

For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.

Psalm 36:9

the LifeWord

with Michael Green



July 25, 2008

Dear Friend:

PROPHETIC or PATHETIC? Part 2

Last week, I raised a few questions and a few eyebrows about discernment of practices, fads and even people who seem to major in things that would make Paul, James or John take a second look. This leads to concerns, following thematically on my blog of a few weeks ago, regarding those who misuse their gifts or who love to remind you about their *"authority"*. Like the little boy said to a self impressed man, *"Yeah, that, along with a dollar, and you can ride the bus!"*

I was told of one recent episode where a friend had been invited to a Home Church type meeting. The dynamic, meteor of power leader performed vintage stuff from the *"the louder it is, the more anointed it is"* school and proceeded to focus in on the visitor. Because of a series of previous conversations, *"God's Man"* already had personal knowledge of my friend's struggles; the prodding was more button pushing than prophetic. It was showtime! Sensing that the moment was being milked and after some polite cooperation, my friend just straightened the back politely and caution took over. The visitor's lack of response was subtly characterized as lack of faith and cooperation. When it was over, the person said to a friend, *"I kept thinking, what is the angle here?"* There wasn't a rejoicing over a demonstration of God's power but rather a creeped out response at an attempt to manipulate a moment. Sadly, many of the present unaware minions never caught on.

You'll also notice that in these types, like the aforementioned "Grand Poobah", the *"call"* to gravitate to those who might have a few bucks is also a frequent character trait. I've seen these types rack up the vacations, shopping sprees and houses full of furniture via the victims of "the treatment."

Peter reminded us to not fall asleep at the wheel when he chides us to *"Be sober, vigilant and watchful for an adversary that is looking for a quick kill"* (MG Translation). This can happen inside and outside the gates.

Our brains came in the original equipment and God lovingly added another special blessing when He sent the Holy Spirit to function as a Comforter, Helper and Discerner. He clearly expects us to live our lives using both gifts.

I'm a big proponent of believing the best, speaking the best and expecting the best but until we reach that final place of completion and blessing we must always keep our radar operational. Each day, we must continually decide to embrace the best and reject the bogus.

Michael

THIS SUNDAY

The LifeGate

9AM/NORTH LOCATION-3699 Hwy 59/ South of I-12 in Mandeville
11:30AM/SOUTH LOCATION-Clearview Room/Metairie

"Building Christ Into Every Life"