

History of the School of the Prophets

Acts 3: 22-24

It was under the administration of the Prophet/Judge Samuel, that we find the development of the school of the prophets. In this particular time period, about 931-1050 B.C., there were many false prophets that arose with false mediums of revelations and divinations. Thus Samuel, being led of the Lord, established these training centers where young men would be taught the Law of Moses, responding to the Spirit of God, and prophetic praise and worship.

While one cannot be taught how to prophesy, except by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the schools were geared to instruct the sons of the prophets how to channel and flow with the spirit that came upon them. The chief prophet also taught the students of the prophet's submission and discipline. This trend of preparation for demonstration would leave a legacy for all true prophets from Samuel's day right through to the ministry of the prophet Malachi. This paradigm serves as an example to all prophets and ministry gifts arising in these last days. We find such institutions located in Samuel's hometown Ramah, Bethel, Jericho, and Gilgal as recorded in II Kings 2:1-6.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the New Testament church in Corinth regarding the guidelines for believers functioning in their spiritual gifts (I Corinthians 14). While it is true that we all have a contribution to the corporate worship and prophetic experience, our ultimate objective is to develop the fruits of the Spirit, by allowing Christ to be formed in us.

It is not enough to have zeal; zeal without knowledge can be very destructive and counter productive in the Kingdom of God. Proverbs 4:7 states, "*Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.*"