

# PROPHECY AGAIN

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## MY LORD MOSES, FORBID THEM

“And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp. And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them. And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!” Numbers 11:27-29.

“Moses now summoned the seventy to the tabernacle. ‘And the Lord came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.’ Like the disciples on the Day of Pentecost, the seventy elders were endued with ‘power from on high.’ It pleased the Lord thus to prepare them for their work, and to honor them in the presence of the congregation, that confidence might be established in them as men divinely chosen to unite with Moses in the government of Israel.”

“Again evidence was given of the lofty, unselfish spirit of the great leader. Two of the seventy, humbly counting themselves unworthy of so responsible a position, had not joined their brethren at the tabernacle; but the Spirit of God came upon them where they were, and they, too, exercised the prophetic gift. On being informed of this, Joshua desired to check such irregularity, fearing that it might tend to division. Jealous for the honor of his master, ‘My lord Moses,’ he said, ‘forbid them.’ The answer was, ‘Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them,’” Patriarchs and Prophets, 381.

Notice that Joshua in this particular incident was described as a young man. He was young in experience and in understanding the work of God. Joshua believed that if a person or minister was laboring without being under the control, direction, and authorization of Moses, that person or minister was out of order and in need of censure. Bear in mind, that if you believe

this specific error like Joshua, if you believe that God’s messengers have to receive authorization from others to conduct ministry, you are not only young in faith, but in need of spiritual discernment and understanding of God’s providence.

Ponder this question as you continue to read: What caused Joshua to hinder, discredit, and attempt to persecute the two other elders for not laboring under the direct control, dictation, and authority of Moses? Inspiration states that the spirit of envy, which is the evil spirit of Satan, is what compelled Joshua to criticize God’s servants. In like manner, it is the spirit of envy, the evil spirit of Satan that arouses ministers and people today to speak ill against the servants of God who do not happen to be working in the accepted regular lines. Is Satan’s envious Spirit occupying your heart?

Prayerfully meditate upon the following: “Shall the ‘regular lines,’ which say that every mind shall be controlled by two or three minds at Battle Creek, continue to bear sway? The Macedonian cry is coming from every quarter. Shall men go to the ‘regular lines’ to see whether they will be permitted to labor, or shall they go out and work as best they can, depending on their own abilities and on the help of the Lord, beginning in a humble way and creating an interest in the truth in places in which nothing has been done to give the warning message?... Young men, go forth into the places to which you are directed by the Spirit of the Lord. Work with your hands, that you may be self-supporting, and as you have opportunity proclaim the message of warning,” Manuscript Releases, Volume 14, 207.

Moses recognized the important principle that these two elders were working for God and were a part of God’s church, and thus they should not be prohibited from exercising the gift that God through his Spirit imparted to them. Mark this point well that this truth was revealed to Moses, not on the basis that the two elders had their names registered on an official church record, or

because they were working alongside him, or that they had his approval or oversight. On the contrary, Moses recognized that these two elders were divinely chosen by God to conduct evangelism, because they had received the Holy Spirit. If you have received the Holy Spirit, you are a part of God's church and you are qualified and expected of God to faithfully perform evangelism.

This situation was a test for Moses, for surely he could have agreed with the erroneous declaration that Joshua made to compel the two elders to cease their ministry, since they were not under Moses' control. Do not forget that Moses was the chosen leader. Moses could have allowed pride and selfishness to have power over him and cause him to coerce the two elders to stop their ministry, unless they conducted it under his direction. However, Moses was spiritual and understood that once these elders received the Holy Spirit and were teaching truth, God was with them, and they should be allowed to minister unmolested. On the contrary, how many religious leaders and ministers are unconverted, proud, selfish, power-driven, and would attempt to malign the characters and the ministries of God's appointed men, because they do not have command of God's messengers? Is not this an infringement upon a person's religious liberty? God gives no man the authority to order around his brethren and tell him when, where, and how to minister; this is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Prayerfully meditate upon this statement: "Let not any living hand, of minister or layman, be laid upon you with the statement, 'You cannot go here, you must not go there; we shall not support you if you do not go at our bidding; or if you do not give yourself to the work of bringing souls into the truth in some certain place designated by us.' God will bless you as you continue to search for lost souls in out-of-the-way places," *Pamphlets 113*, 14.

The bottom-line is this, as Moses says, "Would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!" In other words, God wants to pour out His Spirit upon all of us so that we can hasten His second advent. Jesus does not want you to be bound or to be hindered by man-made restrictions and policies that paralyze you from performing His closing work of evangelism. Oh no! The truth of the matter is this that many religious leaders, ministers, and people indirectly believe that the Holy Spirit is not wise and sufficient enough to guide God's messengers to complete the work on earth. If these religious leaders, ministers, and people, really understood that the Holy Spirit was all-sufficient, they would not accept the damnable heresy that a human being has to always control the movements and the messages of God's messengers. It is clear evidence that these religious leaders, ministers, and people, have willfully blinded their minds to this truth, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all

truth," John 16:13.

There are two principles that need to be emphasized. Firstly, the reception of the Holy Spirit is necessary to prepare you for ministry. Secondly, the reception of the Holy Spirit is necessary for other ministers and people to know that Jesus has divinely chosen you to be a part of the government of Israel, His kingdom, and His church. Read again the following: "It pleased the Lord thus to prepare them for their work, and to honor them in the presence of the congregation, that confidence might be established in them as men divinely chosen to unite with Moses in the government of Israel," *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 381.

Take special note here: if these religious leaders and ministers are working desperately to have power over, to hinder, and to persecute God's few messengers who are not aligned with them, what will they do, and what satanic fury will they have at the final fulfillment of these words, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy," Acts 2:17, 18. Along with that, Satan fears what Jesus can do through you and others once you surrender your plans, ideas, and entire being to Him. Once you have the Holy Spirit and are teaching truth, you are divinely appointed by God and are not only called to do His work, but you are entrusted and expected to perform it. Do not allow anyone to tell you that you cannot minister unless you have his permission, or the permission of any collective body. Have you received the Holy Spirit? Do you have a clear conception of the everlasting gospel? Is Christ your head? Then let Him alone be your guide.

—Pastor Andrew Henriques

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