PROPHETS OR PARROTS

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Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
PROPHETS OR PARROTS
Text: Proverbs 18:21, Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 10:19

Prayer
Dear Father of great lights we bless You for Your mercies over our lives, we have come to learn at Your feet again, speak to us and bless us to a dumb founding degree in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen

Introduction
Sometimes, the greatest danger in ministry is not what we are doing wrong, but what we are doing without realizing that it is wrong. There are things God takes seriously that men may overlook, and there are mistakes that can quietly turn a vessel of God into something else. As we look into this subject, may the Lord open our eyes to see ourselves before we lose sight of who He has called us to be.

Bible Text: Proverbs 18:21, Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 10:19
Prov.18.21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Eph.4.29 - Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Prov.10.19 - In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

Study
We can be wondering, “What kind of topic is this?” The truth today is that there are many parrots in ministry who call themselves prophets. We must be careful not to be one of them.

God has called us into the ministry that is meant to represent Him and not into the parrot ministry that is meant to advertise Satan.

Who is a prophet?
He is a person called and commissioned by God to receive and communicate His message to people.

The characteristics of a prophet:
1. A prophet is someone sent by God: **Jeremiah 1:5 (KJV):** **"**Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

2. He speaks God's message: Deuteronomy 18:18 (KJV): "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him."

3. He must hear from God: Amos 3:7 (KJV): "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."

4. He must speak truthfully: Jeremiah 23:21 (KJV): "I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied."

5. He does not speak merely to please people: This tells us some of the characteristics of a prophet. But in this teaching, we would use the word prophet to refer to all of God's faithful ministers who are genuine. There are God's prophets in every generation, and God calls them to fulfill His purposes. God called Jeremiah when he was young. **Jeremiah 1:6-7 (KJV):** "Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the

LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak."

This shows that God does not call people in respect to age, eloquence, or popularity. There are many of God's prophets who are not popular today but are recognized by Him. At the same time, there are popular ones recognized by Him. Denying the call upon a man because of his age is questioning God's election of such a man. Throughout the Scriptures, there are many people God called to deliver different messages per time and seasons. Some gave excuses why they could not go, but He helped them. True ministers of God have close relationship with God and hear from Him. They are speakers of truth regardless and are always put to confront sin. Prophet Nathan confronted David concerning his sin.

2 Samuel 12:1-7 (KJV): "And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds: But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die: And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity. And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man."

Elijah confronted Ahab: **1 Kings 18:17-18 (KJV):** "And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim."

John the Baptist confronted Herod: **Mark 6:17-20 (KJV):** "For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. For John had said unto Herod, It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife. Therefore Herodias had a quarrel against him, and would have killed him; but she could not: For Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just man and an holy, and observed him; and when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly."

It shows they do not merely speak to please people. A true minister of God is someone who receives God's message and faithfully communicates it according to God's command. Therefore, a prophet is not someone who has many things to say. A prophet is a person who has something from God to say, and sometimes knowing what not to say is one of the signs of a true prophet.Sadly, today we have more parrots than prophets.

Who is a parrot?

He is someone who talks too much and says what God doesn't say. He speaks to impress people, claiming God says whereas God did not say. **Proverbs 18:21 (KJV): "**Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof." Those who are parrots do not mind what comes out of their mouth. They just speak anyhow. They speak words they should not say. Most times, their words do not edify. **Ephesians 4:29 (KJV): "**Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your

mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

The Word of God says corrupt words, foul languages, polluting words, evil pronouncements, wholesome words, or worthless talk should not be heard from our mouth. But the words that are edifying and are fitting for every occasion. This means we should not just speak for speaking's sake but should say things that can edify others, touch their lives positively, and transform them for better..Our words should bless and not curse. We must check our lives if we have not become parrots instead of prophets. Some would even brag of laying curses on people this is the parrot spirit at work.

There are characteristics of parrots which we must run away from.

1. **Parrots repeat what they hear:** It can imitate sound and words without necessarily understanding them. Repeating words and sounds heard from others without understanding their spiritual weight can make one a parrot if explanations are asked to be made about them, there are those who have imitated the speaking in tongues of others, and that is what they use while praying. So, a parrot copies others rather than producing an original message. Some copy evil words and "prayer incantations" from older parrots who call themselves prophets and they use these words not knowing that they are outside God's will, they can't even explain the deep things behind the things they say because these pronouncements comes from the kingdom of darkness.

2**. Parrots talk too much:** It can speak from morning to night without getting tired. Parrots talk not because they have something to say but because they have to say something. That's how Christians who have this parrot spirit behave, they do not

weigh nor think before speaking, they just speak without direction and it has led them to serious problems both physically and spiritually.

3. **Parrots say things that are false:** They receive and say false prophecy. **Jeremiah 23:21 (KJV): "**I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied." Ministers should be careful not to fall into the trap of saying things God did not say. Only say whatever God says should be said, and one must stop where He stops. But parrots are not so. They say things God did not say and are not afraid they even go farther than Him. Some say false revelations, revelations God did not give them.

Some operate under the influence of alcohol and familiar spirits.

1. Parrots often speak beyond God's instruction.

2. Parrots often speak presumptuously.

3. Parrots often speak from anger.

4. Parrots often speak from pride.

5. Parrots often speak, adding personal opinion to God's message.

6. Parrots often speak from hearsay.

7. Parrots often speak to gossip.

8. Parrots often speak to backbite about others.

10. Parrots often speak as tale bearers.

11. Parrots often speak, claiming, "Thus saith the LORD," when God has not spoken.

Looking into the story of Balaam, we would see that he was a true prophet of God, whom God usually spoke to. But in carelessness, he allowed himself to be used by the parrot spirit. He allowed greed to push him into a grievous mistake. Balaam sought the Lord concerning cursing the children of Israel, and God told him not to curse them, for they are blessed people. God even told him not to go with Balak's representatives. Despite this, he kept on entertaining the matter, and then his greed and involvement led him into serious error. He went, and the Lord made him bless Israel instead of cursing, but he did not stop there. He gave a wicked counsel that led to Israel sinning against God.

Numbers 31:16 (KJV): "Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD."Balak wouldn't have been able to defeat Israel if not for Balaam's counsel. The parrot gives advice that is not godly. In the same way, if you give others ungodly advice, you have turned yourself into a parrot. A prophet of God does not lead others to sin, but seeks to bring them out of such sins. We must also learn from the young prophet from Judah. God gave him a specific command.

1 Kings 13:9 (KJV): "For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest."This was a personal command, and is not to be divulged to the public, although God did not ask him not to tell anyone. But if he had kept it in his heart and adhered unto it, he wouldn't have been convinced to act against God's command, which eventually brought God's judgment upon him. A prophet must not only know what God has said; he must

know when to speak, what to reveal, and most importantly, when not to allow another voice to replace God's instruction. That old prophet was a parrot, saying what God did not say.

1 Kings 13:18 (KJV): "He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him."Sadly, there are many of such old prophets today who keep on saying the things that God has not said to them, while this has made them a parrot in ministry. There are some specific instructions God gives to you as an individual that should not be told to others. There are things about your life and destiny which others must not hear, or else they act against you and try to stop you.

Talking too much can make you say the secrets of your life into the hands of your enemies. If we look at what happened in the Garden of Eden, we will see that the serpent asked a simple and cunning question just to gain Eve's attention, and she spoke beyond what was asked, and the serpent used the opportunity to convince her.

Genesis 3:1-3 (KJV): "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."

If we observe what God said in **Genesis 2:16-17 (KJV):** "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge

of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

we will see that God only said they must not eat of the fruit, but He didn't say, "Neither shall ye touch it," but she added her own to it because in the multitude of words there is sin. At that point, the parrot spirit took over her, and this led to her disobeying God's command. We can also see that the talking was not the major problem. She talked too much and also entered into a conversation with a voice that contradicted God's Word. Therefore, as Christians and ministers of God, we must know that the longer we entertain voices that contradict God's Word, the greater the danger of being persuaded by it.

Now, let's check if we are not becoming parrots instead of God's truthful prophets. Let's speak the truth God sends us and not fall into the snare of the devil.

I pray the grace not to be parrots but prophets will be released onto everyone of us in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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