

1 June 2020

The Coronavirus, Riots and Modern Prophets

Introduction

Modern prophets usually quote **Amos 3:7** where it says that before God does anything He first reveals it to His prophets, to justify what they are doing in terms of predicting things. It is, however, strange that the passages in the same context which state what must be done to prophets who make false declarations, are totally ignored by them. It calls for serious reflection on the character of God and the integrity of both the individual and the church?

May we judge prophets? What does the Bible say?

*'And if there are two or three prophets, let them speak, and **let the others judge**' (1 Cor.14:29, my emphasis).*

That text clearly states that prophets must be judged, which has several implications. The fact that utterances have to be judged implies that the way many of us speak will have to change. For instance, it is commonly heard that Christians say 'God told me' or 'God showed me'. That means that we will have to learn to say what we think or believe without involving the Name of the Lord and leave it to our hearers to discern if what has been said is inspired or not. The assumption, in the minds of the modern prophets, unfortunately, is that someone who says 'God told or showed me' cannot be judged, for God cannot be judged!

I wonder what the effect would have been if I started the introduction of this article with 'God told me to write it'. I will not dare to say that! What I can say is, that after deep thought, I was motivated to do so because of what is written in Scripture and out of my concern about false utterances and false prophecies made in the Name of the Lord.

What does God say about false prophecies?

According to the Bible, God is vexed by false utterances spoken in His Name:

*'...if the prophet speaks presumptuously in my name, which I didn't authorize him to speak... that prophet must die... 'How will we be able to discern that the LORD has not spoken?' Whenever a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, and the oracle does not come about **or the word is not fulfilled**, then the LORD has not spoken it. The prophet will have spoken presumptuously, so **you need not fear him**' (Deut. 18:20, my emphasis).*

Today false prophets may not be stoned, but figuratively speaking, we are still to 'stone' the false things they say.

What some prophets said about 2020

In January 2020, Sid Roth, host of the programme *It's Supernatural*, invited 20 of the leading prophets of the Charismatic and New Apostolic Reformation groups to share what they said God had revealed to them concerning the year that lay ahead. See:

(Youtube –20 Prophetic Words for 2020) <https://loveforhispeople.com/2020/01/22/20-prophetic-words-for-2020-sid-roths-its-supernatural/>).
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPLN57qq8Zg>).

I extracted a few of the main points of what they said God told them.

Patricia King proclaimed that 2020 would be a *'year for America'* and that there would be an *'increase of grace'*.

David Herzog said that God told him that 2020 would be a great awakening of harvest and revival and that it would be the season of the evangelist.

Joan Hunter said something about the Gregorian and the Jewish calendars lining up for the first time and that it would have implications. She was not very clear about what the implications would be.

Jeremiah Johnson predicts a *'boom in the upper room'*!

Katherine Ruola declared that God said that there would be a *'wave of harvest'* and that 2020 would be year of *'declaration'*.

Glenda Jackson said that God had told her that the church would receive *'double redemptive power'* in 2020.

Kevin Zadia said God told him that *'the Glory of God is coming on the earth'* and that *'God will show Himself in services'*!

Ana Werner said that *'2020 will be the year that all the puzzle pieces will come together...'*

Mario Murillo said that God told him he had to choose life and that he must trust God for revival.

David Hernandez declared that God showed him that great miracles would take place.

Cindy Jacobs proclaimed that if you believe the prophets you would be prosperous.

Larry Sparks predicted that the *'3rd missing wave of God'* would take place.

Tracey Cooke said that *'unanswered prayers will be answered'* and that God would raise up *'prophetic snipers'* and that they will be called so because of their very accurate predictions.

Lana Vawser proclaimed that there would be manifestation of God's promises and that He said that *'...you'll occupy the land'*.

Hank Kunneman predicted that there would be big public meetings and stadiums full of people! (???)

James Goll stated that God said there would be stadiums full of people and that 1 billion young people would be saved!

Hakeem Collins prophesied that 2020 would be the *'greatest year of wealth transfer from the world to the church'*.

Dr. Clarice Fluitt said that God revealed to her that there would be *'new sounds and frequencies in worship'* and also that there would be a great *'transfer of wealth'* to the church!

Kynan Bridges said that God said to him that *'the way you honour the prophet will determine how you will prosper...!'* and *'You need to sow into the prophetic ministry'*.

Again, it was mentioned that wealth would be transferred to the church!

Shawn Bolz – Fox News (3 March) quotes him saying, Covid 19 is not going to be the pandemic people are to be afraid of!

Proclamations of other prophets

Rodney Howard-Brown, a leading figure in the Toronto Blessing move, declared that God gave him the authority to clean Florida of the virus, but, he said, he had not been given authority to do it anywhere else. See:

(<https://www.orlandoweekly.com/Blogs/archives/2020/02/26/tampa-pastor-who-claimed-to-cure-zika-now-says-he-will-cure-florida-of-coronavirus>).

Kenneth Copeland of the *Word of Faith* movement declared the following on Youtube:

'Standing in the office of the prophet of God, I execute judgement on Covid19...I execute judgement on you Satan....it is finished over America, sayeth the Mighty Spirit...'

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSlrQBGfUtw>).

I find it very strange, having listened to the prophecies of these prophets concerning 2020, that not one of them uttered a single word of warning about a coming pandemic and about coast to coast racial riots that would let many cities in the USA be enveloped in smoke and flames! It just does not make sense that prophets who claim to hear from God concerning the different ailments people in their meetings have, and who predicted that in 2020 wealth would flow to the church and that miracles and revivals would take place, could not hear a word from Him concerning a serious thing like the Covid 19 pandemic that would empty churches, cause the death of thousands, and that would bring the economy of the whole world to a stand still! Also, watching CNN, instead of the *"glory of God coming to America"* through great revivals in 2020, as predicted by the modern prophets, we see the opposite happening! It is just as strange that they could not warn the people of New York of the impending 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers and the death of thousands of innocent lives.

Can the prophecies of the modern prophets be trusted?

Let us take **Bill Hamon** of *Christian International Ministries* as an example. He is one of the most important figures in the New Apostolic Movement and is called *'the pioneer of the prophetic move'*. At the beginning of January 2020, he declared that the coming year would be the *'year of the prophets'*. As usual, he does not hesitate to speak on behalf of God when he declares *'God says...glory is coming'* and continues to predict that great revivals, healings and signs and wonders are going to take place all over the world. According to him, he had an interview with 'general Michael' who showed him the plan of how the churches are going to come together and how they are going to break the back of the devil. In the coming war with the devil, God is going to supply the church with weapons that they have never used before! See:

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WakAWKdS4p8>).

My personal experience

On 23 November 1982, as a pastor, I had the opportunity to lead a meeting of a few thousand people, with Bill Hamon as a guest speaker. In that meeting he prophesied that our church, which at that stage consisted of about 6000 members, would grow to a

membership of 20,000 by the year 1990. In 1986 I left the hyper-Charismatic move, but in 1990 inquired from the leadership of that church whether Bill Hamon's prophecy had come true. It had not and the membership had remained at about 6000.

Our head pastor, who also received a prophesy and who was declared to become a 'pastor of pastors' worldwide, died a few years after that at the age of 57 as result of a heart attack. One of the other leaders in our movement at the time, who also had wonderful things 'spoken over' him in the Name of the Lord, tragically died, together with his wife and baby, in a car accident. Furthermore, not a single prophetic word of warning was ever uttered to prepare the church for the serious traumatic changes that would take place in it in the years to come.

It would take up too much space to share about all the false prophecies I personally experienced, let alone the ones I know of. What makes it a very serious matter is the fact that **it was all done in the Name of the Lord!** As an example of how Bill Hamon and other modern prophets put words into God's mouth, I quote the introduction of his prophecy, referred to earlier, to me: *'And the Lord God would say, Son, I saw you where you were.'* It sounds like God Himself was speaking to me! In my filing records, I have a transcription of the things he prophesied, but needless to say, none of it has become true!

Another false prophet is the well known **Pat Robertson** of the 700 Club. A few years ago, he prophesied that God had showed him that Mitt Romney would be elected as president of the United States in 2012 and re-elected in 2016. History has proved just how wrong he was. See:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPLN57qq8Zg>.

In October, 1998, **Cindy Jacobs**, a prominent figure in prophetic circles, amongst many predictions about prosperity coming to Zimbabwe, also prophesied that the anointing of reconciliation would be all over the country, that God would use Zimbabwe like a jewel and that it would *'help feed the world with beautiful produce.'* New factories and hotels would be built and she goes on to further say, *'The Lord says: "The airport will expand and there will be a big expansion...It is the new time! It is the new season!'*

<https://web.facebook.com/takeyzamar/posts/prophetic-word-for-zimbabwe-by-cindy-jacobs-31-october-1998>.

<http://www.efzimbabwe.org/news/news-at-efz/102-prophecy-by-cindy-jacobs-over-zimbabwe>.

Amazing, among all these predictions not a word was said about Robert Mugabe who would soon afterwards start evicting farmers off their farms and no mention was made about the economic disaster that was to follow!

The influence of false prophets in South-Africa

Rick Joyner of *Morningstar Ministries*, together with **Angus Buchan**, prophet Danie Slabbert, Dr. T.E. Mbedze, and **Neville Norden** ministered at a prophetic conference held between 25 and 27 July, 2012 at *The Lewende Woord* church in Pretoria. In his books Rick Joyner makes statements that are difficult to accept when measured against the Word of God. In the late 90's he said that God had showed him the panic that would prevail on earth as result of the transition to the new millennium and the 2YK phenomenon. The year 2000 passed with none of the things predicted by him and other prophets ever happening. See:

(<http://wideawakechristian.blogspot.co.za/2016/12/false-teacher-of-year-2016.html>).

The following is a quotation from Rick Joyner's *Morning Star Prophetic Bulletin#5*:

'On May 16, 1993 I had a vision of racial violence erupting in South Africa on an unprecedented level. Whites were killing blacks and blacks were killing whites by the thousands. The government completely lost its authority and there was anarchy throughout the nation. Whites and blacks would kill each other by the thousands... The killing was so widespread throughout the country that the United Nations expressed helplessness, confessing that the situation had deteriorated beyond anyone's ability to intervene to bring order and stop the killing' (My emphasis). See:

(<https://www.morningstarministries.org/resources/special-bulletins/2003/world-war-iii#.WMI1jdJ97Z4>, <http://wideawakechristian.blogspot.co.za/2016/12/false-teacher-of-year-2016>) <https://prod.morningstarministries.org/publications/coming-catastrophe>).

Nothing of that ever happened. Here are a few excerpts from his books:

'What is about to come upon the earth is not just a revival or another awakening...' The change that would come will change **'even the very definition of Christianity'** (Rick Joyner, *The Harvest*, 'Joel's Army'; my emphasis).

*'Miracles which exceed even some of the most spectacular biblical marvels will cause whole nations to acknowledge Jesus. ... The appearances of angels will be so common that they will cease to be related as significant events. **The Lord Himself will appear to councils of apostles and elders to give them directives**'* (Rick Joyner, *The Harvest*, p. 33; my emphasis).

In his book *The Final Quest*, Rick Joyner writes that God told him that criticism directed at him is 'Satan's ultimate deception'.

The fact of the matter is that Rick Joyner and his associates are caught up in the unscriptural doctrines of 'Dominionism' or the 'Kingdom Now' movements. They teach that the church is going to take authority over things in the world and create an utopia that will enable Christ to return to the earth. This doctrine, which makes believers think that they can change things by taking control of Satan and his demons, causes a militant type of attitude amongst some of them which makes them intolerant of any criticism or correction. This reflects just the opposite of what scripture teaches. The doctrine of dominionism is nevertheless causing much excitement amongst many believers who do not know what is stated in scriptures like **Philippians 3:20-21** and **Daniel 7:21**:

'But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who...(will) ... bring everything under His control...' (**Phil 3:21**).

'... and that horn made war with the saints and overcame them, until the Ancient of Days came...and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom' (**Dan 7:21**).

Of immediate relevance are the following questions: What does Neville Norden and Angus Buchan's association with Rick Joyner imply? Do they endorse the aims and doctrines of the New Apostolic Movement (NAR) or is it because they are ignorant of what Rick Joyner represents? Have they read his books *The Harvest*, *The Final Quest*, *The Call*, and *The Hordes of Hell are Marching*? Are they aware of his false prophecies and dangerous doctrines? If they are, then their silence on this most important topic makes them guilty

through association. What is disturbing is the fact that many people were attracted to the conference at *Die Lewende Woord*, referred to earlier, because of uncle Angus' presence there. Is he also under the influence of the teachings of the NAR? Listening to the things he proclaims, we have reasons to believe he is.

Prophecies promising revival and prosperity for South Africa

Prophet Danie Slabbert of *The River International Ministries*, who ministered with Rick Joyner and Angus Buchan at the prophetic conference in Pretoria, declared in a prophetic vision what was in stall for **2008**:

'Die massa mobilisering van Christene is God wat 'n weermag laat verrys wat vreesloos en effektiewelik stede en nasies gaan transformeer.'
<http://nico.innovationtrampoline.com/2015/02/23/valse-profesie-oor-suid-afrika/>

'The mass mobilisation of Christians is an army being raised up by God that will fearlessly and effectively transform cities and nations'. See:

(Danie Slabbert died on Sunday, 19 January, 2014, at the age of 46, just after a TBN recording session at *The River Church* of André Roebert in East London).

<http://nico.innovationtrampoline.com/2015/02/23/valse-profesie-oor-suid-afrika/>
<https://gatewaynews.co.za/final-crusade-for-revivalist-danie-slabbert>.

One of the things that most modern prophets have in common is the fact that every year they predict that God is going to do 'a new thing' and that revival will take place. Most conspicuous about it all is that they hardly ever quote the written Word of God concerning the hard times that lie ahead in the last days (**Matt 24; 2 Tim.3:1-5**).

Other exaggerated claims concerning revival in South Africa include

'Heaven opened over South Africa,' 'Herlewing is hier, sê leiers' – 2008

'Kaapstad, Kokstad, Malelane, Nelspruit, Johannesburg, Uitenhage, Durban, Pretoria, Dwaalboom, Polokane...oral...die Vuur van God brand in Suid-Afrika!'

(Quotations from *Die ErdeKruik, The Vessel*, Newspaper established to report on the 'revival' in South Africa, **July/Aug.2008**. Angus Buchan appears on the front page; my emphasis)

The 'Fire Trails' of 2011

During **March 2011**, **Angus Buchan, Graham Power** and **Elza Meyer** initiated **The Fire Trails** which kicked off from Signal Hill and had as goal to change things by 'lighting revival fires' all over our South Africa. A declaration in the Name of the Lord was proclaimed over the country. See: <https://www.fireablaze.co.za/samandate>.

'The dedication of the nation to Christ' in 2012

It seems that previous claims of revival did not have much effect, for in **2012**, at a big gathering in the Free State stadium in Bloemfontein involving many denominations, the Free State and South Africa were again 'dedicated' to the Lord. The following is an excerpt from one of the newsletters:

*'The dedication of the nation to Christ will facilitate evangelism, **fast track answers to prayers**, increase the possibilities of **righteous and ethical political leaders** and generally provide the spiritual infrastructure necessary for transformation. **South Africa as a nation, can then be listed as a sheep nation and an official agent of Christ's coming kingdom**'.*

See: *Newsletter of Institute for Christian Leadership Development, 15 February 2012; my emphasis.*

Satan 'bound' in April 2017 – Angus Buchan

See: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MlvLZuJfM24>).

Again at a large gathering in Bloemfontein in **April 2017**, Angus Buchan declared that God had given him a mandate to say to Satan *'This far, and no further'*. I contacted him and asked him to explain to me how God had given him a mandate to speak to Satan in such an arrogant way, something the archangel Michael did not even dare to do (**Jude 1:9**). His answer was that it was through his dedicated relationship with the Lord and through his systematic reading of the Bible!

See *E-mail: Shalom trust <info@angusbuchan.co.za, 23/3/2017.*

Just after Satan was 'bound' at this meeting which, according to the organisers, had attracted a million people, chaos broke out in the streets of Bloemfontein; the city hall was burnt down and police had to use stun grenades, rubber bullets and water cannons to disperse the rioters.

See: *News 24, 21/6/2017, Bloemnuus, 21 June 2017.*

At the same meeting, Angus Buchan quoted **Isa. 66:8** which is a reference to Israel's restoration in the last days, and completely out of context, applied it to South Africa and declared that it would be changed in a day!

Angus Buchan's declaration concerning a hostage

In a meeting at *The Christian Revival Centre (CRC)* in Bloemfontein, Angus Buchan declared that he was assured that a certain South African who was kept as a hostage in a foreign country, would return safely home. This was reported on the front page of the Bloemfontein newspaper *Die Volksblad* on 1 February 2014. Unfortunately, everybody was shocked when it was announced in the media on 6 December 2014 that the South African had died in a shootout in the country where he had been kept as a hostage.

Angus Buchan's 'mistakes'

Angus Buchan's interpretation and application of Scripture is questionable and therefore he is bound to say things that can be challenged. In 2019 he was confronted because he had

said that only Jews and Afrikaans people had a covenant with God. It was only when he was confronted and accused of being racist, that he apologized and said that he had made a mistake. In defence of Angus many say that Angus is human and may make mistakes. That is true, but because of his often bold declarations that God had 'told' him, many of his followers who are often ignorant of what the Bible teaches, take what he says as fact. The same applies to him that applies to all of us; he can think and say what he likes, but must stop involving the Name of the Lord and leave it to his hearers to evaluate whether what he says is inspired or not.

The fact that every year a new call is made for a revival to change things, is in itself confirmation of the fact that the claims of things that were supposed to have taken place as result of revivals, have been exaggerated and in some instances blatantly false. Note what the Word of God says:

'The prophets prophesy falsely...and My people love it so' (Jer. 5:31).

The final criteria for recognising false prophets

*'How will we be able to discern that the LORD has not spoken? If a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD and **what he says does not come true, then it is not the Lord's message.** That prophet has spoken on his own authority, and **you are not to fear him'** (Deut. 18:21-22; my emphasis).*

Conclusion

The straightforward conclusion is that because Paul's instruction to judge prophecies is ignored by churches, many unsuspecting believers blindly follow certain leaders in a cultish way. It would serve the church well to take serious note of Paul's warning to the Corinthians:

'... let no one exult proudly concerning men [boasting of having this or that man as a leader], for all things are yours' (1 Cor.3:21; Amp. Bible).

It must be understood that it is neither character nor good intentions that are questioned, but the fact that the body of Christ does not speak out on falsehoods and deceptions, let alone to hold people, specifically ministry leaders, accountable for the things they say and do in the Name of our Lord.

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