

With Whom God Works and Speaks

PART 1 of 2



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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

Summary: *We normally expect God to speak and work through “His” people, like “church people”, believers, His prophets and ministers. This 2-part sermon will show you how God often chooses to work with people we would LEAST expect, to his glory. In the coming years especially, we’re going to miss a LOT of God’s revelations and won’t recognize where God is working if we discount people and places God chooses to use. Also covered: how to discern a true or false prophet. Enjoy the messages. Feel free to comment.*

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Before I get started into this sermon, please be sure to check out a blog I’m writing about praying God’s will be done on earth exactly like it is done in heaven. For example, there’s a U.S. election that will have massive global repercussions – to everyone on earth, and to the Children of God here and everywhere. So as I give this, there’s very time-sensitive things I must say:

Too many think God’s will is set in stone – but if that were the case, then why bother EVER praying? I’ve been trying to show that we, God’s children, must present our case in the courts of heaven, to God Almighty, and plead that God’s will be done – but that it’s a very SPECIFIC request for God’s will: “the kind of things you do and allow in heaven, let that be done here on earth as well.”

If enough of us turn to God and turn from our own evil ways, God says he will relent from the awful punishments he said he would do to us (please read JER. 18:7-10). There’s more in the blog. Please read it.

I believe our President, President Trump, is standing in the way of the plans of the global one-world elitists. He pulled America out of the WTO, Paris Climate accords, and thinking about pulling out of World Health

Organization – because these have all been anti-USA while making us pay all their bills. The real battle is not Trump v. Biden – but angelic hordes vs. demonic hordes. It's that simple. If God's timetable says it's not time yet for the one world new order and Beast power of Rev 13, etc. – then the real battle is going on in high places unseen to us.

SO PRAY like your life depends on it. Pray also for the SENATE especially. If the Dems regain control of the Senate, it will be very hard for our President Trump to do anything. He could even be successfully impeached if the Senate changes hands. [Update: looks like Senate may stay Republican]

I'll also be giving a teaching about how the **prophesied SHAKINGS OF THE HEAVENS and the earth could start happening BIG TIME soon.** I believe the whole country will be thrown into chaos by the far left ANTIFA and BLM groups if Trump wins or contests. Burnings, arson, lootings, violence everywhere could happen. So be praying for God's protection and that His angels protect this country from those seeking to do harm.

SO now back to my 2-part sermon today and please hear all of it, both parts:

If holy God or his holy angels intend to reveal themselves to someone or group – who is that likely to be? If there's to be a REVELATION, to whom – do you think -- would God speak or reveal himself? If God has things to get done on earth, who is it God will choose to work with?

For many of us, our instinctive answer will immediately be – “God's prophets, God's people, the Righteous, God's TRUE ministers.” And that answer is often correct. We can cite numerous verses that say God hears the prayers of the humble righteous or gives his plan, his word, to his prophets before he does anything. (Amos 3:7; John 8:47; 1 John 4:6).

We also are aware of numerous verses that say God does not hear the prayers of those intent on wickedness, or the prayers of the proud, etc.

But the point of this sermon today is to help us all – however – to realize that God has OFTEN made EXCEPTIONS to that “rule”. He has OFTEN revealed himself, his word, his plan, etc. to highly unlikely people, unlikely at least in our minds. And if we don't come to recognize that, we are going to – in these end-time days especially – miss a LOT of God's revelations and edicts.

Sometimes we put our thinking into very small and narrow boxes. You think God is only working with specific corporate groups or churches – such as sabbath keepers only and no one else. I'm especially hoping YOU will hear this sermon and I hope it will be life-changer for you. I mean that seriously.

So greetings everyone. I'm Philip Shields with another message for Light on the Rock where we seek to have a closer bond with our God and Savior and with one another – even as God shows us more about his Word.

So to whom and through whom does God speak and reveal himself?

GOD'S CAUTIONS about listening to people who claim to have revelation

Having said God will often use people we least expect, let me add to that these foundational principles to go by:

- THERE always have been and will be – those who claim “YHVH said this to me last night” – and God says he never said anything to them or sent them and gave them no such vision or dream as they claim. So we have to be careful to test the spirits and be sure this person could be someone God really has spoken to. We HAVE To have our guard up! Yeshua warned that in the last days MANY false prophets will appear. So I know that too. We are to be cautious about the people we choose to listen to.

Jeremiah 14:14

And YHVH said to me, "The prophets prophesy lies in My name. I have NOT sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart."

Also Jeremiah 23:21, 25-26 – claiming dreams and visions from God; Jeremiah 29:9

- The other thing is **if a minister or prophet or self-proclaimed apostle tells us to do or believe anything that is against God's way or God's word, we are to immediately know that man or woman is not from God. (Isaiah 8:20).**

Isaiah 8:20

“To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”

And remember Yeshua is the LIGHT of the world. He's NOT in those who teach against God's Word.

We need to be like the Bereans (Acts 17:11) who checked everything Paul said, using scripture as their guide.

- Finally, if someone prophesies or tells you a vision or dream he claims is from God -- and gives a **specific outcome or event on a certain date that does NOT happen**, then you cannot believe that person is being led by God in his prophecies. God would not give us a false time line. In the Old Testament, they were to stone such people.

Deuteronomy 18:20-22 NIV

“But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have NOT commanded him to say, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, must be put to death.”

21 You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by YHVH?" **22 If what a prophet proclaims in the name of YHVH does not take place or come true, that is a message YHVH has not spoken.** That prophet has spoken presumptuously. Do not be afraid of him.”

There are so many who have said, for example, that Christ will be back on earth “in 4-5 years, maybe 10 years max”, or even declared certain people would never die before Christ returns, so be careful. Remember **1 John 4:1-2** says we are to test the spirits!

Now If a person states something as clearly his OPINION and it's just his opinion and clearly tells us he's NOT saying God has revealed this opinion to him, I'm OK with that.

So yes, I know the ground rules. There are many claiming to have heard something from God – when God gave them no such word. “The Lord told me...” or “I heard God say...” Beware.

Now come the SURPRISES though. If we close our eyes to all but those within our fellowship group or corporate body, you will be missing out.

So be ready for some interesting things from God's word. He is going to reveal himself to a wide array of people in the coming years. God does not change. How did he convey his messages in the past? Sure, he used his prophets – but he used a lot more than that too. Let's look at a few.

Would God reveal himself to *pagan* WORLD RULERS?

Let's look at Isaiah 45. This is an astonishing chapter. Let's start:

Isaiah 45:1

"Thus says YHVH to His anointed [same word that is used for Messiah, Christ] To **CYRUS, whose right hand I have held —"**

Who is this CYRUS whom God is talking about?

He was the Medo-Persian leader who conquered Babylon –but this was written 120-150 years before Cyrus was even BORN!

So understand a few things I'm saying here:

- **150 years or more before Cyrus was even born, YEHOVAH is calling him by NAME, and calling him "my Messiah". The Greek Septuagint calls him "my Christ" – my ANOINTED one.**

WHO was Cyrus? No doubt he was not a televangelist, minister, rabbi, pope or cardinal or religious leader. He was NOT an Israelite. He was NOT a Jew. And he certainly was not a RIGHTEOUS, humble or pious person. **He wasn't even born yet**, and God is calling him "my anointed one." My *Maashiyach*.

As a man, do you think Cyrus was righteous? He was an emperor. Calling him "my anointed" just meant God had a purpose for him and would use him for that purpose. Kings of Israel and Judah were anointed. Here it does not mean he was holy or pious. It just means he was anointed – selected – for a special purpose. ... yes, this pagan ungodly world ruler! Let that sink in.

Keep in mind that all the kings of Judah and Israel were anointed – at least all those of Judah were. Anointed is the same as Messiah – or "mashiyach" in Hebrew, where we get messiah. IN Greek, they would say "christos" – translated "Christ" in English, also meaning anointed one. So they were all "messiah" and "Christ" – but of course those kings and Cyrus were never "THE Messiah" or "THE Christ" – referring to Yeshua. All anointed kings and priests were "the anointed" of God, but there is only one we know as the singular "THE Messiah" or "the Christ", OK?

So in lesser terms than Yeshua, of course King David and even Cyrus are also called "the Lord's anointed" – because they were anointed!

So pagan ruler or not, God intended to use this man – an outsider – and to reveal his intentions through him. Let's restart Isa 45:1.

Isaiah 45:1

"Thus says YHVH to His anointed [same word used for Messiah, Christ] To **CYRUS, whose right hand I have held; To subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings, to open before him the double doors, so that the gates will not be shut."**

But remember there were no chapter breaks in the original books of the Bible. They were added later. So let's read the last verse of the previous chapter where Cyrus is once again mentioned.

Isaiah 44:28

**"Who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd,
And he shall perform all My pleasure,
Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your
foundation shall be laid.""**

CYRUS was indeed used to open the doors for Jews to rebuild God's temple. Cyrus provided them with gold, silver, protection, Government blessing and the golden instruments and many of the golden and bronze accoutrements needed for their temple.

There are over 20 mentions of Cyrus in the scriptures.

2 Chronicles 36:22-23 – YHVH STIRRED UP the SPIRIT of CYRUS, King of Persia... and then he decreed there was to be a new temple. Please – you can also read it in Ezra 1:1-5, I'll read the first 2 verses...

Ezra 1:1-2

"Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of YHVH by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, **YHVH stirred up the spirit of Cyrus** king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, 2 Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: 'All the kingdoms of the earth the YHVH God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah.'

How can he use Cyrus – or even any other national unsaved leader – like our President Trump? And yet he DOES work through national leaders. Notice what else it says about Cyrus:

"YOU – CYRUS – DON'T EVEN KNOW ME" – God says.

Isaiah 45:3-4

"I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places,
That you may know that I, YHVH, who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel.
4 For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect,
**I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have
not known Me".**

So clearly God back then, and God today – used and can use world leaders to do His bidding. That includes the leaders like our President Trump, Chinese leader Xi Jinping, European leaders and more – whether they "know God" or not. Are you prepared for that to happen? It could!

Cyrus was not a righteous ruler. He was not a worshipper of the true God – though he acknowledged YHVH. He was a ruthless dictator, womanizer and one who didn't practice God's Way.... And God still used him! **Cyrus is mentioned all through the book of Ezra 1, 4, 5 6 and also in Daniel 1:21; 6:28; 10:1.**

Some feel the Cyrus of Isaiah 45 could well be pointing to President Trump, who is US President #45. That's not my point just yet but if hindsight later tells us this had to be the case, then – why would God reveal himself and his plans through a man like Donald J Trump, one not known for piety and righteousness? God can do whatever he wants, right? I have a sneaking suspicion Trump could win his 2nd term and be instrumental in cleaning up our country and in rebuilding the 3rd temple in Jerusalem. *I'm not prophesying – just saying I won't be surprised* if that happens. [As of Nov 6, we still don't have a declared winner of the election]

Cyrus was the world ruler at that time. Our president's first name "Donald" also means "world leader or ruler". His middle initial "John" points to Grace – and God could be saying he will be gracious to this world leader.

So it is possible – that even though our President Trump is vain, has been a womanizer like so many of us men!, -- that God could still use him, reveal His will through him, and help turn this nation and world around – at least for a few more years? Is that possible? Time will tell. I'm just saying God uses world leaders at times. It doesn't have to be Trump. It could be anyone He chooses, even several.

So God does not just use ministers and prophets. My point in this sermon is to get us to be more ALERT to the fact that in these last days we will see more and more people God will be using whom we did not expect Him to use. *And if we remain blind to that, we could end up missing a LOT of revelation from God.*

PHARAOH GENESIS 41

Another world ruler reigned in the days of Jacob (Israel) and Joseph. I speak of Pharaoh. To whom did God reveal that Egypt would have 7 bountiful years followed by 7 horrible years of famine? God used a dream to Pharaoh about 7 fat cows eaten by 7 skinny ugly cows. Joseph *interpreted* it, but the dream and revelation was given to the pagan Pharaoh, revealed by Joseph.

Can you think of other world rulers God revealed himself to and through?

Certainly the Pharaoh of the Exodus! One of God's intentions was that Pharaoh and all of Egypt would come to recognize there is only one living true God in heaven, and it wasn't Ra (pronounced "Ray" as in sun ray) or Horus, or Isis or Osiris. **(Exodus 7:5, 17; 14:18).**

Certainly **Nebuchadnezzar** was another. Remember the dream of the standing image with the head of gold, etc. revealing the sequence of major world empires to come (Daniel 2)? Daniel interpreted the dream, but the dream itself was to a pagan world ruler. And later God punished Nebuchadnezzar for taking all the credit for his great empire (Daniel 4).

Another was **Belshazzar** and the handwriting on the wall (Daniel 5) revealed by God to yet another carnal, evil, and pagan emperor! It was a warning, a "hand writing on the wall", where we get the saying to this day. God showed his hand, in a sense, to this pagan ruler! Again, Daniel interpreted it, but seeing this amazing thing was for Belshazzar.

Later that very night, the city of Babylon fell to Cyrus, the emperor. (Cyrus in turn let his military leader, **Darius**, rule Babylon while Cyrus ruled the empire).

So you know these stories but are you making the connection about with whom God works, speaks, and reveals himself? It's not always his own prophets who get the dreams – but sometimes world leaders. That will likely happen again in the years ahead.

Remember even **Pilate's wife** had a dream about Yeshua – and she warned her husband not to hurt him (**Matthew 27:19**). Again, a pagan – a woman this time – being warned by God.

Let's move on. There's much more!

**ARE YOU READY FOR GOD'S REVELATIONS TO COME THROUGH
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE?**

When I say "Children" – I mean children, 8-9 years old, or young teens. By "young people" I mean people 18-25 years of age perhaps. Are you ready for God to reveal messages through children? He's done so before, you know!

Scripture tells us, without apology, that before the Day of YHVH – and we must surely be close – he would talk to us through young people – as well as older people.

If a young child were to tell you God had spoken to him or her and that God had given him a revelation, would you dismiss it out of hand? Hey, it could be coming like in the past.

If you would just dismiss a young boy, you would have missed God speaking in the days of King Saul and even before that – to a young child. Before he was a great prophet and judge of God, he was just a BOY. I speak of SAMUEL – and his story is told in 1 Samuel 1 and 2. You should go back and read it. His mom – Hannah – meaning "God's grace" – wanted a child so badly that she vowed she would loan a son to God for life. Read in 1 Samuel 2 her prayer of thanksgiving when she received the son from God.

At the end of chapter 2, a man of God foretold the punishment against Eli and his 2 awful sons for their reckless and sinful leadership. By this time Samuel was an older boy, still a child, when God spoke to him in 1 Samuel 3:1 – "...and the word of YHVH was RARE in those days..." But God gave a revelation to Samuel, even though **1 Sam 3:7** says this: "Now Samuel did not yet know YHVH, nor was the word of YHVH yet revealed to him."

1 Samuel 3:10-12

Now YHVH came and STOOD and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

11 Then **YHVH said to Samuel**: "Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle."

1 Samuel 3:19-21

“So Samuel grew, and YHVH was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of YHVH.

21 Then YHVH appeared again in Shiloh. For YHVH *revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh BY the word of YHVH.*”

So God – called YHVH here -- even *appeared* to him “BY the WORD of YHVH” – through the one who became Yeshua in other words (1 Sam 3:21).

My POINT is: the revelation was to a young boy. Would you have accepted that – or will you accept it when that happens again in the years ahead of us?

Don't forget:

- **Joseph (Genesis 37:1-11)** was just a teenager when he started getting dreams of what God would do through him and his family. His parents and brothers scoffed and did not believe him. Would we have done any better? I doubt it.
- **David (1 Samuel 16:1-13)** was likely just a young teenager, if that, when he was anointed the next king of Israel. His father didn't even think of David when Samuel asked him to bring in his sons, since one of them was going to be the next king. Years later, we have the story of David and Goliath. But even then, scripture clearly says David was “but a youth” (**1 Samuel 17:33, 42**).
- **JEREMIAH** the prophet seems to have been just a CHILD or maybe a teenager when God called him initially to be a prophet. CJB says “just a child”. Another translation says, “I'm just a boy”. The Hebrew word “*naar*” can mean anyone from infancy to adolescence.

Jeremiah 1:4-8 NIV

The word of YHVH came to me, saying,
"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

6 "Ah, Sovereign Lord," I said, "**I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.**"

7 But YHVH said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. 8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares YHVH.

And yes, of course, **we are to TEST the spirits.** But again – would you and I have accepted a CHILD as a legitimate prophet of the living God? Or the ruddy guy watching sheep be the next king?

1 John 4:1-2

“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.

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

We'll have to end it here, for part 1. **Be sure to listen to Part 2** – as you're going to be AMAZED as we focus on other types of people God chooses to work with or reveal himself to. I expect Part 2 to be even more interesting to you, as we've laid the groundwork now.

So today

- **we set the foundational rules God gives us so we can differentiate between His true prophets and false prophets.**

God is not speaking to everyone who claims he received “a word from the Lord”, or they say, “the Lord told me last night...” There will be many false prophets, so test the spirits. They must teach according to God's word or they have no light in them (Isaiah 8:20). What they predict, especially if there are clear dates given, must come to pass - - or else they're a false prophet. So in this 2-part sermon, I'm also saying— “Watch and discern carefully!”

- We showed how God speaks TO and through **revelations and dreams to pagan and unconverted world leaders**. I think we're likely to see some through our President Trump if he gets a second term, which I'm hoping for. We talked about Pharaoh, Cyrus, Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar – and there are more.
- **I discussed how God, who changes not, has oftentimes also decided to reveal his will and plans to young children!** Will YOU accept that when it starts to happen? That will be hard for some of you to accept. You might not have taken Samuel seriously. Or Joseph, or David, or Jeremiah.... But be ready! God's going to use the young again in these last days. IN Part 2 I am going to expand on that concept – and much more.

Let's pray...

Be sure to watch part 2, as there are SO many more sources of revelation from God to be aware of. Tell others about us and our website and thank you for coming.

