

How to Test a Prophet or any Prophecy

The position of a Prophet, is someone that is specifically CHOSEN (See Isaiah 1:3-10; Jer. 1: 9) by the Almighty Sovereign Creator Power Life-Force, (God) named YHWH [1]. A prophet speaks "before" as in time by predicting future events, or "in place" by the interpretation of the will of YHWH before others. This came about at the Mountain called Horeb (aka Mt. Sinai). The Israelites were there to receive the laws that were to govern their newly formed national identity, the Scriptural Nation of ancient Israel. The Israelites were afraid of hearing the voice of YHWH and of seeing the fire from the Almighty while He was speaking to them from the top of the mountain.

Moses asked YHWH and He agreed to provide prophets (before-speakers) for them from their own brothers (those like Moses) to be the speaking mouth pieces on behalf of YHWH Himself. These appointed anointed speakers were designated to communicate the will of YHWH to the Israelite people. See Deut 18:15-17.

The requirements and the tests for determining who a true prophet was from a false prophet became very important to the people. Unless the ancient Israelites of that time or even those of us living today can determine if a prophet is speaking the inspired will of the Almighty Sovereign Creator Power Life-Force, YHWH, the listener could be listening to a false prophet, one that was actually leading those hearing his words away from the Sovereign YHWH.

The Required Biblical Tests

According to the Hebrew Bible there are some very specific tests provided for us to determine if a prophet was anointed and appointed to speak the words given to him by the inspiration of the Sovereign YHWH.

The Bible passages below contain the Scriptural tests provided for us to determine if someone is a True Prophet, was anointed, inspired, and sent by YHWH.

1. Deut. 13:1. Explained: A prophet must provide signs and wonders, BUT even if his predictions come true, and yet he leads his listeners to serve powers (gods) other than the Almighty Sovereign Creator named YHWH, that prophet must not be listened to; for YHWH is "testing" those that are listening to this false prophet. The penalty for false prophets (according to Biblical Israelite law) is death.

2. Deut. 18:18. Explained: A prophet must come from among his own people (the Israelite people). He must also be a "true" Israelite (one that keeps the Covenant). In other words, the Israelites are not to listen to a Chinese prophet or a prophet from another race. A prophet must speak only the words that YHWH commands him to speak. He must speak no more and no less.

3. Deut. 18:19. Explained: The Israelites to whom the message by the prophet was directed or presented were to listen and take note (to hearken) to the message that was specifically addressed to them. They (those listening to the prophet) were to act upon the message as was told to them, or they would be held accountable to YHWH. In other words, those that refuse "to hearken" would suffer consequences for not listening and not acting or doing what was presented or required by the message from the prophet of YHWH.

4. Deut. 18:20. Explained: Any prophet that pretends to be speaking (or prophesying) using the name YHWH, something that he was not commanded to speak, or who is speaking in the name of another power (a false God) would die.

5. Deut. 18:21. "And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which YHWH hath not spoken. . . .?"

6. Deut. 18:22. Explained: Here we find the summary to the answer of the most important question. When a prophet speaks in the name of YHWH of things pertaining to the future and the things he speaks of do not happen, or the words are not fulfilled, (cannot be tested by them) then what he has spoken has NOT been inspired or given by YHWH. That prophet has spoken with presumption, and he is not to be feared or acknowledged.

The result of this truth is the fact, that everything that a prophet speaks (in before time) or pertaining to the future of those to whom the prophet is addressing **MUST come to pass within their generation**. The fulfillment must be completed during the generation of those listeners. Without this "fulfillment" confirmation the prophet cannot be tested as one that was inspired to be speaking on behalf of YHWH. A Generation is 40 years.

If we living today are to assume for example, that the words of the authors of the book of Isaiah or those of any other ancient prophet are the authoritative and inspired word of YHWH, then all that is prophesied in the book by that prophet must have come to pass within the generation or life span of the people that were addressed by that prophet. A prophecy is NEVER applicable to people living hundreds or even thousands of years in the future. Such prophecy cannot be tested.

Important! Prophets never speak of events hundreds or thousands of years in the future. Such prophecy has no value to those for whom the message was delivered or addressed and cannot be acted upon by those listening. A prophecy of future events has value only if the predictions of a prophet can be proven to have come true in the past; this is the only way a prophet can be tested to be a true prophet. Those hearing the prophecy and those who have tested the words of the prophet from the past (according to The Bible) as having come true, can act or "hearken to" the message of that tested prophet.

Again, the testing of a prophet always requires a fulfillment of a past prophecy within the life span of the prophet, or within the life span of the generation listening to him. Note: a Biblical generation is within 40 +/- years from those hearing the prophet's message.

Those of us that are living thousands of years after the prophets of ancient Israel, who spoke to the ancient Israelite people as YHWH instructed them, are, as a fact, reading the Scriptural events of prophecies that have already been completed. We are reading history. If for example, Isaiah was a true prophet, (there is no doubt he was) his message of a prediction would have come to pass in his generation. But to us living today the prophecy is "past tense." In other words, all past prophecy spoken by a "true" prophet of YHWH would have come to pass since the prophecy spoken was for the benefit of the immediate future of those to whom the message was addressed and delivered.

All other so-called prophets claiming "inspiration" must fall under the same testing requirements as the ancient prophets of Israel who spoke to the people of true Israel. If any prophet of today fails the testing requirements, then the words spoken by that prophet are not "inspired" and are NOT the words provided to them by YHWH. Their words are not inspired by YHWH.

The testing of prophets is a requirement for all true believers of the Hebrew Bible, and it must conform to what YHWH in the Bible teaches us. Understanding this truth is for our own benefit and will simplify much of what we read in the Bible especially those "prophecies in time" that predict the future. This eliminates all past tense prophecies that were presented for the benefit of the ancient Israelites only, but are NOT directed and are not intended for those of us living today.

Ancient Bible prophecies are useful to us as historical events and we can learn from them. The testing of a prophet and his prophecy helps to eliminate all unfounded conjecture and the fantastic opinions or predictions that come from false prophets.

Such false prophets only seek control and manipulation of gullible people, or they may be designed to lure people into joining their Church.

What about the Book of Revelation?

Many modern day churches, especially TV-oriented evangelical type "mega" churches are neck deep in future predictions. Hardly a week goes by when a new book isn't offered to the Christian public (free of course with a recommended donation). This is prevalent in hard times. Millions of dollars are generated from so-called experts on the so called coming Revelation events. Are they reliable?

Let's take a look. The Jerusalem Bible version (just one translation) in its introduction to the book of Revelation closes in part with this interesting paragraph: "As it stands, the text of Revelation presents many difficulties: repetitions, interruptions in the sequence of visions, and passages obviously divorced from their context. Many explanations have been suggested: that Revelation was compiled from diverse sources, that whole chapters have been **accidentally** misplaced, etc." (Emphasis ours)

If one still wants to believe that Revelation is inspired, then the key to the prophecy written in the entire book can be found in Rev 1:4, since the verse says that the book of Revelation was written to the seven churches in Asia. Therefore, if you are not living in Asia some 2,000+ years ago, the events in it can not apply to you! Unfortunately, Revelation is a book that some denominations can't seem to do without. They must need it to keep the mystery of it going. Were the events of Revelation "close at hand" or near "the time" when the people of the seven churches in Asia lived? Read Rev 1:3, and 22:10, and then you can be the judge!

Yes, you can determine the truth by using the tests that YHWH has provided for you in His Hebrew Bible!

Some False Christian Beliefs

(because they do not follow what The Bible clearly says) See the Corrections in "**bold type**" below.

Christians believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and is profitable for correction, reproof, and instruction in righteousness (2Timothy 3:16) and that it reveals the almighty God.

Correction: The Bible "contains" the word of YHWH, but it also contains the un-inspired words of men. Not everything written in the Bible is profitable, since there are many types

of writings (like those from the Pharisee Saul/Paul) that are simply opinions because he was never taught by Yahshua (Jesus). The fact is, Yahshua actually condemned the Pharisees, and Saul/Paul was one. See Matt. 23:13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27-33.

Christians believe that Jesus is the eternal, self-existent God and is not a created being. Even though He is fully God, He took upon Himself the form of a man to live and die for our sins.

Correction: Yahshua (Jesus) was not eternal, but was created through his birth. Yahshua is not YHWH; he is a son of YHWH as are all that do the will of YHWH, See Matt. 12:50. There is only one Almighty Sovereign Creator Power whose name is YHWH (Yahweh). Yahshua agrees that there is only one that is good, the Father, See Matt. 19:17. There is One Eternal Power named YHWH, none other, See Isaiah 46: 18, 22. The Father gave eternal life to the son because of his obedience, See John 5:26. If the son was given to have life in himself it means that Yahshua did not always have this life "within" himself. Yahshua could not have existed eternally with the Father, but was given eternal life as all those doing the will of YHWH.

Christians believe that the penalty for man's sin was paid on the cross of Calvary in Jesus' death. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23. By believing on Jesus Christ and accepting the grace of His shed blood, we receive the gift of eternal life. "Not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:9.

Correction, Yahshua's name means "YHWH Saves." Human sacrifice is forbidden by YHWH, See Jer 7: 30-31. Pauline doctrine is false. Yahshua, the "son of man" was granted authority to forgive sin simply by saying so, See Matt. 9:12-6. Yahshua was executed for a ransom for many (his 1st Century followers), See Matt 20:28. Salvation comes by obedience to YHWH's Covenant, by keeping the 10 Commandments not because of some pagan human sacrifice, See Matt 19:17. See also 1 Tim. 4:10. YHWH is the only Savior. The meaning of Yahshua's name makes the announcement that proves YHWH alone is the Savior.

Christians believe in His sacrificial death; they want to obey Yahshua as he commands in John 14:15. Their works however have nothing to do with being saved; but, because they are saved, they should choose to keep His commandments only as the guide for correct living.

Correction: Yahshua himself said that if we want to have eternal life, keep the Commandments. See Luke 10: 25-28.

Christians believe that Bible prophecy reveals Jesus is coming again very soon. Matthew 24:32-51.

Correction: Yahshua (Jesus) is not coming (advancing) into power again. He has already advanced into his power. The "visible expression" of his power shown on the clouds occurred just as he prophesied. He judged the unbelieving Yahudim and punished them in 70 C.E. by way of Rome. Jerusalem was burned and the Temple and its system forever destroyed. Over a million unbelieving Yahudi were killed. NO, Yahshua's Kingdom is NOT of this world; it is a Heavenly Kingdom; it is not physical, See John 18:36. The prophecy of Matt. 24: 34, was only for those listening to it at that time. Those that responded to the prophecy left the city in time to avoid the destruction under Rome just as Yahshua told them to do. All those that left were "saved" from the judgment that came on Jerusalem by way of the Roman Empire.

Christians believe that by going to seminars they will receive a deeper understanding of the Bible, develop a closer relationship with the loving Savior Jesus Christ, and they will be prepared for His soon return. God will richly bless their time in His word."

Correction: "Not everyone that says Master, Master, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." See Matt 7:21. Dear interested reader. Are you doing the will of the Father? Now that you know what His will is for you.

Note: This handout was prepared to correct prophetic errors by providing you with the Scriptural tests to determine a True Prophet from an impostor.

[1] YHWH - Hebrew, Pronounced as "YaH-WeH." The Proper name of the Almighty Sovereign Creator Power Means "He-Is" "He-Exists" or "Ever-Living."

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