

Biblical Tests of a Prophet

By Ryan McCoy

(All texts NKJV)

1. 100% Prophetic Accuracy

- a. Deuteronomy 18:22 – “When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.”
- b. Jeremiah 28:9 – “As for the prophet who prophesies of peace, when the word of the prophet comes to pass, the prophet will be known as one whom the LORD has truly sent.”

2. Biblical Faithfulness

- a. Deuteronomy 13:1-4 – “If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods’—which you have not known—‘and let us serve them,’ you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.”

3. Exalts Jesus

- a. 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.”
- b. Revelation 19:10 – “And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

4. Commandment Keeping

- a. 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.”
- b. 1 Corinthians 14:37 – “If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.”

5. Physical Tests

- a. Numbers 24:4 – “The utterance of him who hears the words of God, who sees the vision of the Almighty, who falls down, with eyes wide open.”
- b. Daniel 10:8 - Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I

Biblical Tests of a Prophet

retained no strength.”

- c. Daniel 10:17 – “For how can this servant of my lord talk with you, my lord? As for me, no strength remains in me now, nor is any breath left in me.”

6. Spiritual Fruitage

- a. Matthew 7:20 – “Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”

7. Prophetic Gift will be until the End

- a. Acts 2:17-18 – “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.”
- b. Ephesians 4:11-13 – “And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”
- c. Revelation 12:17 – “And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”
- d. Revelation 10:11 – “And he said to me, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.”

8. True Church has Prophecy

- a. Revelation 19:10 – “And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”
- b. 1 Corinthians 12:28 – “And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.”

9. Bible advice about true prophets

- a. 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 – “Do not despise prophecies. test all things; hold fast what is good.”
- b. 2 Peter 1:19 – “And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

10. Subject to Temptation

- a. James 5:17 – “Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.”