

### SERMON GUIDE:

February 26, 2023, Pastor Jason Smotherman

**Psalms 42:7 (KJV)** Deep calls unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me

**Psalms 42:7 (NKJV)** Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls; All Your waves and billows have gone over me.

The longer you stay, the bigger the waves. Worship service is not the main thing, it is the set up to main thing.

**Romans 12:1-3 (NLT)** And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.<sup>2</sup> Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

God has chosen three basic ways of communicating with man;

- 1) A voice communicates directly to man's outer ear - Genesis 3:8
- 2) By His Holy Spirit directly to man's inner ear - John 16:7-14
- 3) By Choosing Men and Women of God called Prophets - An example - Exodus 7:1

These ways of communicating to man have given us;

- 1) The written Word of God
  - **2 Timothy 3:16-17** All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
  - **2 Peter 1:20** for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
- 2) The Holy Spirit still communicates in confirmation with His written Word
- 3) Through Men and Woman of God speaking on behalf of God to a people group or individuals through the Word of the Lord and the Holy Spirit direction. This by definition is the office of the prophet.

**Ephesians 2:19-22** Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

**Ephesians 4:11-12** And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,



Example of Prophets Speaking corporately about direction:

- **Acts 11:27-30** And in these days prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 Then one of them, named Agabus, stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar. 29 Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. 30 This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Example of a Prophet speaking about correction:

- **2 Samuel 12:1-7** Then the Lord sent Nathan to David. And he came to him and said to him: "There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds. But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had brought up and nourished; and it grew up together with him and his children. It ate of his food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him. Then David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! And he shall restore four-fold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity." Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.'"

When the devil comes, he makes an appeal to that part of man's nature where passion is the strongest and principle is the weakest.

### **Beware of the traveler!**

**Philippians 4:8** "Finally brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue, if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things."

### **LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS:**

- We hear and see the gifts of pastors, teachers, and evangelists in church but what is the role of the prophet in church?
- Can prophets prophecy about direction according to Acts 11:27-30? Explain why or why not.
- After reading 2 Samuel 12: 1-7, can prophets speak about correction? What does the scripture explain about this?
- After hearing what the prophet's intention is in scripture, has the "American Church" silenced the prophet? If so, how have we?