

Are Prophetic Voices Willing To Speak Up In 2024?

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

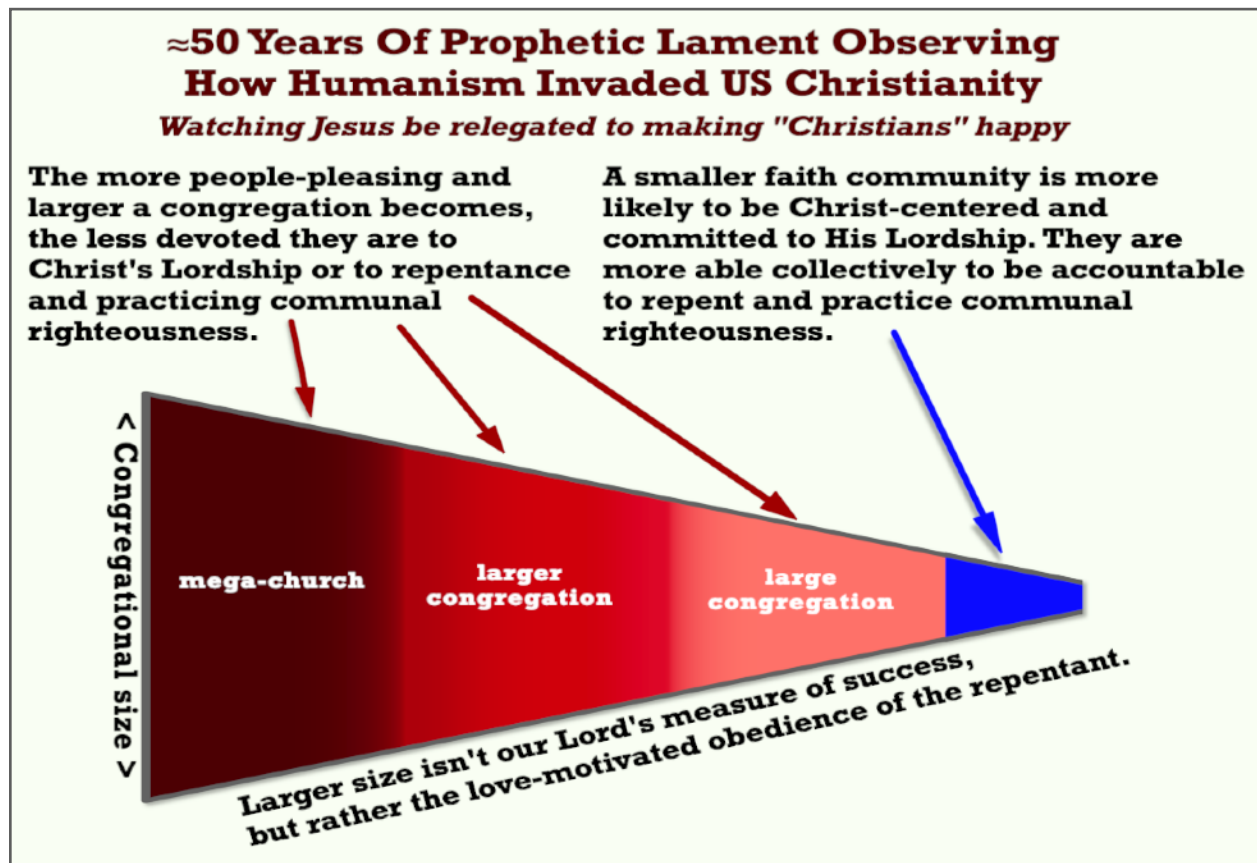
In our 12/20/2023 email we included a two-page attachment, *Preparing For Personal Revival*, hoping that if you belong to our Lord Jesus you'd be delighted to scrutinize your own spiritual condition and that of your family and faith family. On the other hand, we are very aware of the **deluded self-centeredness** which Nicolaitanism and Humanism have had on Christians in recent decades. We recognize this because so few are willing to carefully and prayerfully examine their lives according to how our Lord Jesus views them. And even fewer are willing to repent— to turn away from anything that's sinful in His sight, and turn to His good and righteous way when His Spirit convicts them that they're harboring unconfessed sin. Sadly, you'll find very few Christians who do obey these two God-breathed commands:

➤ “*Let us examine and test our ways, and let us return to the LORD*” (Lamentations 3:40).

➤ “*Examine yourselves to see whether you are living the life of trust. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you?—unless, of course, you are counterfeits [you fail the test]” (2Corinthians 13:5).*

We who love and serve Jesus as Lord can't let society and Humanism influence us!

In 1985 we talked with the editor of a major Christian magazine. Her words sadly continue to ring in our ears today: ***“Until the 1950s Christianity influenced society. But since then, society has a much more powerful influence on Christianity.”*** Shortly after hearing her appraisal Mike went around our region to try to find those whom the Spirit had raised up to be prophets. He discovered that all the prophets he'd found had been driven out of their faith communities and were staying home oppressed by bitterness. Mike realized right off that he didn't want to live like that!



Another factor comes into play if you grew up at a time when being Christian meant that living by biblical standards was the norm for most people in your relational realm. Not so any more! Three decades ago both Europe and the US were declared to be “**post Christian**” by missiologists. This means that Christianity has absolutely no positive effect on the population at large. In fact, to many in this land and abroad, “Christianity” represents hypocrisy and self-righteous disdain of anyone who's not like them. Surveys galore reveal there's little or no discernible difference in the goals, lifestyles and values of reprobate, self-identified “Christians” and people who make no claim to being Christian. (Even 35 years ago the leader of one of the largest Protestant denominations told Mike that over half their clergy were actively engaged in adultery. Since then it has become rampant throughout Protestantism. At that same time Roman Catholicism publicly acknowledged that up to half their seminarians (and possibly priests too) were homosexuals.)

These past few months in particular during our prayer walks, the Holy Spirit's revelations to us about the future of this nation have been emotionally unsettling to receive and to have to pass onto you. The Spirit of our Lord has also been reminding Mike of the many situations and encounters he's experienced during his 47 years of serving our Lord Jesus prophetically. Many of the messages he's been given by the Spirit over these years are directly or indirectly connected to why our heavenly Father is compelled to chastise this country in the very near future.

Mike will be discussing the history that's behind God's forthcoming chastisement in a series of Prophetic Insights entitled ***An Old Prophet's Years Of Laments***. Through this series he hopes to rally and revitalize younger prophets and others with the gift of prophecy. This anointing of the Holy Spirit is absolutely necessary in warning Christians to **repent** before the Dark Days of Chastisement descend on this nation. And the prophetically anointed will be needed *afterward* to **support and encourage** the followers of Jesus to rebuild according to the foundations and relational priorities that enabled His first followers to be so **spiritually powerful** and **relationally committed**. (See Ezra 5:2; 1Corinthians 14:3.)

👉 We're also preparing this series of Prophetic Insights to help those of you who have close friendships with prophetic people so you'll know how to supportively relate to them. Our Lord Jesus pointedly affirms, *“The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward”* (Matthew 10:41a). In this declaration Jesus indicates how hard it is to be a prophet's friend. Biblical history plainly shows that a prophet's life is fraught with hardships. And a prophet's anointing embodies rejection and persecution even by people who've been close to him, as Jesus states in Matthew 13:57: *“A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household.”*

FYI: There is no 'one size fits all' approach to serving our Lord as a prophet. The Spirit chooses this gifting for a specific follower of Jesus because Father has a certain role in the body for its use: *“...if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our trust”* (Romans 12:6). What prophets do have in common is to be **obedience-based** to the voice of our Lord, an obedience like that of Abraham. (Mike: In an upcoming Prophetic Insight I'll tell you about my "Jonah" disobedience that happened 40 years ago. The consequences of my disobedience were heart-rending.)

The authentically prophetic is sorely needed in 2024.

Many Christians are being deceived by clergy into believing there's a political solution to this nation's plight. But what is really needed NOW is the true voice of our Lord Jesus in the prophetic to warn individuals, families and faith communities to get on their knees and repent!

In this series of Prophetic Insights Mike will relate personal anecdotes of his own years of lament to help you understand how Christianity became so reprobate during our lifetime. (As we've noted, the lives of reprobates are marked by depravity, shamelessness, perversion and immorality. And reprobates feel no guilt when they sin.) We know from the Hebrew Scriptures that our Lord sent multiple prophets to warn reprobate Israel before He evicted them to Babylon. And prophets today must serve as His voice of warning even if and when everything seems hopeless.

**✨A biblical prophet speaks forth with the voice of our Lord's Spirit,
a necessary voice even for those who don't want to be warned.**

From heaven's viewpoint, Christians in the US and probably worldwide can be separated into one of two camps: They're either **repentant** or **reprobate**. The repentant may sin, but they are fully aware of our heavenly Father's willingness to forgive, and they deeply appreciate the price our Lord Jesus paid to atone for their sins. In contrast, reprobates heartily sacrifice Jesus all over again by nullifying His atonement on their behalf — especially by calling themselves "Christian" and refusing to turn from their sins. In so doing, they defame Jesus in the eyes of unbelievers and violate our Lord in defying His command, *"Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as slaves of God"* (1 Peter 2:16).

***"My people, your guides lead you astray;
they turn you from the path"*** (Isaiah 3:12).

Keep in your mind's forefront that true, Christ-like biblical instruction leads to a righteous way of life. That comes about by spotlighting God's commands and helping the instructed to apply His commands to their lives. This is how Christ taught as He helped the instructed to repent when they needed to. Any time God's Word is taught, it should fulfill the essence of why it's being given to us:

*"For the **Word of God is alive and active**. Sharper than any double-edged sword, **it penetrates** even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; **it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart**"* (Hebrews 4:12).

By contrast, both Catholic and Protestant clergy, teachers, and Bible studies employ **"instructional enlightenment"**. The instructed may delight in their new insight of a verse or passage. BUT they are never helped to apply God's commands to their lives, nor are they urged to repent when they see they've fallen short of His commands. These false teachers nullify the nucleus that identifies a Christian as truly belonging to our Lord: **"If you love Me, keep My commands"** (John 14:15). **"Whoever has My commands and keeps them is the one who loves Me. And the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him"** (John 14:21; see also 1John 2:3; 5:3; Revelation 14:12). If this central identifier of belonging to our Lord Jesus doesn't describe you, now is a good time to evaluate your faith.

The focal point of many Christians' religious life is identifying themselves by the denomination or congregation they are part of. Loving Jesus Christ and obeying His commands are rarely a point of identification. And if someone would ask you, **"Where is Jesus?"**, how would you respond? Most "instructional enlightenment" induces Christians to picture our Lord Jesus

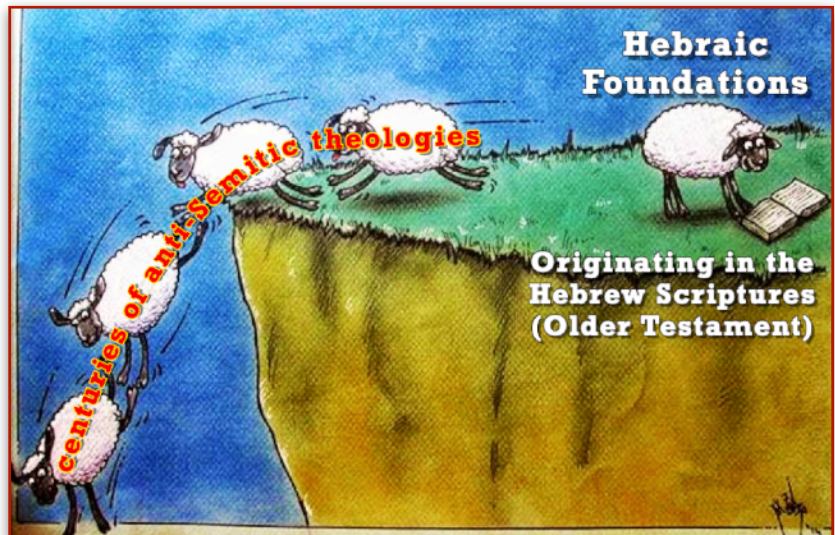
as “out there” somewhere. But the REALITY for the genuinely born again is that the Spirit of our Lord Jesus dwells within us: **“Christ in you, the hope of glory”** (Colossians 1:27). When we pray, it's the Spirit of our Lord within us Who intercedes according to our heavenly Father's will (Romans 8:26,27). If this isn't your reality when you're praying, then you've been duped in what you've been taught. If your view of our Lord Jesus is Someone “out there”, now is a good time to evaluate your faith.

There's another consequence brought about as a fruit of instructional enlightenment: You manage to separate your sinful actions and attitudes from your "spiritual life" so that they are compartmentalized in your mind and rationalized as okay. But if you're genuinely born again, when you sin, the Spirit of our Lord Jesus is in you even as you violate God's Word — and He is going to convict you: **“For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted. But the sorrow of the world produces death”** (2Corinthians 7:10). If this hasn't been your experience as a Christian, now is a good time to evaluate your faith.

Two final points we will discuss more fully in upcoming writings:

It's the absence of Christ's indwelling Spirit which has led to “Christians” living as reprobates, a practice which has substantially increased since the 1950s. At that time began the Christianity-wide acceptance of Humanism, in which the individual stands at the center of importance in their own life. Since God has no centrality within Humanism, a multitude of false teachings and man-pleasing "gospels" have taken root and flourished, nullifying any need to live repentantly in obedient trust according to God's will.

FYI: When you've lived under the Lordship of Jesus for any length of time, you begin to understand how similar much of Catholicism and Protestantism is. Both institutions are like two men who missed a flight. One arrived five minutes late and the other arrived an hour late. The first one criticized the second for being so late. But the reality is they both missed the flight. In eliminating the **Hebraic foundations of Christianity**, both religious systems have missed the true underpinning on which our Lord Jesus was establishing His collective called-out ones.



It was Christ Who proclaimed the great and foremost commandment in the Law: to **love God** with all that is in you, and to **love your neighbor** as yourself. Then He added the key phrase, **“On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets”** (Matthew 22:40). In other words, **all** of the commands and instructions and prophecies found in **the Older Testament** are expressions of **loving God** and **loving your neighbor!** Who are you to disregard an obedient action of love when our Lord Himself made it clear what love looks like in practice? Yet anti-Semitic, Older Testament-ignoring teachers would have you keep that part of your Bible closed as irrelevant to "New Testament" Christians!

Rejoice with us! Without any fanfare our heavenly Father is spreading the Kingdom understanding of faith the way our Lord Jesus spoke of: *“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with a bushel of flour **until it worked all through the dough**”* (Matthew 13:33). Other than by our Lord Jesus and His indwelling Spirit, clergy are not the center of importance as heavenly Father works, and especially there’s no organization over it. Our prayer for each of you is that you would experience divine unrest within you if you hunger for more of Jesus at work in and around and through you. This means resolutely identifying and ridding yourself of all vestiges of Humanism which have seeped into your being. Then you may be infused by the Spirit with the purity of relationship that our Lord Jesus and heavenly Father require of Christ’s own.

Mike & Sue



Can you imagine a church service starting with people on their knees, repenting and praying to our Lord for righteous leadership for this nation? If you hear of a congregation beginning their service in the humility of repentance, we’d love to know about it!