

Word & Spirit Conference, Session 2, Part 2

by David Ravenhill

The importance of right application, conditions, and timing in the fulfillment of a prophetic word.

Duration: 33:28

Scripture: Acts 21:10

Topics: "Christian Life", "Faith and Action", "Prophetic Guidance"

Description

David Ravenhill emphasizes the importance of understanding and applying prophetic words in our lives, using the example of Paul who, despite warnings of suffering, was determined to go to Jerusalem. He highlights that prophetic messages require interpretation, application, and faith to be effective, and warns against the dangers of unbelief that can hinder God's promises. Ravenhill also discusses the complexities of prophetic timing and the necessity of aligning our motivations with God's will. He encourages believers to actively engage with prophetic words, ensuring they are mixed with faith and appropriate action.

Transcript

In other words, their application of this was, God is telling you, Paul, don't go to Jerusalem. If you do, you're going to run into all sorts of problems, you're going to be thrown into prison, you're going to be bound, you're going to suffer, you're going to have all sorts of problems, and so this is a warning, and we all began. In other words, the entire group, however many that was in this seemingly home meeting of some sort, um, at least you've got, uh, you know, four virgin daughters are prophesied, we've got we, so there's a, you know, there's a group of them there, and they all reach the same conclusion that the application of this prophetic word is, don't go.

And what does Paul do? And Paul answered, what are you doing? Weeping and breaking my heart, for I'm ready not only to be bound, but even to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. And since he would not be persuaded, we fell silent, remarking, the will of the Lord be done. So at least they were wise enough to say, okay, we'll yield this thing up.

But Paul said, listen, I am going to Jerusalem. Now, why did he say that? Go back into the previous chapter, and, um, in verse, uh, 20, in chapter 20, verse 20, I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly from house to house, um, no, that's not, verse 22, and now behold, bound in spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying, the bonds and afflictions await me. You see, Paul had already had confirmation after confirmation.

He says, every city. I don't know how many cities that was, but let's be conservative, at least, and just say two. It's got to be more than one, because it's cities.

So in at least two other occasions prior to this, the Spirit of God has indicated to Paul that when he gets to Jerusalem, again, there are bonds and afflictions that wait him. Now he comes here to this place, and another prophet comes to him, and he does the same thing, and he says, the person who owns this belt, when he gets to Jerusalem, he's going to be bound, and Paul's mind says, boy, that's at least the third time I've heard that message. You know, I've got to prepare myself that there's trouble ahead.

Everybody else looks on and says, listen, please, Paul, whatever you do, don't go, and we all began begging him. I mean, you know, it wasn't just, Paul, I don't think you should go. I mean, they were literally begging the guy, don't go, don't go, don't go.

Finally, Paul says, hey, quit it. Stop breaking my heart. You know, I'm going to Jerusalem.

I know what's ahead of me. So application is absolutely important, that we make sure we have the right application. All right, 1 Peter 1 again, because this verse contains three other things that I want to deal with.

But let me just turn to it here. I've got my notes. Verse 10, as to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to come, made careful search and inquiry, seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating, as he predicted the suffering of Christ and the glories to follow.

All right, seeking to know is interpretation. What person or time is application, the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating is revelation. See, all three things are in that verse.

Let me read again. Seeking to know, what is the interpretation? The Spirit of God was doing something. So, seeking to know, interpretation, what person or time? They wanted the application.

Who is this that we're prophesying about? There's something stirring in me about something going to happen and so on. When's it going to happen, number one? Who's going to be the one that it's going to happen to? So, there's the application, the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating there was revelation. Can you imagine Isaiah? Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.

Yeah, I mean, hundreds of years before the Lord Jesus came and he knows that the Spirit of God within him is prophesying, but he's no idea, you know, the fulfillment of that. Lord, when? I mean, is this going to happen next week? You know, seeking to know what time and what person, who's it going to be? You know, who is this virgin going to be? You know, that you're going to entrust to carry the Son of God, you see. And so, even though he's prophesying, he doesn't have all the pieces in place here.

And so, again, seeking to know, interpretation, what person or time, application, Spirit of Christ within them was indicating. Number four, the word appropriation, or if you like invitation or application, but appropriation. Hebrews 4 and verse 2, the word did not profit them because it was not united with faith.

The word did not profit them because it was not united with faith. Now, the reason that the man came to Moses and said, Moses, you promised that we would go in to our own inheritance, vineyards and lands, milk and honey, and it has not happened. Moses, you're a false prophet.

No, that was not the case. Hebrews tells us the word did not profit them, not being mixed with faith. Why didn't that million people, up to three million people, never inherit the prophetic word that God gave? Remember, it was not a written word, it was a spoken word to Moses saying, I will give you your own land, houses, land, vineyards, olive groves, and so on and so forth.

That's what I want you to have. And Moses then conveyed that word through Aaron, his prophet, if you like, the voice to the nation says, God is going to give us our own land one day. It's going to be an incredible land, houses and lands and vineyards and olive trees and so on and so forth.

And God wants us to go in. He really did want them to go in and possess it. But what happened? They sent the spies into the land.

They were in the land for 40 days. 10 out of the 12 came back with an evil report and God says, because of your unbelief, I will penalize you one year. For every day of unbelief, I'll penalize you a year and you're going to wander now in the wilderness another 40 years.

That's why the children of Israel were 40 years in the wilderness, because God penalized them a day for every day of unbelief. That should speak to us. What unbelief can do to set back the purpose of God in your life.

Unbelief, a day of unbelief can set you back a year in what God wants to do in your life. The word did not profit them not being mixed with faith. There was nothing wrong with the word.

There was nothing wrong with the prophetic message. They did not appropriate it. I had the privilege of taking over a church for a little while in New Zealand while the pastor traveled to the States.

On an extended actually around the world. It was about six months and over 20 years ago now and I remember being in his office. We took over his home and in his office he had all sorts of prophecies.

And what he would do as a pastor, he would take the tapes when prophetic people came through. He would type them out. He would give a copy to the individual that was prophesied over.

He would keep a copy and then every once in a while, like every three months, every six months, maybe every other year, whatever it was, whenever he felt he would pull that prophetic word out and he would call the person in. And he would sit them down in his office and he'd say, listen my responsibility as the pastor is that I have, I'm to keep watch over your soul. I will be accountable to God for my shepherding of your soul.

And I want you to know Fred, that I've been praying for you and what are you doing about this prophetic word that so-and-so gave six months ago saying that if you will seek my face and blah blah blah, you know, I will raise you up as a servant in this house or whatever it may be. And he would hold him to that making sure again that that word was being united by faith or with faith. You see, that it wasn't just going dormant.

See, we need to understand the prophetic word has got to be united with faith. In the parable of the sower, and I think this is a very clear teaching on the prophetic word in Luke 8 and verse 4, the intention of the sower being the Lord Jesus Christ was that he was sowing, if you like, prophetic seed about the kingdom of God. He was speaking.

It wasn't written. He didn't say now all of you open your Bibles, you know. He was speaking and it was the voice of God obviously because it was the Son of God and it says he was casting seed out into the crowd and that seed was the word of the kingdom.

And yet that seed fell in some cases on stony ground, in other cases on shallow ground, in other cases where there was thorns and thistles, in other places in good ground. But there was nothing wrong with the seed. Every single one of those seeds that was cast out that day had the potential of 30, 60, and 100 fold.

See, in other words, it wasn't the fact that it was defective seed that fell by the roadside and but the best seed fell into the good ground. It had nothing to do with the condition of the seed. It had to do with the condition of the heart that received the seed.

That's important. See, there can be a prophetic word given that is a general prophetic word, let's say, and there's nothing wrong with the seed but it may be that it doesn't fall into ground that receives it. Birds of the air come and take away the seed.

You know, pressures and all sorts of other things come in, doubts and insecurities and so on. The enemy comes away, he takes away the seed that way. Or the riches and the worries of life choke the seed and so it doesn't produce anything.

And you get a prophetic word about, you know, if you will spend time alone with me and seek my face and wait upon me, I will raise you up as a man of God. And then you get involved in business and you decide, you know, decide that you want that new car and then you decide that you want that lady over there as your wife and then you decide that you want kids and you decide this and the riches and the worries and the cares of this life sap you of spending time with God, spending time in the Word of God and so on and so forth. It does not negate the fact that there was nothing wrong with the seed.

The seed is good. They have discovered in National Geographic maybe 20 years ago now when they did a story on the tomb of one of the pyramids, Tutankhamen, whatever his name was, that in between the toes of one of those mummies they found grains of seed. And they estimated that they were at least two to three thousand years of age and they planted that seed and it germinated.

And the only thing that was wrong with that, there was nothing wrong with the seed, the problem was it was not in an environment that was conducive for that seed to germinate. And the prophetic word really is a seed. It is a seed that has the potential of fulfilling all that God wants you to have, but it has to fall into good soil.

You see? And many times we think, well, you know, I had this wonderful word from John Paul Jackson or this wonderful word from Phil and, you know, the weeks have gone by and nothing's happened, you know. And we need to ask ourselves, listen, have I really united that word in faith and said, God, I believe it. Now I'm going to pray that thing into being, so to speak.

I'm going to water that thing. Lord, I thank you. I'm looking forward to the day when that's going to come.

I'm going to begin to study like I've never studied before. I'm going to spend time along with you now. I'm going to wait on you.

I'm going to begin to develop that gift and so on and so forth, you see. And so appropriation, I think, you know, many times these men, you know, get a bad rap as being false prophets because it's really

something that we have not done to fulfill what God told us to do. And there's nothing wrong with the seed.

The seed is good. It's again, there's been a lack of appropriation. And so study the parable of the son.

Even in Daniel, Daniel chapter 9, where Daniel had a revelation of the desolation of Jerusalem. It was going to be 70 years and he says he gave himself to seek the Lord, you see. Now you would have thought that here was the fulfillment.

He saw that they, all these events were being, were culminating and coming together and so on. And yet, Daniel still gives himself to praying that prophetic word into being, you see. Matthew 23, verse 37, O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often I would have gathered you as a hen gathers her chickens and you were unwilling.

Now there is the expression again of the heart of God. I wanted to gather you. I long to gather you.

And he's, he's expressing again his desire. There is a prophetic word for the city of Jerusalem that God would have gathered them as a hen gathers her chickens. But you would not, you see.

And so they refused. Again 2 Chronicles 7, 14, you're familiar with that. If my people were called by my name, humble yourselves, pray and so on.

The next one is conditions, obviously, and that deals with it. These two sort of flow together. Jeremiah 18 and verse 4, where God again speaks to Jeremiah about the potter's house.

And he talks about, you know, I'm able to speak concerning nations, to build that nation up or to destroy that nation. But if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its wicked way, I will relent concerning the evil that I said I would bring about it. So God says even the prophetic word of judgment can be thwarted if those conditions are met where they repent, you see.

And of course we have that very clearly in the story of Jonah and Nineveh, where Jonah says 40 days and this city is going to be overthrown. And he goes throughout the whole land proclaiming 40 days, 40 days, 40 days. And nothing happens at the end of 40 days.

Why? Because they repented. Now somebody could have written a book about the false prophecy of Jonah. That Jonah gave a prophetic word, it did not come to pass.

I was there, I've got it on tape and I heard him listen to it, you know. 40 days and Nineveh will be overflowed. That's Jonah's voice, right? Right.

And it didn't happen. So therefore he is a false prophet, you see. But no, there were conditions in that prophetic word.

If you repent, I will relent concerning the judgment, you see. And so again, there are conditions many times that God gives. And we need to understand that.

I remember one of the men in my church in Gig Harbor and he was given a wonderful prophetic word. And I was thinking to myself, man, this is, this is the wrong guy for this word, you know. And then finally the prophetic word sort of turned and he said, in order for this word to come to pass, and then there were the conditions, you see.

And many times God will do that. It's a word of encouragement to build us up, you know, and so on. But then there are conditions that apply.

Second Kings 20 verses 1 to 6, set your house in order. Isaiah speaking to Hezekiah, for you shall die and not live. Again, I heard it on tape, I was there.

The prophet Isaiah gave a prophetic word over Hezekiah, you're about to die. What does Hezekiah do? The prophet leaves, Hezekiah turns the wall, faces the wall, cries out to God, and he gets 15 years extension. He didn't die, you see.

There's a period of time. Why? Because of conditions that were met. And so we don't have to necessarily see the fulfillment of those, good or bad, depending on our faith.

All right, the, the sixth one, the word dispensation. I need to hurry here. And by dispensation, I'm just using the matter of timing.

Timing. Many times we get frustrated because we don't see the fulfillment of something when we think we should. And the days go on, the weeks go on, and so on.

And I think it was John Paul, somebody last night, saying that nobody is born mature. You know, there is always a involved. Joseph had a dream, prophetic word from God, that all his brothers would bow down, his father would bow down.

He knew that his brothers despised him, you know, and so on. And I'm sure he came down to breakfast that morning, and after giving the prophetic word, expecting them to all fall down, and sort of fulfill the, you know, after all, he was excited. You know, finally God's on my side, and you know, he's seeing my dilemma here.

They're always poking fun at me, saying, you're daddy's boy, and so on and so forth. I'm mommy's boy, you're always in the work, and so on. And all this despising and ridiculing that went on, because they really didn't like him, and so on.

And finally he's vindicated. You know, God himself gives him a message. It's all going to change, Joseph.

They're going to bow down, they're going to acknowledge you're the greatest. And he comes flying down to breakfast that morning, I'm sure his chest puffed out, you know. So, listen guys, I've got something to say.

You know, let's say grace first, and now, before you eat. And, you know, 13 years later. 13 years in which the word of the Lord tried him.

He was afflicted in irons, and chains, and so on. All the rejection that he went through. You see, many times the prophetic word does not include the fine print.

How many of you know that? There was nothing negative in the prophetic word that God gave to him. All it was, was talking about one day he's going to know what it is to be in place of superiority over all of his brothers, and so on, and so forth. There was nothing about what was going to happen a few days later.

When he was going to be grabbed from behind, thrown into a pit, and they talked about killing him. And then one of his brothers pleaded that, no don't do that, we can make some money out of this thing, and so

on, and so forth. And eventually, you know, he's all that, that whole process, none of that was originally contained in the prophetic word at all.

And he could have very easily, I'm sure, thought, God, this is not what you promised, you know. All right, Habakkuk chapter 2 and verse 3, though the vision is, for the vision is yet for an appointed time, though it tarry, wait for it. Though it tarry, wait for it.

I am just now beginning to experience prophetic words that were given over me 33 years ago, that I've held on to all of those years. Like I said, one of the prophetic words I received was about writing, and that was in 1964. I had two or three other prophetic words in New Zealand, where people would pull me out of a crowd and say, one day you're going to write.

Again, my carnal mind says, your father wrote, and they know that, you know, that you're Leonard Ravenhill's son, and so therefore, and I would sort of dismiss these words. It'd be sort of like, oh, you're George Beverly Shea's daughter, sister, I believe God's going to give you a wonderful ministry in music. You know, that's the way my mind works, you know, it's like, you know, just dismiss it.

This is just, you know, they know, and you know, it's all, it's all in the mind. Well, after about five or six of those words, clear words about writing, you know, I finally decided to do something. And in 1988, I sort of put pen to paper and started, you know, writing down some of the messages that God has given me, sort of life messages and so on.

But it was a 10-year process from 88 to last year, in which that book had been completed. John Paul would know that when I was in Kansas City, when we were together in Kansas City, that book was finished. One of my brothers there sort of did the fine-tuning on it as far as the doing all the grammatical work and the editing.

And then after that, I had a lady do some work on it. And it sat there for five years. And I knew beyond a shadow of doubt that with the release of that book, God would release me from pastoral ministry and into a traveling ministry.

And finally, I got to the place where I just put it on the shelf. I said, God, in your timing, you've got a timing for this. And last June, the phone rang, publisher called me, said, we want to publish your book.

And I knew right then, right after that, I had a number of prophetic words. Somebody called me and said, you know, I believe, you know, you're going to be moving. Somebody else called me from Brownsville, said, would you come down here and do some teaching? Paul Cain gave me a word, just sovereignly, in a meeting in Kansas City, 4,000 people there.

He said, God's going to bless your traveling itinerant ministry. I'd been pastoring for all those years. And all of a sudden, everything fell into place.

And so there are timings, many times, dispensations, if you like. In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son. And God wasn't in any hurry.

He prophesied from Genesis 1 and all the other subsequent generations through all the prophets that the day was coming when the seed of the woman would come. And yet, you know, thousands of years went by. But in the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son.

And in the fullness of time, God is able to bring the completion, that which He has given you. And many times, that prophetic word, again, it's outside of the scope of our understanding, our ability, and so on. God has got to mature us, brings that place where we can handle these things.

And there's a timing that is involved in it. So, Galatians 4 and verse 4, when the fullness of time had come. So anyway, we've got this whole thing then of dispensation.

Number six, the word motivation, or seven, seven. Now, this is a, be careful with this one. I'm sharing it with you because I do think there is truth in it.

And I would appreciate these other men of God, if necessary, tweaking this because it's a, it's a dangerous one in a sense. But let me share it with you anyway, because it does, I believe, fit in here. Motivation.

Ezekiel 14 verse 1, then some elders of Israel came to me and sat down before me. Now, I know there's some men of God, at least they've got a spiritual position. Some elders of Israel came, sat down before me, this is Ezekiel, and the word of the Lord came to me saying, so he gives a prophetic word.

Son of man, these men have set up in their, have set up idols in their heart, and have put right before their faces the stumbling block of their idolatry. Should I be consulted by them at all? So, the prophet's sitting there, these elders have obviously come for a word, and the word of the Lord comes to the prophet, and he says, these guys are full of idolatry, you know, should I be consulted by them at all? And then he says, therefore speak to them and tell them, thus saith the Lord God, any man of the house of Israel who sets up an idol in his heart, and puts right before his face the stumbling block of his iniquity, and then comes to the prophet, I the Lord will be brought to give him an answer in the matter, in view of the multitude of his idols. In other words, I will answer him according to the idolatry of his heart.

So, motivation becomes a very important part in the prophetic realm. See, this guy has got idolatry in his heart, he wants sort of confirmation, or he's wanting a word from God, I'm going to answer him according to the idolatry that is in his heart. Now, let me give you some other verses, because I realize this is a sort of a dangerous area in one sense, but Psalm 106 and verse 15, it says, he gave them the desires of the heart, but he sent leanness to the souls.

The nation of Israel asked God for something, they craved something, what was it? A king. We want a king like the nations. God, give us a king like the nations, or at least to Moses, give us a, sorry, Samuel, the prophet.

We want a king like the nations. Samuel, Samuel, give us a king like the nations. And God says, Samuel, don't weep, they're not rejecting you, they've rejected me as being king over them.

And so God gives them a king, but he sends leanness, oh no, sorry, I'm getting this mixed up. This is the one where they're desiring, they're desiring meat instead of manna, better correct that, otherwise I'll end up in somebody else's book. But he said, this is where, this is where they're tired of the manna, day after day, after day, after day, after day.

And uh, they finally, they come to Moses, I was right, see, initially, they uh, they come to Moses and they said, listen, we want a change of menu, you know, we are tired of grits, morning, noon, and night, you know. And uh, God says, okay, he calls the heavens and he says, meat, change the menu. And it says, he gave them the desires of the heart, but he sent leanness to the soul.

In other words, he satisfied the craving that they had, but as a result, there was spiritual famine that resulted. So we need to make sure our motivation is right. Why do I want the gift that I want? See, to glorify God or to make a name for myself.

Big difference, isn't it? I was sharing yesterday, uh, one of the things that Winky Prattney talked to me about many, many years ago. We were in conversation, we've been friends and for way, way back long before he was married, I was the best man in his wedding. And Winky said to me, he said, David, he said, when we stand before God, he won't ask us what we did, he'll ask us why we did it.

That's scary, isn't it? He won't ask us what we did, he'll ask us why we did it. See, God's more interested in motive than he is in accomplishing something. See, I've got a reasonably good string of things I could say I've done, traveled here and there and everything else, but why did I do it? You see, what is the motivation? Was it the glory of God? Whatever you do, word of deed, do all to the glory of God.

Somebody was telling me just the other day, and I assume this is right, believe it is, that a brother that works with Rick Joyner, who is becoming quite famous now in the worship realm, Don, is it Don Potter? Don Potter, that for a period of time, God says, I don't want you leading worship anymore. And I think it was for a year, if I understood the story correctly, he said, I want you to take a chair, I want you to get in your room, face the wall and play and learn to worship me. And all I want you to do, I want you to worship me.

And then after a year, he released him. That deals with motives. If you can honestly, if you're a worship leader and you can be satisfied worshiping God alone, then chances are your motive is good.

You see, otherwise it's my ability to play the guitar, you know, and I want to impress people as to how much I can, you know, sort of let fly and so on and so forth, you see. And one of the laws of the altar, I guess I'm digressing a little bit, one of the laws, in fact, the very first time that God ever mentioned an altar in the Bible, he says, when you make an altar, see to it, he says, that you don't make it of cut stone. And the one thing about an altar is, if you put anything of your own ability into it in that sense, embellish it with anything of your ability, the Bible says that altar then becomes an abomination.

And we've got a lot of cut stone performing, you see. And we've got to be very, very careful because when we stand before God one day, he's going to say like he did with the scribes and Pharisees, you already have your reward. That's scary, isn't it? I don't want that.

See, they stood on the street corner, they prayed all right, but it was to be seen of men. Their motive was not prayer, their motive was, people are going to think I'm really spiritual. So anyway, so motivation is a matter.

Again, the other one that I was mentioning in Psalms, he gave them a king in his anger, it took him away in his wrath. God did give them a king, but he did it because they demanded a king, it was not God's intention. He says, so they've not rejected you, Samuel, they've rejected me from being a king over them.

All right, number seven, eight, I guess, contradictions. Many times the prophetic word will seem to have contradictions in it. Because you are calling into being, the prophetic as we heard yesterday has got that creative power behind it that can call into being the thing that is not.

And it seems to contradict. It's like when I got a word about speaking and so on. In the natural, I didn't want to speak, I didn't relish speaking, I was shy, I was nervous.

It was full of contradictions, at least in my mind. God, I can't do that. This guy said, I see you speaking in a microphone.

I hated public speaking. Literally, in homiletics class in Bible school, we were divided into two groups. It wasn't a big class, but we're divided into two groups.

We had a five-minute message to prepare, and the gentleman that was teaching the class would listen for two and a half minutes in one, make some notes about, you know, content and style and so on, and then go into the other room and get in on the last two and a half minutes of the other person. They made the mistake of going in the other room for two and a half minutes. By the time he got back, I was all through.

My first message, I had exhausted my knowledge of the Word of God in two and a half minutes, and I was through. And, you know, it wasn't that my knees knocked together, my voice, just literally, well, first of all, my mouth would dry out, and my head used to shake like this, long before Toronto, you know, and it would draw attention to myself. I mean, I was literally terrified to speak.

It took me four years to overcome the fear of speaking. Long before the days of naming and claiming it's something, I would sit on the front row confessing every scripture I could. Lord, you know, your strength is made perfect in weakness.

Let the weak say I am strong and so on. I mean, meeting after meeting after meeting after meeting, I battled and battled and battled for years to overcome that. I mean, I literally, and it was such a contradiction to have a prophetic word that talked about doing this and doing that and so on.

It was everything I couldn't do, and so many times there appears to be contradictions. Isaiah 9 again, verse 6, unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given. Okay, Isaiah, where is he? You said he's born, he's given.

Not will be, not sometime down in the line, someplace, but unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, the government. Okay, where? Show me. You prophesied, I was in the meeting, got it on tape, you know.

See, and there are contradictions seemingly in the prophetic. Why? Because the calling and the being, the things that are not, is all they were. And same thing in 1 Kings 18 41, it says, Elijah speaking to Ahab, he says, there's a sound of a heavy shower, the roar of a heavy shower.

Nobody heard it, but he was calling it to being the things that are not. You could have been there and says, that's not true, there's nothing going on. You just told this guy there's a sound of a roar of a heavy shower coming.

I mean, it's been years anyway, since it rained. But what does he do? He goes up, he gets down on his face before God, and he begins to pray. He says to his servant, anything happening? Nope.

Sends him out again, anything happening? No. What was it, three times or something? Finally, he comes back. Well, he said, there's a cloud the size of a man's hand.

I mean, he just, I mean, I'm not even sure, just maybe a speck on my glasses, but you know. But he'd already said, there's a, you know, a shower on the way. All right, two others quickly.

Confirmation, 2 Corinthians 13 and verse 1. In the multitude of counselors, or at least in the mouth of two or three witnesses, there is safety, or the multitude of counselors is safety. The prophetic word, and there

are exceptions, as we heard last night. Prophetic word really should confirm, like Paul, the Spirit signifying, in every city that I've gone to, that bonds and afflictions await me.

This is confirmation, confirmation, confirmation. And I personally look at the prophetic word far more in a confirming manner. Although there are times, again, when God will give us something in a seed form to jumpstart us or whatever, and then after that, there will be confirmations.

But one way or the other, we need confirmations concerning the word of God. And then limitations, finally, let me just close with that. And by that, 1 Corinthians 13 and verse 9, it says that, I think that's right, let me make sure that's the right reference.

Anyway, we prophesy, we prophesy in part. Yeah, that's right, 1 Corinthians. I'll say 13.

We know in part and we prophesy in part. Again, the prophetic does not always give you all the details, just like, again, Joseph. It just gives you the big picture many times.

To give you an understanding of the direction God wants you to go and then there's details that need to be worked out. And so there are limitations concerning that. All right, I've got more here, but our time is through and that really pretty well sort of brings it to an end, I think.

Let's just close in word prayer. But let me just share that with you today so that you do have an understanding that the prophetic does have a complexity to it in that sense, that we need to understand that just because somebody gives a prophetic word, it may be profound and so on, that there's other components that make up the fulfillment of that. And I think there's been many, many accurate godly prophetic words that have been given that have been rejected because of a lack of understanding of the various components.

And we've expected it, for instance, to be fulfilled next week, or we've expected this or that, or just because somebody gave it to us, we expected God to do it and so on. And there are times, sovereignly, when God will do things without us ever praying and seeking him and so on. So I'm just sharing these things, not in a hard, fast way, but at least to give you some principles.

Father, we thank you again for your word. We thank you, Lord, just for the richness. Lord, of your word, we thank you for the prophetic realm, Lord.

Father, what a blessing. Lord, to hear your voice, to hear you speak, Lord. Father, to hear the desire of your heart for each one of us.

Lord, you said the thoughts I have concerning you are not thoughts of evil, but thoughts of good. Father, the voice that you speak is a voice that, Lord, longs to bring us higher, longs to bring us deeper. Father, we ask, Lord, even in our times together, Lord, throughout the rest of this day, Father, speak, Lord.

We want to hear your voice. Lord, like Samuel, we say, speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth. In Jesus' name, amen.

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