

# An Old Prophet's Years Of Laments



Prophetic Insight 1/29/2024: Sanctify ⇒ Prophecy ⇒ Sanctify ⇒ Prophecy...



Mike: A particular Christ-required process in a prophet's life entails being sanctified *before* being entrusted with a more vital prophetic ministry. To sanctify is to be set apart for our Lord's special use and purpose. In my life, sanctification has involved the Holy Spirit preparing me to serve as His instrument by being made fit for His next assignment. Being made ready has been an ongoing journey, from initially being given prophecies for individuals and families; then prophecies for faith communities and Christian organizations; to our current prophetic assignment of sharing the Hebraic foundations — which by His grace now reaches over 105 countries. And His refining fires of sanctification in my life have preceded each amplification of service.

I mentioned previously that when the Spirit of our Lord sends me to confront sin, I know that I am His agent of mercy to those who are sinning. Often I'm His last act of mercy unless they repent. Our Lord has sent me as His redemptive agent to shine light into darkness much like a firefighter heads *to the fire* to put it out. Love, forgiveness and compassion are the mandatory character qualities through which I can represent the heart of **OUR REDEEMER**. He sends me with messages to draw someone who is sinning to repentance so that fellowship with our Lord Jesus and our heavenly Father may be restored. All too often I've observed Christians who think it's okay to have a bad attitude toward a sinner and to speak disparagingly about that person. But a prophet isn't allowed slander or character defamation. Rather, it's love, forgiveness and compassion which reveal a redemptive heart.

Some may think I'm obsessed with repeatedly stressing **our Lord's love, forgiveness and compassion**. But these specific Christ-like character qualities are absolutely necessary for a prophet who is sent to confront sin. And these qualities can only be developed through the fires of sanctification. In upholding the biblical Hebraic foundations, I now find myself confronting the **unbiblical religious practices contrived by anti-Semitic theologians** who cast aside the Older Testament as irrelevant for Christians. These unbiblical practices have been kept alive by reprobate clergy who incorporate **Humanism's pursuit of happiness without moral boundaries** into their lawless teachings. People who attend services can feel comfortably accepted in their sins without any sense of guilt since sin is never brought up. In my flesh these misrepresentations of my holy and righteous Lord rile me. But the Spirit reminds me that I'm a redemptive voice on my Lord's behalf, and to keep my own heart right with Him.

## The Spirit sanctifies Christ's own to enhance their usefulness to Him

The greater the transformation that the Spirit of our Lord brings about in you as you follow Jesus, the more deferential and the more sensitive to your own sin you become. Sanctification is intended to cause you to draw ever nearer in loving trust to our Lord Jesus. And any area of darkness you perceive within you, the more you cry out to our Lord for help. If you are serving Him as a prophet, you need to be keenly aware that the chastisement our Lord inflicts in sanctifying you is Him demonstrating His love for you: *"For the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and chastises every son whom He receives"* (Hebrews 12:6). I can't say that it's been easy for me to agree with this! Several years back I ended up in the terminal ward of a major hospital. It was there that my Lord scolded me, **"You grumble too much!"** In tears I repented and was soon released from the hospital. It was after my release that I realized how much I'd been defaming Him by my whining.

**Out of Zion will come His ways, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem** (see Isaiah 2:3).

Long before we were aware that our Lord had selected us to share the prophetic message of the Hebraic foundations, He was at work preparing us to confront unbiblical practices and unrighteous departures from His ways within religious systems. An intense sanctifying work had to be done in me in particular so that Sue and I could be entrusted with this vital ministry.

**“For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of My Name”** (Acts 9:16).

Three years before our stay in Israel, a prophecy was given to me while we were running a retreat center in Connecticut. It was confirmed by the elders of our congregation, and they told me, “You don’t have to do anything about what’s written here. God will make sure He fulfills His words to you.”

7/23/1990 “Harken to My voice, My little one. For I the Lord am here to refine by fire. For My servant Mike shall be broken. I have prepared the fires that I shall make him walk through, and they shall be used to crush the flesh in him. And I promise you that the sweet and fragrant aroma of Jesus shall pour forth as he is tempered and tried by My Spirit. And My anointing shall rest upon him in purity and power, and great prophetic words shall be uttered through his mouth. But the testing that is coming upon him shall scathe him and be painful as I flush out all that is not like Me.”

For the next three years I was assailed with plots and betrayals by religious leaders I had helped, as well as by family members and close friends. With each attack the Lord forbade me to defend myself. One day I complained to Him in deep anguish. I heard Him say, “Read the Book of Acts and find out how many times My children were plotted against.” I found 13 plots. He then told me in effect, “If I have permitted My children in the past to be plotted against, what makes you any better than them?” I repented. (It’s important for you to know that a lot of stress was put on my family during this time. It was especially hard for our son because he couldn’t understand why people were bad-mouthing me or just severing their relationship with no explanation.)

**Sue:** Until the plots and betrayals surfaced publicly, Mike kept from me most of his ministry work as a prophet. He recognized that when the Holy Spirit was sending him to confront sin in someone, it was a private matter. Too often we’d met pastors’ wives who’d been privy to sins their husbands had told them about someone in their congregation, and they’d positioned themselves against that person. Prior to our coming to the retreat center and Mike counseling church leaders, he worked as a consultant at a seminary in the areas of personnel and accounting. During that time he uncovered illegal activities of the vice president for finance, three members of the board of trustees, and several others in the administration. I didn’t know about any of this until I went to his office one day to go to lunch. There surrounding his desk were 15 or so staff members, most of whom I knew. They showed me a memo that had been sent to all the faculty and staff by the vice president for finance denouncing Mike and ordering that no one talk with him. These folks were in his office that day to stand with him because they knew he was exposing unrighteousness in the administration.

I’ve realized over the years that a prophet doesn’t always receive a direct word from the Holy Spirit to confront a certain individual. At times He puts a prophet into certain situations to expose hidden sin that’s been tolerated for a long time. The illegal activities at the seminary had been going on for 25 years! Other people had known about it but refused to confront it. Mike knows that sometimes he’s the “last jackass” our Lord will send, and in this case it was true. During that period when he was exposing closely guarded sin at the institution, a godly young woman we knew approached Mike in tears. She’d been praying on the campus grounds and told him she saw the *Shekinah* glory of God leaving the seminary.

**“God does nothing without revealing His plan to His servants the prophets” (Amos 3:7).**

Leading up to our going to Israel, the Holy Spirit had been using an older prophet, Leon Price, to mentor me. Leon not only clarified for me the role of a prophet; he also delivered prophecies the Holy Spirit had given him about my future. Before I tell you the prophecies Leon gave me, I need to convey the backdrop to my relationship with him. In 1989, while I was teaching at the retreat center and counseling religious leaders, several clergy in our area asked me to write about the true nature of prophecy so they could understand it better. Prophecy was foreign in most religious circles (especially in New England). But it was increasingly being talked about on Christian TV and in periodicals, especially from an academic viewpoint by people who had no personal experience in being used prophetically by the Spirit. Also at that time, “prophetic ministries” sprang up instructing people how to “conjure up” prophecies.

It was while I was writing about prophecy that I was given a book written by a prophet, Leon Price. He wrote along the same biblical understanding and personal experience as had been my own. I received Leon's book just before Sue, our son and I were heading to Myrtle Beach for week to stay in a friend's condo. In order to not interfere with our enjoying the beach together, I would get up in the middle of the night to write. Two days before we were to drive back to the retreat center the Holy Spirit told me, “You have everything our Lord wants you to know about prophecy at this time. On your way home Satan is going to make an attempt on your life.” On our way home I was asleep in the backseat while our son, who had recently received his license, was driving. Just outside of Fayetteville, North Carolina he lost control and the car rolled over, ultimately landing on the tires again. My head smashed the side window, resulting in a concussion. (This was the first of three attempts demons made on my life over the next couple years. On two occasions I was warned in advance by the Holy Spirit.)

When we returned to Connecticut I delivered my writings to the clergy who'd asked me. Those who believed that the prophetic was still our Lord's viable anointing were grateful. But those who'd been trained that all anointings died with the apostles remained unchanged. As to my own prophetic anointing, I had early on identified myself just as a “counselor to clergy.” However, during a monthly pastors' breakfast we hosted at the retreat center, my older friend Bert obliged the others to respect my anointing by the Spirit as a prophet. He did this by going around the group asking each one if I had helped their ministry. Those whom I'd helped acknowledged that it was because of a prophetic revelation I had shared with them. I was relieved to be identified for how the Holy Spirit had anointed me for service – I prophesy.

About two months after delivering my document on the prophetic to the pastors, Leon Price came to our region from Virginia to speak at an evening service. Prior to the gathering that evening I introduced myself to him. He was about 25 years my senior and soon became my “father in the prophetic”. Over the next few years he would come to Connecticut and stay with us at the retreat center. On June 4, 1992 he gave me this prophecy:

“For you are an encourager, you are a *foundational man* and the wind of the Spirit blows through you. Let the wind of the Spirit emerge from you and let it flow forth in a mighty way, says the Lord. For you are My servant that I have called and I have lifted you up to the place so that I might show Myself strong through you. Therefore, let the word of God dwell in you richly and all wisdom that you might teach and admonish My people and show them how to walk. For I have given you a gentleness of spirit and I have broken the pride that once walked within you. For at one time you walked in the pride of your own strength and your own abilities and now you shall walk only in the strength of My Spirit.

For I have broken your hip and put it out of joint that you might be My servant and because you have seen yourself as lowly therefore I raise you up, says the Lord, and I give you a face and an anointing

among My people. Know that My Spirit is upon you and from this day forward there's going to be a flow that will not be ceased, that will not be stopped, that will not discontinue, the flow that is going to flow out of you and be bold to declare. Be wise as to when to declare, and in all things be ministered in love. Let the Spirit of the Lord reign in you and teach My people and lead My people and speak My word unto them and I will give you the grace and I will give you the boldness and you'll not be thought of as strange, but you will be thought of as a man who is filled with the Word of the Lord. Glory to God. Thank you Jesus. Bless him, Lord.”

Then about a month before we left the retreat center, Leon again came to see me. On the deck of the lodge he wrapped his arms around me as he broke into tears. He revealed to me that I was going to face rejection, rejection I couldn't have even imagined then. In November, 1993 we departed the retreat center for Israel – I, a broken man and on the verge of divorce. (Ministry responsibilities had exhausted Sue and me and we had nothing left for each other.) Our Lord Jesus knew that our friend Bert and his wife Exie who'd emigrated to Israel several years earlier would be His perfect vessels to bring about His healing in both of us.

After our marriage was renewed and sanctified, the Holy Spirit began to reveal what He commanded us to call **“the Hebraic foundations”**. “Foundational” is the very trait contained in the prophecy Leon had shared with me two years earlier. (In 1995 we conducted our first seminar sharing the Hebraic foundations in Atlanta. A Delta pilot who attended the seminar came to me afterward and pointed out a large tree. He told me, “What you've been given to share is at the very base, the *foundation*, of that tree. Other ministries and churches may be the limbs, but your message is the *foundation* with our Lord Jesus being the root.”)

**“Whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life”** (John 12:25).

To back up a bit: In September, 1993, on the day after it was revealed that we were to live with Bert and Exie in their home outside Jerusalem, I knelt down by our sofa. (Going to Israel wasn't part of anything I thought I'd ever do. If the Holy Spirit hadn't made it known to us, I probably would never have gone.) As I knelt near the sofa I let my Bible flop open as I asked my Lord Jesus why we were going to Israel. His Spirit focused my eyes on this passage:

*“Get yourself ready! Stand up and say to them whatever I command you. Do not be terrified by them, or I will terrify you before them. Today I have made you a fortified city, an iron pillar and a bronze wall to stand against the whole land—against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests and the people of the land. They will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD*” (Jeremiah 1:17-19).

I remember sobbing as I realized that whatever my future was, our Lord would have to rescue me. These past 30 years of sharing the Hebraic foundations while confronting the deceptive denominational creedal slants and religious practices created by anti-Semitic theologians and perpetuated by a reprobate Nicolaitan clergy system have been saddening and stressful for me. We'd been warned in Israel, **“You're going back to the hardest place on earth for anyone to embrace the Hebraic foundations. Hellenism owns the church in the United States. And Christians there don't need God and they don't need each other.”** They were right.

“Now that I've seen your brain waves and realize what you do for a living, I can see that you're a person who's filled with great sadness.” These were the words spoken to me in 2007 by a compassionate evaluator after a sleep study test at the Veterans Administration Hospital. Her statement was like hearing my Lord explain to me the source of my heart's sorrow. Jeremiah's lament comes back to me frequently, *“Why did I ever come out of the womb to see trouble and sorrow?”* (Jeremiah 20:18). And Paul's words

too describe my inner burden: “*Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?*” (2Corinthians 11:29).

**“For it is time for judgment to begin with God’s household; and if it begins with us first, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?”** (1Peter 4:17).

When the Dark Days of Chastisement fall upon this nation and even afterwards, people are going to be questioning, “Why did this happen?” Our Lord will use the prophets He has anointed to tell them. That’s why it’s so important that you be prepared if you are given by the Spirit to serve as a prophet, or if you know someone who is. The chastisement is the result of **Christians enjoying their lives of unconfessed sin and worldly values rather than loving our Lord with all their soul and with all their strength and with all their mind.** If they did live this way—His way—they would delightedly live repentantly and represent wholeheartedly His love and His holiness, His compassion and His justice.

There’s a sobering example of our nation’s forthcoming downfall in the Older Testament in the destruction of Jerusalem and the people there being exiled to Babylon. Nebuzaradan, the unbelieving commander of the Babylonian imperial guard, told Jeremiah what the prophet already knew: “*The LORD your God decreed this disaster for this place. And now the LORD has brought it about; He has done just as He said He would. All this happened because you people sinned against the LORD and did not obey Him*” (Jeremiah 40:2,3). These words will be spoken again by the prophets after the Dark Days of Chastisement. So how should you live NOW?