

The Fivefold Ministry and the Prophetic Anointing

By David Martin

In Ephesians 4:11-12, we see what is commonly referred to as the fivefold ministry.

“And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;” Ephesians 4:11-12 NAS

People ask me, “Which of the five ministry offices do you personally operate in?” My response is, “Typically, I refer to myself as an Evangelist/Teacher, as this is what I most commonly do and what is easily understood.”

Evangelism is my primary and first calling and is validated through signs, wonders and miracles. Signs, wonders and miracles were actually one of the first manifestations of God's power that I experienced after being baptized with the Holy Spirit in 1979. Since then the miracle aspect of our ministry has been publicized on the front page of newspapers by skeptical reporters who came to our meetings looking for a “story.” These reporters left as believers in the supernatural power of God as they witnessed a bona-fide miracle ministry. And praise be to God they have always given us very positive press.

Most reporters that I've met did not understand the things of God and usually used headlines like, “Miracle Worker,” or “Faith Healer,” but I'm always careful to point out that that is not true. “I'm just an ordinary man serving an extraordinary God.”

Examples of this gift are in the testimony section of our website. One of my favorites is the video of the “Wheelbarrow Lady” who came to a medical clinic in South Africa (July 06) in a wheelbarrow unable to walk and in great pain. She presumably had a broken back but after a few minutes of teaching and then prayer she got up out of the wheelbarrow. She was still in pain, but within a minute the miracle power of God touched her and she was healed. One of the best parts of this miracle is the healing was witnessed by a medical doctor who then examined her and found her totally healed as seen on the video!

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In 1979 God spoke and literally inscribed John 14:12 into my heart.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.” John 14:12 NASU

What He so impressed me with was the fact that He said, “he who believes,” not he that went to Bible school, or was a missionary, pastor or called to any of the fivefold ministry gifts. He who believes, which means *all* who believe, are called to the same type of miracle ministry Jesus had. From that day forward my heart has been stirred by Him to study the miracles of Jesus, with the desire to learn how He did what He did so we could do what He did and even greater.

Many believe Jesus did what He did because He was God. Although it's true, He is God; if He did what He did because He

was God we could never do what He did because we are not God. I do extensive teaching on this subject, but this document has a different intent. What is important here is how God directed me to understand the operation of the supernatural so that I could teach others. As much as God wants us to be blessed by the signs, wonders and miracles of the Evangelist, He desires even more for all believers to live in the realm of the supernatural, and this goes way beyond just praying for the sick.



David Martin
Evangelist/Teacher

These two primary gifts are clearly seen in the vision God has given me which is to see over 100,000,000 souls saved, disciplined and serving God. God gave me this vision (mission) so clearly it seemed audible. My two primary ministry gifts are within this vision: the Evangelist can be seen with the “souls saved,” and the Teacher in that they are “disciplined and serving God.”

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In 1996 we had seven months of extended revival meetings in Ponca City, OK. These were followed by what we called Holy Spirit meetings, where one night a week we were in four different churches teaching/demonstrating on the operations of the Spirit. God said to me, “You are to Pastor in the Tulsa area.” I began pondering this, concerned with the ethics of this as I was doing one of the weekly meetings within a local church in the Tulsa area. Within a few days the pastor that was hosting our Monday night meetings said, “God told me to tell you that He has called you to be a Pastor, and He has told me to have you Pastor my church congregation.”

Functioning as a pastor was an extremely valuable time in my ministry career. It gave me a great appreciation for those called as Pastors and helped me to better understand their calling and needs. At the end of one year we had a Prophet come in for a three day meeting. He said very clearly, “there was a strong Apostolic anointing in the church.” That meeting was extended for a week and followed by three more weeks with three different Prophets.

An amazing series of events happened over the month, as each of the four Prophets did not know what the previous ones had said. Interestingly, each one had powerful words for me personally which were Apostolic in nature, and each of them said the same thing about the Apostolic anointing within the church. To my surprise the last one said point-blank to me in front of the congregation, “You were not called to be a Pastor but an Apostle.”

At the time I really didn't know what that meant. Even to this day I am continually asking God just what it does mean to me and the body of Christ? I do believe it is much more than what we have yet to fully comprehend, and it definitely reaches beyond the “local church.” For me personally, it is related to an international spiritual fathering of others called to the ministry. It also reaches in ways I have yet to fully understand or assimilate into the business world.

I rarely make reference to the calling of an Apostle. I believe the works/fruit of the ministry will testify or prove out the calling. And although there is importance to title, my preference is to be called a “Servant,” or “Revivalist.”

The fivefold ministry gift this article is dedicated to, is the Prophet. This gift also started showing up in 1979 with prophetic dreams, visions and specific words God was giving me. Some of those words were extremely hard. As an example, He showed me the serious wrongdoings of my pastor (or more literally self proclaimed pastor). I shared what God had given me about the pastor with a friend who was an elder of the church. He and other elders thought it was more of a rivalry or jealousy between myself and the pastor, so the prophetic warning/word was ignored.

Unfortunately due to the rivalry/jealousy a dissension within the church occurred which led my wife and I to leave the church. I'm sure my own inexperience and immaturity were a factor, and as my dean of Bible school said to me, “The school of experience is a great teacher but the tuition is high.” A little over a year later the truth was found out when the church books were examined, after the pastor ran off with another woman, abandoning his wife and child.

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Oftentimes the Prophetic gift within me works in conjunction with the signs, wonders and miracles. God would give me some prophetic act that would precede a great work of the Spirit. One night at a Bible study the leader of the group was powerfully set free from some stronghold in his life when God told me to tell him to play and sing *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* on the piano.

More often than I care to remember though, I would not share a word that God gave for fear that it would be wrong. To this day I continually fight the fear of making a mistake. My greatest concern is the responsibility with giving words. People receiving them should never make decisions based solely on words given. We are all works in process. Just as I am subject to error in giving a word, so are those open to error who run with a word and perhaps get ahead of God or misinterpret what was said.

One time in Cameroon, Africa the pastor asked me to prophesy over his 50 Bible school graduates. I refused saying, “I can't do that as the gift only works as God wills.” That night he asked me to pray for his entire congregation by laying on of hands and anointing with oil and to just prophesy as God would lead. It was a long night and by the time I finished the two and one half hour

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prayer line I was totally wiped out.

That particular night the prophetic gift was very strong. I have since come to realize, one way it is activated is by the faith of the congregation, or in that case the Pastor for his congregation. When I finished, the Pastor said I had prophesied over each one of his graduates without even knowing it. A year later he was still talking about that service and said, “Almost every one of the words you spoke has already come to pass.”

Rarely do I get date-specific words. When I do, my natural inclination is to generalize the word and not give the date. In all honesty this has been a constant fear that by faith I believe has been overcome. One night in Syracuse, NY, a lady came forward who had not been able to conceive. This is one area where we have seen many miracles and healings, even creative miracles where God put organs in which were missing so the woman could conceive. As I went to pray for this lady God clearly spoke to me and said, “Within a year she would have twins.” I fought it but spoke it in faith and sure enough within the year she had a healthy set of twins.

In April of 2005 in the midst of a 17 week revival in Milford, CT God spoke three very strong prophetic words to me concerning the body of Christ, one of which was; “Very difficult/dangerous times were coming to America.” This was about five months before hurricane Katrina and if I have heard correctly, Katrina was a wake-up call to much more serious events. I would encourage you to play or get the message I did called, “What is God saying?” It is free on our website.

I've said all of these things in order to say this: I've seen this Prophetic gift rise in a unique way recently. It is through our Personalized Meditative Media CDs. For these, I do a 20 to 30 minute personalized meditation based on the completion of a four page questionnaire. As I did the first 15 of these as a test, I was amazed at how the prophetic words came out as I was doing the personalized recordings. As it was happening I could feel the presence of God in a special way. He was saying, “This is just the beginning of what you are going to do.”

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And so I come to the primary purpose of this document, which is to prepare those who are having the Personalized Meditative Media CD made or are considering having me, or really anyone come and speak in their church. From what I know and what I've experienced over the years, I have found that the more people pull on a gift, the more it operates. So if you are having a Personalized Meditative Media done, or if I'm coming to your church to minister, put a demand on the gift that you most need. The Holy Spirit will respond accordingly.

As a footnote, the same is true in any area of life. Many times people wonder why more special things take place when they have a guest speaker. One reason is that people come with greater expectation; they are putting a demand on the gift(s) of God within the person. What we need to realize is the Holy Spirit is the guest and His gifting is within the Pastor as well. If the congregation came with more expectation to a “regular service” the gifting of the pastor would flow in a much greater way.

We can't make the gifts happen; they manifest as the Spirit wills. But we can use our faith and covet the best gifts. In my opinion the best gift is the one you need. So whether it is through me or another fivefold ministry gift, use your faith and expect God to minister to you through His anointed servants.

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