

#21 Moses Desiring That All Jehovah's People Would Be Prophets

(Crystallization-Study of Numbers 2) 2019/10/14-20

I. Our God is a speaking God: [Heb. 1:1-2](#) God, having spoken of old in many portions and in many ways to the fathers in the prophets, Has at the last of these days spoken to us in the Son, whom He appointed Heir of all things, through whom also He made the universe;

A. God is a mystery, but this mystery has been revealed by God's speaking: **1.** Without the divine speaking, God would remain forever unknowable. **2.** Our God is the revealed God because He has revealed Himself in His speaking.

B. Every created thing came out of the word of God:

1. The old creation—the whole universe—came into being by God's speaking. **2.** The new creation was brought into being by the entire God speaking as the Word. **3.** The speaking God continues to do all things through His speaking.

C. The living God imparts and infuses Himself into us by speaking: **1.** When God speaks, the light shines, bringing us understanding, vision, wisdom, and utterance. **2.** When God speaks, life is imparted, and this life includes all the divine attributes and human virtues of Christ. **3.** When God speaks, power is transmitted, and this is the growing and producing power of life.

D. In the Old Testament, God spoke in many portions and in many ways to the fathers in the prophets, in men borne by the Spirit.

E. In the New Testament, God speaks in the Son, in the person of the Son: **1.** This person was first an individual and then became corporate.

2. God today speaks in a person, and this person has increased to be a corporate person, including all the apostles and all the members of this person's Body. **3.** The believers are all a part of the corporate Son; God is still speaking in the Son.

F. The speaking God desires to have a speaking people.

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II. In Num. 11:29 Moses exclaimed, "Oh that all Jehovah's people were prophets, that Jehovah would put His Spirit upon them!":

A. A prophet is not mainly one who predicts the future but one who speaks for another, as Aaron spoke for Moses.

B. Prophets are God's spokesmen; they speak for God and speak forth God: **1.** God is hidden, but through the speaking of the prophets, God Himself and His intention are explained.

2. Prophets receive God's revelation directly and are borne by the Spirit of God to speak for God and to speak forth God.

C. Moses desired that all the people of Israel would be prophets, those who spoke for God: [Num. 11:29](#) But Moses said to him, Are you jealous for my sake? Oh that all Jehovah's people were prophets, that Jehovah would put His Spirit upon them! **1.** The word in Numbers 11:29 was a great prophecy uttered by Moses. **2.** Concerning the matter that all of God's people should be prophets, Paul in the New Testament and Moses in the Old Testament are in agreement: [1 Cor. 14:31](#)

For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged. **a.** The word that Moses spoke was promoted by Paul in 1 Corinthians 14, and it is fulfilled in God's New Testament economy by the prophesying of the believers in the church meetings. **b.** It is likely that Paul's concept came from Moses, because Paul, as one who understand the Old Testament, must have been familiar with what Moses had

said in Numbers 11:29. **c.** In both the Old and New Testaments God wants His people to speak for Him.

D. A prophet typifies Christ as the One who brings us into God's light and revelation. Tue

III. "A prophet will Jehovah your God raise up for you from your midst, from among your brothers, like me; you shall listen to Him." (Deut. 18:15):

A. In verses 15 through 19 Moses spoke concerning Jehovah God's raising up of a Prophet (the coming Christ) like Moses for the children of Israel.

B. Acts 3:22 applies Deuteronomy 18:15-19 to Christ, who is God incarnated to be a man, indicating that Christ is the Prophet promised by God to His people, the children of Israel. [Acts 3:22](#) Moses said, "A Prophet will the Lord your God raise up unto you from your brothers, like me; Him shall you hear in whatever things He speaks to you."

C. That the Prophet was to be from among their brothers indicates that Christ as the coming Prophet would be human as well as divine:

1. As God, Christ could not be from among the Jews as a brother, but as the incarnated One, the One who has put on human nature and was a Jew, Christ was from among His brothers. **2.** The coming Christ would be God incarnated to be a Godman.

D. Deuteronomy 18:18 indicates that God would raise up this Prophet through the incarnation of Christ to speak the word of God: [Deut. 18:18](#) A Prophet will I raise up for them from the midst of their brothers like you; and I will put My words in His mouth, and He will speak to them all that I commend Him.

[John 7:16-17](#) Jesus therefore answered them and said, My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone resolves to do His will, he will know concerning the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself. **1.** To speak God's word—to prophesy—is to dispense God, to speak God forth into others. Wed

IV. The prophets in the Old Testament typify the Holy Spirit as the anointing ointment in the New Testament: 1 John 2:20

And you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know. **27** And as for you, the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you; but as His anointing teaches you concerning all things and is true and is not a lie, and even as it has taught you, abide in Him.

A. In the New Testament the Holy Spirit has replaced the work of the prophets.

B. The anointing of the Holy Spirit has replaced the prophets of the Old Testament.

C. The Holy Spirit, the anointing element, has entered into us to be our Prophet: **1.** In the Old Testament the representatives through whom the Holy Spirit gave revelations were the prophets. **2.** Today the Spirit of revelation, typified by the prophets, is in us, and the Spirit gives us revelation.

D. The anointing Spirit within us is the Prophet: **1.** The anointing Spirit has entered into us to be our living Prophet.

2. The Old Testament the Spirit of God came upon certain people and moved only them; now the Spirit has entered into all of us to be our Prophet. **3.** The Spirit who inspired people to be prophets has entered into us as the anointing to be our Prophet. Thu

V. The New Testament shows that God wants us, the saved and regenerated ones, to prophesy as prophets:

1 Cor. 14:3 But he who prophesies speaks building up and encouragement and consolation to men. 5 I desire... especially that you would prophesy; ...that the church may receive building up. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged.

A. Prophesying is the excelling gift produced in the growth in life through the enjoyment of Christ for the building up of the church.

B. The New Testament believers are saved by God to be kings, priests, and prophets who prophesy for God. 1. Regenerated and saved persons are able to prophesy for God. 2. God desires that each of the believers prophesy, that is, speak for Him and speak Him forth. 3. God wants to speak within us and through us according to the principle of incarnation.

C. Speaking for God and speaking forth God are speaking by the Spirit of God; the Spirit is always ready to speak with us and through us.

D. To prophesy in the sense of telling for and telling forth—speaking for God and speaking forth God—requires much growth in life: 1. For this, we need to know God and experience Christ. 2. If we do not have the adequate knowledge of God and experience of Christ, we do not have anything to say for Him, and we cannot speak Him forth.

E. The main work of the New Testament prophets is for building up, encouraging, and consoling others. **Fr**

F. The goal of prophesying in the church meetings is the building up of the church as the Body of Christ. 1 Cor. 14:12 So also you, since you are zealous of spirits, seek that you may excel for the building up of the church.

G. Prophesying requires the three constituting elements of prophesying: 1. A knowledge of the Word of God—the human element of learning. 2. The instant inspiration of the Holy Spirit—the divine element of inspiration. 1 Cor. 14:32 And the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; 3. A vision concerning God's interest and economy, concerning the church as the Body of Christ, concerning the local churches, concerning the world, concerning the individual saints, and even concerning ourselves—the view through the enlightening of the divine light. Eph. 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, my give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him,

H. If we are going to prophesy, we need to live a prophesying life: 1. We need to be revived every morning: Prov. 4:18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, Which shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

a. The path of the righteous is like the dawn that becomes brighter and brighter until noontime; this is according to the natural law in God's creation, and we have to go along with it.

b. In Lamentations 3:22-24 Jeremiah says that the Lord's compassions are fresh and new every morning. Lam. 3:22 It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, For His compassions do not fail; 23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 24 Jehovah is my portion, says my soul; Therefore I hope in Him. 2. We also need to live an overcoming life every day by fellowshiping with the Lord moment by moment, by walking according to the spirit, and by speaking the word (the Lord) in season and out of season.

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Crucial Point(1): Pray-read the Word of the Bible, hearing the word of Rhema and speak out to build God's new creation, the church

OL1: Our God is a speaking God. The living God imparts and infuses Himself into us by speaking. When God speaks, the light shines, bringing us understanding, vision, wisdom, and utterance. **OL2:** When God speaks, life is imparted, and this life includes all the divine attributes and human virtues of Christ. When God speaks, power is transmitted, and this is the growing and producing power of life. **OL3:** Moses desired that all the people of Israel would be prophets, those who spoke for God. Concerning the matter that all of God's people should be prophets, Paul in the New Testament and Moses in the Old Testament are in agreement.

The book of Hebrews begins with God speaking.... God has spoken! Praise Him! It is absolutely not a small thing that God has spoken. Without speaking God is mysterious. But He has revealed Himself in His speaking. He is no longer mysterious. Now He is the revealed God. We have a speaking God, and this speaking God desires to have a speaking people. God desires to speak, and His Spirit is waiting for us to speak. If all the millions of Christians in the United States would speak for God and Christ every day, the whole earth would be overturned. However, ... the habit of Christians is to go to church simply to listen to one speaker. We all need to rise up and overthrow this custom.

When we come to the church meetings, we must speak. There is more than one way to speak. Shouting, singing, praising, and praying are all different kinds of speaking.... We should not begin the meeting in the meeting hall but in our dining room, living room, or bedroom. When we are preparing to come to the meeting, we should begin to sing, and on the way to the meeting, we should come singing, praising, praying, and shouting. Moses predicted little. It was the same with Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. Their books actually contain very few predictions but rather are full of speaking forth God, speaking for God, and speaking God directly. ... Prophecy in New Testament Greek means a kind of speaking of God. ... To prophesy is mainly to speak for Christ, to speak Christ forth, to speak Christ out.

Application to young people and college students

Please realize that our God is the speaking God and He created all things through speaking and He is building the church which is the new creation through speaking. Without God's speaking, there is no creature (old creation) and new creation can not exist. You should pray-read the words in the Bible as God's speaking and listen to God's present and instant speaking. John 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words (Rhema word, the instant word) which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. God is speaking to you now through your praying over the Word of God, the Bible. So please learn how to change the constant word of God, the logos, into God's present speaking, the Rhema, through pray-reading.

The Bible is really full of prayer and it is a book of prayer. The best prayer is to pray by using the words of the Bible. Please train yourself to pray the Word since you are young. Of course, you can let God know your requests and fellowship with God in an intimate way. Phil. 4:6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; But without praying

the Word, your requests would always remain low level. For instance, "Lord, let me get good grade in an easy way" or "Let me go to the good university to get good job to be rich". But Nehemiah read the Bible and saw their situation and prayed like this: [Neh.1:5](#) ...**O Jehovah the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and lovingkindness with those who love Him and keep His commandments: 6 Let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer of Your servant, which I pray before You now day and night, concerning the children of Israel, Your servants, while I confess the sins of the children of Israel that we have sinned against You. Indeed, I and the house of my father have sinned; 8 Remember now the word that You commanded Moses Your servant, saying, If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples; 9 But if you return to Me and keep My commandments and perform them, though your outcasts are under the ends of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place where I have chosen to cause My name to dwell.**

Following Nehemiah, if you train yourself to pray for God's interest by using God's word, you would be today's Nehemiah and speak forth God's word and become the vessel to carry out God's economy. **Prayer:** "Oh Lord Jesus, when I pray the Bible which is the word of God, you speak to me. Through pray-reading, let me hear the Rhema word, your present speaking to me. And by praying out the sense I received, let me speak forth God's word and build the church as the new creation. When all the brothers and sisters in the church speak God's word, the Body of Christ will be organically built up. Amen!"

Crucial Point(2): Receiving the revelation of Christ and the church through the inward spirit of revelation to speak out for building up, encouraging, and cosoling people

OL1: The prophets in the Old Testament typify the Holy Spirit as the anointing ointment in the New Testament.

OL2: The Spirit who inspired people to be prophets has entered into us as the anointing to be our Prophet.

Deuteronomy 18:18 indicates that God would raise up this Prophet through the incarnation of Christ to speak the word of God. When the Lord Jesus came, He surely spoke God's word. To speak God's word is to dispense God, to speak God forth into others. As the firstborn Son of God being the Word of God is God's oracle for the speaking and dispensing of God to carry out His eternal economy, so the many sons of God being members of the Word of God are God's oracle, speaking and dispensing God for the spreading of God and the increase of Christ. The firstborn Son of God is the oracle of God, and we are the many sons. This means that all the sons are God's oracle so that God may have a spread and Christ may have an increase.

In the Old Testament the representatives through whom the Holy Spirit gave revelations were the prophets. Today the Spirit of revelation, typified by the prophets, is in us, and the Spirit gives us revelations directly....The Spirit who inspired people to be prophets in the Old Testament is now the Spirit as the anointing ointment within all of us. Since the Spirit is anointing us from within, we no longer need an outward representative to be our prophet.

In the New Testament the Holy Spirit has replaced the work of the Old Testament prophets. Today we have prophets in the church. Some can prophesy, while others can exhort and comfort. But we do not have personal prophets to come and tell us what we should do.... Everyone can know God directly

and be led of God and know God's will directly....The New Testament church does not need any spiritual giants to act as personal prophets to teach others what they should do. That is the work of the Holy Spirit, not the work of the prophets. The main work of the New Testament prophets is for building up, encouraging, and consoling men.

Application to the young working saints and graduate students

During the time of the Old Testament, the Spirit of God inspired the prophets to speak the Word of God to the God's people. In the New Testament, this function of the prophets is replaced by the spirit of revelation dwelling in you. So you can fellowship with the Lord to receive the revelation by exercising your spirit mingled with your inward prophet, the Spirit of the revelation. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

A brother's testimony : While I was in the U.S. based major medical device company, I attended the various important business meeting and have been requested to make many important decisions promptly there. In such cornered situation, I recall Nehemiah 2 where Nehemiah talked with the king while he pray to the God of heaven. So I pray as Nehemiah did.

Nehemiah 2:1 Then in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, while wine was being set before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence. **2** And the king said to me, Why is your face sad, since you are not ill? This is nothing other than sadness of heart. Then I was greatly frightened. **3** And I said to the king, May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' graves, lies in waste and its gates are consumed within fire? **4** And the king said to me, What do you request? So I prayed to the God of heaven. **5** And I said to the king, If it please the king and if your servant has found favor before you, that you would send me to Judah to the city of my fathers' graves that I may rebuild it.

As I make my decision after praying to God for a few seconds and then talked to the executives of the U.S. headquarter about it, I was able to turn 180 degree around the difficult situations and I won to obtain a large amount of investment. In this way, everything I have decided and spoken in the spirit of faith by fellowshiping with the Lord are all blessed. Hallelujah! In my inward, the spirit of revelation, today's prophet, is dwelling. Training to prophesy every week in my church life can perfect me and also can make me a useful vessel to my company.

Prayer: "O Lord Jesus, as one of many sons of God, I have God's oracle in me. Thanks to the Lord that the prophet, the spirit of the revelation, is now dwelling in me. In my business life, and in my church life, help me to exercise my spirit mingled with the spirit of revelation and train prophesying, so that I can build up, encourage, and console other people. Amen!"

Crucial Point(3): The life and preparation for the divine speaking

OL1: Speaking for God and speaking forth God are speaking by the Spirit of God; the Spirit is always ready to speak with us and through us. **OL2:** If we do not have the adequate knowledge of God and experience of Christ, we do not have anything to say for Him, and we cannot speak Him forth.

OL3: The main work of the New Testament prophets is for building up, encouraging, and consoling others

OL4: The goal of prophesying in the church meetings is the building up of the church as the Body of Christ

Prov. 4:18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, / Which shines brighter and brighter until the full day. **Lam 3:22** It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not

consumed, / For His compassions do not fail; 23 They are new every morning; ... 24 Jehovah is my portion, says my soul; ...

If we are going to prophesy, we need to live a prophesying life. First, we need to be revived every morning.... Every twenty-four hours there is a new start, a dawn, a rising sun. This is according to the natural law in God's creation. We have to go along with this natural law. Every morning we have to rise early to contact the Lord, to call on Him, and to be revived by Him. In Lamentations 3:22-24 Jeremiah says that the Lord's compassions are fresh and new every morning. His mercies are like the fresh dew in the morning. Every morning we must enjoy this fresh dew to have a new start, a morning revival.

We must also live an overcoming life every day. After the morning revival we should not stop contacting the Lord. We can live a victorious life by fellowshiping with the Lord moment by moment. 1 John 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and are not practicing the truth; 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

We also need to walk according to the spirit, not doing anything outside of the Spirit. We should also speak the word (the Lord) all the time, ...in season and out of season. We should not say, "Now is not the time for me to speak to people." Seemingly it is out of season, but even if it is out of season, we still have to speak the word. Such a prophesying life qualifies us to prophesy.

Application to the new one

In Taipei Brother Lee gave the saints some practical fellowship concerning how to prepare to prophesy in the church meetings on the Lord's Day:

(1) Morning revival: Choose two or three verses for prayer-reading, and they enjoy the Lord with these verses for their morning revival. He charged the saints to write down a short reminder of what the Lord inspired them with in their time with Him in the morning. (2) Live an overcoming life every day: After the morning revival, live a victorious life by fellowshiping with the Lord moment by moment. (3) Preparation of prophecy: At the end of the week they will have six notes of what they were inspired with during the week. On Saturday night they use these notes of their inspiration to compose a prophecy to speak for three minutes. Prophecy should include having a vision concerning God's interest and economy, concerning the church as the Body of Christ, concerning the local churches, concerning the world, concerning the individual saints, and even concerning ourselves—the view through the enlightening of the divine light. Furthermore, we apply the vision and truth we have seen to our experience. (4) Points to keep in mind when prophesying: **a)** Train the spirit and be filled with the spirit of economy. The spirit of economy is for speaking. **b)** Add instant inspiration to your preparation. **c)** Train your mouth and voice, speaking speed, gestures and voice strength. **d)** Through prophecy, build Christ and encourage those who hear it, and share it as comfort.

The Mystery of human life (2)

The grace and blessing from God: "Power"

A. Rom. 7:18b for to will is present with me, but to work out the good is not.

B. Rom. 1:16... for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, ...—Denoting a powerful force that can break through any obstacle. This power is the

resurrected Christ Himself, who is the life-giving Spirit, and it is unto salvation to everyone who believes. To save the believing ones not only from God's condemnation and from eternal perdition but also from their nature life and their self, that they may be sanctified, transformed, and built up with others as the one Body of Christ to be His fullness and expression. (FN1, 2)

C. Rom. 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.—The law of sin, the power to commit sin that arises spontaneously in man, causes man to become a slave of sin. (John 8:34) Thus, man is helpless, is controlled and manipulated by sin, and does many things against his will. The law of death, the natural power that causes man to become weak, to wither up, and to age and die, dwells in man and causes every part of man to enter into decay and death. On one hand, death disables man; on the other hand, it desensitizes man. It causes man to be disabled when he attempts to do good, and to be insensitive when he commits sins. The working of the law of the Spirit of life is the working of the processed Triune God in our spirit; this is also the working of the Triune God in us in His life. It delivers us from the working of the law of sin in our flesh. (FN61)

D. Rom. 16:25 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel, ...—Since everything has been accomplished, we need only to be established. This establishing is according to the pure and full gospel of God, that is, the proclaiming and ministering of the all-inclusive Christ. (FN1)

Our attitude: "Calculate (Count)"

A. Luke 9:25 For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world but loses or forfeits himself? —(gain, forfeit) A word used by merchants. (FN1)

B. Luke 12:19b-21 Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; rest, eat, drink, be merry. But God said to him, Foolish one, this night they are requiring your soul from you; and the things which you have prepared, whose will they be? So is he who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.

C. Eph. 5:15-17 Look therefore carefully how you walk, not as unwise, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

D. Rev. 20:12, 15 ...And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, ... And the dead were judged ... according to their works...And if anyone was not found written in the book of life, he was cast into the lake of fire.

E. Luke 14:28b does not first sit down and calculate the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

F. Matt. 26:8 Why this waste? —The disciples considered Mary's love offering to the Lord a waste. Throughout the past twenty centuries thousands of precious lives, heart treasures, high positions, and golden futures have been "wasted" upon the Lord Jesus. To those who love Him in such a way He is altogether lovely and worthy of their offering. What they have poured upon Him is not a waste but a fragrant testimony of His sweetness. (FN1)

G. 2 Cor. 5:14b-15 we have judged this, that One died for all, therefore all died; And He died for all that those who live may no longer live to themselves but to Him who died for them and has been raised.