

Let the one who has My word, speak My word.

Jeremiah 23:25-32 (NRSV) ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed, I have dreamed!” ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces? ³⁰See, therefore, I am against the prophets, says the LORD, who steal my words from one another. ³¹See, I am against the prophets, says the LORD, who use their own tongues and say, “Says the LORD.” ³²See, I am against those who prophesy lying dreams, says the LORD, and who tell them, and who lead my people astray by their lies and their recklessness, when I did not send them or appoint them; so they do not profit this people at all, says the LORD.

I wonder how many of us read such passages. The word of God with a crystal clear clarity, differentiates the true prophet with the false prophet. A prophet is one who speaks the Word of God. Let me write this again. A prophet called by God speaks the word of God. Dreams and supernatural visions, tend to turn people away from God and to dwell on the charm of the supernatural effect.

We would rather love to hear the vision of a man who felt feathers growing out of his back and how he started flying from one town to another rather than obeying the word and visiting the sick, imprisoned, feeding the hungry, caring for the orphans and so on. It is so unromantic and plain to serve the least, but so spiritually entertaining to hear the exotic dreams and visions. But ultimately Jesus would have the final word. He will declare that He Himself was served when these least were served and probably shut the door on the faces of those who simply used up the name of Jesus.

But we would rather sit before television channels speaking in tongues, shouting hallelujah when this prophet zoomed into heaven and back. What fantastic dreams and what wild visions prophets see today! It had also been a problem even during the days of Jeremiah. That is why God speaks this passage condemning forcefully the prophets who make people forget His Holy Name. Which tele sermon nowadays speaks about the Name of Jesus Christ or the power of His Blood? It is all about when I sang this song this person was delivered, this person did not commit suicide and the harangue goes on endless. But does Jesus have a hand in all this? Most of the prophets speak as though they accomplished all these because of their own efforts. It is really true that they slowly substitute their name, the shameless boasting "I" in place of the name of God.

This danger is real in T.V, magazines, big crusades and even in churches. The power of the Name of Jesus Christ the name above all names is slowly pushed to the edge and the word of God which is the double edged sword is blunted and kept carefully concealed in the sheath. That is why God calls out to Jeremiah to speak His word and not to speak of dreams and visions. God equates dreams to straw whereas he likens His word to the grain. It is the grain which keeps us alive. It is only the word of God which keeps our soul healthy and alive. If we would only live on dreams and visions one day our soul will shrivel up. God says that one day the flock will totally be lead astray by such dreams and visions. Be warned. Don't think there will be no harm in watching, but slowly you'll be sucked into the world of psychedelic dreams and prophecies.

Dear friends think where is your heart leaning towards? Is it to the word of God or the colourful dreams and visions of false prophets? Every answer for every situation in this earth is found in the Word of God. Possess the Word of God and make it your own your very own. God bless.