

**What People Are Saying about Joni Ames and
*The Definitive Guide to the Prophetic...***

“Joni Ames has done an outstanding presentation of proper use of prophetic ministry and other supernatural experiences in the church. I have a great concern for integrity and proper principles being practiced in the prophetic ministry. The prophetic movement was birthed at our International Prophets Conference in 1988. God supernaturally challenged me to take a fathering role in the movement. Being a church historian and restoration minister, I knew that foundational guidelines had to be established immediately to keep the prophetic in biblical order. Bless you, Joni, for continuing to promote the prophetic ministry with integrity, wisdom, and proper guidelines.”

—*Dr. Bill Hamon*
Author

Bishop, Christian International Ministries' Apostolic Global Network

“It seems tedious sometimes to find a prophet who has time to answer questions about his or her gifting. It's even more tedious to find one who has a passion to anoint a younger prophet in his or her place, to be a 'servant in training,' as Elijah did with Elisha. This book and this person speaks powerfully to that need. For years, Joni Ames has gone about her quiet, sweet, unassuming ways, speaking powerfully into our culture. She now takes a bold step into the future to advocate and apply the biblical pattern of unity—the father/son paradigm. Every believer will do well to read and heed this strategic book.”

—*Jack Taylor*
Dimensions Ministries

“From time to time in the prophetic movement, it becomes important to have a new work available for those seeking to better hear God’s voice. Joni Ames’s new book, *The Definitive Guide to the Prophetic*, is that book. Every few years, new language comes into use and greater understandings are arrived at, to help young or fresh prophetic voices know ‘how do I get from where I am to being used by God in prophesying to others?’ Again, *this is that book*. Not only is it a great stand-alone book, but I also see it being used in classrooms and home groups for discussions on how to manage and understand God’s emerging prophetic voices in the body of Christ!”

—Steve Shultz
President, The Elijah List

“Joni Ames is a solid prophetic voice in the church today. Now, in *The Definitive Guide to the Prophetic*, she shares everything she has learned through her years of walking with the Lord and operating as a prophet.”

—Dr. Roberts Liardon
Roberts Liardon Ministries
Embassy International Church

“My wife, Romy, and I have known Joni Ames for over twenty years. In that time, she has consistently spoken into our lives with accurate prophetic revelation and love. This book is filled with gems of her wisdom for anyone interested in growing in prophetic ministry. Joni has spent many years traveling the country, sharing her gifts with many thousands of believers. In this book, she teaches on character, discernment, sanctification, forgiveness, healing, angels and demons, and many more subjects to help you in your prophetic walk. You won’t be able to put the book down.”

—Steven Zarit
Former general manager/vice president
Vineyard Ministries International (1986–1994)

“The Definitive Guide to the Prophetic gives everyone the chance to sit down with Joni Ames, a respected and anointed prophetic minister, and learn what she has to impart about this vital ministry. I’ve known Joni for over two decades, and I can vouch for her character and integrity. No matter your level of knowledge and experience—from new Christian to seasoned saint—there is much to be gleaned from this excellent book.”

—*Robert Whitlow*

Filmmaker and best-selling author of fifteen legal thrillers,
including *Mountain Top*

“Joni Ames radiates her love of the Lord, His purposes and truth, through her laser-sharp prophetic insight. In this season of increasing darkness, fake news, and media mind-control, we all need sharper discernment. Joni is a wise master-builder in the arena of discerning of the times and spirits, and teaching all the Lord desires His body to know about moving in the Holy Spirit. Joni’s voice and writing is clear, articulate, refreshing, and thorough, full of wisdom and light. We love her prayers at the end of each chapter, and the many practical applications. She will activate within you that ‘holy fire’ to seek and find the Lord, to know His voice, and to search out His many treasures awaiting your discovery.”

—*Jorge Parrott, PhD*

Director, Eagle Missions at MorningStar
President, MorningStar University College of Theology

THE
DEFINITIVE GUIDE
TO THE
PROPHETIC

GOD'S GIFT FOR YOU AND THE CHURCH

JONI AMES



WHITAKER
HOUSE

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THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO THE PROPHETIC: **God’s Gift for You and the Church**

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Chuck Flynn, now deceased, who, in 1989, gave me the most incredible and accurate prophetic word of my life, one that outlined my calling in detail. I didn't believe it then, but every part of it has come to pass.

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Deborah Joyner, my dear friend and editor, who spent many hours editing and teaching me the ins and outs of writing a book.

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FOREWORD

I am always on the lookout for the triple threat. I am not just looking for those who have the potential to carry the double. No, I have my eyes peeled for the triple threat—an individual who is adept in three different fields of activity, all at the same time.

In professional football, a triple threat is a player who excels at running, kicking, and passing. These players are always the top draft picks. When it comes to Major League Baseball, there is what is called the Triple Crown winner—the rare player who leads the league in offensive statistics in runs batted in, batting average, and home runs in a single season. Then, there's the world of horse racing, in which the illustrious Triple Crown winner must place first in the biggest three races: the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness Stakes, and the Belmont Stakes.

I wonder if a similar title exists in Christian ministry. If so, I know it is as rare as the triple threats mentioned in the sports arena. In Christian ministry, a triple treat would be a dedicated leader who has an excellent reputation in three distinct areas: gifting, character, and mentoring. Some leaders have extraordinary gifting and are greatly anointed by the Holy Spirit but fall short in character to carry their gift. Some shine in the area of ethical character but are rather “flat” in the things of the Spirit. A few might be dedicated to the task of gathering others around them, only to eventually find out that they have been attempting to fill a hole of significance in their own lives. It seems that potholes are everywhere. But is that really the case?

I have often stated that my personal goal in ministry is to “go for the double”—to pursue a combination anointing of character with an abundance of the fruit of the Spirit to carry the calling that involves the gifts of the Spirit. While that is a noble aim, it is no longer what I am striving for in my own life, nor is it a goal I set for anyone else. Now that I am getting older in chronological age, I am choosing to pursue a combination of these three things: gifts, fruit, and multiplication!

Why, in this foreword to a book written by a friend of mine, am I talking about being a triple threat? Good question! As I have prayed and meditated upon the life and ministry of Joni Ames, knowing this is her inaugural book to be presented to the body of Christ, I wanted to state something out of the ordinary about this extraordinary person.

Joni loves the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ. She believes in the supernatural dimensions of the Holy Spirit, but in a “no-nonsense” manner. She is committed to personal integrity, accountability, and humility. Joni is also a champion for the little guy and for the down-and-out. She is as comfortable doing a meeting in a home as she is in addressing a large audience at a major conference. She loves church pastors, and she believes that the fivefold ministry offices can complement one another; the prophetic need not be in competition with pastoral authority.

Over the years, I have had the great honor of walking with some of the best trainers and equippers in various realms of ministry. As a personal friend, a trusted confidant, and one who has his eyes open for the triple threat, I have the great honor of commending to you the gift, the character, and the mentoring grace of Joni Faith Ames.

May you be edified, exhorted, and comforted as you glean wisdom from these pages so that you, too, may join the prophetic company of modern-day Simeons and Annas on the rise in this generation.

Blessings to you!

—James W. Goll

Founder, God Encounters Ministries
Internationally sought speaker, author, and communications trainer

PREFACE

The purpose of this book is to provide a biblical explanation—one that is also clear, concise, and practical—of the operation and function of personal prophetic ministry in the church today. It is my goal for this book to act as a teacher, mentor, and counseling tool to help prophetic people understand themselves and their gifting, and to grow and mature in that gifting. I also desire to help pastors and other church leaders understand, acknowledge, discern, and train the prophetic community within the bodies of believers that they lead.

In addition, my hope is that this book will help debunk some of the prevailing myths and falsehoods surrounding the prophetic, and that it will bring a greater level of maturity and confidence to those seeking to develop their own revelatory gifts.

Over the course of many years, I have asked people all over the world to submit to me the topics they would like to see covered in this book. I have endeavored to honor every suggestion I received.

May this book help prophetic people to realize their place, value, and purpose in the kingdom of God upon the earth today, and to fulfill that purpose.

INTRODUCTION: THE JOURNEY BEGINS

God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—that, as it is written,

“He who glories, let him glory in the LORD.”

—1 Corinthians 1:27–31

Prophecy has the power to change someone, literally, into another person. (See 1 Samuel 10:6.) I’m not the woman I used to be. Through the voices of those who offered me prophetic encouragement, God reached into my shy, backward world and transformed it forever.

When you have a call of God on your life, you may have to fight for it, possibly even as you come into the world. You may have entered the world through a difficult birth, or you may have grown up in a dysfunctional home environment. Tragedies, drama, and trauma may litter your

path. Perhaps, even as a child, you experienced nightmares or demonic visitations. Perhaps you can't explain it, but you just "know" certain things. You pick up on an unscrupulous person of whom everyone else thinks the world. You may sense who is calling on the phone or knocking at the door. You may feel in your spirit that something is wrong or amiss before an unfortunate event takes place. At times, you may feel downright crazy.

If the above is true of you, then misunderstanding, misinterpretation, miscommunication, false accusation, and even rejection may seem to "come after" you. Take heart! This is what Jesus said:

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

(Matthew 5:11–12)

The Bible promises a coming restoration of all things. (See Acts 3:21.) Meanwhile, the Lord offers to us restoration of the years the locusts have eaten. (See Joel 2:25.) God is in the restoration business.

No matter what season of life you find yourself in, it's never too late to step into the fullness of God's gifts and everything that He has for you. Receive it and live it, because you can.

Let's get started!

1

PROPHECY AS A FOUNDATIONAL FIVEFOLD MINISTRY

The term *fivefold ministry* refers to the church-related roles of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher. (See Ephesians 4:11.) The job of those who serve in any of these five roles is to train and equip the body of Christ. The entire passage of Ephesians 4:11–16 is the very foundation of the conviction that believers can be inhabited by the Holy Spirit, and that the gifts of the Holy Spirit, as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12:8–10, are still relevant for the church today.

Earlier on in his letter to the Ephesians, the apostle Paul laid out the basis of this belief:

Having been built on the foundation for the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.
(Ephesians 2:20–22)

Thankfully, the church still has available to it the same power for which Jesus paid the price of His blood. And He deserves to get that which He paid for.

Some churches teach that both the fivefold ministry and the gifts of the Spirit are no longer in existence. It is the opinion of those who subscribe to this view that the fivefold offices and gifts of the Holy Spirit—even the

gift of healing—passed away with the death of the apostles. However, Ephesians 4:11–16 clearly contradicts such a belief.

The fivefold ministry is God’s list of equippers. “*He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers*” (Ephesians 4:11), for the purpose of “*equipping...the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*” (verse 12). The church has need of these individuals “*till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ*” (verse 13)—none of which has happened yet.

The reason we still need the fivefold offices to actively exist is laid out in verses 14–15:

...that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, [that we] may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.

When we fulfill our God-given roles, we help the rest of the church to grow in its walk and relationship with the Lord, because “*the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love*” (Ephesians 4:16).

Every person in the church is necessary. (See 1 Corinthians 12:12; Romans 12:4.) When each person advances, everyone else is encouraged to step up to the plate. The Word tells us that even those who seem to be the least in the kingdom are actually the most necessary. (See 1 Corinthians 12:22.)

The Church’s Job

Many pastors get frustrated because their congregations refuse to advance. It is often difficult to get people to step out and operate in what they have been taught.

Having faith means believing God enough to do what He says you can do. As James put it, “*Someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’*”

Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works” (James 2:18).

Title Wave

Years ago, the Lord told me, “There’s about to be a ‘title wave’ in the church. Don’t get caught up in it.” Sure enough, there was a flood of individuals demanding to be called ‘apostle’ or ‘prophet.’ I’ve known many true apostles and prophets, and *none* of them demanded a title. In fact, many did not want a title at all.

Worth noting here is that, within the pages of this book, I refer to my spiritual papa, Bob Jones, as Prophet Bob Jones. I do so as a means of proper identification, because there is a Bob Jones of Bob Jones University, and that is not the Bob Jones I’m referring to. But, to be sure, Prophet Bob Jones never required a title.

Let’s return to our previous discussion, and look at a brief description of the fivefold ministry.

Apostles

For many years, a false spirit of apostleship has occurred by which self-designated, so-called apostles come in, take over, and run the show, beating others up with their religious spirit, and demanding subservience and titles. They then extract large offerings, only to leave the churches they have “served” in a shambles, riddled with divisions. That’s not a biblical example of true apostleship.

As we examine the Word, we see that apostles are to be the mothers and fathers of the fivefold ministry. They discern where others fit, and assist them in becoming equipped and activated in their God-ordained calls.

In Acts 18:24–28, we have an exemplification of the real deal in the apostles Priscilla and Aquila, who met and ministered to Apollos. Hearing Apollos teach, they recognized him as being eloquent and learned in the Scriptures. However, they also noticed that he spoke about the future coming of a Messiah, rather than acknowledging that the Messiah had already come. Not wanting to embarrass him, they did not correct him in public but instead tracked him down in private and encouraged him. They

blessed his ability to teach, and lovingly informed him of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Their visit inspired Apollos to share the Good News, bringing many to Christ.

Like natural parents in relation to their children, true apostolic parents hold a higher level of authority among the fivefold offices and within the church. They are also likely to operate in signs and wonders. Their authority comes from their having been appointed by God (rather than by themselves), from the relationships they build, from their proven track record of integrity, and from many years of knowledge and experience. It isn't sufficient to simply designate oneself as an apostle.

Today, a number of self-appointed apostles offer unsatisfying support for their spiritual children, and they charge a monthly or yearly fee, plus a large honorarium, on top of other unnecessary expenses that may include first-class travel and lavish accommodations.

These individuals in no way resemble the apostles of the Bible, of whom Jesus said, *"I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars"* (Revelation 2:2).

The apostles whose lives are recorded in the New Testament displayed the love of God and developed *relationships* with those they served, maintaining communication even when they were on the road. They spent quality time with their constituents and spoke the truth in love. They were devoted to the Word and to prayer, travailing over those in their care. They counseled, ministered, prayed, healed, and operated in deliverance, signs, wonders, and miracles. They helped congregations moderate various issues that arose among their members. And they assisted in starting new works as they traveled, trusting God to provide for their needs as they went. (See Matthew 10:9–10; Luke 9:3–5.)

Some people like to describe the fivefold ministry by using the fingers of one hand to illustrate the different offices. The thumb is used to designate the apostolic ministry, but not to indicate that apostles put people "under their thumb" in order to control them. Rather, because the thumb is under each of the other fingers, it represents the undergirding aspect of the apostolic to the other offices.

Prophets

Some people view prophets as mean-spirited individuals. Any true man or woman of God must be marked by a spirit of love. The attitude of prophets should be that of the apostle Paul when he wrote, “*Though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing*” (1 Corinthians 13:2)

The fruit of the Holy Spirit, as listed in the book of Galatians, should be evident in the life of every Christian, especially in Christian leaders: “*love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control*” (Galatians 5:22–23).

If Someone Prophesies, Does That Make Him or Her a Prophet?

All may prophesy, according to 1 Corinthians 14:31; but that doesn't mean that every prophetic utterance is made by someone who is a prophet. Remember, in the Bible, even a donkey prophesied. (See Numbers 22:21–39.)

TRUE PROPHETS HAVE EARNED THEIR OFFICE
THROUGH MANY YEARS OF PROVEN SERVICE.
THEY DON'T FLAUNT THE TITLE OF PROPHET.
THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL PROVE THEM, AND
OTHERS WILL ACKNOWLEDGE IT.

Three areas of revelatory authority include:

(1) The *office* of the prophet. (See Ephesians 4:11.)

True prophets have earned their office through many years of proven service. They don't flaunt the title of prophet. The Holy Spirit will prove them, and others will acknowledge it. They may be able to tell you what you have dreamed and then interpret the dream, as well as receive names, phone numbers, and other details in supernatural ways—an ability lacking in people who are merely prophetically gifted.

(2) The *gift* of prophecy. (See 1 Corinthians 12:10.)

The gift of prophecy is just that—a gift. If someone doesn't have that particular gift, he or she can ask the Lord for it, and He will grant it as He sees fit. (See Matthew 7:7–11.)

(3) The *spirit* of prophecy. (See, for example, 1 Samuel 10:10–11.)

When the spirit of prophecy comes upon a group of people, whoever opens their mouth as a willing vessel may be used.

If you operate on a prophetic team, you will notice how the spirit of prophecy will hover over your team, and each team member may tap into it. Greater “unction to function” occurs as the spirit of prophecy jumps from one to another.

God *speaks* to us all. He promises that He will pour out His Spirit upon *all* flesh, and that *all* will prophesy. (See Joel 2:28–29; Acts 2:17–18.)

The Heart of a Prophet

Being a prophet isn't a status symbol. God often refers to prophets as His servants. (See, for example, 2 Kings 9:7; 17:13; Jeremiah 7:25; 26:5; 29:19; 35:15; 44:4; Ezekiel 38:17; Zechariah 1:6.) Being a prophet carries great responsibility and requires the qualities of love and compassion, as well as the act of intercession for God's people. (See, for example, Jeremiah 27:18.)

God is love. (See 1 John 4:8, 16.) If a prophet has been sent by God to warn people of His judgment, that prophet should desire that his or her listeners repent in order to avoid punishment. He or she should *not* be disappointed when the people listen and repent, as Jonah was when God sent him to the Ninevites and the people avoided the wrath of God. (See Jonah 4:1.)

God's promise in 2 Chronicles 7:14 applies to everyone:

If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

We don't prophesy warnings to be right. We issue warnings to call people to repentance, so that God might relent and lift the judgment.

Evangelists

Evangelists aren't the only ones equipped to usher people into the kingdom of God. In 2 Timothy 4:5, Paul encourages everyone to do the work of an evangelist. And as it says in Proverbs 11:30, "*He who wins souls is wise.*"

Jesus began to teach and to operate in evangelism as soon as He came out of the desert after being tempted by Satan. (See Matthew 4:17–22.)

While it is true that the primary purpose of the office of an evangelist is bringing souls into the kingdom, evangelists may also operate in other areas of gifting, including healing, prophecy, and so forth.

The Bible says that no one comes to Jesus unless the Father calls him or her. (See John 6:44.) In many cases, there is an appointed time when an individual is most likely to finally give his or her life to the Lord. It may be that we are called to plant seeds that someone else will later harvest. (See 1 Corinthians 3:7.) Thus, we should try to do only what the Father says do if we want to have a fruitful evangelistic ministry. That's what Jesus did, after all. (See John 5:19.)

We should also avoid pressuring others to believe, because this technique usually backfires. Standing on a street corner, thumping a Bible with one's fist, and shouting at people that they are going to hell isn't very inviting, is it? The truth is, people who are on their way to hell usually know it already, and don't need someone to tell them. What they need to hear instead is this: "If you know you're on your way to hell, I have good news—there's a way out!"

Prophetic evangelism entails seeking God for a word for someone that will change his or her life and bring that person into the kingdom. Prophetic evangelism is what Jesus practiced with the woman at the well in

John 4:1–26. It was also practiced by the prophet Ananias with Saul before he became the apostle Paul. (See Acts 9:1–19.)

PROPHETIC EVANGELISM ENTAILS SEEKING
GOD FOR A WORD FOR SOMEONE THAT WILL
CHANGE HIS OR HER LIFE AND BRING THAT
PERSON INTO THE KINGDOM.

The only things we can take with us when we leave this world are the souls of those we have brought into the kingdom of God. What an honor and joy it will be for us to be able to say, “Look who all I brought with me!” on that final day.

Pastors

The title of pastor usually refers to someone who heads up a church. When we talk about pastors, we often refer to them as shepherds, and to their congregations as their sheep. There’s a good reason for that, and it originates in the Bible.

Sheep are followers. Shepherds are leaders who carefully tend the sheep so they will head in the right direction. They feed and water the sheep, trim their wool when needed, dress any wounds, and protect them from wolves.

The Lord is depicted in various places as a shepherd, perhaps most notably in Psalm 23. Consider this excerpt:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.

(Psalm 23:1–3)

Jesus says of Himself, *“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep”* (John 10:11).

A shepherd is a spiritual parent who lays down his or her life to raise God’s children of all ages, with all their baggage.

We find the following exhortation to pastors in 1 Peter 5:2–4:

Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd [Jesus] appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

God’s heart is to provide loving shepherds. He says to the sheep in Jeremiah 3:15, *“I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.”*

When God sees shepherds who are neglectful and abusive, His heart is wrenched. To them, He says:

The weak you have not strengthened, nor have you healed those who were sick, nor bound up the broken, nor brought back what was driven away, nor sought what was lost; but with force and cruelty you have ruled them. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd; and they became food for all the beasts of the field when they were scattered.
(Ezekiel 34:4–5)

In Revelation 7:17, Jesus promises, *“The Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”*

Teachers

Teachers love research and learning, as well imparting to others what they have discovered. They take seriously the directive to *“be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”* (2 Timothy 2:15).

During His earthly life, Jesus was the ultimate teacher. He loved to gather people together and teach them for hours at a time. Those who have the gift of teaching are like that—they tirelessly enjoy sharing the knowledge and wisdom they have gained through their studies and experiences.

Scripture tells us we should all be teachers of what we have learned. (See Hebrews 5:12.) In this way, we are like living water. The difference between stagnant water and living water is that living water not only has a place of entrance but also an exit, so that it cleanses and renews the streams where it flows. Stagnant water just sits there, becoming lifeless, putrid, and stale. We become the same when we stifle what we have learned rather than sharing it with others.

Anointed teachers bring life and clarity to that which they teach. They impart knowledge in such a practical way that anyone can understand it, becoming changed and enriched in the process. Anointed teachers are often gifted storytellers who grip the attention of their students and ignite passion for the topic being discussed. They are some of the best authors, painting pictures with their words.

Perhaps the strictest biblical warning issued to the office of teacher is found in James 3:1: *“My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.”*

Those who stand in the teaching office must make sure that what they study is scripturally sound. God’s Word should be established as the plumb line for all that we reference. Never would we want to impart heresy to anyone. A warning along these lines may be found in 2 Peter 2:1–3.

The Ongoing Importance of the Fivefold Ministry

The offices of the fivefold ministry are still vital in the church, and will remain so until Jesus returns. Some individuals have abused these offices, unfortunately; but thanks be to God that we have many people who are faithful in fulfilling these roles. We need them, and they need us. No one can answer his or her call without assistance. Let’s treasure and support one another in what we have been called to do.

We need a fully operational fivefold ministry in the church today. Like the five smooth stones David had on hand when he hurled the stone that felled the giant Goliath, those who are sent out by God to fill the roles of the fivefold ministries will expose the giant lies of the enemy—the lies that say the church no longer has power—and will cause them to crumble.

PRAYER

Dear Lord, thank You that Your power is still available for us to operate in today. Give us hearing ears, discerning spirits, and teachable, compassionate hearts. May none of us pass through this earth without walking in the fullness of our calling. In Jesus's name, amen.