



Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline

Pastor Philip Thomas, May 2, 2021

Acts 21:1-16 – Prophecy

We Learn:

In Acts 21 we see the disciples in Tyre and Caesarea urging Paul *through the Spirit* not to go to Jerusalem. Paul, however, is determined to continue on to Jerusalem because he is convinced *through the Spirit* that he must. These differences in perception and interpretation are at the heart of understanding and responding to prophecy, spontaneous communications from God.

- What is prophecy?
- Why is prophecy relevant for the Church today?
- Why is prophecy important when interacting with unbelievers or inquirers?
- From 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 what does it mean to test all prophecies?
- How can you test prophecies by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit?
- What is the difference between a prophetic word that is revealing what is to happen (revelatory) vs. directing a particular response or course of action (directive)?
- How can you tell the difference between revelatory and directive prophecy?
- What impact do our personal experiences, emotions, desires, expectations, and hopes have on interpretation of prophecy?
- What does it mean to evaluate the fruit/outcome of prophecy?

We Respond & Apply:

- What has shaped your thinking about the gift of prophecy and the role of prophets?
- How can we desire spiritual gifts, especially prophecy? Why is it important?
- How can we be accountable for a prophetic word that we communicate?
- How should we hold those who communicate prophetic words accountable?