

#7 Christ—the True Prophet Typified by Moses

(Crystallization-Study of Deuteronomy) 2020/4/6~12

Overview: Prophets receive God's revelation directly and are borne by the Spirit of God to speak for God and speak forth God. No prophecy of Scripture is of the prophet's or the writer's exposition, for no prophecy was ever borne, or carried along, by the will of man (I). Moses as a prophet, typifies Christ. In his forty years of leading the children of Israel, Moses continually spoke to them for God; especially in Deuteronomy, Moses repeatedly spoke God's words to the children of Israel. He predicted that the children of Israel would forsake God and be cast by God into all the nations but that when they would repent and turn to God, He would gather them from the nations (II). Christ is the Prophet promised by God to His people (III). During His earthly ministry, Christ also prophesied, predicted, by declaring the things that are coming. Today Christ as the Prophet is in us still speaking for God to reveal God and speaking God into people (IV). Moses might have spoken something of his own feeling, but even this became the word of God; his speaking in Deuteronomy was like Paul's speaking in 1 Corinthians 7. This is the principle of incarnation, the highest spirituality (V).

I. Prophets are God's spokesmen:

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord Jehovah will not do anything unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

A. The function of the prophets is to speak for God.

B. According to the Bible, the main function of a prophet is not to predict things that are coming but to speak for God and to speak forth God by God's revelation.

C. God, who is a speaking God, spoke in the Old Testament to people in many portions and in many ways in the prophets: **1.** God is hidden, but through the speaking of the prophets, God Himself and His intention are made known.

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

2 Pet. 1:20-21 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of one's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever borne by the will of man, but men spoke from God while being borne by the Holy Spirit. **a.** No prophecy was ever borne by the will of man. **b.** Man's will, desire, and wish, with his thought and exposition, were not the source from which any prophecy came. **c.** The source was God, by whose Holy Spirit men were borne, as a ship is borne by the wind, to speak out the will, desire, and wish of God. **d.** No prophecy of Scripture is of the prophet's or the writer's exposition, for no prophecy was ever borne, or carried along, by the will of man; rather, men spoke from God while being borne by the Spirit.

D. A false prophet is one who speaks a word presumptuously in God's name, which God did not command him to speak. **Mor**

II. Moses was a prophet, and as a prophet, he typifies Christ: **Deut. 18:15** A Prophet will Jehovah your God raise up for you from your midst, from among your brothers like me; you shall listen to Him. **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 command Him.

A. In his forty years of leading the children of Israel, Moses continually spoke to them for God; especially in Deuteronomy, Moses repeatedly spoke God's words to the children of Israel.

B. Moses, as the spokesman of God, was like an aged, loving

father speaking to his children with much love and concern:

1. Although it was Moses who spoke, he did not speak his own words; he spoke God's words. **2.** He spoke for God, spoke forth God, and spoke God into the children of Israel.

C. Moses was a person not only soaked and saturated with the thought of God but also constituted with the speaking God Himself; therefore, the word that proceeded out of his mouth was the word of God spoken through this one spokesman: **1.** For forty years Moses served as God's spokesman, speaking for God, speaking forth God, and predicting; every word that he spoke became God's word.

2. He predicted that the children of Israel would forsake God and be cast by God into all the nations but that when they would repent and turn to God, He would gather them from the nations. **3.** As such a prophet, Moses is a type of Christ. **4.** Moses spoke to the children of Israel all that God had commanded him to speak; likewise, the Lord Jesus spoke all that the Father commanded Him to speak. **Tue**

III. The Old Testament prophet Moses prophesied, saying, "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. Jehovah would put His words in the mouth of the Prophet, who would speak all that God commanded Him.

B. The Prophet raised up by God would be according to all that the children of Israel asked of Jehovah their God at Horeb: **1.** They had told Moses that they could not bear to hear God's voice. **2.** Because they wanted a prophet, Moses promised that God would fulfill their desire for a prophet.

C. Moses prophesied that Jehovah would raise up a Prophet from their midst, from among their brothers: **1.** This indicates that God would raise up this Prophet through the incarnation of Christ to speak the word of God. **John 3:34**

For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for He gives the Spirit not by measure. 2. From the midst of their brothers (Deut. 18:18 a) indicates that Christ as the coming Prophet would be human as well as divine: **a.** If Christ were merely God, He could not have been raised up from among the Israelites. **b.** As God, Christ could not be from among the Jews as a brother, but as the incarnated One, the One who put on human nature and was a Jew, Christ was from among His brothers. **c.** As the incarnated God, Christ put on human nature and became a Jew; thus, He is the Prophet raised up "from your midst," as prophesied by Moses. **3.**

Acts 3:22-23 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. **23** And it shall be that every soul who does not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people."

IV. In His first coming, Christ ministered as the Prophet raised up by God:

A. Through incarnation Christ became the Prophet to speak the word of God.

B. Christ is the Word of God and the speaking of God:

Rev. 19:13...and His name is called the Word of God. **1.** When Christ was on the earth speaking for God and teaching people, His teaching was not His own but was according to what the Father had taught Him. **John 8:28**

...and that I do nothing from Myself, but as My Father has taught Me, I speak these things. **2.** He did not speak from Himself; as the Father spoke to Him, so He spoke. **3.** As

God's Prophet, Christ spoke for God, spoke forth God, and revealed God to the disciples.

C. During His earthly ministry, Christ also prophesied, predicted, by declaring the things that are coming.

D. Today Christ as the Prophet is in us still speaking for God to reveal God and speaking God into people. **Wed**

V. As a prophet typifying Christ as the true Prophet, Moses might have spoken something of his own feeling, but even this became the word of God; his speaking in Deuteronomy was like Paul's speaking in 1 Corinthians 7: 1 Cor. 7:12 But to the rest I say, I, not the Lord, if any brother has an unbelieving wife and she consents to dwell with him, he must not leave her;

A. Because Paul was a man constituted with God, his opinion became a part of God's word as the divine revelation in the New Testament: **1.** In his speaking, Paul was one with God; therefore, what he spoke was God's speaking. **1 Cor. 7:25** Now concerning virgins I have to commandment of the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who has been shown mercy by the Lord to be faithful. **2.** The principle is the same with Moses' speaking in Deuteronomy.

B. First Corinthians 7 conveys the spirit of a person who loves the Lord, who cares for the Lord's interests on earth, who is absolutely for the Lord and one with the Lord, and who in every respect is obedient, submissive, and satisfied with God and the circumstances arranged by Him. **Thu**

C. Because Paul was one with the Lord, when he spoke, the Lord spoke with him; thus, in 1 Corinthians 7 we have an example of the New Testament principle of incarnation: **1 Cor. 7:40** But she is more blessed if she so remains, according to my opinion; but I think that I also have the Spirit of God. **(Fri) 1.** The principle of incarnation is that God enters into man and mingles Himself with man to make man one with Himself; thus, God is in man, and man is in God. **2.** In the New Testament the Lord becomes one with His apostles, and they become one with Him and speak together with Him; thus, His word becomes their word, and whatever they utter is His word. **1 Cor. 2:13** Which things also we speak, not in words taught by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things with spiritual words. **3.** The principle in 1 Corinthians 7:10 is the same as that in Galatians 2:20, the principle of incarnation—two persons living as one person. **1 Cor. 7:10** But to the married I charge, not I but the Lord, A wife must not be separated from her husband. **(Sat) 4.** In 1 Corinthians 7:25 and 40 we see the highest spirituality—the spirituality of a person who is so one with the Lord and permeated with Him that even his opinion expresses the Lord's mind. **5.** If we are saturated with the Spirit, what we express will be our thought, but it will also be something of the Lord because we are one with Him; this is the experience of Christ as the Prophet living in us to speak for God and to speak forth God. **1 Cor. 6:17** But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. **(Fri)** **Fri/Sat**

Crucial Point(1): The revelation of the Bible replaces our concept in our mind with the divine thought and is benefit in renewing our mind and transforming our soul

OL1: Prophets receive God's revelation directly and are borne by the Spirit of God to speak for God and speak forth God.

OL2: No prophecy of Scripture is of the prophet's or the writer's exposition, for no prophecy was ever borne, or

carried along, by the will of man; rather, men spoke from God while being borne by the Spirit.

2 Peter 1:20-21 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of one's own interpretation; For no prophecy was ever borne by the will of man, but men spoke from God while being borne by the Holy Spirit.

[In 2 Peter 1:20] one's refers to the prophet who spoke the prophecy or the writer who wrote the prophecy. ...One's own interpretation means the prophet's or writer's own exposition or solution, which is not inspired by God through the Holy Spirit. ... The Greek word translated "borne" also means carried along. ... Man's will, desire, and wish, with his thought and solution, are not the source from which any prophecy came. The source is God, by whose Holy Spirit men were carried along, as a ship by the wind, to speak out the will, desire, and wish of God.

The first crucial point in Deuteronomy is that Moses as the spokesman of God was like an aged, loving father speaking to his children with much love and concern. ...Moses was raised up by God as God's prophet. In his forty years of leading the children of Israel, he was God's spokesman, speaking for God to them all that God commanded him. Likewise, when Christ was on the earth, He spoke to His disciples for God; ...He did not speak from Himself; as the Father said to Him, so He spoke. As God's Prophet, He spoke for God, spoke forth God, and revealed God to the disciples. Today He is still in us speaking for God, speaking forth God, and speaking God into us.

Application for the new ones & young people & college students

New ones and young people, please realize that the Bible is written by man moved by the Holy Spirit and it is written according to God's thought and will. The Bible is God's word. Moreover, the Bible is the book written for man, for you. Because the Bible is a letter to you from God, please read this letter carefully.

2 Tim. 3:15 And that from a babe you have known the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through the faith which is in Christ Jesus. **16** All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **17** That the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.

For you to benefit from reading the Bible, it is important to open your heart, exercise your spirit, touch the Spirit in the Word and enjoy the Lord. This is the pray-reading of the Word which you can receive the Word by means of prayer.

After pray-reading the Word every morning, please fellowship with the Lord by using the Word. Especially when there is conflict between the divine thought in the Word and your natural concept, please fellowship with the Lord and pray over the point. This is a good opportunity for your concept to be renewed. Because God's will and your concept are different, your mind needs to be renewed by the personal and intimate fellowship with the Lord. Then you will gain benefit from the Word, your mind will be renewed and your soul will be transformed. What a blessing it is that your mind can be renewed with the divine thought. When you are filled with

God, you will become very capable person. Your natural concept and fixed idea are keeping you from being filled with God, thus nullify your usefulness.

Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

A brother's testimony: John 3:16 tells us that "God so loved the world". But right after I got saved, I thought that God should love the good people and should not love the bad people. This is my religious concept. But the divine thought is that God loved all the people who are sinners. As I pray read John 3:16 and touched the love of God and understood that it was different from my concept and by opening to the Lord and fellowship with Him, my mind was renewed. And after that, I could preach the gospel to any kind of people willingly.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, I love the Bible and pray read the Word. Lord, by pray reading, let me touch the Spirit in the Word and enjoy the Lord. Moreover the Word can renew my mind and transform my soul. I open my mind. Save me from religious concept. With holding my own concept and fixed mind, I cannot be fit to you to labor with you nor speak God's Word to bless people and the church. Amen!"

Crucial Point(2): All circumstances are arranged by God in His sovereignty to transform believers. They will be able to match the Lord by accepting the circumstances to experience the Lord and being transformed

OL1: First Corinthians 7 conveys the spirit of a person who loves the Lord, who cares for the Lord's interests on earth, who is absolutely for the Lord and one with the Lord, and who in every respect is obedient, submissive, and satisfied with God and the circumstances arranged by Him. **1 Cor. 7:12** But to the rest I say, I, not the Lord, if any brother has an unbelieving wife and she consents to dwell with him, he must not leave her; **13** And a wife who has an unbelieving husband, and if he consents to dwell with her, must not leave her husband.

It is important to see this principle of being absolutely one with the Lord in all circumstances, situations, and conditions. If we are mindful of this principle as we read 1 Corinthians 7, we shall see that Paul is utterly one with the Lord and that in his instructions and answers he spontaneously and unconsciously expresses such an absolute spirit. Because Paul had this kind of spirit, he could answer the Corinthians' questions in a clear and absolute way, in a way that would help them also to become one with God in their situation.

Another very important point revealed in this chapter is that those who love the Lord, who are for Him, and who are one with Him must be willing to accept any kind of circumstance or situation. For example, if a brother's unbelieving wife desires to remain with him, he should accept this situation. But if she decides to leave, he should also accept this circumstance.

It is very important for us to see that God is always in our circumstances. We may say that the circumstances are actually God coming to us in disguise. Apparently we

are in a particular circumstance; actually that circumstance is God coming to us and God with us. In **verse 24** Paul says, "Each one, brothers, in what status he was called, in this let him remain with God." Notice the words "with God." They indicate that when we take our circumstances, we take God. Both within the circumstances and behind them, God is present.

Once again we see that Paul had an excellent spirit, a spirit which was submissive, content, and satisfied. Paul did not have any complaints. In his spirit he was very submissive and content with his situation. No matter how he was treated, he did not complain. To him, every situation was of the Lord, and he would not initiate anything to change it. Paul could say, "To me, everything works for good. This is the reason I don't want to change anything. I know that when I take my circumstances, I take my God. In every situation is my God, the One whom I love and the One to whom I belong absolutely."

Application to young working saints/graduate students

Paul was a very flexible person who accepted any circumstances. It was because he had understanding that all circumstances are prepared by God for his profit. Please have such an excellent spirit like him.

Rom. 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Testimony of a brother: When I was a board member in charge of regulatory and clinical affairs and quality assurance in a Japanese subsidiary company of the world's largest medical device company, I had an authority to hire employees, so I was able to hire eight brothers and sisters to help them while I have hired about 30 employees in total. Almost all brothers and sisters I hired had come from the other industry field, so they needed a little time to learn their work. In 2005, three years after I joined this company and at the time those brothers and sisters have got used to work there, suddenly the Human Resource person has requested me to fire all of those brothers and sisters. I immediately denied the request, told those brothers and sisters about this and prayed together seriously thoroughly. However, what made me feel troubled was that this request from the Human Resource Department has been repeated for a while. Then in the midst of my prayer, I mentioned "This comes from the Lord," because when brothers and sisters pray in one accord, the attack by Satan would be removed, but if the circumstance is not changed even we pray, then the Lord arranged that circumstance. After that, I have helped those brothers and sisters to change the job. They all could change their job without any trouble. I myself also has moved to the other small department in the same company accompanying the brothers and sisters remained. That year was a year of the radical change in my circumstance and it was a hard time for me mentally, but I was able to learn a lot of spiritual lessons. Then the Lord has blessed our new office, and so I was able to be successful to produce extremely high performance there and was selected as one of the globally high performed No.1 employees (it was selected from all employees excluding only executives of the US Headquarter, so

executives of the subsidiary companies could be candidates.) Through such experience, I learned the following lessons: ① Our circumstances around are arranged by God. So accepting the circumstances actually means accepting God. ② My fixed concept prohibit me to become one with the Lord, so without being transformed I cannot match the Lord and work with the Lord. Because the Lord is arranging my circumstances for my benefit and for my transforming, everything will become my benefit. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord.

Prayer: "O Lord Jesus, I understand that every circumstances are arranged by God and I accept it. In many cases, the circumstance I face does not fit to my concept, but it is to renew and transform my concept. Lord, use this circumstances to transform me so that I can match the Lord and work with the Lord. Amen!"

Crucial Point(3): The New Testament principle of incarnation is that God mingles with man and speaks with man.

OL1: Because Paul was one with the Lord, when he spoke, the Lord spoke with him; thus, in 1 Corinthians 7 we have an example of the New Testament principle of incarnation.

OL2: In 1 Corinthians 7:25 and 40 we see the highest spirituality—the spirituality of a person who is so one with the Lord and permeated with Him that even his opinion expresses the Lord's mind. 1 Cor. 7:40 But she is more blessed if she so remains, according to my opinion; but I think that I also have the Spirit of God.

OL3: If we are saturated with the Spirit, what we express will be our thought, but it will also be something of the Lord because we are one with Him; this is the experience of Christ as the Prophet living in us to speak for God and to speak forth God.

First Corinthians 7 is mysterious and deep. In this chapter Paul never utters the words, "Thus saith the Lord." The reason Paul does not use such an expression is that the apostles' teaching in the New Testament is altogether based on the principle of incarnation. According to this principle, God speaks in man's speaking.... When the Lord Jesus spoke to the Pharisees, it seems that He was an ordinary person from Nazareth. There was no indication that He was different, and the Pharisees regarded Him as a man without learning. But the Lord Jesus is God incarnate. With Him there is the reality of incarnation. Thus, while He was speaking, God spoke also. Actually, His speaking was God's speaking. God spoke with Him. This means that in the Lord Jesus God and man spoke together as one. This is the principle of incarnation.

This differs drastically from the principle of Old Testament prophecy—speaking for God. In the Old Testament, as we have pointed out, the word of Jehovah came unto a prophet, the prophet being simply the mouthpiece of God. But in the New Testament the Lord becomes one with His apostles and they become one with Him. Both speak together. His word becomes their word, and whatever they utter is His word. Hence, the apostle's charge is the Lord's charge. What he says, though not by the Lord, still becomes a part of the divine revelation in the New Testament. He is so one with the

Lord that even when he gives his own opinion, not the commandment of the Lord, he still thinks that he also has the Spirit of God. He does not claim definitely to have the Spirit of God, but he thinks that he also has the Spirit of God. This is the highest spirituality; it is based on the principle of incarnation.

Application for the serving ones

The prophet of the Old Testament was simply the mouthpiece of God. The prophet of the New Testament is that the Lord becomes one with him and speaks for God and speaks forth God in the principle of incarnation.

Acts. 17:16 And while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he beheld that the city was full of idols.

FN "his spirit": Paul's human spirit, regenerated by the Spirit of God, indwelt by the Lord the Spirit, and acting with the Spirit, in which spirit he worshipped and served God. Such a spirit was provoked by the many idols in Athens.

In this Word of the Acts, Paul became angry in the spirit. Paul did not say that God was angry, but he was angry in the spirit which his own spirit and God's spirit mingled.

Rom. 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, ...

FN "my spirit": Not the Spirit of God but Paul's regenerated spirit. The spirit is different from the heart, soul, mind, emotion, will, or natural life. Christ and the Spirit are with the believers in their regenerated human spirit. In this book, Paul stressed that ..., whatever we do toward God must be in this spirit. ... This is the first important item in his preaching of the gospel.

The first important item you serve God is to serve "in my spirit." This spirit is the spirit of man which mingled with the spirit of God. Not only God speaks, but also speaks with your spirit. This is the principle of incarnation in the New Testament. The church in Kobe purchased Sannomiya meeting hall at the end of November 2019. Let me explain this case. The people in charge of the church did not pray, "Lord, do you want to buy or do not want to buy? We do not know, so let us know." Rather, "In order to move forward, we need a meeting hall near the center of Kobe, Sannomiya. Lord, strengthen your testimony in Kobe. Please bless this property for this." The responsible ones prayed and went to see the property, then prayed and fellowshiped, and informed the seller of the intention to buy during the day. I need to borrow about 90% of the purchase cost from the bank, so I prayed for about two weeks before the loan review went down:

"Oh Lord Jesus, for your interests, make sure that we are able to borrow the full amount you wish at low interest. However, we remain alert on this property so as not to leave the union with you. If this property is not of your will, please don't give the loan. In that case, you must give the church a better property. At the moment on this matter, we have peace with the Body, feeling that you are blessing, so we started. Lord, guide us in a sense of life and peace. Give prosperity to your church. Amen!"

I think that the prayers of those responsible ones for the church were within the principle of incarnation.