

2 Things to Consider If You've Received This Common Prophetic Word

If God promotes you, you better be ready for what's coming your way.

"Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time" (1 Pet. 5:6).

One of the most common prophetic words in the various prophetic streams (whether real or fabricated) has to be, "Your promotion is coming!" It's probably as popular as, "This is your season of open doors!"

I believe God does plan promotion for all who are truly humble and surrendered. Yet, the promotion may not be what a particular human heart desires. There are many who crave promotion onto the platform, while God's assignment is promotion into the prayer room. Others desire promotion unto notoriety. God may desire to promote them unto obscurity as part of a nameless, faceless generation.

It's critical we handle spiritual advance with wisdom and care. Promotion is all about God's will for our lives and not our own.

I'd like to do two things regarding your passion for promotion in the spirit:

1. Encourage you
2. Caution you

Be Encouraged!

Several years ago, I was in an exciting and very active season of ministry in the Detroit area. I had planted a prophetic and

prayer-focused ministry there, and I was contending for revival corporately and also for personal growth so I could be ready and equipped to lead with strength.

Whenever I have an opportunity to step away from the pulpit and get refreshed at a conference or another church service, I typically like to find a place in the back to let God minister to me during worship and the teaching. Some friends from my church and I decided to check out The River, a church led by Marlin Reid, a revival-minded pastor in the region. He was hosting Jeff Jansen, whom I had never had the opportunity to see minister.

As I sat on the floor in the back of the conference center at the Southfield Westin Hotel, God and I had an interesting dialogue. He had impressed on my heart that promotion was coming, and I probed Him with questions about just how something like that happens. What was my responsibility? How should I prepare? Was I doing anything wrong? What was the timing? What exactly is the purpose of a promotion anyway? As I sat there enjoying both the service and the conversation the Lord and I were having, God spoke very simply, yet very clearly: "I am going to show you how easy and how quickly promotion will come." I was intrigued.

At the end of the service, several hundred people were stirring around, and I headed for the door to go home. Pastor Marlin, whom I had met only briefly at the beginning of the service, called out to me before I could leave the building. He wanted to introduce me to Jeff Jansen before I left. Leaving three or four hundred people behind, Marlin led me into the hallway and then into an elevator. Next in were Jeff Jansen and two others. Pastor Marlin said his goodbyes and returned to the conference room as the four of us shot up to the top floor of the Westin. We entered Jeff's suite, where there was a chef and a spread of food ready for us.

We sat at the table, and Jeff immediately started prophesying

over me. His accuracy was stunning as he saw me writing books and ministering powerfully through articles and other writings. Remember, we had never met, and he had no idea I had written several books. He then took some heavy gem stones out of his pocket and put them into my hands. He revealed that they were the stones that famously and miraculously manifested as the glory of God came down during some previous meetings.

Suddenly, in the midst of this remarkable setting, God spoke to me. He reminded me that he told me mere minutes ago that he was going to show just how easy and quick promotion can come.

Just moments ago, I was about to walk into the parking lot to drive home. I was suddenly diverted and out of at least a few hundred people, I was chosen along with two others to meet with the man of God. I was “promoted” to the top floor of the hotel in mere seconds, was seated at an exclusive table and had my ministry confirmed in powerful ways. That encounter was a real-life object lesson that God used to encourage me. When it’s time for promotion, it will come.

Since then, I’ve written over two hundred articles for Charisma Media, have written a total of 10 books and continue to see doors open like the Elijah List and other media outlets. Favor truly follows this ministry, and I’m humbled.

Of course, the promotion is not simply a natural one. It’s spiritual. I’ve watched God work wonders in our ministry, and I’m eager to continue to be available as a vessel. Our God is amazing, and we have barely begun to see what he has prepared for us!

Use Caution!

Now when the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek out David, but David heard and went out to them (1 Chron. 14:8).

The moment you are anointed, promoted into your next position in the Spirit, the enemy is sure to be alerted. The purpose of this segment on using caution is not to instill fear in you, but rather to cause you to understand the weight of what comes with promotion. It's laughable to think pastors and leaders have an easy, favored life on the platform. The assaults that come with promotion and leadership in the church are beyond the scope of what most could understand.

If pastors and leaders were honest, many would admit to being hunted and haunted by a very real demonic horde. Many experience emotional disturbances, mental disorientation and spiritual desperation. Curses are strategically directed at them both by the world and the church. The arrows that stick in their backs are sharp and difficult to remove, yet they power on, devoted to the call God has on their lives.

Your passion for promotion very well may have been deposited into your spirit by God, and if it was, you can be sure that the Holy Spirit will lead you and guide you, even though the journey will often be very painful and lonely. You absolutely must use caution in the process. Getting ahead of God or lingering behind would be bad ideas.

For those who are simply enamored by the supposed glamour and glory of ministry, pursuing promotion is absolutely a bad idea. You have no clue what you are asking for. It would be much better for you to step back, seek the Lord and learn to enjoy the position he has assigned you to. Leadership in God's kingdom comes with an extreme price, and unless you are truly called of God to assume that position, you will be assaulted by an otherworldly fury that you cannot defend.

If you are assigned by God, get ready. You must use great wisdom as you navigate the battleground God is leading you into. Above, I shared the first part of 1 Chronicles 14:8. There's a little more to that verse, and in it we see the spirit of a warrior:

Now when the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek out David, but David heard and went out to them.

David heard about it and went out to meet his enemies. He was ready and full of faith. This is where we can first see the difference between those who are truly called and the pretenders. Those who crave promotion but are not called will not be anointed or empowered by God to advance against the enemy. Fear will keep them away, while God's promoted and anointed leaders will run to the battle! David is quite famous for this:

"When the Philistine arose and came near to meet David, David hurried and ran toward the battle line to meet the Philistine" (1 Sam. 17:48).

Now, it's important, again, that caution is heeded. When we as leaders advance, we can't be presumptive or casual. We must continually seek God for direction, wisdom, revelation and clarity. David did just this.

So the Philistines came and raided the Valley of Rephaim. Then David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Should I go up against the Philistines? Will You give them into my hand?"

The Lord answered, "Go up against them, and I will give them into your hand (1 Chron. 14:9-10).

David inquired of the Lord and received an affirmative response. Yes, it's time to advance. His obedience in both hearing God and in responding rightly resulted in victory.

And they went up to Baal Perazim, and David struck them down there. Then David said, "God broke through my enemies by my hand as the breaking through of waters." Therefore they named that place Baal Perazim. They abandoned their gods there, and David said that they should be burned with fire (1 Chron.

14:11-12).

Yet, we see God's answer is different at the next provocation of the enemy.

Now the Philistines raided the valley once more. And David again inquired of God, and God answered him: "Do not go up after them, but turn around behind them and come to them in front of the balsam trees. Whenever you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, you will advance the battle, for God has gone out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines." David did just as God commanded him, and they struck the camp of the Philistines from Gibeon as far as Gezer (1 Chron. 14:13-16).

This time God had different and more precise commands. David responded rightly, and another promotion came.

"So the fame of David went out in all the lands, and the Lord put the dread of him on all the nations" (1 Chron. 14:17).

Trust God's Plan for Your Life

Promotion as we see in David's life is a very serious thing indeed. We can't casually, lightly pray for promotion to come. When we do, demons will catch the scent and will pursue you with vengeance. If God is with you, and you are responding to His directives, you will still have to fight, and the war will be intense, but the victory will be yours.

If your promotion results from selfish ambition, look out. It's not God who has elevated you, but you have propped yourself up—perfectly in line of sight of the enemy.

If I were you, I'd duck.