

**PROPHECY –**  
*Defining the connection between the Old and New Testament Prophets*  
(Sammy Williams)

• **THREE BIBLICAL CLARIFICATIONS CONCERNING PROPHECY (SESSION 1):**

**1. *Prophecy is Objective***

*a. Clearly seen by the senses of the prophet*

- Prophet was a spokesman of God (nabhi) who was a “seer” (1 Sam 9:9)

*b. Outside of the senses and imagination of the prophet*

- Jer 23:16 – false prophets speak from their own imagination.
- V 18 – true prophets will see and hear God’s word (trance like state, with all the faculties operating).
- 26 – false prophets get things from their own hearts.

*c. Uncontrollable by the prophet's will or desires*

- Acts 22:16,17 – a trance, vision and a word from God
- Jer 20:9; 23:9 - Jeremiah must speak even if he doesn't want to

***Implications:***

- Luke 24:25,27 – the spoken prophetic word is in the scriptures
- 1 Pet 1:19 - the prophetic word is more sure, because it is not subject to men's interpretation
- God speaks in a fresh current way through his word through this word – eyeball to eyeball. Heb 3:7 – Holy Spirit ‘says’ in a fresh way through Ps 95 written over 1000 years ago. Heb 4:12

**2. *Prophecy is to be Tested***

*a. By other prophets*

- 1 Cor 14:29

*b. By other Scriptural Truth*

- Deut 13:1-5

*c. By testing their predictions*

- Deut 18:20-22

- **THREE BIBLICAL CLARIFICATIONS CONCERNING PROPHECY (SESSION 2):**

### 3. Prophecy is Temporary

#### a. Prophecy is Foundational

- NT prophets **in association** with the apostles brought to us the Word of God
- Eph 2:20 - Foundation
- Eph 3:2 – a stewardship (assignment) to me (Paul). Paul has a ministry that we don't have. V 3- it's revelation. V 4 – mystery of Christ. V 5 – revealed through apostles and prophets

#### b. Prophecy is replaced by the perfect (1 Cor 13:9,10)

- This verse indicates an end of the gift of prophecy (8,9)
- **Perfect** refers to the end of Scripture –

##### 1. Progression

- The verse speaks of perfect and then the part
- Confirmed in Col 1:25,26 – fill up the Word of God
- Spoken of in John 16:12,13

##### 2. Completion

- Perfect is a neuter – finished thing. Same word used in John 17: 4(accomplished the work you have given). Finish my course 2 Tim 4:7 (Paul's ministry)
- Used of a finished work or product (Scripture). When the Scriptures are a finished work prophecy will be done away with.

##### 3. Transformation

- What about the illustrations in 1 Cor 13:11ff
- When I was a child – that illustration is clear
- Now I see dimly, then I will know face to face
- Allusion to Numbers 12:6-8 – words on prophets. With Moses I speak mouth to mouth, even openly and not in dark sayings. Paul's quote in 1 Cor is taken from here. The word "dimly" is taken directly from this passage.
- We're not in heaven yet, but God's will is no longer an enigma. Eg prophets did not understand fully the second coming. We will now know ourselves fully (accurately).
- How do we see ourselves – through the truths of the gospel in Scripture.

#### c. Prophecy Focuses on Jesus Christ

##### (The Goal of all Scripture to make Jesus known)

- The Goal of prophecy is to see Jesus (Heb 1:1,2)
- This happens through an exposition of the word (2 Cor 3:18-4:5)