

DO NOT QUENCH THE SPIRIT

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

Oakridge Community Church

Questions for Consideration and Discussion

Introduction:

1. Word order of 5:19 – “The Spirit do not be quenching”
2. Connected with 5:16-18 or 5:20-22?
 - a. 5:16-18, cf. 1:6; Ephesians 6:18; 5:20
 - b. 5:20-22, cf. 2 Peter 1:21
3. Matthew 3:11; Acts 2:3
4. 5:20

I. WHAT IS PROPHECY?

- A. A message revealed from God to His prophet – Numbers 12:6-8
- B. A revelation from God to be communicated to people
 1. Exodus 19:3, 7
 2. Ezekiel 3:4; Jeremiah 30:2; Hosea 1:2; Ezekiel 4:4-5

II. WHO IS A PROPHET?

- A. Jeremiah 1:4-5; 2:1-2
- B. Someone appointed by God to receive a message from God and declare that message to the people of God’s choosing
- C. False prophets
 1. Not appointed by God – Jeremiah 23:21
 2. Have not received a message from God – Jeremiah 23:21
 3. Declare a message that is not from God – Jeremiah 23:16

III. HOW IS THE HOLY SPIRIT INVOLVED IN PROPHECY?

- A. Zechariah 7:12; Acts 21:10-11
- B. 2 Peter 1:21; Nehemiah 9:30

IV. WHAT IS THE STANDARD FOR GENUINE PROPHECY?

- A. Genuine prophecy is of divine origin
- B. Genuine prophecy is always true and accurate
 1. Accurate – Deut. 18:21-22; Zechariah 1:6; Acts 11:27-28
 2. True – Isaiah 8:20

Conclusion

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1. When we hear or read the Word of God, how often do we consider that it is the Holy Spirit actively, powerfully, vitally ministering to us? What does it look like when we fail to view it this way? What factors hinder us from having such a perspective?
2. What does it mean to *quench the Spirit*? Why does the Spirit not do more in the lives of Christians who are not responding properly to Him? What should this realization lead us to do?
3. Since genuine prophecy is a message from God revealed to His prophet, can it ever be false or misleading? Why or why not?
4. Why is one’s response to prophecy of such great importance? What effect should this have on you?
5. How can false prophets be identified? Need we be reluctant to do so? What is at stake if we don’t do so?
6. Does the standard for evaluating prophecy change from Old Testament times to New Testament times? Explain your answer. What confidence does this provide in evaluating claims of prophetic messages?