

**One True Church Series  
Gift Of Prophecy Restored  
Sermon Bible Notes by Pastor O. Cary Rodgers, Jr.**

**On the Mt. Of Truth!**

During the Seventh-day Adventist's humble beginnings, God established the leadership and laity on the Mountain of Truth because they kept both the law and the testimonies. God had a great work for them to do worldwide! They were to be last-day Nehemiahs and Elijahs to repair the broken walls of truth including the Seventh-day Sabbath and to warn the world of the current investigative judgment and the soon coming of Jesus Christ.

**What gifts did God give to the NT church who was following both the law and the testimonies?**

**1 Corinthians 12:4 - 11**

- 4 Now there are **diversities of gifts**, but **the same Spirit**.  
 5 And there are differences of administrations [church leadership/officers], but the same Lord.  
 6 And there are diversities of operations [effective ministries], but it is the same God which worketh all in all.  
 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal [benefit all].

**Examples of the diversities of gifts – (administrations & operations)**

- 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;  
 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;  
 10 To another the working of miracles; to **another prophecy**; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:  
 11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, **dividing [Gk: distribute] to every man [on Mt. Of Truth]** severally as he will.

**Gifts that God gives directly to the workers of God: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, languages, interpretation of languages.**

**Ephesians 4:7, 11**

- 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.  
 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, **prophets**; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

**Leadership gifts to the church: Apostles (delegate/messenger), prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers**

**Key Biblical Principal of rejecting the law and the testimonies:**

Those who reject either the law and the testimonies by default will not receive the gifts of the church!

Remember - Isaiah 8:20, "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, *it is because there is no light in them.*"

**If there is NO LIGHT, they do not possess the true gift of the church!**

**When God's law is cast to the ground, so are the gifts.** Or when God's testimonies are cast to the ground, so are the gifts! Remember the law and testimonies are married and cannot be divorced. The

gifts to the church are the benefits of that marriage to Jesus!

During the OT and the NT church all these gifts were given to the church when they held fast to both the law and the testimonies. In the OT when Israel ignored the gifts and rejected both the law and the testimonies, what happen to the gifts? They went into darkness during apostasy.

During the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ, God re-established all these gifts to the church as long as they kept both the law and the testimonies by staying on the Mountain of Truth. When the New Testament church leadership and membership as a whole compromised God's truth and apostatized they rejected both the law and the testimonies.

During the dark ages the gifts to the church were also in darkness in the midst of apostasy. During the time of the Protestant Reformation God began to re-establish the gifts, but not in its fullness! After the Papal Roman Empire declined as the darkness began to turn into day God began to reestablish the gifts through the Millerite Advent Movement, but not in its fullness.

**In the last days, since 1844 when did God re-establish ALL His gift to the church?** Think about it. Remember, God is not a respecter of persons. **ALL His gifts to the church were not re-established to the church until both the law and the testimonies were re-established.** Remember, they go hand-in-hand. The gifts to the church are the benefits of the union of both the law and the testimonies!

After the Great Disappointment in 1844 when God's light shined brighter and brighter, a small group of humble believers who later became known as Seventh-day Adventists re-established to the Christian world both the law and the testimonies!

ALL the gifts to Christ's workers on the Mt. of Truth were re-established: **wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, discernment, languages, interpretation of languages, and even prophecy!**

**ALL the gifts of leadership were re-established: Apostles, evangelists, pastors, teachers, and prophets.**

**What special gift was given to the Seventh-day Adventist Movement as a result of teaching and living according to all the law and testimonies?**

Remember, the testimonies is also known as the testimony of Jesus.

### **Revelation 19:10**

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See *thou do it* not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Remember, the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Prophecy is the special divine gift to those who teach and live by ALL the law and the testimonies!

The spirit of prophecy is a special gift to the last day church of God who are upholding the Truth of God on the Mountain of Truth!

### **What is prophecy?**

Hebrew: nebû'âh (neb-oo-aw') = **Prediction**

Greek: prophēteia (prof-ay-ti'-ah) = **Prediction**  
**Prediction = “to declare or tell in advance (of the future)”**

**Why does God give His gifts to His church, including the gift of prophecy for those on the Mountain Of Truth? (go back to Ephesians 4)**

**Ephesians 4:12 - 15**

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the **truth in love, may grow up** into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:

**Those who are given the gift of prophecy are known as prophets.**

**1 Samuel 9:9**

9 (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to enquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the seer: for *he that is now called* a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.)

Hebrew “Prophet” (nâbîy'(naw-bee')=spokesman, speaker, prophet, inspired man: - prophecy, that prophesy,

Greek “Prophet”(prophētēs(prof-ay'-tace)= **a foreteller (“prophet”)**; by analogy an inspired speaker; in Greek writings, an interpreter of oracles or of other hidden things, one who, moved by the Spirit of God and hence his organ or spokesman, solemnly declares to men what he has received by inspiration, especially concerning future events, and in particular such as relate to the cause and kingdom of God and to human salvation

A true prophet is a foreteller of truth not a “fortune teller of lies.”

**Who is the “Spirit” of prophecy?**

**2 Peter 1:21**

21 For the prophecy came **not in old time by the will of man:** but holy men of God spake as *they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*

**John 16:13 (Jesus says...)**

13 **Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**

The Holy Spirit that inspires the gift of prophecy will give ALL TRUTH to His prophets for the benefit of the perfecting of the people of God, the building up of the body of Christ. It also unifies the church, reveals more of Jesus Christ, promotes spiritual growth, speaks truth in love and is an antidote for deception. **The gift of prophecy was NOT given to make the “prophet” wealthy. The gift of prophecy was NOT given to worship the prophet. Matter of fact, the work of a prophet is very hard. True prophets are mostly unpopular and disliked by many who reject the truth.**

### **How does God reveal prophecy to His true prophets?**

#### **Numbers 12:6**

6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, / the LORD will make myself known unto him in a **vision**, and will speak unto him in a **dream**.

#### **Daniel 1:17**

17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all **visions** and **dreams**.

### **Why does God give prophecy to His prophets?**

#### **Amos 3:7**

7 **Surely** the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he **revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets**.

Before the fulfillment of God's Bible prophecies such as the execution of His judgments on a people or nation, deliverance, the first and second advent, God always used the "gift of prophecy" through His true prophets to prepare God's people and others to get ready.

### **Is it prophesied that God will give the gift of prophecy in the last days to those who keep both the law and the testimonies?**

#### **Acts 2:16 - 18**

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass **in the last days**, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

### **How was the gift of prophecy re-established among the Seventh-day Adventist's movement?**

Just a few months after the Great Disappointment of 1844 God gave His gift of prophecy to a frail, shy, and timid 17 year old woman by the name of **Ellen** [Greek origin meaning "Shining light"] **Gould** [Anglo-Saxon origin meaning – "son of gold" old form of the word "gold"] Harmon White to encourage and guide the sincere group of Seventh-day Adventist believers to a closer loving relationship with Jesus and to be prepared for the second coming of Jesus.

### **Who was Ellen G. Harmon White?**

1827 - Born November 26, 1827 with twin sister Elizabeth in Gorham, Maine to Robert and Eunice Harmon. The family, including eight children, lived on a small farm.

Age 9 she was expected to die as a result of a classmate hitting her forehead with a rock

Dropped out of formal school due to illness from rock incident in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

1842 - Age 14 baptized member of the Methodist Church by immersion.

1842 – Accepted Advent message of Miller

1844 – Had her first prophetic vision at the age of 17

1846 – Married James White

1847 – Seventh-day Sabbath acceptance

1863 – co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Movement

The Whites had four sons: Henry Nichols, James Edson (known as Edson), William Clarence (known as Willie or W. C.), and John Herbert. Only Edson and William lived to adulthood. John Herbert died of erysipelas [eh·ruh·si·puh·luhs] at the age of two months, and Henry died of pneumonia at the age of 16 [White Estate Biography] in 1863. - wikipedia

### First Vision

Just a few months after the great disappointment in 1844 Ellen White experienced her first vision.

"It was not long after the passing of the time in 1844 that my first vision was given me. I was visiting a dear sister in Christ, whose heart was knit with mine; five of us, all women, were kneeling quietly at the family altar. While we were praying, the power of God came upon me as I had never felt it before. I seemed to be surrounded with light, and to be rising higher and higher from the earth. I turned to look for the advent people in the world, but could not find them, when a voice said to me: "Look again, and look a little higher." At this I raised my eyes and saw a straight and narrow path, cast up high above the world." Testimonies to the Church Vol.1, p. 58 EGW

"In this vision the "Advent people" were traveling a high and dangerous path towards the city of New Jerusalem [heaven]. **Their path was lit from behind by "a bright (light)...which an angel told me was the midnight cry."** Some of the travelers grew weary and were encouraged by Jesus; others denied the light, the light behind them went out, and they fell "off the path into the dark and wicked world below." The vision continued with a portrayal of Christ's second coming, following which the Advent people entered the [New Jerusalem](#); and ended with her returning to earth feeling lonely, desolate and longing for that "better world." - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellen\\_G.\\_White#cite\\_note-24](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellen_G._White#cite_note-24)

### What is the midnight cry message?

#### **Matthew 25:6**

6 **And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.**

The midnight cry is the urgent message of the second advent of Jesus Christ, the bridegroom. Its urgent message becomes greater and greater at the darkest moment of earth's history just before the coming of Jesus Christ. What gives light at midnight? The moon – reflects the light of the sun. The spirit of prophecy is the moon that shines bright on the narrow path of truth giving the midnight and loud cry message.

### The Call to share this gift of prophecy to the church and world

"In a second vision, which soon followed the first, I was shown the trials through which I must pass, and that it was my duty to go and relate to others what God had revealed to me. It was shown me that my labors would meet with great opposition, and that my heart would be rent with anguish, but that the grace of God would be sufficient to sustain me through all. The teaching of this vision troubled me exceedingly, for it pointed out my duty to go out among the people and present the truth. {1T 62.2}

"My health was so poor that I was in constant bodily suffering, and, to all appearance, had but a short

time to live. I was but seventeen years of age, small and frail, unused to society, and naturally so timid and retiring that it was painful for me to meet strangers. I prayed earnestly for several days, and far into the night, that this burden might be removed from me and laid upon someone more capable of bearing it. But the light of duty did not change, and the words of the angel sounded continually in my ears: "Make known to others what I have revealed to you." Testimonies to the Church Vol. 1 p. 62 EGW  
**Ellen White faithfully and humbly heeded the call for 70 years!**

She had approximately **2000 visions and dreams**. Many of the visions happened in the public during prayer or worship.

She shared many of these visions as encouragement, warning, and instruction to the church.

During her lifetime she wrote more than 5,000 periodical articles and 40 books; but today, including compilations from her 50,000 pages of manuscript, more than 100 titles are available in English. She is the most translated woman writer in the entire history of literature, and the most translated American author of either gender.

Her writings cover a broad range of subjects, including religion, education, social relationships, evangelism, prophecy, publishing, nutrition, and management.

#### **Some of her most well known books are:**

- Steps to Christ (1892), a classic, concise (evangelical) treatment of personal devotional topics.
- Christ's Object Lessons (1900), about the parables of Jesus.
- Education (1903), principles of Christian education
- The Ministry of Healing (1905), instructions on healthy living and the care of others.
- Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing (1896), about Christ's Sermon on the Mount.

Conflict of the Ages book series [Study of the Bible in book form from Genesis to Revelation]

- Patriarchs and Prophets (1890), covering Genesis to the end of King David's reign.
- Prophets and Kings (1917), covering King Solomon's reign to the last prophetic book of the Old Testament.
- The Desire of Ages (1898), covering the life and ministry of Jesus.
- The Acts of the Apostles (1911), describing the twelve apostles and the early Christian church.
- The Great Controversy (1858, 1884, 1888, 1911), about church history viewed in terms of the conflict between Christ and Satan.

She was a health reformer pioneer that taught the importance of good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle. She was in advance of the science and medical field during her time. Today, it has all been confirmed.

The medical establishment in Ellen White's day were teaching that smoking was healthy to the body and lung. God revealed to White the contrary. It wasn't until 1957 that modern medicine realized the dangers of smoking to the health as a cause of cancer!

She was a trail blazer for African Americans in the south. She personally helped the ministry of many African American ministers in south. Her appeals to share the truth to the blacks in the south inspired her son Edson to establish a school boat known as the Morning Star to train African Americans up and down the Mississippi. This project established other training institutes for blacks in the south. The Smithsonian magazine named Ellen G. White among 100 Most Significant Americans.

Her writings and letters gave specific Biblical instructions to the Seventh-day Adventist Church leadership and institutions on how to set up schools and the health work. **To be continued....**