

The Restoration of the Ministry of the Apostle

Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV) – *having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,*

It has been standard teaching for millennia that the reference to “apostles and prophets” in Ephesians 2 refers only to men with those giftings who appear in scripture. Namely: The apostles were Jesus’ 12 disciples¹ who he named ‘apostles’²; The prophets were the Old Testament prophets.

The result of this teaching has seen the demise of the apostle and prophet from the church and their important function has been detrimental to the life of the church. As a result, the pastor has risen as the chief among the church leaders and the churches have grown worldly, self-centred and introspective.

Interestingly, Paul tells the Corinthians that the apostle and prophet as of primary importance in the church, while the pastor is conspicuously absent.

1 Corinthians 12:28 (NKJV) – *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.*

The epistles list a number of apostles outside the 12 disciples, indicating that apostles are actually people who have an apostolic gift and who are utilised in that capacity. For example, Paul & Barnabas.

Today, the Lord is reinstating apostles and prophets in the church to take their roles in leadership. The pastor is being relegated to the rightful place of a shepherd and the prophets are being separated from the saints operating in the gift of prophecy.

This is a critically important change in the organisation of the end-time church. While pastors, teachers and evangelists focus on the ‘sheep’, the apostles and prophets focus on heaven. The reinstatement of apostles and prophets as the primary leaders of the church means that heaven will be brought to Earth, rather than the saints striving to get to heaven – a mammoth readjustment in the right direction.

It is early days of the shift, but we must align ourselves with this change, otherwise we will end up opposing it. It’s coming in gradually – with teething problems – so there is time for us to align ourselves with it and allow for the paradigm shift to be implemented in our church fellowships.

Prepare yourself for the change.

Laurence
1-11-2013

COPYRIGHT

Free to copy, republish and distribute.

All Canberra Forerunner documents are licensed under

[Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/)

1 - Matthew 10:2; Luke 22:14; Revelation 21:14

2 - Luke 6:13