

How to Judge/Test Prophecy

1 Thessalonians 5:21 "Test all things; hold fast what is good."

Q) Does it line up with scriptural principles?

Acts 17:11 "These (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

There is no new revelation...only illumination.

Q) Does it produce peace?

Colossians 3:15 "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts."

Colossians 3:15 Amplified And let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state] to which as [members of Christ's] one body you were also called [to live]. And be thankful (appreciative), [giving praise to God always].

Philippians 4:6-7 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Q) Did it come to pass?

Deuteronomy 18:20-22 `But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'
21 "And if you say in your heart, `How shall we know the word which the Lord has not spoken?'--
22 "when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.

Q) Is it accurate?

1 Corinthians 14:29-32 "Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.

30 But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent.

31 For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged.

32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets."

Q) Does it point me toward Jesus and the things of God?

Deuteronomy 13:1-5 "If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder,

2 "and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, `Let us go after other gods'--which you have not known--`and let us serve them,'

3 "you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the Lord your God is testing you to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

4 "You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice, and you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.

5 "But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the Lord your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.

Revelations 19:10 "Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

1 John 4:1-3 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God,

3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

Avoid anything to do with:

- Fortune telling
- Tarot cards
- Extra sensory perception
- Personal readings
- Clairvoyance
- Seances
- Ouija Boards

Deuteronomy 18:10-14 "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,

11 "or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.

12 "For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you.

13 "You shall be blameless before the Lord your God.

14 "For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the Lord your God has not appointed such for you.

Q) What is the purity of the person who gave the prophecy?

Matthew 7:15-23 Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

16 "You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles?

17 "Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

18 "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.

19 "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

20 "Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

1 Thessalonians 5:12 (KJS) And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you

Q) Is it a confirmation of what God has already dealt with in your heart or spoken to you?

Acts 20:22 "And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there,

23 "except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.

Q) Did God confirm it later?

If you don't understand something, stick it on the shelf. If it is of God, He will show you.

Q) Has the prophecy been publicly acknowledged, submitted and judged? (Not secretly given in a corner)

Prophecies that are given publicly (regular services, prayer meetings, Bible studies) are to be judged immediately by the person(s) in charge of the public meeting. Public utterance makes itself available for judgment because it is given publicly. Personal prophecy has the potential of going unjudged, and that is unscriptural.

Reasons why prophecy should be done in an assembly:

1 Corinthians 14:29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge.

It establishes the will of God for the individual by:

- Confirming the person's ministry in the body of Christ to the candidate, to the pastor, to the congregation
- It strengthens the person's relationship to the local church

The danger of being prophesied to outside of one's local church:

- It can't be properly judged by those who know the individual