

# Recognizing True and False Ministries

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As most of you know, this is probably our area of greatest spiritual expertise; however, we do not spend time pursuing the internet every day or going to meetings unless the Lord Himself directs us which He has not in regard to Lakeland. In addition to what is contained in *Mysterious Secrets of the Dark Kingdom* (the newest, revised edition in hardback should be back from the printers toward the end of this month or early July; we've been attacked in this area so there has been a delay) the Spirit of God has spoken much to both of us during the past 11 years regarding this "false" church system, Mystery Babylon, masquerading as genuine (see current teaching newsletter on the website). But actually this is a no brainer.

If you've read *Revelations from God*, especially the Vision of the Naked Lady on p. 41 then you have first hand from my journals the exact visions and dreams the Lord's given during this time when He shut us up in Montana and revealed this false religious system that was most difficult to comprehend for me so much so that after about 6 months I began to think I was losing my mind as vision after vision would unfold the same day, all with the same subject matter – God's judgment of the false church system. Also, I would encourage you to obtain the message I ministered in 2004 at our church in Montana titled, "An Enticing Scenario" (cf. 1 Ki. 22) because I was dealing with this exact same issue from all the Prophetic ministers traipsing through Montana at the time including some of those at Lakeland now; one of which I had a personal confrontation over charging for meetings. As I pointed out in this message and many, many more we must understand the following facts about our time as compared to Bible times (both OT & NT):

1. God is no different
2. Satan is no different
3. Man is no different

We need to learn from the spiritual mistakes of the patriarchs, Peter, Paul and others and not repeat them. In addition, we need to be students of Church history; most Christians don't know anything about the history of the Church. Also, and this is the most important thing, what does the Bible have to say about the subject? And the Bible paints many clear warnings about being deceived and I talk about this in *An Enticing Scenario*. But just remember to look at the important facts from the Scriptures – always (so is it any different today?) there are many, many more false prophets than true ones. In the Scriptures I used for this message there were 400 false prophets (and where were they located; before the kings dressed in their royal robes on the throne; in other words they wanted to be in the limelight) and these were not prophets of Baal or so they thought – see, they were deceived; they thought they were speaking for Jehovah). Where was the one true prophet with the entourage? Way out of sight because the king didn't want to have anything to do with him because he didn't preach "Success in Life, prosperity, peace, God is love, etc." that they wanted to hear. Didn't Paul speak prophetically to this issue on several occasions most notably in I & II Timothy?

I am attaching a document in MS Word that some friends in South Africa sent us 4 years ago because they new we'd been preaching this message for 3 ½ years in Montana, "Come out of her, my people" found in Rev. 18. I think it will answer *why* this type thing is occurring with these ministries.

I was impressed yesterday morning during my daily Bible reading at the timing of when this began to occur in recent times; it coincided with two things – the birth of the prophetic move of God 20 years ago and the "death" of the Five-fold office of Teacher in the Church. In the times of the prophets and Jesus, people wanted "a sign"; today they want both "a sign" and "a word." They don't want to be taught the truth; there is a forsaking of the truth and an embracing of witchcraft and manipulation in epidemic proportions in so many churches and

ministries today. Why? For money! Remember, the #1 sign of a false prophet or any Five-fold minister in the early (1<sup>st</sup> century Church) was a preoccupation with money.

Being an obscure ministry to most, CCI, is compared to BIG ministries like Rick Joyner, etc., and people falsely equate size, notoriety, etc., with the Anointing – a very dangerous thing to do. The Spirit told me in Helena, MT, in July, 1997, “Don’t ever judge a church or ministry by how big it is, how much money they have, or how many people. You only judge it by the Anointing.”

In 2000 we were holding some meetings in Portland and Evie ministered the first night to a packed room of 300 people on the Fruit of the Spirit with some revelation and she was very anointed. At the end I got up and announced I would be speaking the next night on The Great Delusion Paul spoke of. I said, “It’s coming through the church or what we think of as the church.” I think 15-25 people are all that came; they weren’t interested when they knew the subject matter before hand yet to me this is a scary place to be. Jesus Himself said that “if it were possible, even the very elect” could be deceived. That shows how close to the real this thing is.

I’ve taught and activated Christians in their gifts/callings for years and I’ve always said that it’s been my observation that 2-3 of the Gifts of the Spirit are dominant in every Christian if they seek the Lord and work with the Spirit of God to flow in their gifts. All the revelation gifts have been active in my life but I’ve noticed during the past 10 years (twenty years ago we used to go into churches and prophesy over everybody and we did do this in 2005 at a church in OK but by and large we aren’t led to do this for, I think, obvious reasons that have to do with prophetic excellence) that the most dominant of the 3 gifts has changed in my life from Word of Knowledge, Word of Wisdom, Discerning of Spirits (sometimes incorrectly called the gift of Discernment) in that order to Discerning of Spirits being the dominant revelation gift. Yet, unfortunately, most Christians have 0 in this

area. When some friends told us about a minister in Colorado Springs who had been exposed for homosexuality (who I'd never heard of at the time) and what was happening in Colorado Springs when we lived in Montana I went on U Tube and saw a video clip from the church which this man pastured and I saw the spirit of homosexuality on his face (this spirit can always be seen in the eyes) and yet all these Christian "leaders" in Colorado Springs and nationwide (since this minister was in a position of authority with many Christian groups) couldn't see it (of course, maybe some did but I don't know of it) The same can be said of Paul Cain in ministry for years and among all these "prophets" nobody knew that he was a homosexual? What's wrong with this picture? Yet people have a tendency to equate spiritual knowledge, standing before God, etc., with the *size* of the ministry which is not true. Remember, Jesus said, "If you want to be the greatest of all then be the servant of all" (I'm paraphrasing His statement)

In 1991 when I was ministering in the office of Prophet at a church in Arizona somebody gave me a tape by a well known faith minister who was making fun of the prophetic movement, etc. I listened to it that night. They asked me the next day about it. I replied, "Well, he is a Teacher who ministers with Brother Copeland a lot and although I've met him I don't know him personally but I can tell you this, he knows absolutely nothing about the prophet's office." Since that time he wrote a book about Ken Copeland titled, "In the footsteps of a prophet," which I haven't read but perhaps he learned some things about that Five-fold office (Copeland is a prophet, by the way, so he was right about that) but my point in recounting the testimony is this (if you read *The Prophetic Voice* about the prophet's office then you know): just because you have a big ministry doesn't mean you know everything, especially in this case because we're told you can only judge the prophets by who? Another Prophet! In *An Enticing Scenario* who judged the false prophets by God's Hand? A true prophet, Micaiah.

In Paul's day he was being compared to the "Super Apostles" why? Because they charged a lot of money! Just like in the world on the toastmaster-type speaking circuit; the more you charge the "better" they think you are. Because Paul didn't "charge" for ministry many thought he was *inferior* to the Super Apostles.

If this is an area (Discerning of Spirits) where you struggle then I would encourage you to begin praying and asking the Lord to bring out the Gift of Discerning of Spirits in you. He doesn't want you to be deceived and He will be attentive to your prayers in this area I can assure you. Then when you're in a meeting or church where Balaam and other evil spirits such as familiar spirits are operating you will know *in your spirit* (not your head).

Just remember, this type thing is not new, even in America. I saw it in Austin in 1985 on several occasions and in 1988 my pastor friend from Nigeria and I confronted the pastor of this large (for Austin) church about it – a woman named Joyce Still who was a false prophet and would prophesy over people for money – came to the church regularly. The pastor, Jimmy Seal, did nothing about it. I finally spoke to the Lord about it and He told me that the reason he didn't do anything was because she filled up the church and he profited from it.

Fast forward to today and you'll see the same connection. Finally, I would admonish you to look at what Jesus said regarding the false; run the references on false teachers, prophets, apostles, etc., but basically, Jesus made it quite simple. He said, "By their fruit ye shall know them."

Rather than just give you a quick answer on Lakeland although I think it is pretty obvious, I wrote this to stimulate your spiritual awareness. Let me know what the Lord says to you about this. As always, if you have any other questions or need prayer contact us. We want to encourage you to fulfill the calling on your life and expand the Kingdom of God in these closing days of human history.

Brother Timmons