

# David as Philosopher and Prophet

## Part 1

Question – If you were God – how would you communicate to your creation?

1. The bible is the most secure and complete way of communicating with people on the earth and I cannot think of anything that would come remotely close to beating it.
2. There are several types of books in the bible, narration, gospels, letters, poetry and prophets.
3. Then there is David – David does not easily fit into any of these categories. You could argue, he plays a role in each type. David gives us a model, to inspire through words, music, poetry in a prophetic way, not as the traditional style prophet.

## 2 Samuel 23 – David's Last Words

1. This is in softer language, not a 'Hear Ye the Word of the Lord' style prophetic declaration, with a damning verdict on the people of Israel.
2. It is much more personal – the holy spirit is used as inspiration to be prophetic through the other areas of ministry that David was involved in. Whether that was, poems, songs, leadership or direct prophetic speaking, he used the holy spirit to be prophetic in all areas of life.
3. The prophesy is no less accurate despite the subtlety – thorns, iron tools, spear shaft – crown of thorns, iron nails and spear in the side remind us strikingly of the death of Jesus.
4. Prophecy is evidence of bible being true – This is because the bible is self-fulfilling, the prophesy of the old testament describe the events of the new testament, particularly the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, yet it is ridiculous to suggest that Jesus could have possible arranged it that way.

## Part 2

### The Philosophic Prophet

Read v5 again

An alternative modern version:

If I cannot connect with God because of sin

Surely he will find a way to re-commit me to relationship with Him for ever

Secured and arranged and perfect

Surely he will seek to bring salvation to me

Adopting me into his Kingdom, and gifting me the desires of my heart.

What an incredible summary of gospel!

## Why is David a better model than the other prophets for us now?

1. [2 Peter 2 says : 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit](#)
2. Traditional prophets were special case direct communicators who were chosen as a vocation. They were tasked to write the bible. The bible no longer needs to be written, therefore, there is no need for God to communicate in the same way for this purpose.
3. Further to this, the holy spirit was not accessible to all Israelites just a select few chosen for a specific task, whether that be scripture writers, David and his kingly anointing or Moses to lead people out of Egypt to use a few examples.
4. Also, before the curtain was torn when Jesus died, humans needed a priest to access God, so communication with God was through other people for the vast majority. We are no longer in this position, as through Jesus, we have direct access to God, through the Holy Spirit, to hear what he has to say and align ourselves with his purposes.

Online YouTube prophets and the like.

1. Be wary of those that appoint themselves as the type of prophet we see in the Bible. Their words carry no more weight than any other Christian, just because they chose to tell us it is direct words from God. That doesn't mean God is not speaking, but as Paul writes in [1 Thessalonians](#), all prophesy must be tested.
2. [1 Thessalonians 5, 19 Do not quench the Spirit. 20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt 21 but test them all; hold on to what is good.](#) We can sometimes mishear, or misinterpret. That's what makes testing against scripture so vital.

## Prophecy is alive and well

1. The passage in [Thessalonians](#) is not just about testing, it is about not quenching the Spirit, and not throwing away the good, (while accepting that we are not 'Hear Ye' prophets!).
2. [Acts 2](#), in a sermon Peter gave, reminds the crowd of a prophesy by Joel which says, 'Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy" ([Acts 2:17-18](#)).
3. This reminds us of our position now, all people, men, women, young, old, called to use the Holy Spirit to prophesy.

## David provides the model.

1. He is not a, 'Hear Ye Hear Ye' God to earth vocational communicator, he is filled with the spirit, and he conveys the inspiration of the very nature of our God,

2. This is the most powerful use of the prophetic in doing what Paul asked us to do in his letters, 'build each other up in Christ.' We can use the spirit of God as inspiration prophesying not just through words, but through songs, poems, prayers and other creative uses.
4. You may be thinking, how terrifying, trying to grow my gifts of prophesy, and isn't it a bit strange? It's not strange to believe that God would want to communicate with his people, in fact I would say it is stranger to say that he wouldn't try!
5. It's not such a scary prospect when we think about prophesy as being done through our own giftings. So don't be afraid, ask God for guidance in what words to say when serving in the areas we are gifted in, build each other and be filled with the Holy Spirit and inspired as to reveal the character, love and awesome qualities of the creator who made us, and loves us.