

MOMENTUM YOUTH BIBLE STUDY SERIES

THE CHRONICLES OF JENIAH AND URIAHA
#18 - THE GIFT OF PROPHECY





The third period bell rang and students flooded the halls rushing to their fourth period classes. “Did you see the news headline today?” Uriah asked as he met Jeniah at her locker. “Nope, I have a test to study for and don’t have time for your pranks,” Jeniah replied.

“No, this is serious. The news just reported that the world would end in 86 days!” Uriah was getting more serious with each word. “There was a guy on the news, they called him a prophet and he predicted that the world would end in about three months from now.”

“Hold on. You mean the guy that calls himself a prophet? Oh! I heard about him and his predictions. Did you know he predicted the world would end in 1994 too? He has done it several times and each time the “prediction” fails, he comes up with a reason why it didn’t happen”, Jeniah said closing her locker.

“Wait just a second. Why does he call himself a prophet? Shouldn’t they be required to tell the truth? How are we supposed to know if a man or woman is a prophet anyway?” Uriah asked trailing his speed walking cousin.

“Now you are asking the right questions. You can’t believe everything you hear, you have to study for yourself. Let’s talk after this period.” she said as she whisked into the door to her Spanish class.

Uriah walked to the library and decided to use his study period to “actually study”, this time to discover how to identify a real prophet. He didn’t like feeling like he was duped! He wrote down a few questions to show Jeniah after her next class.

This lesson will explore the Gift of Prophecy and how God speaks to and through His servants.

Here’s what I found...

Throughout the Bible God used individuals to share His messages to others. Some of them wrote books in the Bible like Samuel, Amos or Obadiah, while others like Nathan, Elijah and John the Baptist did not. All of them were inspired by God to communicate messages with His people.

When God does something, especially major events, how does He communicate?

- Amos 3:7 – “Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without _____ his plan to his servants the prophets.”

What are a few ways God uses to speak to His prophet(s)?

- Numbers 12:6 “... I, the Lord, reveal myself to [prophets] in _____, I speak to them in dreams.”

Jesus also predicted that there would be false prophets right before He came back.

- Matthew 24:11 - “many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.”

If there are “false” prophets, then there should be “true prophets too! These four questions can help us identify true prophets so we won’t be one of the people that are deceived.

Do they speak according to the Word of God?

- Isaiah 8:20 – To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no _____ in them (KJV).

Do they live a lifestyle in harmony with the Bible?

- Matthew 7:20 – “Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.”

Do their prophecies/predictions come to fruition?

Jeremiah 28:9 - "But the prophet who prophesies peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the LORD only if his prediction comes _____."

Do they profess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God?

- 1 John 4:2 – "Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is from God."

These questions are critical because the gift of prophecy will have a direct impact or be an identifying mark of the church in the time shortly before Jesus returns.

- Revelation 12:17 - "...who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."
- Revelation 19:10 - "... the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."