of throwing my brother down the well and selling him off to Egypt.

Maybe the message lacks grace, but I see nothing in it that will draw people away from God to follow after deceptions. I'd be far more concerned about the fine sounding "words" of those who promise peace and prosperity (esp if you give your money to them), ... or those who take an obscure truth in the Word and run away with it into a tangent that eventually turns into a deception followed by masses of people... and all those people who follow it because they are trusting in the words of man.

Diane

Re: Consider - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/26 9:05

From

(https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?mode=viewtopic&topic_id=4823&forum=36&start=40&viewmode=flat&order=1) Is the baptism in the holy Spirit for us today? the following from the prophet:

~~~~~  
(IRONMAN)

"Would you not agree though that a revelation from God is also a unique revelation of the mind of God? I mean it is a personal encounter with God unlike any other. The apostles say little about their personal encounters with God or what gifts God gave them in their writings. I'm sure their dealings with God were very much varied and difficult to explain as have been mine and many others out there too. As far as being an insight into the character of God the bible does show us God's desire over the ages to have a relationship with us (all the covenants He has made) and how to go about having this relationship (through Christ) but the nature of each individual's relationship is such that it can't be simply written down. If the apostles wrote down their day to day walk with God or what gifts they had received people would probably seek after a similar relationship as opposed to the one which God had intended originally. In that aspect the bible is not exhaustive nor is it meant to be. **There are just going to be some revelations that you just can't back with the scripture because they are on a personal level which is not addressed in scripture.**"

Quote:

-----No other 'utterance' has this authority, so in this sense the bible is 'the beginning and end of all the Word of God'. Its omissions were quid by God just as much as its additions. We seem to be missing the original 1 Corinthians; (1 Cor 5:9) we don't have it because it was not necessary for us to have it. Although it may well have contained 'truth' God did not choose this 'truth' as having worldwide and age-lasting significance. It was no doubt a 'word from God' but it never became 'scripture'. And it is the scriptures which are to be our final court of appeal in all our teachings. (Ron, Philologos)

-----

(IRONMAN)

"And what if the thing of concern is not addressed by scripture? to what do we turn but God Himself right? At the end of the day that is where the final authority is because that is where the scriptures came from. They came from spirit and should be looked upon as such. All too often we try to rationalize or explain things with our minds and we get all messed up in that. I've been speaking in tongues for only 6 yrs, and for maybe 4 or five of them I've not said anything in the tongues at all. I'm not sure how scripture would address that but lately though this has changed. For instance there has been a manifestation of several different tongues, a primary one and some others that are used less often and couple that have been used maybe once or twice. **One of them is an angelic one for communication with angels. Now how do I know this? It is just innate knowledge of the spirit which has been revealed to me. I have nothing in scripture that I can use to convince anyone of that and so in some circles I may be considered a heretic.**\* The closest thing would be the scripture 1 John 2:27 about how the anointing one receives is what teaches and that no man can teach you these things. Perhaps that's why the apostles' personal dealings with God are not mentioned much in scripture, someone at some point would take hold of it and decide that "this is the only way to go"

Ron, my experience with God has shown me that I have made many wrong assumptions about Him and that we all have. In all truth we know nothing of how God works and I'm cool with that because God is teaching me to be open to whatever He has for me no matter how outlandish it may seem. All too often we put God in a box and miss out on SOOO MUCH in terms of revelation and blessing and gifts etc because we hold onto things which are comfortable to us. The richness of our relationship with God is limited only by how open we are to Him, how big we allow Him to be. Your experience with God and mine are pretty different because our responsibilities in the body of Christ require it to be so. We will not always agree nor have anything to substantiate strongly enough to convince one another of what God is doing in our lives."

~~~~~  
*"One of them is an angelic one for communication with angels."

Needs to be addressed seperately and to follow this reply.

(IRONMAN)

Quote:
-----You then try to instruct them how they ought to prophecy, tell me are they your prophets or my own?How is it that you look with contempt on my messengers? Is there some sort of test they must pass in order that they become prophets?

Yes.

Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. For ye may all prophesy one by one,that all may learn, and all may be comforted.
And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. 1Co 14:29-33

Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. 1Th 5:14,15

1Jo 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

(Jimm)

Quote:
-----I have to say, in all love, that post did not seem to me to be inspired by the Spirit, but rather by your soul.

(IRONMAN)

Quote:
-----Whosoever judges those whom I have called to various positions in the kingdom be warned, I shall judge you by the same measure
.

Turning the tables...

(IRONMAN)

Quote:
----- Speak boldly therefore and do not fear the rejection that will come from many of your brethren.

Re: Angels - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/26 9:30
(IRONMAN)

Quote:
-----One of them is an angelic one for communication with angels. Now how do I know this? It is just innate knowlegde of the spirit whic
h has been revealed to me. I have nothing in scripture that I can use to convince anyone of that and so in some circles I may be considered a heretic.

~~~~~

*"Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things whi  
ch he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, and not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and  
bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God. Wherefore if ye be dead w  
ith Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, (Touch not; ta  
ste not; handle not; Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? Which things  
have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfyin  
g of the flesh. Col 2:18-23*

~~~~~

Col 2:18 - Let no man beguile you of your reward,.... Or prize; the allusion is to the Olympic games, one of which was
running races; in which the stadium, or race plot was fixed, a mark set up to look and run unto, a corruptible crown propo
sed to be run for, and which was held by one who sat as judge, and determined who got the victory, and to whom the cr
own belonged; these judges sometimes acted the unfair part, and defrauded the victors of their proper right, and to such
the apostle compares the false teachers: the Christian's reward, or prize he is running for, is the incorruptible and never f
ading crown of glory, life, and righteousness; the race plot is the Christian life, spent in the exercise of grace, and discha
rge of duty, and in holding fast, and holding out in a profession of faith unto the end; the mark he looks at, and presses t
owards, is Jesus Christ; and his great concern, the apostle by this metaphor suggests should be, lest by false teachers h
e should be defrauded of the prize of the high calling of God, through their removing the mark Christ from him, by denyin
g his person and Godhead; or by intercepting his sight of him, placing other objects before him, such as angels, to be wo
rshipped and adored; or by darkening of it, joining Moses and Christ, law and Gospel, works and grace together, in the b
usiness of salvation; whereby he might seem to come short, or be in danger of coming short of the heavenly glory:

in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels; these things the apostle instances in, as in what lay their danger
of being beguiled of their reward, or prize. True humility is an excellent grace; it is the clothing and ornament of a Christi
an; nor is there anything that makes a man more like Christ, than this grace; but in these men here respected, it was onl
y the appearance of humility, it was not real; it was in things they devised and willed, not in things which God commande
d, Christ required, or the Scriptures pointed at; they would have been thought to have been very lowly and humble, and t
o have a great consciousness of their own vileness and unworthiness to draw nigh to Christ the Mediator immediately, a
nd by him to God; wherefore in pretence of great humility, they proposed to make use of angels as mediators with Christ
; whereby Christ, the only Mediator between God and man, would be removed out of sight and use; and that humble bol
dness and holy confidence with God at the throne of grace, through Christ, which believers are allowed to use, would be
discouraged and destroyed, and the saints be in danger as to the outward view of things, and in all human appearance o
f losing their reward: "worshipping of angels" was a practice which very early prevailed among some that were called Ch
ristians, and for a long time continued in Phrygia and Pisidia; some make Simon Magus, and others Cerinthus, the autho
r of this idolatry; but was not only a branch of the Platonic philosophy, and so a part of that philosophy and vain deceit b
efore mentioned, Col_2:8, which these men might have borrowed from the Gentiles, but was a notion and practice of the
Jews: before the Babylonish captivity, the names of angels were not known, nor are they ever mentioned by name in Scr
ipture; hence they say (s), that "the names of angels came up with them, or by their means from Babylon:

after this they began to talk much of them, and to have too high a veneration for them, and ascribe too much to them; an
d observing that the law was ordained, spoken, and given by them, and that the administration of things under the forme
r dispensation was greatly by their means, they fell to worshipping of them (t); and the believing Jews were hereby in gre
at danger of falling into the same practice: hence the author of the epistle to the Hebrews, writing to the Jewish church, l
argely insists on the proof of Christ being superior to angels; showing that he has a more excellent name than they had;
that he was the Son of God in such sense as they were not the sons of God; that they were worshippers of him, yea, tha
t they were creatures made by him, and even ministering spirits to his saints, the heirs of salvation: and very rightly, is w
orshipping of angels condemned here by the apostle, since God only is the object of worship; since these are creatures,

and so not to be adored; are worshippers of God and Christ themselves, and have refused adoration when it has been offered to them: that the Jews did, and do worship angels, and make use of them as mediators and intercessors, is clear from their liturgy, or prayer books, where they say (u).

"O ye angels of mercies", or ye merciful angels, ministers of the most High, entreat now the face of God for good:

and elsewhere (w),

"they say three times, let Juhach keep us, let Juhach deliver us, and let Juhach help us:

now Juhach was the name of an angel, who they supposed had the care of men, and is taken from the final letters of those words in Psa_91:11, "for he shall give his angels charge over thee": so they speak of an angel whom they call Sandalphon, who they say is appointed over the prayers of the righteous (x): with this notion the judaizing and false teachers seem to have been tainted, and against which the apostle here cautions the saints, lest, under a show of humility, they should be drawn into it: and to preserve them from it, he observes, that such an one who should spread and propagate such a notion, was one that was

intruding into those things which he hath not seen; thrusting himself in a bold and daring manner into an inquiry and search after, debate upon, and affirmation of things he could have no certain knowledge of; as of angels, whose nature, qualities, works, and ministrations, he had never seen with his bodily eyes; nor could ever discern with the eyes of his understanding any such things in the Scriptures, which he ascribed to them; but they were the birth of his own mind, the fruits of his own fancy and imagination, things devised in his own brain: being

vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind; judging of things not according to the word of God, and with a spiritual judgment, and according to a spiritual sense and experience, but according to his own carnal reason, and the vanity of his mind; being puffed and swelled with an high opinion of himself, of his great parts and abilities, of his knowledge of things above others, and of his capacity to penetrate into, and find out things which were not seen and known by others: this shows that his humility was forced, and only in outward appearance, and was not true and genuine,

(s) T. Hieros. Roshhashanah, fol. 56. 4. (t) Vid. Clement. Alex Stromat. l. 6. p. 635. (u) Seder Tephillot, Ed. Basil fol. 222. 2. (w) lb.

John Gill

Re: The face of a false pophet - posted by tinluke (), on: 2005/5/26 10:34

I've seen the face of a false prophet. They are smooth talkers, they tickle the ears and build you up. They NEVER EVER offer a word of rebuke or anything that will ever challenge you to draw closer to the Lord or turn from your worldly ways.

If we are mature Christians why would we be offended by a challenging word?? If you do not need to repent from anything, that is GREAT!! Go on living your life for the Lord and peace be with you! If you do need to lay something down then a message like this ought to challenge you.

I guess I don't see what all the fuss is about. :-(

Re: Personal thoughts, motivations - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/26 11:05

Zekeo,

Would like to address something here regarding authority and such. This is a community, a fellowship and that fact is often overlooked, even with the continual harping to that effect.

That there is to be a consideration to others, to their questions, to their thoughts and their concerns. To researching things out, not only here but of primary import, scriptures themselves.

Will not put up a false sense of modesty, there is an understanding that to 'moderate' is to attempt to do just that and that only in and of itself. Conduct usually the issue as time has proven here again and again. The want of self exaltation is unfortunately a form of pride and it rears its ugly head in various ways and manners and would be hard pressed not to

say that it doesn't exist in all of us in varying levels and degree's. It is something to be done away with and often times it is only by being confronted. All of this is something that is a constant challenge brought forth by the speakers and members that congregate here and I carry with me the thought's and considerations, the challenges to my own thinking or lack thereof always.

But there is a collective wisdom here and to not confront the error, the danger, the problems is not to be misconstrued as unloving but it's opposite. And the authority is spread across this collectiveness. In other words, for the most part here there is a holding to scripture as the final rule for all things in this walk and it would seem apparent enough just why that is. Look at what these 'extra' things bring forth? Even in this case presently a dividing, a for or against, one side or the other, and to what can we turn to for a 'proving'?

Isa 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2Ti 3:16 **All scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

So in that sense we all are able and should be using this as our authority, *rightly dividing the truth*.

And to the rest Zekeo, I must concur:

Quote:
-----My initial response to the last word was, gee this is coincidental, after all that has been said over the last month or so about prophetic credentials, words etc. It seems to me that after such statements from 'heaven' God is intimately involve in proving the credentials of Ironman. Rebuking those who would question the validity of the word. I am not familiar with God doing such things in the OT with any prophet, but I may be mistaken.

Again this very much problematic and is where the danger is in these pronouncements. The sense of accepting without validation anything that anyone speaks in the name of the Lord is what we now have a plethora of, look at someone like Andrew Strom, Oh I do hope that anyone familiar with him and his ministry will pray for him. He has recently turned his back on much of this after being caught up in it in various ways and he preached heavily on repentance! This is the danger, how much we could recall from his own words that would sound so similar to what is being said here. Hard things, strong exhortations, so on and so forth...

But, are they authentic? That is the ultimate question. It is not likely a reach that Andrew was very convinced that the words he spoke were in fact prophecies. Recall some of them, of a coming street revival and such... Whatever came of it? Was it true? Is it just 'delayed'? What of the ones caught up in all this? Will their hopes be dashed? Was it necessary to speak forth in the first place? Will this bring doubt's and questions to others believing another "Thus sayeth..." Did it foster an unnecessary, constant bearing of repentance to things that do have an end?

The mention of Isaiah much earlier coincides with this:

"Now therefore be ye not mockers, lest your bands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord GOD of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth. Give ye ear, and hear my voice; hearken, and hear my speech.

Doth the plowman plow all day to sow? doth he open and break the clods of his ground?
When he hath made plain the face thereof, doth he not cast abroad the fitches, and scatter the cummin, and cast in the principal wheat and the appointed barley and the rie in their place? For his God doth instruct him to discretion, and doth teach him. For the fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned about upon the cummin; but the fitches are beaten out with a staff, and the cummin with a rod. Bread corn is bruised; because he will not ever be threshing it, nor break it with the wheel of his cart, nor bruise it with his horsemen. This also cometh forth from the LORD of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working.

Isa 28:22-29

The ramifications of these things. Not that it matters all that much, but am I angry? You bet.
The ease and disregard, the flippancy and lack of consideration for the extreme weight those four words carry. How can it be overlooked that one is speaking the very words of the creator of the universe and if so, that those words are **His** if they in fact are. And we are to propagate the same error by joining with a nod of the head and the only validation being two brothers self validating each other, because they say so we are to believe them... or else, *watch out*. Nonsense. To s

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it back and say nothing while this assumption that I mentioned earlier is put forth, and anticipated that the questioning of authenticity would be met with this kind of thing and to let it go on here before all these members and the watching world, yes I am angry at that. There are some things worth being angry about, people being misled, fostering confusion, disregard for others and an exalting of self and pride, lack of humility and seriousness with something as profound as speaking God's very words and then dismissing it all with a hand wave of *it's not my problem* and *I just say what I am told to say*. Rubbish.

Quote:

-----There is a big difference between a false prophet and an immature prophet.

Diane, I am not so sure. Best I can tell there is no such thing scripturally to buttress that. IF, it is so that one could be immature he ought to keep quiet and not say things attributing them to God 'says.

There has been much patience, much forbearing with all this here and to think that this all comes with some sort of ease, off the top of the head or that it is not grievous...

Another look at the same thing - posted by ZekeO (), on: 2005/5/26 11:36

Just need to speak from another angel.

There is a scripture which says: For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, **having itching ears**...2 Tim 4:3

In the context of this forum, many here would want to hear that the church must repent, judgement is coming and the wrath of God is being revealed from heaven. They would say Amen! Right on! Not that I want to paint the whole with the same brush, but how many members are disgruntled with the modern church?

See where I'm coming from?

Quote:

-----I guess I don't see what all the fuss is about.

From all appearances it seems that God has taken sides in a debate which I think he may not have done. That's the fuss, for me.

Re: A call to Repentance - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/5/26 11:59

Quote:

-----Thus saith the Lord:
Repent from your evils my children for I am about to pour out my wrath on the earth. Repent now.

This is not what I am hearing. I think we need to be very cautious before adding the words 'thus saith the Lord' to our personal convictions.

edit:

I had only just got to the initial posting when I posted the above but have now had time to consider the utterances. Sometimes we have to be blunt for the sake of truth. I have absolutely no witness that any of the so-called prophecies here are from God. In fact, I will step up to the line, and say I am quite convinced that they are not.

I dipped into the 'credentials of prophets' and saw this coming. It is what fishermen call ground-baiting. Scatter a few things around to draw in the fish and then put in the bait with the hook. Jimm and Ironman clearly have an agenda and have had it for some time. I am not at liberty to betray confidences but I have spoken privately by email with Ironman and sought to warn him of the sources of his revelations. He has chosen to ignore those warnings so now I make them public.

c.

I do not reject the word of repentance, but I reject the threat which accompanied it. Repentance, incidentally is always specific. To say 'repent' and to give no clue as to what we are to 'repent of' is not the way the God works. He never says 'repent' without giving 'specific directions'.

I have been around the block a few times with pentecostals and charismatics and there are certain traits which surface from time to time. At best these utterances are self-induced; at worst something much worse. My counsel is to ignore them.

Re: wow - posted by tinluke (), on: 2005/5/26 14:06

I'm am so greived by all of this. Half of us are deceived and half of us are correct?? Are we not the bride of Christ?!?!? I just don't get it.

I see things in black and white. Either Ironman is a false prophet or a prophet of God. Either we need to repent or we don't. Why not just get alone with God and ask Him what HE thinks.

I personally believe that Judgment is coming to America. Do I delight in the fact that others may agree with ME??? Absolutely NOT!!! My heart is so broken. It is with an anguished heart that I say judgement is coming to America. I am so greived by this sort of message. I may live a very comfortable life now, but I have seen the other side of it. I have seen communism first hand, I've looked into the ovens where my relatives bodies were burned!! I am broken when I hear this message!!

Jesus loves His church and He is returning soon. I love my brothers and sisters in Christ and I pray that we will all seek a deeper relationship with HIM.

We need to spend more time praying for each other and less time trying to set each other straight. I say this with a heart full of love and sorrow.

In HIS deep abiding LOVE, Tina

Re: - posted by Yodi (), on: 2005/5/26 15:02

As it has already been said, a call to repentance is *never* a bad thing. However... one thing I *do* know is that God always, *always* offers hope after a call to repentance. We can see the examples all over the Old Testament, for example, through the prophet Jeremiah. The message was always, "If you repent, if you do what I say, then all will be well with you. But if you don't repent, and if your heart is set to do the opposite of what I say, there will be consequences." I scanned the pages in this topic for the "Thus saith the Lord" posts from Ironman, and sometimes, probably most of the time, there was hope given (I think there was some type of reward mentioned for those who heeded the call). But I think other times it just ended with "God is mad at you!"

We *do* need to be sensitive and respectful to our Lord, heeding that we don't purposely, intentionally, unashamedly take part in things that we know would displease our God. But you know what else... not as a license to sin in *any* way, God always warns us plenty of times and is so patient with us. He's not going to give us one angry message of judgement and then pour out His wrath on us the next day. I'm not saying that's what's been said here, but it is the feeling that can be left with people who are reading this topic. And to those I would want to encourage, in no way trying to attempt to water down the message of repentance. But there is hope... there is hope. "*And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love*" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Re: - posted by tinluke (), on: 2005/5/26 19:00

Hey Yodi

You're right on! God does give us plenty of time & He is so patient with us. How many million more abortions is our patient God going to witness? How much longer do you think He will sit around and watch His name blasphemed on the movie screen and TV? How many more homosexuals will have to get married in His church and call it a holy union? What would He say to Sodom if He didn't judge us?? He is a Holy & Just!

Re: Excuse me while i remove the log from my eye! - posted by tinluka (), on: 2005/5/26 19:19

Sorry sister Yodi the Lord just reminded me of my own advise, but I can't ignore the obvious.

IRONMAN and Jimm...a public defence - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/27 12:27

Hey everyone

I was too sad to reply the post yesterday, so I hope you will forgive the time delay. I really have to be honest and say to you that I am surprised at what has come out of this, but the truth is it does explain a lot of what I thought to be "odd behavior". To be honest, if I had my own way I would not even post this but, in fear of the holy brethren and blood bought saints I do so with trepidation. At the end of the day, you are not my servants, I cannot force anything upon you, neither is it my place to expect anything from you, but I will, ask as a personal favor in the name of Christ, please read slowly and carefully what I have to say. My intent is not one of guile or deceit. I love the Lord Jesus Christ, and He has given His life to me, when I did not deserve it. It is the life that is in me that motivates me, and guards my heart, and I am convinced that this same life is in you too my brothers and sisters. I love the brethren, and so their words are hurtful to me, not because of pride, but because I do not see the Spirit of unity manifest in our strivings. I am as much a cause of this controversy as anyone and so my words are of little value at this point. I come to you on my hands and knees and in much heaviness, my brothers. My spirit is downcast and full of sorrow. I pray that God, my give me the grace to write only truth, and that this same grace may be upon the eyes of the readers in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let me address the last issue that is pending concerning a post made several months ago by my brother. (Whether this was post or a personal message to dear Brother Ron I do not recall).

(IRONMAN)

Quote:

-----And what if the thing of concern is not addressed by scripture? to what do we turn but God Himself right? At the end of the day that is where the final authority is because that is where the scriptures came from. They came from spirit and should be looked upon as such. All too often we try to rationalize or explain things with our minds and we get all messed up in that. I've been speaking in tongues for only 6 yrs, and for maybe 4 or five of them I've not said anything in the tongues at all. I'm not sure how scripture would address that but lately though this has changed. For instance there has been a manifestation of several different tongues, a primary one and some others that are used less often and couple that have been used maybe once or twice. One of them is an angelic one for communication with angels. Now how do I know this? It is just innate knowledge of the spirit which has been revealed to me. I have nothing in scripture that I can use to convince anyone of that and so in some circles I may be considered a heretic.* The closest thing would be the scripture 1 John 2:27 about how the anointing one receives is what teaches and that no man can teach you these things. Perhaps that's why the apostles' personal dealings with God are not mentioned much in scripture, someone at some point would take hold of it and decide that "this is the only way to go"

Ron, my experience with God has shown me that I have made many wrong assumptions about Him and that we all have. In all truth we know nothing of how God works and I'm cool with that because God is teaching me to be open to whatever He has for me no matter how outlandish it may seem. All too often we put God in a box and miss out on SOOO MUCH in terms of revelation and blessing and gifts etc because we hold onto things which are comfortable to us. The richness of our relationship with God is limited only by how open we are to Him, how big we allow Him to be. Your experience with God and mine are pretty different because our responsibilities in the body of Christ require it to be so. We will not always agree nor have anything to substantiate strongly enough to convince one another of what God is doing in our lives."

Quote:

-----I'm not saying that I should be believed at all, I'm just sharing what I believe fervently God has done in my life. I'm not saying that everything that is unbiblical is right, that's just not true. What I am saying is that what I have seen and felt God do in me and through me is just God's hand at work in a way I never would have thought possible and I'll leave it at that. He has confirmed that to me already. I know Paul was not declaring a doctrine when he mentioned the tongue of angels. even his apostleship and revelations we questioned in some circles too.

Look carefully at the context, which Farai brought this up. This is not a doctrine he was teaching, or exhorting people to, he was just using his own experience as an example. You will notice that in all his time on this forum, he has never brought that issue up again, because it is simply not a teaching or a doctrine point. In all honesty, Farai should never have brought that up, and he never has brought it up since then. Angels exist, and some can discern them, when the Spirit of God allows it. Is this a controversy? Well I see that it is, and though I have been careful about mentioning this hitherto, I will be much more careful now. Even what I have said now is a little dangerous in such a public forum, but a public defamation has been made. Am I at liberty to clear myself also publicly? I hope that I am, and that I have not overstepped any

ne at this point. As for Farai, it is not good for him to speak at least for now. One thing that may have thrown him off, into a wrongful defensive posture is the fact that the posts and questions were addressed to him. You my dear brothers have rightly pointed out that he cannot and should not defend a prophecy if indeed it is from God, so I ask that you do not put an occasion for stumbling for my brother by addressing him personally. Yes you may speak and judge *the prophecy* publicly, but seeing that he cannot defend himself, to speak of *him* publicly is (after my judgment) not acting in love. Perhaps a separate thread about Farai not concerning this particular prophecy is in order?

Now, Brother Mike has not said anything concerning this, but the implication from his quotes is clear. He believes that we are involved in angel worship, and we are teaching this as a doctrine. This is also what brother Ron believes. I deny these allegations with every ounce of my being, vehemently (I speak also for Farai). I have never exhorted or taught anybody anything concerning angles, neither has Farai, not even in that post. He simply mentioned an experience that he has, and if you do not believe that, then that is your privilege, but to imply publicly that we are worshiping angles is dangerous. I am not threatening you here; I say this with the utmost respect to my moderator and to seasoned saint (Ron) whose teachings are followed by many even here at sermonindex. I feel very wronged and offended. One thing that seems disturbing to me is the secret resentment that has been harbored for months (that thread is literally months old):

Ron

Quote:

----- It is what fishermen call ground-baiting. Scatter a few things around to draw in the fish and then put in the bait with the hook. Jimm and Ironman clearly have an agenda and have had it for some time.

I can hardly continue, even after just quoting that. We have clearly had an agenda? How many others have perceived this? If...if dear Brother Ron, you believed we were involved in angel worship (we are not), why in the name of Christ did you not try to rebuke us? It is my understanding that you sent Farai one email, he replied it and you never wrote back. You are convinced for months that you brethren are deluded and yet you say nothing? Yet for months you pursued Bubba guy in the spirit of brotherly love but to these two deluded brothers no such brotherly love was extended. Why?

Mike

Quote:

----- There has been much patience, much forbearing with all this here and to think that this all comes with some sort of ease, off the top of the head or that it is not grievous...

Likewise Brother Mike. You honestly believe you are the only one forbearing offense here. You have many misconceptions about us, and now you group us together with Andrew Strom (whoever he is). It was my belief that this is a public forum. A Brother has come on this public forum with a word from the Lord. You may judge the word for yourself and even post your judgment, that is your privilege. Will you allow everyone else the same privilege, to judge even what you have posted about the prophecy? Whether you believe that the word is from the Lord or not is your business, you are not my servant, neither am I your servant (I say that with all love, giving thanks and honor to the master of us both, even Jesus Christ). Your bias is based on personal experiences you had with false prophets and those you have seen. If I have sinned against you could you not have sent a personal message stating that I am out of line, and that you are uncomfortable with my postings. This is not a war, I really and truly would have listened to you and respected your authority as a moderator. Even now, I speak to you on my hand and knees, knowing that as far as this forum is concerned you have the God appointed authority. If you ask me to discontinue posting I will. No hard feelings. Honestly.

Let me stop here for now. May the Spirit of God's grace prevail of this thread, that an agreement may be reached for the sake of Christ's bride.

James

Re: IRONMAN and Jimm...a public defence - posted by moreofHim (), on: 2005/5/27 13:03

Personally, I am always open to repentance, I don't care who it comes from. Anytime is a good time to take a look at our hearts.

Honestly I have recieved messages similar to the ones Ironman has recieved- and it was always for the body of Christ. I don't get words like that anymore- don't know if it's unbelief or just a season or what.

Diane made a good point about the difference between a false prophet and an immature one. Not that Ironman is immature- but sometimes I see where I was still immature in my "prophetic" days. I don't know if my words were more "feelings" even though they were true. This is making me take a closer look at things and where I am and what I believe.

Why would I have had the dreams about Ezekiel 16 (my daughter and i both on the same night) if we weren't getting a serious repentance message from the Lord for the church?

All I know is that none of us is past needing to repent. I know I do. I know I could use a deep cleansing right about now. Especially when I think to myself "what if the Lord would return today"? Is my heart where I want it to be? Am I doing things and going places and saying things that i don't want Him to find me doing? I hope not!

Praying for the TRUTH to be revealed!!!!

In His love, Chanin

Re: - posted by Yodi (), on: 2005/5/27 14:09

Pray, pray, pray, pray! Many prophets and men of God were on their faces before God in prayer, on behalf of themselves and for the sins of the rest of the people. Prayer is what's going to penetrate the hearts of people and open up the door for God to work in our lives. Be faithful to open your mouth and share when prompted to by the Holy Spirit... then spend the rest of the time in sincere, labouring, compassionate prayer. Believe in faith, in prayer, that God will lead us one by one into repentance and personal revival in the heart.

"Whom are you addressing when you pray? What limit can you place on God's ability? Look around the universe at what God has already done. Then figure out what His limitations might be. He's quite a big God.

Jeremiah prayed, "Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee" (Jeremiah 32:17). That's a good way to start prayer!

Why do we limit God? Because we are limited. We need to realize to whom we're talking when we pray. Get our eyes off our problems. Get our minds on the fact that we're talking to the Creator of all things: God, who is so great, so vast, and so powerful!

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For you created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created."

Re: IRONMAN and Jimm...a public defence - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/5/27 15:28

Quote:
-----Now, Brother Mike has not said anything concerning this, but the implication from his quotes is clear. He believes that we are involved in angel worship, and we are teaching this as a doctrine. This is also what brother Ron believes.

I have never said so or believed so.

Quote:
-----I can hardly continue, even after just quoting that. We have clearly had an agenda? How many others have perceived this? If...if dear Brother Ron, you believed we were involved in angel worship (we are not), why in the name of Christ did you not try to rebuke us? It is my understanding that you sent Farai one email, he replied it and you never wrote back.

I warned Farai of the danger of 'talking to angels'. It was clear from his reply that he was not going to listen so I did not p

ursue the issue. It was evident that he was convinced that his power fo talk to them in an angel language was God's revelation to him, and long experience has taught me that when someone claims a non-biblical experience as a personal revelation it is very difficult to get a hearing for biblical truth. I never accused him or thought him involved in angel worship. Whether 'commanding angels' as their captain is better or worse than 'worshipping angels' is open to question. Fellowship with angels at their feet or at their side has no biblical warrant.

I do not accept Farai's self-styling as a prophet, nor do I accept your confirmation in the matter. For a brother to claim that 'thus saith the Lord' is a serious matter and such claims must be judged by those that hear them. There are many gentle souls who are easily swayed by such authoritative statements which is why I felt it appropriate to counsel that such claims should not be accepted.

I am going to be away from my computer now for a week so I will visit the thread on my return to see if you need any more comment from me.

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2005/5/27 16:39

Quote:
-----I do not reject the word of repentance, but I reject the threat which accompanied it. Repentance, incidentally is always specific. To say 'repent' and to give no clue as to what we are to 'repent of' is not the way the God works. He never says 'repent' without giving 'specific directions'.

With these words I feel like Ron just opened the window and let some fresh air in.

John the Baptist preached "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

He had a clear answer for the people when they asked. "What shall we do then?".

I am learning that sanctification does not come in layers. If that's true then repentance doesn't come in layers either. The message of never-ending repentance without terms for satisfaction, always promising punishment without specifics of guilt is not the gospel.

Bothers and sisters, there is much confusion in these matters and some are exploiting this confusion. Those tender in heart are most vulnerable to these abuses.

Let's always strive to remain contrite in the fear of the Lord...able to receive instruction, correction, and chastisement without the condemnation and wrath stored up for the unrepentant.

We say we want unity on this issue? praise God...let the sword of the Word divide on this issue so that we can be unified on the side of His Truth.

MC

Re: ZekeO Jones and the raiders of the repentance forum. - posted by ZekeO (), on: 2005/5/27 16:49

Quote:

Compton wrote:
I am learning that sanctification does not come in layers.

Does revelation?

Re: A call to Repentance - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/5/27 17:14

As painful as it may be our Lord is revealing so much to me from this thread ...

Brother James you wrote:

Quote:

"I will be much more careful now" ...

Well i certainly hope not ... i can see your praying Holy Spirit to improve your skills in being "as wise as a serpent but as gentle as a dove" ... But in ALL matters (especially spiritual) scripture tells us to ...

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus ... Phil.4:6,7

We are ALL brothers and sisters in the "love" of Christ, so if ever we feel that we have to "be careful" one to the other in the context of your statement we need to take it to the Lord a.s.a.p., for we all know who the destroyer of joy and peace is ...

Quote:

"This is not a war"

Ahhhhh brother James but it is ...

2Cor.10

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;
And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

We in this day and time who believe ourselves called of God as His prophets are vigorously concerned with being **"mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds"** ... While on the other hand for those who for whatever the reasons are suspicious of the motivations of our "message", let alone our daring to identify what we believe to be our "calling" are as equally vigorously concerned with **"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself"** ... So in essence we become like two Christian camps at war with both sides believing ourselves on the side of right and God, and as i've said before, "Only God and time will prove or disprove" ... The OT prophets didn't argue or defend, they just brought "thus saith the Lord" and as to the hearers the decision of validity was left up to them ... Now of course i don't think that any of us (meaning you, Ironman or myself) who have dared to proclaim a "thus saith the Lord" imagine ourselves anything but "dirt", and as to thinking ourselves "high minded" or "exalted", judging by the tone of this thread, and what by only the grace of God i've been able to endure from fellow saints the past 20 years, any of us would have to be some kind of really deluded meglo-maniac to be soaring in "ego" with all the negativity that the words "repentance" and "judgment" seems to evoke from so many other saints and preachers, but yet somehow it's still concluded that we've got some sort of "self" serving agenda up our sleeves ... My God in heaven, but what kind of "self" serving person would continue on such a road as to bring upon them such heat, sorrow and grief? ... No human mortal (unless motivated by the Spirit of God) enamoured with "self" would ever come to the conclusion that the way to gain endearment for oneself from other human mortals is to keep coming at them with a message of "God say's repent or be judged" ...

i say to you brother James, the same thing i've said to brother Ironman, or any other saint our Lord sends my way (and few they are) who believe that He has called them His prophet/prophetess in these vile and wicked days, and it's the same snippet of advice that Br. Ravenhill gave me so long ago ... "If you believe that God has called you His prophet, then listen, and whatever God tells you to do ... Do it" ... Of course it is imperative that what He tells us to do is in line with His written Word, and as to our individual idiosyncracies and personality warps i can tell you from experience God has His own way of ironing out our rough spots and stubborn wrinkles ...

So yep it is a war, most often amongst brethren just as on this thread, just as within His Body, and just as in my own life,

and the war is this ... The Lord speaking with increasing urgency thru His spokesmen/women the calling for His people to "repent - for the kingdom of God is at hand" ... And the people of the Lord deriding, stoning and killing the mouthpieces in hopes of silencing those most awful words of "repent", "judgment" and "revival" ... It's a spiritual war, but never is it from our side to be a "physical" one ... We are but His road signs, His sign posts ... What I'm finally coming to grips with is that if we get stoned, we get stoned, in fact we should expect to get stoned, and by His loving teaching and added grace He'll even one day bring us to that selflessness of just taking the hits and not even wanting to throw back as Stephen did to His glory ... I remember when my brother and I were kids and we used to throw rocks at the "STOP" sign at the end of our block ... The more we threw at it the better our aim got and we beat that sign up pretty bad ... But "four" things have just been brought to my mind about that sign ...

- 1 - The sign never stopped saying "STOP" ...
- 2 - The "STOP" sign never threw rocks back at us ...
- 3 - Even though pretty badly beat up most drivers still "stopped" at that "STOP" sign ...
- 4 - It was eventually replaced by a brand spanking new "STOP" sign ...

At this point I feel like the "sign" that my bro and I threw rocks at, but it does my heart much gladness to see "new" signs in the likes of you, Ironman, sisters Spitfire and Roadsign and a host of others I've become aware of via SI and the Internet ... And God is answering my prayers that He make His new signs even bolder in warning than myself, with larger print messages of "REPENT" in night glow fluorescent paint for those in the dark ...

Brother James do you remember the e-mail you sent me where you said our Lord told you to tell me to read Jeremiah again? ... Well I was remiss at first because I'd read Jeremiah so often and was sure that I'd get nothing more out of it ... But when I finally did Holy Spirit jumped forth into my spirit the sadness of the plight of the people in that they had His "sign" right there physically amongst themselves, but they just couldn't "read and obey" Jeremiah as speaking the word of the Lord, and truth be told they treated God's "sign" to them pretty bad ... All this to say "again" that if we think of ourselves in the prophetic calling as anything more than God's "sign" we're sure to get our feeling hurt ... Our bottom line is to be planted where He wishes to plant us, and display whatever message He chooses to paint on our "unclean" lips ... So as He said to me just a short while ago ... Just be ... It's not the job of a "roadsign" to enforce any passerby as to its obedience ... That's the job of Grace Enforcement ... But disobedience to His "roadsigns" may cause Him to grace some of us with a warning, a ticket, a jail term or we could be killed in the crash of our sin ...

God's "roadsigns" are for and to us all, but especially to those of us who like to "speed" past His grace ... And sped past His grace so many of us have, to the point of rectifying consequence for His Church ...

I think it pretty safe to say that we ALL love Jesus, and I know Jesus loves us ALL, and that He is determined to refine to finish the good work that He's begun in us all ... We may not have to all agree, or believe in one another's spiritual direction, but if we truly are of Him, it is commanded by Him that we stay "in love" with one another as He is "in love" with us all, for it is by our love for one another that we bear witness to Him to the world ... Amen

So SI family I love you all without exception ... Now this beat up old "STOP" sign is gonna go enjoy His extended Memorial Day weekend ... God's blessing upon us ALL!

Br. R ... :beard:

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/5/27 17:30

Jimm

Quote:
-----At the end of the day, you are not my servants, I cannot force anything upon you, neither is it my place to expect anything from you, but I will, ask as a personal favor in the name of Christ, please read slowly and carefully what I have to say.

I think this is a very important point towards all these discussions. Is the fact that these forums are overseen by myself, Jeremy and Mike. We are diligently trying to keep God's saints edified and encouraged by these forum communications and other materials on the site. Yes we do feel a more important responsibility for the saints on this site to protect them and give them the pure word of God. I am very weary and do object to having really anyone come into the site as a self-proclaimed prophet over the people here at SI. I do believe that God would allow me to recognize and even speak much to this or the group of people that God would be raising for that task in this body. God is a God of order and not disorder. I do

o see myself as being quite resonible spiritually for the going on's of this site and I will have to in the judgemnet seat of C hrist bear all the choices and words spoken.

On the fact of the angels and the revelation of them to impart spiritual truth. This is a subject that really is for the more m ature believer that can not only read and understand spiritual truth but experience it in its tangible form. With that being s aid I am not in approval or agreeance with the manifestations and apperances of angels that you have been experiencin g.

Quote:
-----I am not at liberty to betray confidences but I have spoken privately by email with Ironman and sought to warn him of the sources of his revelations. He has chosen to ignore those warning so know I make them public.

Above I am quoting brother Ron, and I share the same concern and even warning that these are very dangerous areas t o be open to and by over-coating them with spiritual words does not make it a true revelation of one of God's angels. Do not be beguiled.

The way that you are recieving spiritual instruction from angel(s) is something that definetly makes me uncertain about t he prophies that are spoken for the "spirit of Christ" is the spirit of prophecy. I would like to know more of which angels ar e speaking to you and how much they teach you. These are thing that are at the root of these happenings and discussio ns about IronMan's comments and are the most worth discussing to get to the truth of the matter as we test things accor ding to the scriptures.

With love I say these words brother Jimm, Ironman and others.

Re: A call to repentance - some thoughts, on: 2005/5/27 17:52

About repentance - not from the perspective of being outside the repentant person, or being the one pressing repentance upon another, but, *being* the repentant person.

Compton wrote:

Quote:
-----The message of never-ending repentance without terms for satisfaction, always promising punnishment without specifics of guilt is not the gospel.

This is very true. A good way to understand the nature of effectual repentance, is to compare it (somewhat bizzarely, pe rhaps) with a kiss. (I am stealing the 'kiss' analogy from Leanne Payne on a different matter, because it works so well.) While the kiss is in progress, it is a totally absorbing business. Truly, one cannot do or think about anything else. Only a fterwards is the satisfaction it anticipated, complete, and only afterwards can one consider how satisfactory or complete i t was, in an objective way. So with repentance. One perceives the need to repent. It is a totally body-soul-and-spirit-ab sorbing business. Truly one cannot pray about anything else. Only afterwards is the satisfaction it anticipated, complete , and only afterwards can one consider how satisfactory or complete it was, in an objective way.

The closest one can be to 'repentant' as an attitude of life, is by a listening, watchful and responsive heart towards the pr omptings of the Spirit. As one walks in the Spirit, one does not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Therefore, walking in the light a s He is in the light and being cleansed by His blood from all unrighteousness, repentance (after new birth) must be about new realisations on specific points of attitude, understanding or behaviour, or returning from having lapsed into fulfilling t he lusts of mind or flesh.

My reading of Romans 2:4 suggests that even repentance from rank sin is not considered a *punishment* by God, but rat her His goodness providing a way into fellowship with Him (for the first time?) It is reasonable *not to forget* God does pr omise to punish those who do not make peace with Him on His terms, but it is also true that those pulverised by a life of sin may not need the threat of punishment to repent in the first place, but rather to have it explained to them clearly, how to deal with their conviction of sin and how to expect forgiveness from God. An eternal perspective on sin is part of prea ching the gospel, including the mention of punishment. But the gospel - the atonement made by Jesus Christ - saves us from eternal punishment through faith in Him.

General Topics :: A call to Repentance

Quote:
-----Bothers and sisters, there is much confusion in these matters and some are exploiting this confusion. Those tender in heart are most vulnerable to these abuses.

It is possible to try to repent needlessly and fruitlessly, but, should this happen, the lack of satisfaction for repentance, in the form of the cleansing of the soul and healing which it brings, should indicate it is not lack of repentance which is the problem (if there is one).

Quote:
-----Let's always strive to remain contrite in the fear of the Lord...able to receive instruction, correction, and chastisement without the condemnation and wrath stored up for the unrepentant.

Could I say 'in the fear of the Lord' first? And, in the same way as one cannot be repentant all the time, neither can one be contrite continuously, I don't think. It's not natural, even spiritually.

ZekeO,

Compton wrote:

Quote:
-----I am learning that sanctification does not come in layers.

Does revelation?

Isn't revelation a matter of focus, often? One is looking at something to understand it better and a moment of Someone switching a light 'on' means that one can never go back to not knowing what was in that dim or dark area of the room?

Or, although the dawn has passed, the effect is more like a dimmer switch being turned and at the same time as one gains perspective in one corner, so the others also can be discerned more accurately? In other words, 'revelation' is a combination of rising light and flashes of brilliance, which allow us to glimpse new things in the realm of truth and gradually build up a fuller and fuller picture. I wouldn't call it layers, personally.

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2005/5/27 17:58

Quote:
-----Does revelation? (come in layers?)

If by revelation you mean, our understanding of spiritual things...including the conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit, then certainly.

MC

Re: - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/27 18:24

Hey Greg

Quote:
----- i say to you brother James, the same thing i've said to brother Ironman, or any other saint our Lord sends my way (and few they are) who believe that He has called them His prophet/prophetess in these vile and wicked days, and it's the same snippet of advice that Br. Ravenhill gave me so long ago ... "If you believe that God has called you His prophet, then listen, and whatever God tells you to do ... Do it" ... Of course it is imperative that what He tells us to do is in line with His written Word, and as to our individual idiosyncracies and personality warps i can tell you from experience God has His own way of ironing out our rough spots and stubborn wrinkles ...

Thank you Brother Rahman for those much needed words. It is something that is important to meditate on constantly. Your whole post brings to light some real issues for me. It is hard to know at this time Brother Rahman...should we have said anything at all, apart from the message? To me that is the source of much of the confusion.

Quote:
----- Diane made a good point about the difference between a false prophet and an immature one. Not that Ironman is immature- but so metimes I see where I was still immature in my "prophetic" days. I don't know if my words were more 'feelings' even though they were true. This is making me take a closer look at things and where I am and what I believe.

Why would I have had the dreams about Ezekiel 16 (my daughter and i both on the same night) if we weren't getting a serious repentance message from the Lord for the church?

You're right miss Chanin. It would be a little off if we never questioned these revelations but as you said, why would a message of repentance of all things be a deception. Well without faith, it is impossible to please God is becoming very real, as I can either believe God or hold my peace. One thing that comforts me greatly is that God sees all and knows all, would He really let His children be usurped by external influences purporting to be Him? I did not simply wake up and make all this up, it was revealed to me by the Holy Spirit. As Rahman says, there are far easier ways to be popular without looking like a heretic and a fool. This verse from Mathew particularly relevant to me sometimes: Mark 9:38 And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. **39 But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. 40 For he that is not against us is on our part.**

The Lord is not helplessly watching people speak as Him, He will judge the secrets of all men's hearts, and even now he executes judgment quickly on those who speak lightly of Him. Knowing that I must give an account to Him not only at the judgment, but everyday on my knees in prayer I do my best to be a good steward of the things He has committed to my trust. I do not always succeed but I am improving and this is what the body of Christ is for, that we may be, "that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." (Ephesians 4:16). The right inquiries made in the right Spirit are healthy for me, and if I endure, even the wrong inquiries made in the wrong spirit are healthy. Knowing this, that "all things work together for good, to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28)

Quote:
-----Pray, pray, pray, pray! Many prophets and men of God were on their faces before God in prayer, on behalf of themselves and for the sins of the rest of the people. Prayer is what's going to penetrate the hearts of people and open up the door for God to work in our lives. Be faithful to open your mouth and share when prompted to by the Holy Spirit... then spend the rest of the time in sincere, labouring, compassionate prayer. Believe in faith, in prayer, that God will lead us one by one into repentance and personal revival in the heart.

"Whom are you addressing when you pray? What limit can you place on God's ability? Look around the universe at what God has already done. They can figure out what His limitations might be. He's quite a big God.

Jeremiah prayed, "Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee" (Jeremiah 32:17). That's a good way to start prayer!

Why do we limit God? Because we are limited. We need to realize to whom we're talking when we pray. Get our eyes off our problems. Get our mind on the fact that we're talking to the Creator of all things: God, who is so great, so vast, and so powerful!

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For you created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created."

Amen! Amen! After I had written the post, the Lord told me to pray, and behold he has sent to me some words of comfort through you fellow saints. Thank you miss Yolanda.

Quote:

The closest one can be to 'repentant' as an attitude of life, is by a listening, watchful and responsive heart towards the promptings of the Spirit. As one walks in the Spirit, one does not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Therefore, walking in the light as He is in the light and being cleansed by His blood from all unrighteousness, repentance (after new birth) must be about new realisations on specific points of attitude, understanding or behaviour, or returning from having lapsed into fulfilling the lusts of mind or flesh.

Miss Dorcas, this entire post is worth further meditation from all of us I suppose. Thank you for sharing and enlightening us.

Quote:
----- The way that you are receiving spiritual instruction from angel(s) is something that definitely makes me uncertain about the prophecies that are spoken for the "spirit of Christ" is the spirit of prophecy. I would like to know more of which angels are speaking to you and how much they teach you. These are things that are at the root of these happenings and discussions about IronMan's comments and are the most worth discussing to get to the truth of the matter as we test things according to the scriptures.

With love I say these words brother Jimm, Ironman and others.

Thank you for that post. There is indeed much to be said about the whole "angel business" and I must pray about this before I shoot my mouth off and thereby wound the faith of others. There is a reason these things are said in confidence Brother Ron, and that is that it is not a healthy topic for forum discussion. Is it really worth me causing a bigger controversy (about angels) in the name of clearing myself? Well I must consult the Lord and agree with my brother before I act further. Pray for me brothers and sisters, that truth may be manifest not only to me but to you also. Knowing this that the effectual fervent prayer of us all in the name of Christ, will not be ignored. Let us be patient as the truth is manifest. I pray that in all this, Jesus Christ will have preeminence. Amen.

James+

Re: What really is repentance, anyway? - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/27 22:15

Quote:
-----My reading of Romans 2:4 suggests that even repentance from rank sin is not considered a punishment by God, but rather His goodness providing a way into fellowship with Him

After following this discussion for a while, I got thinking that it might be possible that we have different concepts of repentance. Oh, I'm sure we know the official definition - but can't it be possible that we have acquired different perceptions and expectations, as this quote suggests?

I have to hit myself on the head and realize that it is not a shame to be in need of repentance! It is not a sign that I am unlovable and rejected. It is not a punishment - a command to do penance, like "go stand in the corner because you were bad". It is not a command to do something that is too hard - which would be like a nasty set up for failure.

I guess we can talk forever about the theological meaning of repentance, and not really know how it relates to our real lives and our relationship with God.

Anyway, I started a thread, "What is repentance?" because I'd really like to get a grip on it. I'd like to hear from others - about their actual experiences and thoughts, not merely what their knowledge of it is. Maybe I'll see ya there.

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=5710&forum=35&6
Diane

Re: A call to repentance re definitions repentance, on: 2005/5/28 0:23

Quote:

-----I have to hit myself on the head and realize that it is not a shame to be in need of repentance!

Amen! It's more of a fact of spiritual life.

On comparing repentance with a kiss, I did not mean to suggest they are similar in purpose or meaning. Rather, to be real, they must each be engaged in a wholehearted and un-self-conscious, self-forgetful way, which defies analysis during the event. Repentance is not about many words but about much communication with God at one's deepest most honest level, aided by the Holy Spirit - whether you are born again yet, or not.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/5/28 16:05

Jimm

Quote:

-----Is it really worth me causing a bigger controversy (about angels) in the name of clearing myself? Well I must consult the Lord and agree with my brother before I act further.

I do consider this of utmost importance to clarify and if you would rather do it privately with me and Mike Balog via email then that would suffice. I am wanting to know about this as an overseer of this site.

A last statement... - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/29 17:04

Brother and sisters

I thank you for your patience with me concerning this matter. I pray to God that this same patience, may continue in you as you read this final statement concerning this matter. I speak only for myself in this matter, after prayer and supplication to the Lord, I believe I have His mind about how to proceed now.

I will first make a statement about the issue concerning angles. Farai and I have never seen angles with our physical eyes. I do not believe that that is impossible, but I have never had that experience. Farai and I have never had a revelation or a prophecy from an angle. Farai and I have never had a self induced encounter and communication with angles. All things concerning angles have been strictly in the Spirit and most times, I do not even realize that it happens, it is after that we have finished praying that Farai tells me what he saw. Farai has a very powerful gift of discernment, and he more things in the Spirit than I do. Farai will tell me that when I prayed for such and such, then he discerned a company of angels moving. It does not always happen, but it does happen.

When we pray, we are sometimes moved by the Spirit to speak in tongues. And when that happens several different dialects are manifest. There are tongues associated with Holiness, some associated with judgment, some associated with praise and worship and some concerning lamentation etc. It also happens that when we are praying in tongues we will speak in the same tongue, and Farai will say a few statements, and then I will say a few statements. This is not the consummation of the entire prayer but it does happen pretty often, and we have been brought to a better understanding of God and each other through this. The nature of our prayers together usually has a greater scope than our prayers alone, but it is by no means a replacement. We do have a strong fellowship that is independent from each other, and we fellowship with other believers in similar closeness.

There are prayers which are more of a spiritual warfare and a rebuke to spiritual wickedness, and there are tongues associated with this. We as Christians wrestle against principalities and powers and spiritual wickedness in high places, and these are camped round about people, organizations, churches, idols, rulers, and most world systems. As we pray concerning these things it sometimes happens that the Lord will send angels to remove these wicked spirits, and so it is the

hand of the Lord manifest by Him sending angels. I may never have known this but Farai tells me the things which he saw after that we have finished praying, and so I am convinced that many of the saints' prayers are answered in this way but we just do not discern it. It is not necessary to know this information when praying, but know that it is God who answers prayers not angels, they do not act on their own accord and they should never be addressed as such. Pray to God, and He may answer with angels or he may not but He will answer, what does it matter? Our faith should be in God in all things, but it is a comfort to know that those who are with God, as far as the spiritual world is concerned are a majority.

There are tongues which address angels, but again, if Farai had not told me this I may never have known, because after that we had spoke in one unusual tongue and we had finished praying, Farai told me that he saw the angels came and stood as they were receiving instruction. But this is not a conversation type communication (such as "hey buddie how've you been, I haven't seen you in a while. Say, could you do me a favor..."), and they never say anything back, and we usually do not see where they go after they leave. I am unable to interpret this tongue, I guess because of lack of faith or because it is not for me to know but it is the Spirit that gives me the utterance. This (spiritual warfare) is more of Farai's department than it is mine, but I think I have said more than enough concerning this topic.

We are not Pentecostal or Charismatic (we have generally no problems with these denominations), Farai fellowships at a predominantly white Methodist Church, and I fellowship at a predominantly black Baptist Church. I use the word "fellowship" very loosely, because the sad truth is that I am not often edified by these meetings. There are too short and too formal and too man-centered. Order is very important, but it should not crowd out the leadings of the Spirit. The purpose is altogether different, that I may learn something about some of those whom I hope to minister to, the "church-goers", and the Lord is teaching me also patience, humility and forbearance. Our Lord himself had to put up with what he knew to be false for at least 30 years, so His grace in this area is more than sufficient. I have been ministered to on some instances in song and by some Spirit filled preachers, but on the whole, once a week is not sufficient for anything meaningful spiritually. And generally speaking, an overwhelming majority of the church members are too worldly and are not filled with Spirit.

So I am lead to many different church bodies to learn something, and to feel what the Lord feels. I have never been asked to say anything at these instances, but the tide is turning and the burden of the Lord is getting heavier upon me. I do not and cannot speak of my own accord. I cannot choose who to prophesy to; even though I am convinced many people need it. I have actually at this early stage of my ministry been constrained to prophesy to only a few close Brethren and sisters and sometimes in private.

The Lord has taught me much through Sermonindex, but one thing he has also taught me is not to raise my voice or strive to make a point. If people receive you as a prophet it is good, if they do not that does not make them candidates for hell. The forum is not the ideal place for one to speak in the capacity of a prophet because we are not in the configuration of relationship by which we know one another. So you are right to question me fervently, but you will never obtain a satisfactory explanation in writing. It is good that our faith be established and grounded in the word, and as far as I see this is what the forum is all about anyway. As far as the element of prophecy, and prophetic messages, the forum is not ideal.

Sermonindex is a wonderful resource and Greg has been given a great vision and the Lord has been faithful to him by holding it up. This particular ministry has been committed to his trust by the Lord, and he has delegated this authority to other men, after much prayer for guidance. I think it was a good call and I respect the Lord's sovereign hand in appointing them. These are the elders of the site and they must be respected and their decisions adhered to. I think that this ministry is blessing and is very edifying. The topics raised and discussed here are very relevant, and dare I say that if one listens to the messages here sincerely and continues in the word and discussions, with a pure heart and prayer, they have no need for a prophet or a preacher or another man's experience.

Indeed, I pray that the Lord may bless this ministry and make to increase and multiply in truth and love. Everyone here has the potential to be a very useful and worthy servant for the Lord in whatever they are called to do. I pray that this potential may be translated into action in prayer, praise and worship and in service first to God and then to the object of his affection, mankind. May peace abound here and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ be multiplied, in His name, I call it done. Amen.

As for me, after much prayer I have been lead to believe that I have come to the end of this phase of fellowship with you here. I have learnt much from you all, and have been greatly blessed by my encounter with the saints from all different walks of life. I have seen new perspective and realigned my perception even in sorrows and what I perceived to be offense (maybe wrongly) I have also grown. I must now pursue my own vision that He has given me, as I return to Africa in one month. Pray for me that His will may be accomplished in my life. I continue to get sermons as I am trying to pile as many

ny of them into my luggage, and I will respond to any pms or posts addressed to me. Thank you for your time here with me and for putting up with Å“JimmÅ” for two years! ;-)

Your son in Christ

James

Re: prophetic authority?? - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/29 17:50

James wrote:

Quote:
-----The forum is not the ideal place for one to speak in the capacity of a prophet because we are not in the configuration of relationship by which we know one another.

Does one's words gain more "authority" by being backed by a position called a "prophet"? Can't truly prophetic words simply speak for themselves?

Are all of us here to be deprived of any inspired prophetic words from God through others because we are not configured "right"? From what I have seen so far in my short time on the forum, that has not been the case.

Diane

Re: - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/29 19:36

Quote:
----- Does one's words gain more "authority" by being backed by a position called a "prophet"? Can't truly prophetic words simply speak for themselves?

Authority is a funny matter. The Lord has brought this (authority and submission) to my remembrance by Watchman Nee. Please read through this because I think it is quite relevant to your question miss Diane.

**CHAPTER SEVENTEEN
THE NEED FOR A DEPUTY AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY**

Scripture Reading: 1 Sam. 24:1-6; 26:7-12; 2 Sam. 1:5-15; 2:1; 4:5Å—5:3; 6:16-23; 7:18; 15:19-20, 24-26; 16:5-14; 19:9-15

In the Old Testament David was the second king appointed by God. Before David there was Saul, who was also appointed by God. David was the up-to-date authority appointed by God; he was GodÅ’s present anointed one. Saul was GodÅ’s displaced authority; he was GodÅ’s previous anointed one. GodÅ’s Spirit left Saul, but he was still on the throne. David was already appointed the king, yet Saul would not step down. What should David do? Here we see how David submitted to authority and how he did not build up his own authority. David was a man according to GodÅ’s heart. He could be a deputy authority because he was a person who genuinely submitted to authority.

WAITING FOR GOD TO ESTABLISH AUTHORITY

First Samuel 24 tells us of a story in the wilderness in Engedi. Saul was pursuing David. When David hid in a cave, Saul went into the same cave to cover his feet. David was hiding in the innermost part of the cave. He cut off a corner of Saul Å’s cloak, but later rebuked himself (vv. 4b-5). His conscience was very tender and keen. First Samuel 26 tells us of another opportunity that David had to kill Saul. This time, however, he only took his spear and water jug (v. 12a). David cut off a corner of SaulÅ’s cloak and took something in his possession. This could have served very well as a basis for him to boast to Saul (vv. 17-20). But this would have been the way of a lawyer, not the way of a Christian. A lawyer is only concerned with reason and evidence. But a Christian is concerned with feeling; he is not concerned with reason. He is concerned with fact, not with evidence. David had the sense and feeling of a Christian. This is why he rebuked himself after he cut off a corner of SaulÅ’s cloak. We should be those who are only concerned with facts before the Lord; we are not for

politics. We should not pay attention merely to the procedures. Both in Shanghai and Foochow I have seen brothers who were concerned only with procedures and evidence. But here was a man who began to rebuke himself after he had only cut Saul's cloak. A Christian is one who is concerned with inward feeling, not with proof of evidence. Those in the world are concerned with proof of evidence. A person may be able to cut the cloak of others, he may be able to take their spear and water jug, and he may be able to boast of it, but his heart will condemn him. David was a person who could submit to authority. He did not tear down Saul's authority. Instead he waited for God to establish his authority. He was able to wait; he did not try to "help" God by hastening Saul's death. A deputy authority of God must learn not to establish his own authority, but to build up the authority of those who are over him.

NOT BEING GOD'S CHOICE ALONE, BUT ALSO THE CHURCH'S CHOICE

Second Samuel tells us of a person who came to David and reported that he had killed Saul. He thought that he would be rewarded, but David killed him instead. The man was wrong because he had annulled God's authority (1:10-15). Although he had not annulled David, David felt that it was wrong that the man had annulled Saul's authority. He judged any annulment of authority.

After Saul died, David asked God to which city he should go. At that time the palace was in Gibeah. Who among the Israelites did not know David? As soon as David knew of Saul's death, he should have gone to the capital with his warriors. Humanly speaking, he should have hurried to Gibeah with his army. This was a golden moment. How could he let it slip away? As far as common sense goes, he should have gone up to Gibeah. It was good enough that he had been submissive. Who did not know that David was a warrior? But he acted strangely. He inquired of God, and God told him to go to Hebron (2:1). Hebron was a small city and an unimportant one. At that time some came from Judah and anointed him the king of Judah. This shows us that David did not try to seize authority by himself. He left it up to God's people to anoint him (v. 4). When Samuel anointed him, it was a mark that God had chosen him. When the people anointed him, it was a mark that God's people (a type of the church) had chosen him. David could not deny or reject the men of Judah's anointing. He could not say, "Since I have God's anointing already, why do I need your anointing?" It is one thing for God to anoint someone, and it is another thing for His people to anoint someone. A deputy authority must be not only God's choice but the church's choice as well. No one can impose his authority upon others. He must wait for God's children to make their choice.

David did not go up to Gibeah. Rather, he waited for God's people to come to him in Hebron. He waited for seven years and six months. Seven and a half years is not a short time. But David was not in any hurry. I have not seen one person who was full of self and desirous of self-glory who also was chosen by God to be an authority. God anointed David not only as the king of Judah but also as the king over the whole nation of Israel. Yet as long as God's people did not acknowledge him, he would not come forward. When only the house of Judah anointed him, he was satisfied to just be the king of Judah. He was not in any haste. He could wait.

After seven and a half years, all the tribes of Israel came to Hebron and spoke to David, saying, "Here we are; we are your bone and your flesh. Even previously, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And Jehovah said to you, You shall shepherd My people Israel, and you shall be ruler over Israel" (5:1-2). The tribe of Judah first acknowledged him as king in Hebron. After seven years and six months, the elders of the tribes of Israel anointed him as king, and then he reigned in Jerusalem for thirty-three years. In David we see that authority is not self-appointed. It is not imposed upon others. Authority is appointed by God and anointed by men. An authority does not proclaim himself the king, and he is not just appointed by God to be king. First, he is chosen by God, and then he is acknowledged by man. David was a real king. In the New Testament, when David is spoken of, he is addressed as "David the king" (Matt. 1:6), but Solomon is not addressed as a king. The New Testament gives special recognition to David's kingship because he did not trust in himself. He had God's anointing, and he waited for the anointing of His people, that is, the church.

We should have not only the Lord's anointing but also the church's anointing before we assume authority among His children. David waited from the age of thirty to thirty-seven. He did not doubt. He did not say, "What will happen if the children of Israel do not anoint me?" He was humbled under the hand of God. Everyone who knows God can wait. Those who know God do not need to move a finger to help themselves. If you are in the right condition, not only will the Lord acknowledge you as His representative; the church also will acknowledge you as God's representative. I hope that you will have not only God's anointing but the church's anointing as well. You must never contend with your flesh or try to move your finger. The flesh has no place here. No one can stand up to proclaim, "I am God's appointed authority. You must all obey me." We must first learn to have a spiritual ministry before the Lord. We must wait for God's time before we can serve Him among His children.

Re: prophetic "authority" - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/29 19:52

Sorry, I did not word my first question well.

I should have said, "Does one's words hold more "authority" by him stating his(or her) position as a prophet? ie:"Since I'm a prophet, you must trust my word to you."

What is your answer to my second question?

Diane

Re: - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/29 21:20

Quote:
----- Does one's words gain more "authority" by being backed by a position called a "prophet"? Can't truly prophetic words simply speak for themselves?

Quote:
----- Sorry, I did not word my first question well.
I should have said, "Does one's words hold more "authority" by him stating his(or her) position as a prophet? ie:"Since I'm a prophet, you must trust my word to you."

Yes but only to some extent. Paul begins most of his epistles by stating plainly that he is an Apostle, because that to some extent that plain testimony is required. Are we just to take Paul's word for it or try the messages he delivers and see his life? The initial testimony of Paul, even before he begins the epistle signal what capacity which he is writing in, and how seriously to take his words. He states plainly that he is a God appointed authority and then the Lord approves His words by His own Spirit. would it not have been more humble for brother Paul not to say that he was an apostle, but to simply say, "hey guys, I believe with all earnest that I have revelation from God for you, and after you read it I hope you will also be convinced". Even if the people did believe the word as being from God, there would be some confusion as to how, where he gets of telling an entire church what to do, and they may justly dismiss him as overstepping the mark. An apostle is an apostle, a prophet is a prophet, and a pastor is a pastor.

I believe there should be clarity in the church dealings as to what capacity one speaks. Does this offend us? Would we have been offended (2000 years ago) by reading the writings of Paul, who has the audacity and arrogance to call himself an apostle? "Where was I when he was called", we may have asked ourselves. Why can't Paul just be humble and write to us as a brother, if he really is an apostle it will be manifest by his conduct and works. Though at first glance this seems sound, the underlying root of such a statement is pride or jealousy.

And what of Jesus. Should he have been more humble and not stated the, "I AMs". Was it really necessary for him to say all that, surely His works clearly showed and manifest what He was talking about, and that he was the fulfillment of prophecy. The Jew though He was arrogant, but in fact he was not acting or speaking of His own accord, that takes true humility, not arrogance.

The difficulty is that there are many false prophets and many who are deluded and many liars. How should we deal with this situation? We should try the spirits, before we dismiss them. In the midst of a myriad of lies there is some truth. Let us not forget to look out for it, whilst we are in our "dismiss him mode".

Quote:
-----Are all of us here to be deprived of any inspired prophetic words from God through others because we are not configured "right"? From what I have seen so far in my short time on the forum, that has not been the case.

True fellowship implies, mutual respect and trust. Not that everything my brother does is right, but I trust his intent. Sometimes he falls short of the mark and sometimes he stumbles and sometime he requires admonishing, but in all this, I trust him and respect him. If you are in a position where you are unable to develop a good report and to show yourself to be trust-worthy then fellowship will be very difficult for you. It is difficult to fellowship when you know that people do not trust

you. This is not a vain imaging stemming from pride and self-centeredness, but people have stated plainly, that they do not believe my testimony. That is not a problem, or an offence, but I receive it as truth. If the Lord had purposed for me to be approved here then I would have been approved, but as it so happens he has decided to let me move on. I do not speak for every prophet, but this is what I believe he is telling me. Have I answered your question? When there is a contention it does not mean that the work of the Lord stops, but even when Barnabas and Paul split they continued with the Lord's work:

Acts 15:36-41 36 And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do. And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work. And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus; And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God. And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

James

Re: do we need prophets? - posted by roadsign (), on: 2005/5/30 6:59

Quote:

-----True fellowship implies, mutual respect and trust.

Since this thread is trying to come to grips with the prophetic role - I'm not sure how these words apply. From what I see in Scripture, the prophetic calling was accompanied by lots of loneliness and lack of mutual respect and trust. I think of Isaiah whose "success" was doomed before it started. In the Bible the prophet was sent by God to enter the stage of a society that had strayed away from him. From what I understand, the prophet was to administer a timely word from God, and above all, to intercede on behalf of obstinate, immature people for God's mercy. It seems that prophets were also called to keep people from being tossed about by every wind of doctrine.

From this perception, I wonder if the prophet is needed where the people listening to the Spirit for themselves, reading his Word, surrendering themselves to Christ, taking personal responsibility for their faith, and fellowshiping together in mutual trust and respect.

I wonder if those who sense prophetic callings are also being called to churches or forums, or gov't institutions, or families, work place, etc where the people have drifted from God, and maybe into some very stray doctrines. That doesn't sound very pleasant to me, and hardly a platform for mutual agreement. Yet, I'm sure that God can inspire his messengers to give words that would subtly prick the consciences of the people (without any big announcement like "thus saith the Lord, I am a prophet."

I sense that you feel called to go elsewhere because you sense some disagreement and lack of trust. I'm not sure if there is anywhere where one can evade that, but I'm sure that God will lead you where he desires you to be, and he will continue to transform you into the image of Christ. (Rom. 12:1,2)

God bless.

Diane

Re: Open heart letter to the prophets - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/30 14:07

Hope you can bear through all this. It will be a bit exhaustive and have re-written this countless times as it has remained unresolved over the last days. It will be a bit disjointed as it has to be kind of pasted together, hopefully the consideration at the end will bring about the truest hope of expression, but some bearing of difficulty at the first.

Gravity of statements

Have attempted, this numerous times and shelved each and everyone of them. That it still has this much carry over, over the last few days, much thought and still all these remaining questions.

Right off the bat, I do not find either Jimm or IRONMAN to be insincere and have and will continue to pray the same vari

ance of prayer, that the Lord might open all our eyes to His truth in all things. Want to stick to the issues and depart from any assumed personal motivations, not the intent and never was in the first place, though it did bring out some strong words and they will continue hope it can be taken in the intent to the seriousness that I feel is at issue here.

This whole thing has now a lot of history behind it

(https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?viewmodeflat&order0&topic_id5425&forum35&post_id&refreshGo) Prophetic Credentials..... and the sense of carry over to what got stated here is hard to miss. As it was likewise often there, a lot of defending came about in this whole regards of 'prophets' and 'prophecies' and to what their particular ways of discerning them might or ought to be. Nothing particularly wrong about a defense, but what seemed to never get a clear understanding was a *definition* of these things. There is a blurring of the prophetic 'style' if I may, from the Old Covenant to the New, it may just be me, but wonder still if there wasn't a difference, seems to be as far as what the giftings and what little reference we have in the New Testament is concerned. Regardless, don't recall that there really was a proper defining but more of a jostling between those who questioned and those who defended.

All that to just preface this that follows. The timing of this was interesting following on the heels of the previous thread. Would be lying if I said I didn't think I couldn't see this coming, but why? That is not a slight, but just a consideration that the sense of wanting to justify seemed strong.

That we have many making such pronouncements in our time and have led off a lot of believers into all kinds of terrible things is apparent enough and think it is even more so because no one wants to confront it head on. Not that we were not told this would happen, but are we to there by sit back on our heels and be silent about it?

With that want to clarify something as well. The jump to "False" prophet is not necessarily the word I would be looking for in this. In an ultimate sense the opposite is always false from true, but am thinking along the lines of what many of us have heard time and again (see

(https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?viewmodeflat&order0&topic_id5706&forum35&post_id&refreshGo) Wolves in Sheeps Clothing - False Teachers for reference). This is not an issue of sincerity but *gravity*, seriousness in just what can come far too easily to one's lips.

Those words

Four words with an incredible amount of weight bearing on them, how is it they come so easily? We could say that we don't know what the 'prophet' went through to bring the message and so forth but here is where it all departs.

Why didn't that come through?

Is there any *full* realization just what the **Wrath of God** in fact is? But back of that, by what means are we to ascertain those four words in the first place? Because someone said so, is that enough, is there no 'test'? Despite what was communicated from 'God' that we aren't now supposed to do just that, despite what He has already stated, does the Lord God now contradict Himself?

This is where the stop sign needs to go despite the sentiments elsewhere whether to be careful or not with these things, that they happen here is another issue that also needs to be addressed.

Want to key on a number of questions raised by this.

For one, why the tag-team matching between the two main subjects here? Can't Fari answer for himself since he brought it forth in the first place? It is a question brothers, nothing more.

Just as well, this seems to be a digging deeper and deeper into a hole that can't be climbed out of by this constant defending of the prophet.

The want to 'clear' oneself.

This is the suspicion going back to the other thread and perhaps what made this questionable here from the get go. That the whole thing had the ring of a 'rebuttal' to all that came before is just as suspicious, note, not malicious. What I am attempting to drive at is hard look at this and to borrow Jimm's advice, it may well be worth it to re-read all this again, including the other thread with this in mind and as stated, *slowly*. The possibility that this may cause the dander to rise again is

not the effort, but cannot mince words here.

What may be the most puzzling in this defending is to miss the very nature of what was said afterwards. Where pray tell is the seriousness of those words, all of them? the **WRATH** of God. Do any of us fully grasp this? Have we not read of the terror of the Lord, The Day of the Lord? If this was taken as seriously as it was stated, where is the incredible outrage that few are taking this seriously? More so, why is the 'prophet' himself not doing so? Where are the warnings and follow ups to that effect? I don't believe the 'prophet' here even truly believes the words he stated. IF you were to believe this as stated, why is there this lack of weight behind it and why the quickly moving to repentance as being the support instead of the remedy and no discussion whatsoever of the gravity of *those words* that came beforehand?

Isa 2:19 And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

Jer 5:22 Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

Isa 13:9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

Amo 1:1 The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

Amo 1:2 And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.

Amo 1:3 **Thus saith the LORD**; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:

Amo 1:4 But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Benhadad.

Amo 1:5 I will break also the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from the plain of Aven, and him that holdeth the sceptre from the house of Eden: and the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the LORD.

Amo 1:6 **Thus saith the LORD**; For three transgressions of Gaza, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they carried away captive the whole captivity, to deliver them up to Edom:

Amo 1:7 But I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza, which shall devour the palaces thereof:

Amo 1:8 And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and him that holdeth the sceptre from Ashkelon, and I will turn mine hand against Ekron: and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, **saith the Lord GOD**.

Amo 1:9 **Thus saith the LORD**; For three transgressions of Tyrus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant:

Amo 1:10 But I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus, which shall devour the palaces thereof.

Amo 1:11 **Thus saith the LORD**; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:

Amo 1:12 But I will send a fire upon Teman, which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah.

Amo 1:13 **Thus saith the LORD**; For three transgressions of the children of Ammon, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border:

Amo 1:14 But I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah, and it shall devour the palaces thereof, with shouting in the day of battle, with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind:

Amo 1:15 And their king shall go into captivity, he and his princes together, saith the LORD.

Why the quick hand wave of concern from the brethren? The elders in this walk, the tough questions they asked?

Hang on, there is a bit more still

Re: Open heart letter to the prophets - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/5/30 14:18

Something exacting from a prophet is missing. As much as the assumption might be that this is all so easily dismissed.... In this short time of walking, comparatively, have heard nothing from the ones making bold pronouncements like this that has any true significance in reality. That they can be made in a vague sort of way is always telling, because for one they have a built in delay mechanism. This is also the same sort of thing that the prosperity and other fringe groups have tendencies in. Before the leap to accusations, please hear this in the sense of in general.

On the other hand the ones that have any true words of 'prophecy' and that word has come to mean different definitions and maybe in this is my sense of it's intention in this day, now that Christ is risen. That it is, *after the fact*. That someone who is prophetic is one practically without his or her awareness, that has no concern for him or herself, but is abandoned to God wholeheartedly at the core of their being. That if this 'title' must be used, it is generally applied by others, as they recognize it. Their seems to be a sharp distinction between one and the other. In other words if you must keep having to prove and defend, explain and clarify, clear ones self and bemoan the 'abuse' they are getting in their eyes, something is truly and seriously amiss.

All that may be hard to stomach, but to make such strong announcement, pronouncement without any serious consideration that brings accounting to and from the one speaking, let alone the hearers, cannot be left to brush away as no big deal, not when others are supposed to be taking words attributed to the God of the universe who's Holiness is impossible to look at, who is the Judge of all the earth, who is one we ought to tremble before if His wrath is about to be poured out. Why are you not on your face pleading for mercy and pleading with us all to do the same?

Beating this into the ground in repetition for a reason. That the ones who feel they have been called to this re-think the whole thing soberly, deeply and honestly. And for the hearers, all us sheep, to be aware and cautious, it is prudent that we do so and scripture has told us time and again to test, to be on guard, to watch.

That these brethren here are not insincere is worth consideration and none of this is a personal attack on them or their character. We must judge with righteous judgment, not from opinion or speculation but by the very scriptures themselves, this is the final court of approval and why the adamancy of holding to Gods word in it's fullness in all areas of this walk. Just a glance out into the landscape of Christianity in our day and even it's past history shows time and again what can happen by mis-appropriating Gods word, the Crusades, Popery, Cult's, Jim Jones and David Koresh, the Benny Hinn's and the vast array of TV frauds hacking their wares, making promises by twisting scripture, false prophecies, false doctrine, name it, claim it, happiness, prosperity, wisdom...

Is this all over the top? Too much, too extreme? If this had been a "*I believe the Lord is telling me...*" "My sense is and feel the Lord is impressing on me...." This whole thing would have taken a different light. And if it was accompanied with a pleading and deep concern for these promptings, an anguish over such a terrible, horrific outpouring upon the earth of such magnitude... Those of us who would believe such a word with all their heart would cease everything and bemoan what is about to come to the earth, surely there would be some true repentance then.

But this all comes to easily, it lacks any authority whatsoever, it is backed up with defense after defense and explanation and far too much concern for the 'prophet' and next to nothing to the message in it's weightiness. It is one thing to discuss the things we think the Lord is telling us and to share those with one another and be good Bereans, comparing it all with scripture, remember it is a noble thing to do! But we can be our own worse enemies in these things, carried away with imaginations even in our sincerity, have a bit of experience in these things.

So the reason for all this is manifold. It is to throw up a challenge to consider, to nip this in the bud before the seriousness is lost or pushed to the back burner.

The reason for bringing up past statements was to provoke another consideration. If it was all to be re-read while keeping a couple of words in mind, the thrust would be "Danger", "Caution", "Carefulness". That was the intent throughout, is it scriptural? Can these things be proven and tested in light of that? The whole issue with Angels was not in worship, but to bring up the one making these comments to see his own words and consider again just what was said and just how dangerous all this is. One of those brought forth was about the dangers of teachers and how they ought to be careful, this by the same one who would now have us believe he is speaking in Gods stead. There is too much contradiction and too many questions that have not seriously been taken to heart by those who have gone on in this walk and know a thing or two, it is almost always quickly brushed aside, given a nod and then back on to the track of more and more explanation.

The whole reason for bringing up Mr. Strom was to show that even a man who has preached such a strong and even scr

iptural message of repentance, whose theology for the most part would be difficult to question, we even had a couple of live events here in the past with him can get caught up in these things. Just in recent months he has distanced himself from the prophetic movement as it is construed. More on this here

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?viewmode=flat&order=0&topic_id=3596&forum=35&post_id=&refresh=Go

Andrew Strom Renounces the Prophetic Movement & the Recent Whitedove Conference in Kansas City ...

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?viewmode=flat&order=0&topic_id=3659&forum=35&post_id=&refresh=Go

Leaving the Prophetic Movement Pt.2 (A. Strom)

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=3671&forum=35#24456

Report of Open Heaven Conference in Kansas City (Including Response to Stroms Article)

A further search on him will bring up many past discussions to get a fuller picture , not only of him but this entire movement. Again, am not trying to fit this into that mold per se, but for the good of the people peering into this site, for the brethren and for the sakes of those bringing forth such a profound statement, please consider the ramifications, the weight and responsibility, the possibility that you may not have an understanding of what you are hearing and speaking. We can be deceived and it ought not cause us to be ashamed when we are confronted with that.

One of the best things that ever happened here was to be rebuked early on by Greg our webmaster, even somewhat indirectly. Had been postulating about something on higher Christian learning that I had no business talking about, was careless in my words and just opinionating. But it caused an apology, a bit of embarrassment and yet also a freeing sense of realization not only that there was much to learn and consider, but the wonderful fact that someone cared enough to confront, that we were not in the midst of a shallow group of believers, it made this sentiment of this verse come to life:

Pro 9:8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

Do not want to leave this without emphasizing something very key here as well. All of this being said, the dangers, the cautions, the considerations. That we ought to be a repentant people, quick to recognize it and admit it, deal with it, in our hearts to the Lord and to those that get caught in it's wake. Quick to forgive and to accept the Lords forgiveness, which can often be the hardest of all because it seems we can go off in the wrong directions with it, either making it cheap or pinning away at ourselves instead of dying to ourselves and accepting the Lords dealing with us.

I fear only that there is a preoccupation with this whole prophetic realm that is unhealthy to some and is dangerous because of that. That it is such a misunderstood area of gifting seems apparent enough and have no true grasp on the whole thing. If this is mere opinion, it is held loosely and if it is genuine, time will tell all things. My hope is only that the truth be exposed and expressed in this walk, it is the mighty wrestling that many of us come here seeking, sharing and teaching one another. That there is such souls after such is to be applauded and welcomed, it is building up the saints in such a profound way. There is much to be considered from each other and by no means is this to be construed in a throwing the baby out with the bathwater. None of this meant to be a slight on anyone personally and if it has breached into that area, I ask for your forgiveness, I know my own tendencies because of the harm I have seen in watching others get carried away in so much unnecessary things, it is very grievous to the spirit and the emotions can come into play.

Sorry for the length of this, it has been difficult to express at this juncture of life, much heaviness of heart in particular circumstances personally, have attempted to try and deal with this as it stands, as to what has been said and what led up to it all, my own perception thereby may be skewed.

But do want to leave with something that does reflect out of this realm. Right now there is a member here, from a far away

ay land, that has some uncanny discernment that can only be attributed to the Lord's leading in what is being shared and it is in private, (something else that might be a consideration for us all). But what is striking goes back to an earlier mention of '*after the fact*'. I believe the Lord speaks through us to each other in ways that could be construed as 'prophetic' but the necessity of couching it in those terms may be unnecessary and where this whole thing can get us off track. That some things have been said so exacting and bluntly in this private way is frankly impossible nor could it be stitched together from past correspondence. Some of them have just taken the wind out of me and launched me unto my face in sheer wonder, often times terror of the reality of it all, other times in praise and adoration that the Lord is more real than I could have ever imagined. But these are not in bombastic statements, 'miracles' of the sort that would get the 'headlines' as it were but in the seemingly 'small' things, that are really the most profound of all. The drawing of a loved one to the Lord and the possibilities that prayer had been a culprit in the mix of it all. Something being stated so exacting to my present situation that I have absolutely no words to describe it or to ascribe it to other than, "My God, there is no way this could be known, lest it be revealed from above" and for all intents and purposes it is but a 'little' thing... Will let it peek out a little bit here.

It is just a bit odd that an illustration I was discussing yesterday with a dear elderly lady who loves the Lord, came out of a Buddhist background and is still working through the implanted thoughts of her upbringing, was brought up again just this morning. It was of the 'injustices' of the sons of Jacob in their dealings with Joseph. This dear lady's son has many difficulties and some striking parallels to my own present situation. He also loves the Lord and is carrying much of the burden in his home life with a job that bears a lot of responsibility, his wife suffers from a condition I believe that reference it as extreme fatigue syndrome, something to that effect. It requires that he must do practically everything, including taking care of his children, shopping, cooking, all the daily exercises as his wife is mostly bedridden. That this carries with it some suspicion as to whether there is psychological factors involved or not, part of the difficulty. My own having some similarities albeit different, with other factors the cause or problem, an addiction, financial extremities, much fatigue and anguish of soul, constant prayer and just work, work, work, I have little choice but to do so and then to come home and work some more...very much along the same lines as her son.

To hear someone speak directly to the condition, use the same illustration and then state exactly what is already happening in such an exacting way... This isn't speculation or something thought out, it just comes out bluntly and isn't even really a confirmation, it would be more akin to this person living in my own house. This isn't a "Word of knowledge" or This is what the Lord is telling me to tell you". With some hesitation... This is what floored me this morning:

"...your faith is being tested-Like gold you are being refined from every angle, there's no rest for you! "

A different set of four words, those last four, wish I felt more inclined to bring forth the remainder, but it just goes on and the same saint keeps pegging the situation in exacting detail without effort. The conversations are infrequent at best... prophetic? It matters not what it is called, it is 'creepy', terrifying, wonderful, makes the hair on my arms stand up and tears come to eyes, that the Lord truly is in the midst of all this. It is an awe experiencing thing to me for just the slightest nod in my direction, when it's real, when it's authentic. I have a hard time understanding these things, I am not trying to be overly humble, but it just washes over me in complete... amazement, feel so unworthy of any of it.

Must stop now, have no idea what may be gleaned from all of this. I love you IRONMAN, Jimm, Rahman, I do not think you guys are wacky, we all are! We are a peculiar people, the willingness to be made fools in the world's eyes, the *foolishness* of God! This is the best I could do by long way of explanation, someday perhaps, will be able to get this down to a less quantitative amount of words.

That the Lord may heal and open our understanding in all things my brethren.

Re: prophets - posted by moreofHim (), on: 2005/5/30 15:16

Quote:
-----That someone who is prophetic is one practically without his or her awareness, that has no concern for him or herself, but is abandoned to God wholeheartedly at the core of their being. That if this 'title' must be used, it is generally applied by others, as they recognize it.

Yes, I have also come to this conclusion as well. I think I stated something similar under "prophetic credentials".

Something that came to me this weekend was this fact:

I thought of all the past great saints, the wonderful spirit-filled writers such as Andrew Murray, O. Chambers, John Bunyan, even men like Martin Luther, Francis of Assisi, etc... people who have made a tremendous impact on Christianity. Some who heard from God, whether by dreams or whatever.

But the fact is (at least as far as I know) they never acknowledged themselves as prophets. They didn't have the audacity to call themselves that. They simply considered themselves His servants.

Why is it that just in the last few years (I am not sure how long the prophetic movement has been around) have we heard about people "being" prophets, learning how to be one, learning how to fill that role, etc..?

I think of the last 1000 yrs or so and the Lord has done pretty well with just "servants"- yet they were his prophets. They were a prophetic voice.

Coming from a bit of a background among the prophetic movement (thought I left it as early as I entered :) my focus has been on Christ alone. trying to become more of Him and less of me- not the prophetic and that office, not the things that go along with being a prophet.

No matter what we are called to "be" or that which the Lord will have us do, what kind of voice we will have- we are called to live a life totally surrendered and abandoned to Him. That should be our main concern. The rest will fall into place.

Just my continuing thoughts... :)

In Him, Chanin

Re: - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/5/30 18:39

Hey guys

You know you guys, we probably agree on more subjects than we disagree. The forum is good and has many advantages, but one definite disadvantage is that it is difficult to give a complete picture of a person in writing. The context of one's life and personality is not available for you to see the message objectively. Every time something is said, it is taken as if that is the person's mission statement, as in, "this is all I stand for and represent." Let me say again that anything I say in writing from this point is likely to be missed, and likewise I am probably missing what you are saying. It is like we are talking past each other, I think you are a certain way and you think I am a certain way. The truth is we do not know each other well enough to say anything objective. As for discussing what is prophetic...there is too much self interest on either side, for us to discuss this without making it personal. You may in earnest make a general statement about false prophets and I may think you're referring to me and I may make a general statement about some misconceptions and you may take it personally. Ultimately no one is edified by these discussions.

One thing I have learned is this. Even if we define accurately what is a prophet or an evangelist or a teacher or whatever, this doesn't save souls. In fact, it is useless. What God is looking for is an expression of a church not of individuals. (And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. 1 Corinthians 12:28). The key to that verse is "God hath set". We cannot by identifying and defining roles set anyone in God's church. As Brother Ron said in one thread when he was looking at the Greek word for "gathered" (Matthew 18:20 For where two or three are **gathered** together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.) is that the word implies that it is the Lord that does the "gathering". A church gathered by the Lord will automatically fall into and identify the roles that we ought to play, but when man does the gathering and defining, the results are mediocre. Of all the great saints who have risen up, and I respect them all... we are yet to see a true manifestation of the church. Yes we have had many wonderful individual saints, and even now we have them, and we will continue to have them until the end, but as for a church expression, we would be hard pressed to find a truly scriptural one in history.

Individual servitude unto the Lord is great and commendable, but communal and corporate expressions are miraculous and glorious. We need to get of the, "forget everyone else, I'm with God" mentality, and earnestly contend for the glory which has been given to us collectively (And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: John 17:22). It is a glory that can only be manifest corporately, and for this purpose the Lord has not

on sanctified and justified us, but he has also given us roles in the church. The church role is not antagonistic to sanctification and justification, but it is complementary. It is not good to hold one and let the other go as in, "I am a prophet, that's all that matters", "or I am living a holy life, that's all that matters". Without holiness no one can see the Lord, but also there is a work to be done dear saints. Whether we refuse to name and identify an evangelist as a evangelist, because it is audacious does not change the fact that we need evangelists in the church. We should not just gloss everything over, into one ultimate Christian who does everything under the sun, but an effective servant is one who knows what his job is, so as to say, "oh in a way we are all prophets or evangelists or teachers..." "Actually we are not. You do not have to be a prophet to have abundant revelation from the Lord and to work for him diligently, neither does it imply that because you are a prophet you are an ultimate saint in need of nothing. The new testament saint is different to the old testament one because that their relationship with each other and with God was different.

Fellowship is a new dynamic that does not weaken our position but rather strengthens it. If we are unable to fellowship then we miss an important component of what the Lord prayed so earnestly for, "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are... That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. (John 17:11;21-23)"

The Old Testament prophet cannot relate to this in any way, but now, we must all meditate on this and pray for it and believe on it. There is none in the church of God who is beyond fellowship, but unfortunately, true fellowship is scarcely available and hard to come by. The role of a prophet (and indeed everyone) is first of all be in fellowship with the saints. The Lord may give a message to the church to the prophets, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." It is then that Paul and Barnabas begin to resemble the Old Testament prophet, but the typical prophet may not be called into such a "special" service. A church that is organic, moving, earnest and committed is more than enough work for a prophet. Look at the Church from which Paul and Barnabas came and what they were doing, "Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain **prophets and teachers**; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. **As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted**

This was not a "prophetic movement" or a "theology seminar", teachers and prophets not only were gathered together, but they ministered to the Lord **together**. This is the normal church life, not individual saints doing research and analysis, then acting based on their own conclusions and ambitions, but it is saints in a relationship of mutual edification. This is when the Lord is manifest more greatly, and when he is most satisfied. Another Paul or Moody or Wesley would be wonderful, but another Antioch would be infinitely better than any individual and any level of Holiness attained individually. It is for this reason that I believe that our roles should be identified and named, not for glory's sake, but for the sake of order and edifying fellowship and effective service in the Spirit. A vague idea of what is required of me, will produce a vague service, a vague knowledge of what the work of the fellow saints is will produce a narrow mindedness and failure to recognize the importance and significance of the other roles. Ultimately no one role will be sufficient to produce earth shaking results. The world is not an individual, it is a collective and it takes a collective to combat it effectively. We must all awaken not only to the Lord but to rightly discerning the body of Christ.

James

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/6/6 6:41

Quote:
-----It is for this reason that I believe that our roles should be identified and named, not for glory's sake, but for the sake of order and edifying fellowship and effective service in the Spirit. A vague idea of what is required of me, will produce a vague service, a vague knowledge of what the work of the fellow saints is will produce a narrow mindedness and failure to recognize the importance and significance of the other roles.

This, of course, begs the questions "who is to do the identifying and what kind of 'order' do you have in mind?" You refer to the difference between the Old and New Testaments but are there any self-proclaimed prophets in the New Testament?

Re: The anointing - posted by Jimm (), on: 2005/6/7 1:43

Ron

Quote:
----- You refer to the difference between the Old and New Testaments but are there any self-proclaimed prophets in the New Testament?

I told one pastor that I was going back to Africa for the Lord's ministry and he said to me, "Ministry? Where was I when you were called! :lol:"

The man was joking of course but there is an element of that in the statement "self-proclaimed prophet". It is the Lord who does the "proclaiming" (if you will) of the saints into whatever their ministry or calling is. How is it that there is an assumption that the prophet is self-proclaimed? Yes there are false prophets but let us examine why we believe some of them to be self-proclaimed. Is it because we were not present when the Lord called them or because we simply do not believe that the anointing is manifest anymore- both precepts are wrong. (I speak of "the prophet" and "us" so as to remove the element of finger-pointing).

Quote:
----- This, of course, begs the questions "who is to do the identifying and what kind of 'order' do you have in mind?"

I said before in my last post

Quote:
----- The key to that verse is "God hath set". We cannot by identifying and defining roles set anyone in God's church. As Brother Ron said in one thread when he was looking at the Greek word for "gathered" (Mathew 18:20 For where two or three are **gathered** together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.) is that the word implies that it is the Lord that does the "gathering". A church gathered by the Lord will automatically fall into and identify the roles that we ought to play, but when man does the gathering and defining, the results are mediocre.

I have absolutely nothing in mind as far as order, except for what is expressed explicitly in scriptures, but as far as structure, I have no "bright ideas". I believe that if we are in the quality of fellowship where we really know each other, and I love each other many questions concerning structure will melt away, but where there is carnality this simply does not make any sense at all. I believe that it may or may not be the first thing you realize after that you have received the Holy Ghost, but as you continue to minister to the Lord and with other saints it will be revealed not only to you but to the church. You ask me how the church is to identify these things, and I believe that the Spirit will lead us if we are in that kind of quality of relationship with him collectively. The church does not consist of "meetings" but of fellowship, of worship and praising God and of praying in the Holy Ghost. Not because it is the appointed time to worship, praise and fellowship, but because we have the same unction abiding in us and because we are one even as God is one.

But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also. Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father. And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life. These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you. But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. 1 John 2:20-27

And so we know and identify because the Lord is amongst us by His Spirit, teaching us all things. I have learned from you also Brother Ron, to note whether the verse says "you" or "ye". The promise is to "ye", that is, to us collectively. There are levels of individual fellowship with the Lord, and there are levels of corporate fellowship with the Lord. Just as when you sow sparingly alone, (reading the Bible very little, praying very little etc) you do not see victory, so it is corporately. I believe we are yet to reach levels of corporate fellowship where the anointing is fully manifest because we sow sp

aringly, if not individually then certainly corporately. We as a church are not as close as we should be and as a result we have lost the most important component of what the Bride should be.

James

Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2005/6/7 9:26

I thought of this passage as I heard a sermon on this just last Sunday. Forgive me if you have already discussed it.

And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread. And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually. Let us make a little chamber, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither. (II Kings 4:8-10)

Here we find that Elisha had passed by this wealthy woman's house continually and yet never told the woman that he was a Prophet. She 'perceived' that he was a holy man of God. It is interesting here how Elisha was coming into her house to eat dinner and did not 'show his card' at the door as though he would use his status as a prophet to get in the door. She welcomed him in and he came in and ate and that was that. In time she 'perceived' that he was a 'holy man of God.' She did not need to be told. Nor does it seem that he spoke a certain 'talk' that would have tipped her off that he even be a man of God. Funny how so many times we try to introduce ourselves with our vocabulary.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/6/7 13:01

Jimm

Quote:
-----As for me, after much prayer I have been lead to believe that I have come to the end of this phase of fellowship with you here. I have learnt much from you all, and have been greatly blessed by my encounter with the saints from all different walks of life. I have seen new perspective and realigned my perception even in sorrows and what I perceived to be offense (maybe wrongly) I have also grown. I must now pursue my own vision that He has given me, as I return to Africa in one month.

Brother it is quite sad how there has to be such controvesy upon your leaving to seek the will of God in africa for yourself . I have been blessed by your posts especially when you have opened up and dealt with the word of God simply. I do have a heart to pray for you that you would keep to the scriptures and the sure word of testimony. I am not in saying this quencing the spirit but rather wanting you to keep to the foundation and root and therefore be led astray by no means. I love you brother and definetly want the best for you, please stay in touch with me via email if you can to update me on your ministring in Africa and how me and the body here can pray for you. If you have a chance give me a call before you go I would love to talk and pray with you. Bless you.

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/6/7 16:47

Quote:
-----How it that there is an assumption that the prophet is self-proclaimed?

a self-proclaimed prophet is simply one who says 'I am a prophet'. Tozer was often described as a '20th Century prophet' but as far as I know he never described himself as such. He may have been a 'prophet' but he was certainly not a 'self-proclaimed prophet'.

Re: A call to Repentance - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/6/7 18:26

Brother James ...

i sure do understand your tenacity and admire your determination but your situation on this thread has come to remind me of this old American Southern Negro Uncle Remus fable called "Brer Rabbit and the Tar Baby" ...

i see you as Brer Rabbit, and the "Tar Baby" as this thread and/or the very title of prophet itself, then i began to wonder just who could Brer Fox be who's set out to "trap" you? ... Have any idea? ... Have you taken notice that the more you slap this subject of "Prophetic Credentials" the more stuck you seem to become? ...

Brer Rabbit and the Tar Baby

Retold by Catharine Farrell from a story retold by Joel Chandler Harris

One day Brer Fox thought of how Brer Rabbit had been cutting up his capers and bouncing around. Brer Fox thought of a way to lay some bait for that uppity Brer Rabbit.

He went to work and got some tar and mixed it with some turpentine. He fixed up a contraption that he called a Tar-Baby. When he finished making her, he put a straw hat on her head and sat the little thing in the middle of the road. Brer Fox, he lay off in the bushes to see what would happen.

Well, he didn't have to wait long either, 'cause by and by Brer Rabbit came pacing down the road--lippity-clippity, clippity-lippity--just as sassy as a jaybird. Brer Fox, he lay low. Brer Rabbit came prancing along until he saw the Tar-Baby and then he sat back on his hind legs like he was astonished. The Tar-Baby just sat there, she did, and Brer Fox, he lay low.

"Good morning!" says Brer Rabbit, says he. "Nice weather we're having this morning," says he.

Tar-Baby didn't say a word, and Brer Fox, he lay low.

"How are you feeling this morning?" says Brer Rabbit, says he.

Brer Fox, he winked his eye real slow and lay low and the Tar-Baby didn't say a thing.

"What is the matter with you then? Are you deaf?" says Brer Rabbit, says he. "Cause if you are, I can holler louder," says he.

The Tar-Baby stayed still and Brer Fox, he lay low.

"You're stuck-up, that's what's wrong with you. You think you're too good to talk to me," says Brer Rabbit, says he. "And I'm going to cure you, that's what I'm going to do," says he.

Brer Fox started to chuckle in his stomach, he did, but Tar-Baby didn't say a word.

"I'm going to teach you how to talk to respectable folks if it's my last act," says Brer Rabbit, says he. "If you don't take off that hat and say howdy, I'm going to bust you wide open," says he.

Tar-Baby stayed still and Brer Fox, he lay low.

Brer Rabbit kept on asking her why she wouldn't talk and the Tar-Baby kept on saying nothing until Brer Rabbit finally drew back his fist, he did, and blip--he hit the Tar-Baby on the jaw. But his fist stuck and he couldn't pull it loose. The tar held him. But Tar-Baby, she stayed still, and Brer Fox, he lay low.

"If you don't let me loose, I'm going to hit you again," says Brer Rabbit, says he, and with that he drew back his other fist and blap--he hit the Tar-Baby with the other hand and that one stuck fast too.

Tar-Baby she stayed still, and Brer Fox, he lay low.

"Turn me loose, before I kick the natural stuffing out of you," says Brer Rabbit, says he, but the Tar-Baby just s at there.

She just held on and then Brer Rabbit jumped her with both his feet. Brer Fox, he lay low. Then Brer Rabbit yelle d out that if that Tar-Baby didn't turn him loose, he was going to butt her crank-sided. Then he butted her and hi s head got stuck.

Brer Fox walked out from behind the bushes and strolled over to Brer Rabbit, looking as innocent as a mocking bird.

"Howdy, Brer Rabbit," says Brer Fox, says he. "You look sort of stuck up this morning," says he. And he rolled on the ground and laughed and laughed until he couldn't laugh anymore.

By and by he said, "Well, I expect I got you this time, Brer Rabbit," says he. "Maybe I don't, but I expect I do. Yo u've been around here sassing after me a mighty long time, but now it's the end.

And then you're always getting into something that's none of your business," says Brer Fox, says he. "Who ask ed you to come and strike up a conversation with this Tar-Baby? And who stuck you up the way you are? Nobo dy in the round world. You just jammed yourself into that Tar-Baby without waiting for an invitation," says Brer Fox, says he. "There you are and there you'll stay until I fix up a brushpile and fire it up, "cause I'm going to bar becue you today, for sure," says Brer Fox, says he.

To analogize Brother James our slapping the Tar Baby because it wouldn't acknowledge us is an operation out of "self" and as with the fable can only serve as the tool of the enemy to get us "stuck" even worse the more we persist in being acknowledged ... Become still, and above all else quiet, and allow Holy Spirit to extricate you from this trap ... Amen ... A pparently some of us who believe ourselves called of God as prophet have unwittingly stated such (tho now we'll certainl y know better in future) which enables those who hold us suspect to tag us as "self proclaimed", therefore none of us on this thread, or SI site, can EVER have any Prophetic Credentials and/or credibility in their sight because according to the m if we were truly what we say they'd have recognized it and told us such instead of vice-versa ... Well that certainly is n ot the way that it's all gone down, so why keep beating a dead horse brother James? ... Why keep taking the "bait" to fur ther exposition of your point of view when it's already clearly been juried "guilty" and judged/sentenced to "death"? ... Wh y continue to kick against the pricks as it's surely not bringing any glory to God, and is further saddening your demeanor ? ... Sounds like a good time to keep in mind for both present and future all of the hard lessons learned from this thread and as you've insinuated to now shake the dust off your sandals from this place and go on in JOY toward the work God has told you to do in Africa ...

On this particular subject i've heard our Lord say (for me) to stop all the discussing, defining and defending and to "Just be", and if you've noticed i have backed far away from Brer Fox's "Tar Baby" ... I've also said as much to brother Ironma n, and hope that as our Lord leads you too can come to this same "conclusion" ...

I'M PRAYING BRO FOR YOU TO NOT SLAP THIS TAR BABY AGAIN ... In Jesus name ... Amen

Is this necessary - posted by crsschk (), on: 2005/6/10 10:36

Brother...

What pray tell brought out this... would you be the fox here in this illustration as much as it is to be tried to be put upon the concerns of some of the brethren because of the dangers they perceive in this whole area?

This all has the workings of a slight upon us and even a more dividing, just one last dig... very grievous man. How much that was expressed here from the heart out of concern that went unanswered, shoved to the side so that the force of the 'prophet' could be acknowledged when so little of it has any reference to the Lord Himself but to just a constant self defending of this particular 'role' and it's function, something that is still wanting some true clarification on. Still the force of the argument is that we are to accept without question that "I am because the Lord told me so" and to question that is to turn the tables upside down and dismiss all the serious concerns for the brethren. I just do not get it.

Look out into this whole area of 'ministry' as it is touted, find very little that is of any ministry whatsoever. It is racked with confusion, not seriously considered as to ramifications, largely a shooting from the hip and the lip, the amount of self deception and sheer amount of 'prophets' in our day projecting everything from the Day of the Lords Wrath, to China invading America by September (and what do we do if that doesn't come to pass, shrug it off as no big deal?) These types of things have been going on for years and years and to question it as a danger and a misleading brings about this kind of response. You know it would be one thing and expected if the challenges and denying was coming from those outside, the backslid den, the very natural response of a prophetic challenge to a conscience that is being pricked and goaded and the reactionary knee jerk response... But for crying out loud these are your own **Brethren** here. If this is not about protecting the sheep from being caught up in imaginations because we care for your souls and those that come here and glean from these things...

What might the suggestion be, that we open the flood gates to everyone who has a "Thus Sayeth the Lord" without question, without.... evidence?

Had begged off this as well due to it's misunderstandings of intent and motive and came across this searching for something entirely unrelated. But this is very grievous, is there NO concern for the greater body here? Why oh why must this be such a strutting and not a humbling? Does any of this minister to the Lord?

The very bottom of the bottom line is... Is it genuine? And for Jesus sake doesn't that matter?

My goodness can this not be sacrificed on the altar with all the other things that generate out men with unclean lips? Is there not a willingness to let go even as passionately as some are want to think they have this gift and want to ram IT down our throats? Sorry, I am not angry but there is just so much deception amongst us dear brothers and we can be our own worse enemies, I PRAY that Greg's words would be taken to heart, I love you guys too much to sit back and say nothing to these things, despite whatever emotionalism comes through. I know your hearts are not after ill will, that your sincerity is not in question...

Something that I failed to bring forth from all this earlier utterance of "Thus Sayeth..." was a very serious and frightening consideration of this verse:

Amo 5:18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light.

Amo 5:19 As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

Amo 5:20 Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?

Not saying this by way of adding words, as in *desiring* but the ramifications, the true understanding of what is being SAID. It is very much the problem because these things are spoken in generalities often times or in specifics that never come to pass and when it's held up to scrutiny it is poo-pooed and shrugged off as no big deal and that is precisely the issue and the problem, it just goes on and on without concern or question, many are led astray following after mere men that are thought to be more 'spiritual' because they have some insight into things the rest of the mere brethren don't.

My personal opinion is as worthless as anything but do find it rather odd that after all this that if what was said was truly believed the prophets ought to be pounding my opinions into the dust. But it is not believed to the extent that it was stated... "Gods wrath poured out unto His CHILDREN?" Really? Where pray tell are they if this was really "Thus Sayeth?" You can excuse the world for not believing such a thing, but where is the passion if this is so true? Where is the pleading of concern for the sheep of what is to befall us? Who is the tar-baby, the fox and the rabbit?

Very grievous

Re: Is this necessary - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/6/10 13:13

This forum thread is being locked because it seems the discussion has come to some conclusion.