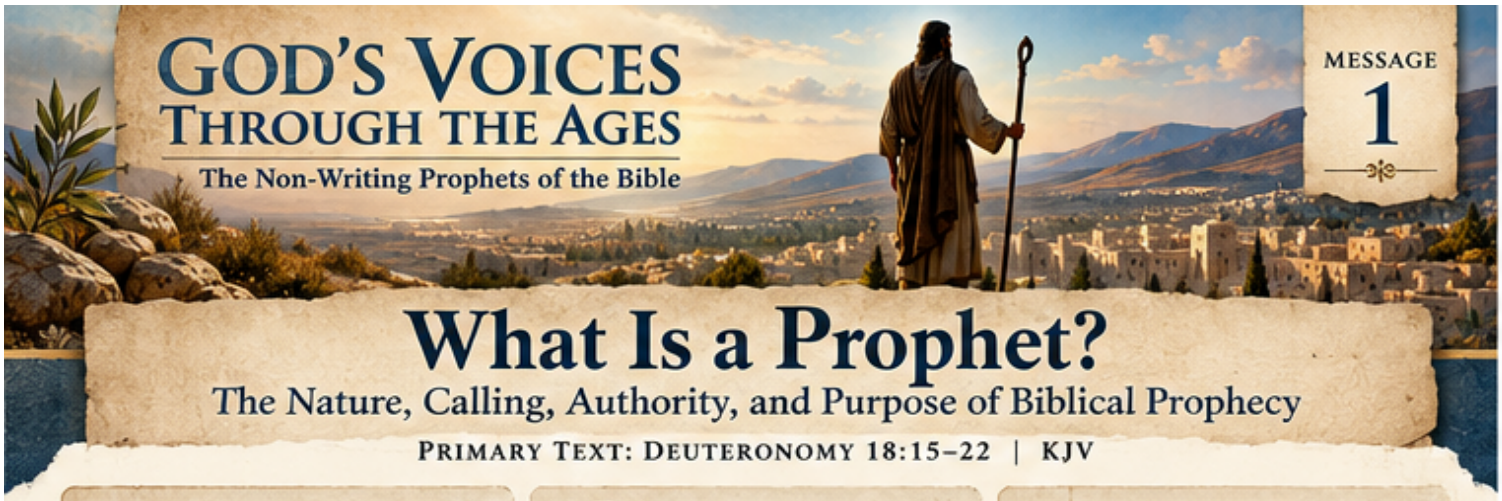


God's Voices Through the Ages

The Non-Writing Prophets of the Bible

MESSAGE 1

What Is a Prophet?

The Nature, Calling, Authority, and Purpose of Biblical Prophecy

Primary Text: Deuteronomy 18:15–22 | KJV

Central Truth

A prophet is someone called and authorized by God to communicate His revelation faithfully.

Sermon Goal

To establish a biblical understanding of prophecy that will guide our study of the non-writing prophets throughout Scripture.

Key Theme

A prophet may foretell the future, but his fundamental purpose is to forth-tell what God has revealed.

The Big Picture



The prophets were not all alike. They came from different backgrounds, possessed different personalitities, and served under very different circumstances.
Yet they had something profoundly important in common.

They were called to communicate what God had revealed.

Four Key Truths



1 A Prophet is God's Spokesperson

Exodus 7:1–2

- A prophet communicates what God gives.
- The authority is in the message, not the messenger.
- Prophecy is primarily forth-telling, not just foretelling.



2 A Prophet is Called by God

Jeremiah 1:4–10;
Amos 7:14–15

- God chooses, not self-appointment.
- He often calls ordinary people.
- A genuine prophet's personal opinion is not necessarily a prophetic revelation.



3 True Prophets and False Prophets

Deuteronomy 13:1–5; 18:20–22;
Jeremiah 18:7–10

- The message must be faithful to the true God.
- Predictions must not prove false.
- Not every dramatic experience is from God.
- Some judgments are conditional (e.g., Nineveh).



4 The Prophets Point Toward Messiah

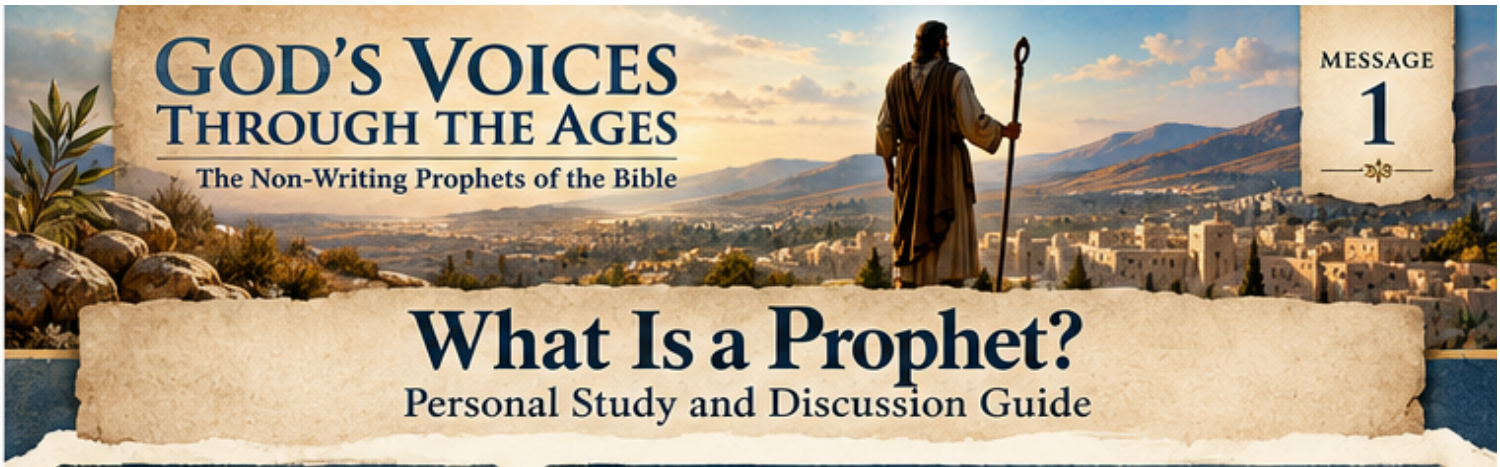
Deuteronomy 18:15–19;
Acts 3:22–26; Hebrews 1:1–3

- Moses foretold a coming Prophet.
- Yeshua fulfills this promise.
- The prophets prepare the way for the Son.
- God's revelation finds its climax in Messiah.



A Challenge for Us

We are not all called to the prophetic office, but we are all responsible for how we respond to the revelation God has given. We are called to hear His Word, believe it, obey it, and communicate it faithfully.



God's Voices Through the Ages

The Non-Writing Prophets of the Bible

MESSAGE 1

What Is a Prophet?

Personal Study and Discussion Guide

KEY PASSAGES

- **Deuteronomy 18:15–22**
  The promised prophet
- **Exodus 7:1–2**
  Aaron as Moses' prophet
- **Jeremiah 1:4–10**
  A prophet called by God
- **Amos 7:14–15**
  An ordinary man called
- **Deuteronomy 13:1–5**
  Testing prophetic claims
- **Deuteronomy 18:20–22**
  When a prediction proves false
- **Jeremiah 18:7–10**
  Conditional judgments
- **Acts 3:22–26**
  The promise applied to Yeshua
- **Hebrews 1:1–3**
  Revelation through the Son

KEY TERMS

נָבִיא	**navi**	Prophet, one who speaks as a messenger
רֹאֶה	**ro'eh**	Seer, one who sees
חֹזֶה	**chozeh**	Seer or visionary
προφήτης *prophētēs*		Prophet (Greek), one who speaks for God

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What aspects of a prophet's role in Exodus 7:1–2 surprise you or differ from what you expected?
2. Why do you think God often called ordinary people to be prophets?
3. How do Deuteronomy 13 and 18 help us evaluate prophetic claims today?
4. What is the significance of conditional judgments such as the one Jonah announced to Nineveh?
5. How does the promise in Deuteronomy 18:15–19 find its fulfillment in Yeshua?
6. What is the most important lesson you want to remember from this study?

APPLICATION

1. How should a proper understanding of prophecy affect the way you read and study the Bible?
2. In what areas of your life do you need to be more attentive to God's Word and more obedient to it?
3. How can you more faithfully communicate God's truth to others this week?

"A prophet may foretell the future, but his fundamental purpose is to forth-tell what God has revealed."