

GROWING IN REVELATION:

a heart for God & His people





GROWING IN REVELATION: deeper prophetic power and a heart for God and His people

Fundamental Heart Alignment — individual and corporate

To be restored into the likeness of Jesus is extremely costly. It is about having His compassion come out of our mouths and through our hands unhindered to others.

The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks. Luke 6:45

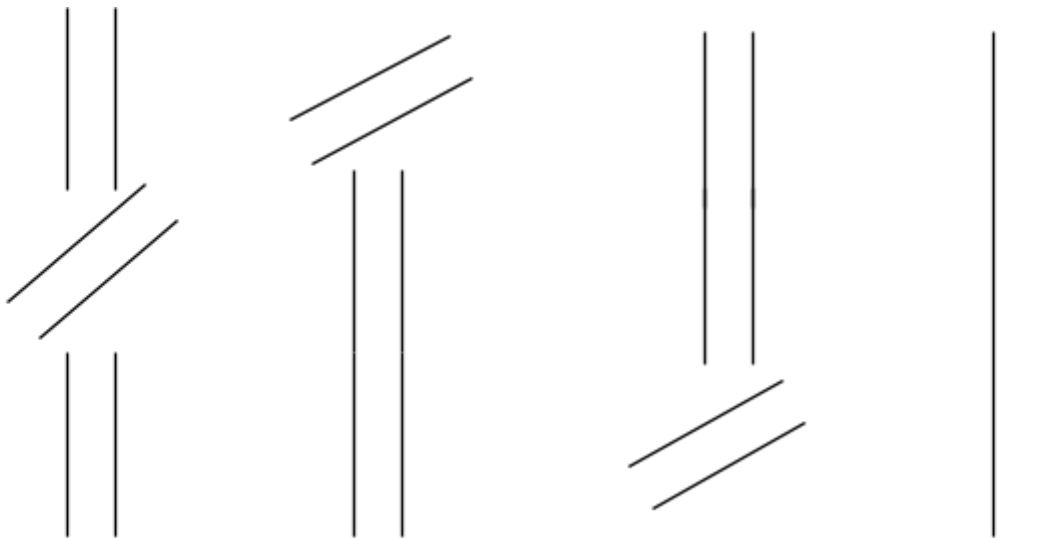
Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. Proverbs 4:23 (NIV 1984)

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. John 14:12

Redefining Normality Model of Jesus A constant stream of revelation.

DRAINPIPES & ALIGNMENT



Jesus entire essence is love. Love that motivates Him to save, heal and restore. To have His heart mean we will seek the same things

A. PURPOSES OF THE PROPHETIC

"I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all who live in Jerusalem. I will cut off from this place every remnant of Baal, the names of the pagan and the idolatrous priests- those who bow down on the roofs to worship the starry host, those who bow down and swear by the LORD and who also swear by Molech, those who turn back from following the LORD and neither seek the LORD nor inquire of him." Zephaniah 1:4-6

But David got wind of Saul's strategy to destroy him and said to Abiathar the priest, "Get the Ephod." Then David prayed to God: "God of Israel, I've just heard that Saul plans to come to Keilah and destroy the city because of me. Will the city fathers of Keilah turn me over to him? Will Saul come down and do what I've heard? O God, God of Israel, tell me!" God replied, "He's coming down." "And will the head men of Keilah turn me and my men over to Saul?" And God said, "They'll turn you over."

1 Samuel 23:9-12 (Msg)



Then David prayed to God, "Shall I go after these raiders? Can I catch them?" The answer came, "Go after them! Yes, you'll catch them! Yes, you'll make the rescue!"
1 Samuel 30:8 (Msg)

After all this, David prayed. He asked God, "Shall I move to one of the cities of Judah?" God said, "Yes, move." "And to which city?" "To Hebron."
2 Samuel 2:1 (Msg)

One day as they were worshipping God—they were also fasting as they waited for guidance—the Holy Spirit spoke: "Take Barnabas and Saul and commission them for the work I have called them to do." So they commissioned them. In that circle of intensity and obedience, of fasting and praying, they laid hands on their heads and sent them off.

Acts 13:2b-3 (Msg)

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road— the desert road— that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."
Acts 8:26

1. Strengthen, Encourage and Comfort

But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

1 Corinthians 14:3

2. Demonstrate God's Omniscient Concern for Individuals

But if some unbelieving outsiders walk in on a service where people are speaking out God's truth, the plain words will bring them up against the truth and probe their hearts. Before you know it, they're going to be on their faces before God, recognizing that God is among you.

1 Corinthians 14:25-26 (Msg)

3. Give Direction and Courage

In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them. So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

Acts 13:1-3

I'm passing this work on to you, my son Timothy. The prophetic word that was directed to you prepared us for this. All those prayers are coming together now so you will do this well, fearless in your struggle, keeping a firm grip on your faith and on yourself. After all, this is a fight we're in. There are some, you know, who by relaxing their grip and thinking anything goes have made a thorough mess of their faith.

1 Timothy 1:18-19 (Msg)

4. Prepare for Difficulties and Trials

"But there is another urgency before me now. I feel compelled to go to Jerusalem. I'm completely in the dark about what will happen when I get there. I do know that it won't be any picnic, for the Holy Spirit has let me know repeatedly and clearly that there are hard times and imprisonment ahead. But that matters little. What matters most to me is to finish what God started: the job the Master Jesus gave me of letting everyone I meet know all about this incredibly extravagant generosity of God.

Acts 20:22-24 (Msg)

5. Purify and Sanctify

Peter said, "Ananias, how did Satan get you to lie to the Holy Spirit and secretly keep back part of the price of the field? Before you sold it, it was all yours, and after you sold it, the money was yours to do with as you wished. So what got into you to pull a trick like this? You didn't lie to men but to God." Ananias, when he heard those words, fell down dead. That put the fear of God into everyone who heard of it... ..

By this time the whole church and, in fact, everyone who heard of these things had a healthy respect for God. They knew God was not to be trifled with.

Acts 5:3-5,11 (Msg)



B. GUIDELINES FOR THE PROPHETIC

Operating in the prophetic 'v' the gift of prophecy and being a prophet

Satan hates the prophetic and viciously opposes it.

He relentlessly seeks to destroy or compromise it in any way possible.

If you are to operate in the prophetic it needs to be protected and secured.

1. Closing the doors to satanic influence

repentance

getting self in the right place before the Lord

2. Bind Deceptive & Blocking activity of the enemy

bind up the spiritual forces you sense are coming against you - lies, deception etc all down in the authority you have in Christ as a repentant child of God

3. Bind Human Flesh

rational thinking, imagination and pre-knowledge

4. Test by the Scriptures

subjective prophetic revelation ALWAYS is subject to objective Scriptures

5. Resonance

"wisdom from above"

6. Revelation and its place in spiritual authority structure

submit to those in authority over you - in your normal church life AND in the immediate ministry situation

7. Three components of revelation

- Revelation
- Interpretation
- Application

**FREEDOM PRAYER - GATEKEEPING - WARRIOR PRAYER
SELF - FAMILY - MINISTRY - CORPORATE - ANY GROUP**



C. HOW WE RECEIVE REVELATION

1. **Through Scripture - and by this canon we test all other**
2. **Prophetic Imagination**
 - a. Dreams e.g. Matthew 1:20
 - b. Visions / open visions
 - c. Pictures / inner' visions e.g. Amos 8:1
 - d. "Going to Heaven"
3. **In the mind** God-planted thoughts
4. **In the intuitive / heart** Mark 2:8
5. **In the body** Physical sensations
6. **With the eyes** Acts 3:4, open visions e.g. Acts 7:5-6
7. **With the ears** The audible voice of God e.g. Jesus' baptism
8. **Angelic Revelation** Genesis 19:1

Using the imagination – guided imagery – getting below the intellect – touching the emotions

D. OBSTRUCTIONS TO HEARING & MINISTERING IN AUTHORITY

This is not meant to be an exhaustive list but hopefully a help to you

1. **Loss of First Love** becomes religious exercise or fixing someone/something

"But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first! Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don't repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches. Revelation 2:4-5 (NLT)

You say, 'I am rich. I have everything I want. I don't need a thing!' And you don't realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference. "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. Revelation 3:17,19-20 (NLT)

2. **Not asking or asking with the wrong motives**

You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. James 4:2-3

3. **Only asking one question**

What is coming against? But not asking how do we come against it Lord?

4. **Unbelief / Fear**

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does. James 1:5-8



5. Lack of Agreement

Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

Matthew 18:19

6. Unforgiveness

"So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.

Matthew 5:23-24 (NLT)

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Matthew 6:14-15

7. Disobedience

But the LORD said to me, "Tell them, 'Do not go up and fight, because I will not be with you. You will be defeated by your enemies.' "So I told you, but you would not listen. You rebelled against the LORD'S command and in your arrogance you marched up into the hill country. The Amorites who lived in those hills came out against you; they chased you like a swarm of bees and beat you down from Seir all the way to Hormah. You came back and wept before the LORD, but he paid no attention to your weeping and turned a deaf ear to you.

Deuteronomy 1:42-45

8. Unrepented Sin - Rebellion

if my people, who are called by my name, will 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.

2 Chronicles 7:14

Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

1 Corinthians 11:27-30

9. Indifference

But since you rejected me when I called and no-one gave heed when I stretched out my hand, since you ignored all my advice and would not accept my rebuke, I in turn will laugh at your disaster; I will mock when calamity overtakes you—when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind, when distress and trouble overwhelm you. Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me.

Proverbs 1:24-28

10. Neglect of Mercy

If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered.

Proverbs 21:13

11. Not honouring One Another

Honour your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 5:16

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers

1 Peter 3:7

12. Idolatry

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Son of man, these men have set up idols in their hearts and put wicked stumbling-blocks before their faces. Should I let them enquire of me at all?

Ezekiel 14:2-3



E. COMMON STRONGHOLDS

1. FEAR

- Failure, getting it wrong, "awkward moments"
- of hurting others
- it may not resonate with the person I minister to
- where it might lead
- what it might provoke in me

2. INSIGNIFICANCE

- would God really speak to me?
- my revelation won't impact anyone
- comparison with other listeners / captain / friends

3. CONTROL

- I don't want to be wrong
- it is disconcerting to be on the edge and so vulnerable
- what if it gets messy?

4. UNBELIEF

- does God really speak so specifically?
- will it really make a difference?
- I had a bad experience in the past – will it be repeated?

5. CORPORATE RELIGION

6. WITCHCRAFT – spinning revelation

7. REBELLION

8. DISUNITY

9. PASSIVITY

10. SELF FOCUS

