

Prophets

Amos 3:7

Surely the Lord Jehovah will do nothing,
except he reveal his secret unto his
servants the prophets.

Do We Have the Heart of a Prophet?

- Jam. 1:2-4 – Count it all joy
- 1 Pet. 1:3-12 – That the proof of your faith.
- Rom. 5:1-4 – Stedfastness...hope
- Rom. 8:18-25 – With patience wait for it.
- Isa. 1:2-9 – Isaiah detested sin but mourned the fate of sinners.

Israel's Attitude Toward the Prophets

- Matt. 23:37 – “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, that killeth the prophets, and stoneth them that are sent unto her!”
- 1 Kgs. 18:10 – “I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.”
- Neh. 9:26 – They “cast thy law behind their back, and slew thy prophets that testified against them.”

Prophet Defined

- Exod. 4:12-16 – “be to thee a mouth”
- Exod. 7:1-2 – “Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet”
- “According to the uniform teaching of the Bible the prophet is a speaker of or for God. His words are not the production of his own spirit, but come from a higher source. For he is at the same time, also, a seer, who sees things that do not lie in the domain of natural sight, or who hears things which human ears do not ordinarily receive” (ISBE; Vine’s).

Types of Prophets

- Oral:
 - 2 Chron. 15:1 – Azariah the son of Obed to Asa
 - 1 Kgs. 18:1-19:14 – Elijah to Ahab
- Seers:
 - 1 Sam. 9:9 – Samuel – prophet and seer
 - 2 Chron. 9:29 – Iddo the seer
- Literary: Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel

False Prophets

- 1 Kgs. 13:11 – Old prophet
- 1 Kgs. 18:20ff – Prophets of Baal
- Jer. 28:1, 10, 15-17 – Hananiah
- Jer. 20:1-6 – Pashhur
- Neh. 6:1-14 – Shemaiah and Noadiah

Examples of Rejection

- 1 Sam. 8:1-22 – Israel demands a king
- 1 Kgs. 20:35-43 – Man refused to smite the prophet
- Jer. 6:13-19 – We will not hearken
- Neh. 9:13-17 – Refused to obey
- Jer. 11:9-14 – Jehovah tells Jeremiah not to pray for the people
- Zech. 7:4-14 – “They refused to hearken

Faith of the Prophets

- Samuel: 1 Sam. 1:11, 27-28; 7:15 – Given to the Lord all the days of his life
- Elijah: 1 Kgs. 19:14 – “Very jealous for Jehovah”
- Elisha: 2 Kgs. 2:9-10 – Asked for that which would glorify God
- Jeremiah: 7:23-27 – Persisted though suffered
- Habakkuk: 2:3-4 – The righteous shall live by his faith

Faith of the Prophets

- Isaiah: Prophesied of...
 - 7:14 – Virgin birth
 - 40:3-5 – The work of John the Baptist
 - 9:1-2 – The coming of Christ who came a light into the world
- Isaiah 20:2-3 – Faithful obedient servant
- Isa. 6:8-9 – Quick to seize an opportunity to a question not directly asked.

Fortitude of the Prophets: Courageous endurance

- Samuel:

- 1 Sam. 12:1-7, 17-18, 19-23 – Convicts the people
- 1 Sam. 15:1-32, 33 – Saul and Agag

- Elijah:

- 1 Kgs. 18:1-46 – Bold against the prophets of Baal
- 2 Kgs. 1:1-17 – Denounces Ahaziah king of Israel, son of Ahab

Fortitude of the Prophets: Courageous endurance

- Elisha:
 - 2 Kgs. 6:8-19 – Against the king of Syria
 - 2 Kgs. 6:31, 32 – Endured the threats of Jehoram king of Samaria
- Isaiah:
 - Isa. 39:1-7 – Rebuked Hezekiah
 - Isa. 7:1-9 – Spoke out against Syria and Samaria: Syria – Rezin; Samaria – Remaliah's son, i.e., Peka; Judah - Ahaz

Fortitude of the Prophets: Courageous endurance

- Jeremiah:

- Eighteen years with Josiah – good
- Eleven years with Jehoiakim – bad
- Eleven years with Zedekiah – bad
- Remained faithful while other sought his life
- Jer. 28:1-17 – Stood up against Zedekiah and Hananiah
- Jer. 43:2 – Called a liar

Frustration of the Prophets

- Samuel:

- 1 Sam. 13:8-14 – To Saul, Samuel said, “What have you done?”
- 1 Sam. 15:1-32 – Saul and Amalek
- 1 Sam. 15:34-35 – Mourned Saul

- Elijah:

- 1 Kgs. 18:22 - I alone am left
- 1 Kgs. 19:4 – No better than my fathers

Frustration of the Prophets

- Elisha:
 - 2 Kgs. 2:15-18 – Fifty prophets: Did I not say unto you, Go not?”
 - 2 Kgs. 2:23-24 – Young lads out of Beth-el
 - 2 Kgs. 3:11-15 – “were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not look at you, nor see you”
 - 2 Kgs. 13:14-19 – Frustrated with Joash: Arrows, smite the ground.

Frustration of the Prophets

- Isaiah: 6:10-13 – Knowing what he was to face.
- Jeremiah:
 - Jer. 1:4-10 – Considered himself inadequate for the work
 - Jer. 1:10; 20:7-11 – Thou hast deceived: persuaded
 - Jer. 11:14; 1 Sam. 12:23 - "So do not pray for this people, or lift up a cry or prayer for them

Frustration of the Prophets

- Jeremiah:

- Jer. 12:1-6 – How long shall the land mourn? Then rebuked by the Lord
- Jer. 20:13-18 – Laments the day of his birth.
- Jer. 23:1-6 – Twenty-Three years Jeremiah warned the people.
- Jer. 42—43:4 – People refuse the words of Jehovah by Jeremiah. Before the people went to Egypt.
- Jer. 43:7; 44:15-19 – In Egypt: We will not hearken unto thee

Frustration of the Prophets

- Ahijah: 1 Kgs. 14:1-17 – Disappointed in Jeroboam
- Micaiah: 1 Kgs. 22:15, 27-28 – Taunts Ahab
- Habakkuk: 1:2, 12-17 – How long?

Fears and/or Fearlessness

- Samuel: Fearless
- Elijah:
 - 1 Sam. 16:1-2 – Saul will kill me
 - 1 Kgs. 1:9-15 – Do not be afraid
 - 1 Kgs. 19:1-3 – ran for his life
- Elisha: Fearless

Fears and/or Fearlessness

- **Isaiah:**
 - 29 times the word fear is used in Isaiah...not one applied to Isaiah.
 - 10 times the word afraid is used in Isaiah...not one applied to Isaiah.
 - 8 times the word hide is used in Isaiah...not one applied to Isaiah
 - 13 times the word flee is used in Isaiah...not one applied to Isaiah.
 - 1 time the word fearful is used in Isaiah...not one applied to Isaiah
 - 6 times the word fled is used in Isaiah...not one applied to Isaiah

Fear and/or Fearlessness

- Jeremiah:

- Jer. 1:4-10 – Fear of being inadequate for the work
- Jer. 18:18-23 – Counsel to slay Jeremiah
- Jer. 20:10 – I have heard the defaming
- Lam. 3:1-20 – Despair
- Jer. 36:17-19, 26 – Hide thyself/Jehovah hid
- Jer. 38:4-6 – Placed in a dungeon and sank in the mire

Fear and/or Fearlessness

- Ahijah: None apparent
- Micaiah: None apparent
- Uriah: Jer. 26:21 – afraid: fled to Egypt
- Habakkuk: 3:16 – Fearful of what he saw and would witness.