The Modern-Day Testimony of Jesus [30] -Any Modern-Day Prophets After New Testament? –

*Remember to Pray for Wisdom Before You Begin

1.) What are the two main characteristics of God's last-day Remnant Church? Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the _______ of her seed, which keep the _______ of _____, and have the _______ of _____ Christ. Revelation 19:10 states what "the testimony of Jesus is." And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, see thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the _______ of _____: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the _______ of _____. NOTE: The word "testimony" comes from the Greek word "marturia" which means record, report, testimony or witness. When the Prophet or Messenger of the LORD receives messages from Jesus through visions and dreams then delivers it to the church, these are called "The Testimony of Jesus" or more specifically "The Spirit of Prophecy."

- 2.) As we compare scripture with scripture what is meant by the "Spirit of Prophecy"? 2Peter 1:21 For the ______ came not in old time by the will of man: but _____ men of God spake as they were ______ by the Holy Ghost. NOTE: Messages from God particularly from Jesus is given to a prophet of God through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit -the third Person of the Godhead. When Jesus has a testimony or report to give to His church on earth He delivers it by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as well as through one of His holy angels.
- 3.) As an example of how messages of God get to God's people and His church on earth, how is the sequence and order of command given as portrayed in Revelation 1:1,2 *The*

______ of Jesus Christ, which _____ gave unto _____, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his ______ unto his servant ______: 2 Who bare ______ of the word of God, and of the _______ of _____ Christ, and of all things that he ______. NOTE: First of all, in this scenario we see God (the Father) giving this message to Jesus who gives it to His angel and then the angel delivers it to John which the above verse calls it "the testimony of Jesus." John then writes it all down and delivers these prophetic messages to the people who are greatly blessed and benefited by them!

4.) Is the Gift or Spirit of Prophecy given by the Holy Spirit like other spiritual gifts?
1Corinthians 12:4 Now there are diversities of _____, but the same _____. 5 And there are diversities of ______. 6 And there are diversities of ______. but it is the same God which worketh all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the ______ is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the

word of ______; to another the word of _______ by the ______ Spirit; **9** To another _______ by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of _______ by the same Spirit; **10** To another the working of _______; to another _______, ito another _______ of spirits; to another divers kinds of _______(languages); to another the ________ of tongues: **11** But all these worketh that one and the selfsame _______, dividing to every man severally as he ______. Now notice the importance of the gift of Prophecy or the work of the "Prophet" in the administration of the church. **28** And God hath ______ some in the _______, first apostles, secondarily ______, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues (languages). NOTE: Each of these gifts are important and serve for the upbuilding of God's church and for safely bringing sinners out from the world into the "ark" of safety. God is a God of order as we can see all through nature and the vast universe itself. It only stands to reason that His designated church on earth will be organized and have specific offices and roles in it which are carried out by those whom His Holy Spirit chooses and equips for!

5.) Does the following passage sound like the gift of prophecy or "Testimony of Jesus" is something that is needed at all times of earth's history especially in the closing days of this world? Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, ______; and some, evangelists; and some, ______ and ______; 12 For the ______ of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the ______ of the ______ of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the ______ of the faith, and of the ______ of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the _______ of the stature of the ______ of Christ: NOTE: God's Word repeatedly talks about the great need of His children to overcome sin and perfect Christ -like characters especially at the end of time. If the Prophetic gift greatly helps to do this and it does, then for sure we especially need the Prophetic office in these end-times!

6.) What is the role of a prophet likened to in the Bible? 1Samuel 9:9 (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to ______ of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the _____: for he that is now called a ______ was beforetime called a _____.) NOTE: A Prophet or Prophetess of God was given visions and dreams where they <u>saw</u> many incredible things which God saw fit to <u>show</u> them. They were sometimes given insights into the future or even more solemn yet, the secrets and hidden things of individual hearts. This is probably why they were called "seers." The gift of prophecy is considered the <u>eves</u> of the church.

7.) What other scriptures point out the "seeing" or "vision" of the Prophetic office? Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no _____, the people _____: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. Luke 11:34 The _____ of the body is the _____: therefore when thine _____ is single, thy whole ______ also is full of _____; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of ______. 1 Corinthians 12:14 For the body is not one member, but _____. 15 If the ______ shall say, Because I am not the ______, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the ______, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the pody is it therefore not of the pody of Christ which is His church which

is composed of a number of different ministry roles cannot afford to be blind without eyes. Just like the first scripture above says, "where there is no vision the people perish." For the church of God on earth to have a solid purpose and powerful insights in exactly what it needs to be doing in these closing scenes of earth's history -the Prophetic gift needs to be present! The Prophets are the eyes for the spiritual body of the church.

- 8.) What warning did Jesus give in principle about the problem of spiritual blindness? Matthew 15:14 Let them alone: they be blind ______ of the _____. And if the ______ lead the blind, ______ shall fall into the ditch. NOTE: Spiritual blindness is deadly, but what about a spiritual organization or Christian movement that doesn't have this prophetic gift with its deep, rich messages given directly from the throne of God through the mighty power of the Holy Spirit? Even the leaders could be leading their followers into the ditch of perdition.
- 9.) Since 20/20 vision is considered ideal vision for good eyesight, what interesting point is brought out about the blessing of obeying the Words of God from the "Seer" or Prophet? 2Chronicles 20:20 (last-part) ______ in the LORD your God, so shall ye be _______; believe his _______, so shall ye _______. NOTE: The verse numbering and chapter divisions came later on long after the writing of God's inspired Word. So, this aspect of the Bible may not necessarily be inspired, but who knows; it sure looks like it in this case since we have seen how that the prophetic gift is likened to sight and vision. Chapter 20, verse 20 of 2Chronicles is either a fascinating coincidence or a lovely spiritual lesson God knew we could use in these last end-times.
- 10.) How do we see from these following scriptures that "the Law of God" and "Prophecy or Prophetic Gift" go together? Lamentations 2:9 Her gates are sunk into the ground; he hath destroyed and broken her bars: her king and her princes are among the Gentiles: the ______ is _____ more; her ______ also find no ______ from the LORD. Ezekiel
 7:26 Mischief shall come upon mischief, and rumour shall be upon rumour; then shall they seek a ______ of the ______; but the ______ shall ______ from the priest, and counsel from the ancients. Jeremiah 26:4 And thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD; If ye will not hearken to me, to _______ in my ______, which I have set before you, 5 To _______ to the words of my servants the ______, whom I sent unto you, both rising up early, and ________ them, but ye have not hearkened; Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no _______, the people ______: but he that keepeth the _____, happy is he. NOTE: The main purpose and role of a prophet or prophetess of God is to point God's children to the keeping of His law in whatever particulars. So, it only stands to reason that these two components must always go together. If God's people rebel and persistently turn away from God's law, then no number of visions would have any effect!
- 11.) Jesus warns us about false prophets. What important principles does He give us in being able to detect false prophets? Do these statements also imply that there will be

true prophets? Matthew 7:15 Beware of _______, which come to you in ______ clothing, but ______ they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their ______. Do men gather grapes of ______, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good ______ bringeth forth good ______; but a ______ tree bringeth forth ______ fruit. 18 A good tree _______ bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good ______. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is _______ down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall _______ them. NOTE: First of all, if there were to be no more prophets in the future from Jesus' time onward, then Jesus would have stated "Beware of all prophets." But the fact that He said "Beware of false prophets," should tell us we can expect the genuine! A prophet's lifestyle and how he or she actually lives, in other words, the moral fruit they produce will actually verify if they are real and genuine. If their lives, yes, even their private lives show a Godliness, denial of self and consistent unselfishness in every aspect of their lives, they may be genuine. In other words, even though being human, they may not be perfect but they should largely reflect Jesus in their actions, words and attitude.

- 12.) What similar admonition does the Apostle Paul give about testing for the genuine prophetic gift? 1Thessalonians 5:20 Despise not ______. 21 ______ all things; hold ______ that which is ______. NOTE: Even here Paul is saying not to despise or reject prophesying. If there is someone reported to have this special gift, in all fairness to that individual and to God, they should be tested according to the guidelines of scripture. We don't want to be deceived, neither do we want to neglect a message that God may have for us. We need the balance of both.
- 13.) Let's look at some of the tests we should use for determining if someone has the gift of prophecy and particularly when they receive dreams and visions that they claim are from God. We've already looked at the one Jesus gave in testing the fruit of the life of the individual. Let's look at some more.
 - A.) A true Prophet will be in harmony and not contradict the teachings of the Bible. (They will be in harmony with all the previous prophets before them) Isaiah 8:20 To the _____ and to the _____: if they speak not ______ to this word, it is because there is _____ light in them. Deuteronomy 13:1 If there arise among you a ______, or a dreamer of ______, and giveth thee a ______ or a wonder, 2 And the sign or the ______, which thou hast not known, and let us ______ them; 3 Thou shalt ______ hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God _______ you, to know whether ye ______ the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.
 - **B.) A true prophet will lift up God and His Son Jesus rather than himself. 1John 2:22** Who is a _____ but he that _____ that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the _____ and the _____. **23a** ______ denieth the Son, the same hath _____ the Father:

- C.) A true Prophet will reprove people of sin. Ezekiel 3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a _______ unto the house of ______: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them ______ from me. 18 When I say unto the ______, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him ______ warning, nor speakest to ______ the wicked from his wicked _____, to save his life; the same wicked man shall ______ in his iniquity; but his blood will I ______ at thine hand. 19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and ____ turn _____ from his wickedness, nor from his wicked _____, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast ______ thy soul.
- D.) The Predictions of a true Prophet will come to pass. Deuteronomy 18:21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we ______ the word which the LORD hath _____ spoken? 22 When a ______ speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing ______ not, nor come to ______, that is the thing which the LORD hath not ______, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt ______ be ______ of him.
- **E.) While in vision a Prophet has no breath and their physical strength is gone. Daniel 10:17** For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no ______ in me, neither is there ______ left in me. **18** Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he ______ me,
- **F.) While in vision a Prophet's eyes remain open.** Numbers 24:16 He hath said, which ______ the words of God, and knew the ______ of the most High, which saw the ______ of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes ______:
- G.) During a vision, a Prophet is unconscious of his surroundings. 2Corinthians 12:2 / knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the _____, I cannot tell; or whether _____ of the body, I ______ tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third ______ 4 How that he was ______ up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

14.) Because a prophet's prediction comes to pass, does this always mean that it is a true prophet? Deuteronomy 13:1 If there _____ among you a _____, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a _____ or a _____, 2 And the sign or the wonder come to _____, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after _____ gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; 3 Thou shalt _____ hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God ______ you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with _____ your _____ and with all your _____.

15.) Were there any women prophets (prophetess) recorded in the Bible? Judges 4:4 And ______, a _____, the wife of Lapidoth, she ______ Israel at that time.
2Kings 22:14 So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto ______ the _____, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college;) and they ______ with her. 15 And ______ said unto them, Thus saith the LORD ______ of

______, Tell the man that sent you to me, Luke 2:36 And there was one ______, a ______, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; New Testament example- Acts 21:9 And the same man [Philip the evangelist -see previous verse] had four ______, virgins, which did _______. NOTE: In scripture, priests in the OT were always men. In the New Testament the spiritual leaders such as Apostles, Pastors and Elders were always male because of the Biblical headship principle that is clearly taught in scripture especially in Paul's writings. When it comes to the prophetic office, we see an exception to this rule. God sometimes chooses a woman to do the job. He Looks for a humble, totally surrendered individual whom He knows by His grace will bear up to all the strenuous responsibilities (including counseling and rebuking sin in individuals and in the church) that encompass the position of prophet or prophetess.

16.) Did a modern-day manifestation of the gift of prophecy reveal itself in recent history around the time of the fulfillment of the 2,300-day (year) prophecy? Did God's end-time Church receive the "Testimony of Jesus" also known as the "Spirit of Prophecy?" Answer: Indeed, it did! Here is a short run-down of the facts. The small, young movement of God's last-day remnant church, needed guidance, encouragement and Divine prophetic insight to direct its world-wide mission of proclaiming the 3 angel's messages including the warning against the "Mark of the Beast," so that God's last day people could be triumphant! God called a young woman age 17 by the name of Ellen Harmon to be His special "Messenger" by receiving her first vision around 1844. Due to a severe childhood accident, she was frail and of ill health and weighed only about 70 lbs. Due to this accident, she had received only a third-grade education and had been given up to die. It seemed everything was against her! She accepted God's call and from there-on miracle after miracle enabled her to gain strength and push on to proclaim God's messages and write them down. She later married James White, a preacher and throughout the course of her lifetime (87 years) she received 2,000 dreams (night-time) and visions (supernatural trance during daytime hours). Around 100,000 pages of written material dealing with almost every practical subject that pertains to the Christian experience came from her prolific pen! She was a powerful public speaker as well, traversed 3 continents, was influential in having hospitals and sanitariums established for caring for the sick, universities, colleges, and church schools to train and educate young people to be missionaries sent into all the world. It is absolutely amazing the massive impact that this humble little woman had on society, during her lifetime all because she chose to unconditionally consecrate her life wholly to Jesus and be completely filled with the Holy Spirit!

17.) Is there any written record of Ellen's first vision? What was it like? "While I was praying at the family altar, the Holy Ghost fell upon me, and I seemed to be rising higher and higher, far above the dark world. I turned to look for the Advent people in the world, but could not find them, when a voice said to me, 'Look again, and look a little higher.' At this I raised my eyes, and saw a straight and narrow path, cast up high above the world. On this path the Advent people were traveling to the city, which was at the farther end of the path. They had a bright light set up behind them at the beginning of the path, which an angel told me was the midnight cry. This light shone all along the path and gave light for their feet so that they might not stumble. If they kept their eyes fixed on Jesus, who was just before them, leading them to the city, they were

safe. But soon some grew weary, and said the city was a great way off, and they expected to have entered it before. Then Jesus would encourage them by raising His glorious right arm, and from His arm came a light which waved over the Advent band, and they shouted, "Alleluia!...."

18.) Are there other astounding facts about this special "Messenger of the LORD" who wrote out the Testimony of Jesus? 100,000 pages of handwritten manuscripts were produced by her. This amounted to about 25 million handwritten words as she never used a typewriter or shorthand. She was instrumental in contributing 4,500 church-sponsored magazine articles, plus, over 100 books published. Her first vision occurred in December 1844 and her last known vision given by the LORD concerning the well -being of our youth took place on March 3, 1915 shortly before her death. Unless there are some recent updated statistics that have broken this record, she wrote more than any woman in history. Her works have been translated into 117 languages (maybe even more now). She is the fourth most translated author [man or woman] in the history of literature. And the most translated American author of either sex. -Taken from A Gift of Light, pg. 21 by Roger W. Coon.

Her life was full of supernatural miracles and utterly amazing accomplishments!! The LORD allowed many trials and hardships to come to her to keep her humble. Anyone who knew or met her would testify that she was one of the most humble, earnest, and sincere Christians they'd ever met. The fruit and acts of her life, even her private life, testified before others that she had a dynamic, powerful connection with Jesus!!

19.) There are many testimonies, books and research done about the life and writings of this modern-day "Messenger of God" Ellen G. White, but one impressive testimony really stands out that testifies to the genuineness of her prophetic gift. This is taken from *Praphet of the End -by Harvestime Books pg 183, 184 "William F. Albright (1891-1971) was recognized in the field of archeology as the leading Biblical archeologist of the twentieth century. His research and articles on this subject of ancient remains in the Near East stand unrivaled. After receiving his Ph.D. in 1916, he began a lifework that produced more than 800 Biblical and archeological publications and 25 Honorary Doctorates.*

In the 1950s, Alger Johns, one of Albright's doctoral candidates, showed him several of Ellen White's books. Albright was astounded and began research into her works -and her life.

In his major work, 'From Stone Age to Christianity,' Albright declared Ellen G. White to be an authentic prophet of God."

NOTE: The works and writings of this remarkable woman testify of a greater than human source of inspiration. God in His infinite wisdom knew that much was at stake in these last end-time days just before Jesus returns. Before Jesus came the first time to this world veiled in human flesh, He sent a very humble messenger, the prophet John the Baptist. In these last days He has again sent a very humble messenger who would write a wealth of messages that deal with practically every subject possible that would pertain to a vast variety of situations and circumstances for the end-time follower of Jesus. They contain the "Testimony of Jesus" to His children here below. Why not check these sources out for yourself and experience the blessings they contain? They not only point to Jesus as our Friend and Savior, but they continually point back to the testimony of Scripture as our foundational source of truth. May the LORD bless you as you appropriate His blessings to your daily Christian walk!

Brief Quiz

Circle One

- **1.) True/False** Prophets according to scripture are like "eyes" to the church.
- 2.) True/False There is no special need for the position of a prophet in these modern times.
- **3.) True/False** It isn't necessary for a Prophet to be in complete harmony with any previous true prophets before him.
- **4.) True/False** Visions during the daytime and dreams during the night are some of the main avenues of God's communication to the prophet.
- 5.) True/False One of the duties sometimes of the prophet is reproving or rebuking sin in individuals or the church.
- 6.) True/False The fruit of a prophet's life and character doesn't necessarily have to exhibit the true principles of righteousness and Biblical morality.
- 7.) True/False God sometimes uses women for the prophetic office.
- 8.) True/False A true "Messenger of the LORD" may not only make future predictions but most importantly will exalt Jesus and point everyone to Him for salvation.
- 9.) True/False True Prophets and Messengers of God will always exalt and promote the law of God.

My Response

From this study I can clearly see the Biblical teaching of the importance of the Gift of Prophecy and its impact on the Church for these last days. I am willing to test by the authority of the scriptures and its great standard of righteousness any claims to this prophetic gift. I am open to testing this modern-day occurrence by the unerring Word of God and if it measures up, to accept and appreciate its messages and blessings for me.

Signed_____

*If you would like to read some sample books by Ellen White, contact the giver of these Bble Lessons. Some of her more classic works are "*Steps to Christ*," (how to have a faith-filled relationship with Jesus that will revolutionize your Christian experience), "*The Desire of Ages*" (detailed commentary on the life of Christ taken from the 4 gospels), "*Christ's Object Lessons*" (deeper lessons from the parables of Jesus), "*The Great Controvers*," (the protestant Reformation, end-time prophecies, the founding of America down to the "the mark of the beast.") "*The Acts of the Apostles*" (the dynamic Hbly Spirit-filled early Christian church -based on the book of Acts), "*The Mnistry of Healing*" (principles of healthful living for the Christian and the how to tap into the power of Christ for physical healing) and loads more!