

Revelation's Echo – The Capstone Prophecy and Friendship With Jesus

I. Review of Prophecy

- a. **Prophecy [noun]** - Is any God-inspired "**testimony of Jesus (Revelation 19:10)**". Prophecy is the practice of man communicating a message from God's heart through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to edify, exhort, and console the body of Christ.

(Revelation 19:10 NASB) "...For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

- b. Paul teaches that the goal of prophecy is to edify, exhort, and console the Church (**1 Corinthians 14:3–4**). Prophecy reveals what Jesus is like and how He feels. When we prophesy, we echo His voice in a way that washes, nourishes, and cherishes His Bride, reminding her and calling her into the fullness of her identity and destiny (**Ephesians 5:25–29**) despite any circumstances she might be face.

(1 Corinthians 14:3-4 NASB) "But the one who prophesies speaks to people for edification, exhortation, and consolation. 4 The one who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but the one who prophesies edifies the church."

(Ephesians 5:25-29 NASB) "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. 28 So husbands also ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church..."

II. The Capstone Prophecy – THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

- a. We can't talk about prophecy without turning our attention to the capstone of all biblical prophecy, the book of Revelation. It is perhaps the most consequential prophetic message in all of Scripture. In it we learn not only about the end of the age, but also about the very nature and purpose of prophecy itself. Revelation shows us that true prophecy 1) centers on the unveiling of Jesus and His plans, 2) is deeply rooted in Scripture, and 3) though often filled with symbols, it remains profoundly pastoral and practical. 4) Above all, prophecy prepares God's people to live faithfully and alertly in the hour of history they've been assigned.
- b. **Prophecy Centers on the Unveiling of Jesus and His Plans** – At its core, prophecy is not about timelines, headlines, or speculation, it's about Jesus. The book of Revelation unveils the glory of the resurrected Messiah. All true prophecy flows from and leads to a clearer vision of the person, nature, and leadership of Jesus. Prophecy reveals His heart, His authority, His judgments, and His return. It invites us into intimacy with Him, not just information about the future. When we understand this, we stop treating prophecy as a curiosity and start receiving it as an invitation to deeper worship, loyalty, and alignment with the heart of Jesus.

(Revelation 1:1 NASB) "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place"

(John 16:13-14 NASB) "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take from Mine and will disclose it to you."

(John 15:15 NASB) "...but I have called you friends, because all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you."

- c. **Prophecy is Deeply Rooted In Scripture** - Biblical prophecy is anchored in the written word of God. The book of Revelation alone draws from or alludes to more than 500 Old Testament passages (especially from Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Psalms, and Zechariah). This shows us that prophecy doesn't stand apart from Scripture; it stands upon it. The more familiar we are with the Bible, the more clearly, we'll understand the voice of God. Prophetic people must also be people formed by the words of the Bible. God's voice will never contradict the words of Scripture, and prophetic revelation will always affirm and fulfill what He's already spoken through Scripture.

(2 Peter 1:20-21 NASB) "But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture becomes a matter of someone's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."

(Acts 17:11 NASB) "Now these people were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."

(Matthew 5:17-18 NASB) "Do not presume that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. 18 For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke of a letter shall pass from the Law, until all is accomplished!"

- d. **Though Often Filled with Symbols, Prophecy Remains Profoundly Pastoral & Practical** - The prophetic language in Revelation is often symbolic, but its purpose is not to confuse, it's to communicate truth in a way that engages both the imagination and the heart (A picture is worth a thousand words). In Revelation, Pastor Jesus addresses real churches struggling with compromise, weariness, and persecution. He uses prophetic imagery to call them to return to their first love, to resist false teaching, and to endure with faith. Prophecy isn't creating an abstract theology, it's a shepherding tool from Pastor Jesus. It diagnoses spiritual conditions, calls us to repentance, and gives courage to persevere. Prophecy reminds us that God sees us, knows us, and is actively leading us through every season.

(Revelation 3:19 NASB) "Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent."

(Psalm 32:8 NASB) "I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will advise you with My eye upon you."

- e. **Prophecy Prepares God's People to Live Faithfully & Alertly in the Hour of History They've Been Assigned** – The book of Revelation was meant to be an alarm to alert the church. Likewise, prophecy is a divine alert system. It awakens the Church to what's really happening beneath the surface of world events, exposing deception and anchoring us in truth. It doesn't just inform us about what's coming, it forms us for how we're meant to live in the midst of it. In a world of increasing pressure, compromise, and confusion, God uses prophecy to call us to remain faithful, watchful, and filled with hope. God gives prophetic insight so that His people will not be caught off guard, but will be equipped to shine, stand firm, and stay joyful in allegiance to Jesus, no matter what.

(Revelation 1:3 NASB) "Blessed is the one who reads, and those who hear the words of the prophecy and keep the things which are written in it; for the time is near."

(Daniel 12:3 NASB) "And those who have insight will shine like the glow of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

III. Friendship With Jesus Leads To Revelation

(Amos 3:7 NASB) "Certainly the Lord God does nothing Unless He reveals His secret plan To His servants the prophets."

- a. God delights in bringing His people into His counsel, not just as messengers, but as friends. Prophetic access isn't something we earn through performance; it's birthed from proximity. He shares His secrets with those who walk closely with Him. Revelation of His heart and His thoughts flows not from striving, but from intimacy. Those who linger near His heart will be the ones who echo His voice. If we want to grow in the prophetic, our first aim shouldn't be mastering a skillset, it should be deepening our friendship with Him.

(Psalm 25:14 NASB) “The secret of the Lord is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant.”

(Jeremiah 23:18 NASB) “But who has stood in the council of the Lord, that he should see and hear His word? Who has paid attention to His word and listened?”

- b. It's by no coincidence that the man who rested his head on Jesus' chest at the Last Supper is the same one who received perhaps the most impactful and consequential prophetic revelation in all of Scripture. The Revelation of Jesus wasn't entrusted to a stranger, it was given to His closest friend, John. John's intimacy with Jesus laid the groundwork for his encounter on Patmos. It was friendship that positioned him to see and echo what heaven was saying when the Church needed it most.

(John 13:23 NASB) “Lying back on Jesus' chest was one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.”

(Proverbs 3:32 NASB) “For the devious are an abomination to the Lord; But He is intimate [has private counsel] with the upright.”

(Proverbs 3:32 TPT) “Every violent thug is despised by the Lord, but every tender lover finds friendship with God and will hear his intimate secrets.”

- c. In a culture obsessed with consumerism and control, it's easy to chase prophetic revelation for the sake of insight or influence, but God uses revelation as an invitation to friendship. The closer we draw to His heart, the more clearly, we understand His will and recognize His voice. We've been invited into the privilege of friendship with God. In the prophetic, the goal isn't to predict the future, deliver impressive words, or “read someone's mail.” The goal is to know Him and make Him known. Prophetic ministry must be anchored in intimacy, rooted in discovering His heart and echoing what we hear from the place of closeness.

(John 15:15 NASB) “No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, because all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.”

(Philippians 3:8 NASB) “More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them mere rubbish, so that I may gain Christ,