

(1) What is your attitude toward the spiritual gift of prophecy? I define this gift as “speaking forth in purely human, and therefore often fallible terms, something that the Holy Spirit has spontaneously brought to mind.” Have you witnessed this gift in operation? If so, what is your response to it? Do you obey Paul’s command to earnestly desire to prophesy (1 Cor. 14:1) or do you find yourself somewhat afraid of it and resistant to it? Explain.

(2) As you read the letter to Thyatira, what conclusion do you draw about whether or not she was a born-again Christian? Give reasons for your answer.

(3) What was the precise nature of her sin? Why do you think genuine born-again Christians in Thyatira would be duped into following her counsel and her behavior? Have you witnessed anything similar to this in the contemporary church? If so, describe it.

(4) What are the dangers when we elevate “gifting” above “character”? In other words, what happens when a person who is uniquely gifted is given a free pass that is not afforded to others? What happens when they are not required to follow Scripture as are other Christians? Have you ever witnessed a “double-standard” in the local church? Describe it. What were the consequences?

(5) What steps can be taken to prevent the emergence of a “Jezebel” in our church? Or, for what should we be on the look-out? What are some tell-tale signs of the “Jezebel spirit” at work?