

2019 Confirmation of Prophetic Destiny

(1 Cor. 1:4-9)

I. Confidence in God

- A. When Paul considers the believers in the city of Corinth he places his confidence not in their ability or character to grow in their gifts and callings but rather in the faithfulness of God who will continue to confirm them and lead them into the fullness that He has for them.

“How can Paul be so confident that the believers at Corinth will be blameless at the coming of Jesus when they have so many problems and immaturities? He can be confident because God is faithful. He is the one who has called them into the fellowship of His Son, so He is the One who will confirm them to the end and present them blameless.” -Guzik

- B. God kept the Corinthians on track by confirming the prophetic destiny of who they were to Him and where they were going in Him. For the believers at Corinth one of the areas He was confirming them in was their destiny to become mature in the use and expression of their individual spiritual gifts.

1. Its very important to recognize that even though their practice and use of spiritual gifts was very immature and even perverted at times that Paul understood their unique destiny and therefore encouraged them to continue in them and to pursue them with fervency. (1 Cor. 12:31; 14:1, 5, 39)

II. Our Unique Calling and Destiny

- A. In the same way there has been a few very clear recurring themes in this church family over 25 years that God continues to confirm. Over the years God has continued to confirm these burdens through various prophetic words, visions, and unique relationships with like-minded people along the way.

1. We, like the church in Corinth, have certainly not reached the fullness in our understanding or expression of these things but we are determined to intentionally press into them none the less.

- B. These recurring themes and prophetic encounters have helped us come to understand some major aspects of our unique destiny and calling. (Our Prophetic Destiny Sessions 2016)

1. He has called us to be a forerunner people with a culture of inner healing and freedom. Called to foster and maintain a culture of encountering Jesus through prayer, worship and intercession. Pagosa Springs is destined to partner with Jesus to be an area of refuge in times of crisis stand strongly with Israel and the Jewish people and their prophetic

destiny. We also are to have a strong emphasis on the inclusion of children and young people in these things.

III. Continuing Confirmation

A. In his kindness and faithfulness to confirm us in our unique calling and destiny God has continued to give us some significant prophetic direction and encouragement in the last few months. I would like to share some of those encounters with you today in order that we might be strengthened together to continue with intentionality and intercession to position ourselves to walk in all that He has for us in the coming days.

1. Dan Juster – “This church is uniquely called to be mature in their understanding of standing with Israel. God to us to come here because you are going to hold forth something in this city and in the state of Colorado that is mature and balanced about having an connection to Israel in a way that will helpful to many people.”
2. Local Pastor - A pastor from a local church in our community has had multiple prophetic dreams concerning the area of refuge for Israel and came into my office to share it with me after listening to our prophetic destiny series online.

“In the dream I was on a bus somewhere on the coast of South America and the bus was filled with Jews who were being trafficked as slaves. I was overwhelmed with grief in knowing the certain suffering and violence that awaited them upon arriving at our destination. I started to contend with the bus driver for their freedom and was willing to sell all I had in order to buy them from him. I knew that if only I could get them to Pagosa they would be safe.”

3. City Leader - A member of our city government came to my office recently to share with me some emails he had received from random individuals that he was struggling to understand. He told me he knew that we believe in prophecy and wanted to know what I thought of them. The emails all were telling him that God had showed them that Pagosa was to be an area of refuge and healing for lost, broken, and hurting people in need of rest. They were encouraging himself and other city officials to be ready to receive such people.
4. Allen Hood – I recently took a short trip to Colorado Springs this spring to visit some of my friends from bible school. I had a conversation with Allen (IHOP-U President and Executive Leader from IHOP-KC) and

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asked him why God called him to Colorado Springs. He gave me a three-part answer. First – for a season of waiting on God. Second – To bring the message of the return of Jesus for His bride to the mission's movement. Third – Colorado has some kind of unique assignment to stand with Israel in the last days.

B. Most Recent - Jonathan from Texas – Two weeks ago we finished up a 6 part teaching series entitled “Upholding a Culture of Freedom”. In the final session of the series I exhorted us to uphold a culture of freedom because of the prophetic destiny of the city to be an area of refuge for hurting people. The next day we had a visitor at the church who asked to meet with me. He told me his name was Jonathan and that he believed the Lord (needs to be tested) had shown him some things concerning our church and our city.

1. He told me that starting in 2015 the Lord began to call him to the place of corporate prayer and worship and started to show him things concerning a great time of crisis and persecution for Jews and Christians that would stand with them that was coming to America.
2. The Lord started showing him various zones of sanctuary that He was raising up to shelter His people during this great time of persecution.
3. A few weeks ago the Lord gave him and his family the word “Restoration” and told them to go to Colorado to encourage the body of Christ in that state. He felt like God showed him that there was an invitation for the entire state to enter into the ministry of restoration and healing. As they were traveling through the state they kept hearing God say “Restoration” I want to “Restore my peoples hearts”.
4. He felt like God showed him that He was going to focus and partner with His people who say yes to the ministry of restoration to prepare them by healing their hearts in order that they would be positioned and ready to receive and minister to the broken and hurting that He was going to send to these areas of refuge.

IV. Responding to Confirmation

A. When these confirmations come we often times wonder “what does this mean” or “what should we do now”. There is often so much excitement and urgency in prophetic words of destiny or direction that we can easily miss the intimacy and partnership that God longs for and go straight into anticipation mode for the word to come to pass.

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Prophetic words are an invitation to intimacy and partnership and give us a prayer agenda. They are not a guarantee of circumstances, they are an invitation to partner with God to gain His heart through prayer, intercession, and intentionality to see those words come to pass. – Jeremiah Johnson

1. Thanksgiving – God is self-reveled and only does what He wants because He desires to do it. When we understand this and then experience Him being intentional with us we cannot help but respond with thanksgiving and humility.
2. Intercession – Spend time both individually and corporately asking for God to give us more revelation, grace, and direction.
 - a. Israel
 - b. Areas of Refuge
 - c. Inner Healing and Freedom
 - d. Eschatological Plan
 - e. More Direction
3. Intentionality – We will be continuing to be intentional with both the spiritual and practical aspects of walking in this unique identity and calling that God has given us.
 - a. Messaging
 - b. Ministry
 - c. Relationships
 - d. Support
 - e. Practical Education
4. Delight in the Journey – Though this is our unique calling and identity it is not our primary calling and identity. No matter what happens in the future of the ministry of Restoration Fellowship we must never find our primary identity in ministry. Our primary calling and identity is intimacy with Jesus.
 - a. God does not give us individual or corporate destinies solely in order to accomplish His purposes through us on the earth. He gives us destinies and callings because He longs for us to connect to the friendship and partnership with Him that we were created for.