

## ***PRECEPTS FOR LIFE***

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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: I Samuel, Part 1 (The Heart of a Leader)**

### **TUESDAY**

#### **OPEN**

The Lord told me. That's all I can tell you is God told me. You've heard it, haven't you? And you wonder do I dare go against God? It doesn't seem right to me, but this is what the person is saying. Or you heard someone say the Lord gave me a vision; the Lord gave me a revelation; the Lord gave me this insight. The Lord spoke, the Lord did. How do we know whether it's really God or not? We'll look at that today on Precepts for Life.

#### **PART ONE**

Beloved, have you ever had someone come to you and say the Lord has spoken to me and this is what you are to do? Or you're sitting in church and a word of prophecy is given and all of a sudden it's like your whole direction of your life is changed, so you begin to think differently and you begin to act differently. But how do you know whether that word of prophecy is from God or not? I mean you almost tremble because you think, what if I don't agree or what if I don't go along with it or what if I don't become this, or

what if I don't do that, whatever was prophesied or whatever was spoken? And sometimes somebody will be speaking and they'll say the Lord just spoke to me and the Lord just said to tell you. Is it really God? How are we going to know? Well this is why we're going to pause at 1 Samuel, chapter 3 where we find out that Samuel has been confirmed as a prophet of the Lord. We're going to stop there and we're going to look at: what is a prophet of the Lord? How can I tell whether I'm being manipulated by what someone has said or some vision they've had or some direction that they want to take that I really don't think is of the Lord or a prophecy that has been given to me? How am I going to know the truth? And we need to know because there are many, many people that are billing themselves as prophets and prophetesses and they're speaking at these conferences and holding these conventions and people are sitting there and they're listening and they're hanging on every word. How am I going to know if that's really from God or not? Well first of all, let me just say this: that the process that you and I are going through together, the process of moving through a book of the Bible verse-by-verse and seeing what that book has to tell us and delving into it inductively so that we are discovering what does it say and what does it mean and how am I to apply this to myself; as we go through this inductive method of observation and interpretation and application, then it's going to enable us to be able to sift through the things that we hear from others and see is this person really speaking for God; because as much as the Bible talks about true prophets, it also talks about false prophets. Well, you remember that we finished 1 Samuel, chapter 3 and we saw at the beginning of the chapter, that Samuel was ministering to the Lord, but at that time he did not know God and God had not yet spoken or revealed Himself to him. We also saw that the word of the Lord was rare in those days and visions were infrequent. No vision was spread abroad, so in other words, God was mostly silent. He was not speaking through someone. And as we saw what happened in chapter 3, we saw that God came and God revealed Himself to Samuel. And when He did He told Samuel what was going to happen to Eli and to his sons because of the iniquity of Eli's house. And so Eli doesn't get

this message, but Samuel gets this message. But Eli knows that Samuel has heard from the Lord. In verse 16 it says, “Then Eli called Samuel and said, ‘Samuel, my son.’ And he said, ‘Here...am [I].’ [And] He said, ‘What is the word that He spoke to you...?’” What is the word that He spoke? What is the word that God spoke to you? “...Please do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all the words that He spoke to you.”(1Samuel 3:16-17) Now what I’ve done is I have marked the word, word and words here. And I’ve marked it the way I mark every reference to the word of God, because it’s God speaking to Samuel. And so I draw just kind of a little sketchy Bible in purple and then I color it green; purple because that’s my color for God, that and yellow. Purple’s what kings wore. And then green, because when we hear the word of God we’re supposed to respond to it; its life giving, and so that’s why I colored it green. But anyway, I’ve come up with a system and I know you’re going to come up with a system and you can see that diagram in your study guide, which, by the way, if you haven’t downloaded that study guide, you can go to [preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com) and it’s right there waiting for you. And as you know, we’re moving through Samuel, chapter-by-chapter, verse-by-verse, so you want to log on and get that study guide and move with me as we study God’s Word for ourselves. So I marked word. It’s the word that God has spoken. Verse 18: “So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said...,”(3:18) now listen, Eli’s saying this: [“It is the Lord. In other words, I know that you have God’s message. I know that this message is not something that you dreamed up. I know that it didn’t come because you had indigestion. I know that you’re telling me the truth.”](3:17-18) Now the question is, how did Eli know that Samuel was telling him the truth? Well Eli knew because a man of God had already come and told Eli that God was going to judge him because he had not disciplined his sons and because he had kicked at the sacrifices and the offering and because he made himself fat along with his sons with the choicest of every offering that the people of Israel. Remember they were taking the fat of the sacrifices, which belonged to the Lord. And so Eli realizes that this is God. It’s been confirmed in the

mouth of two witnesses. Do you see? And when something is confirmed in the mouth of two or three witnesses then we have a witness from God that this is God. So he has the word from the man of God in chapter 2 and it lines up with what he hears in 1 Samuel 4. Not only that, but now listen carefully; it lines up with the character of God, because God has just told him that his sons are going to die. All right, and He's told him that He's going to bring this judgment because they have disobeyed. Now in Deuteronomy, chapter 21 and I would suggest that you go there, I just want you to see that people were instructed by God to put their sons to death if they did not obey God. Deuteronomy, chapter 21, verse 18. It says, "If any man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father [and] his mother, and when they chastise him, he will not even listen to them, then his father and mother shall seize him, and bring him out to the elders of [the] city at the gateway of his hometown. They shall say to the elders of [the] city, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey us he is a glutton and a drunkard.' Then all the men of [the] city shall stone him to death; so you shall remove the evil from your midst, and all Israel will hear of it and fear." (Deuteronomy 21:18-21) Now, as you know, Eli didn't do what he was supposed to do. He spoke to his sons but his sons didn't listen to him. And when his sons didn't listen to him, then Eli should have put them to death. But instead, he allowed them to continue in the priesthood. So Eli has another witness and that is the witness of the Word of God. God is going to deal with Eli's sons because Eli did not deal with them. So what does Eli say in verse 18? He says, "It is the Lord; let Him do what seems good to Him." (1 Samuel 3:18b) All right, then it goes on to say, "Thus Samuel grew and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fail." (3:19) In other words, whenever Samuel spoke, and this is very important, none of his words, (the word fail means fall to the ground), so none of his words fell to the ground. In other words, if Samuel spoke it happened; it came to pass. And so it says all Israel, from Dan, even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord. All right, none of his words failed and all Israel knew that he was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord. All right

now, let me just read on and pick up chapter 4, verse 1. It's because I want you to see how this whole thing fits together. It's beautiful. "And the Lord appeared again at Shiloh, because the Lord revealed Himself to Samuel at Shiloh..." now here you go again, "...by the word of the Lord." (3:21) So you would mark word again. Chapter 4, verse 1, "Thus," and here's your continuation. Chapter breaks are man made. "Thus the word of Samuel came to all Israel..." (4:1a) Now watch; the word of the Lord is coming to Samuel. Samuel is giving His word to the people. So Samuel is speaking, but what Samuel is speaking is from God, so you know that he is a true prophet. So those people should have said hey, we're going to listen to Samuel. Now we're going to see even more as we go along, but I'm not going to spoil your joy of discovery. I expect you to be ahead of me. I expect you to read the chapters ahead of me, to be marking the text as the study guide shows you so that when I come along and teach, you and I are discussing something that you are familiar with. And you say, but Kay, I don't have time. Listen, if you don't have time to be in the Word of God something's terribly wrong in your life, so you need to get in the Word, all right. Now when we come back, what we're going to look at is the word for prophet and then we're going to see who the first man was that was a prophet in the Word of God.

## **PART TWO**

Welcome back my friend. By the way, I want to thank you so very, very much for your gifts to this ministry. You know we cannot stay on the air without financial support. It costs a lot of money to be on radio. And I just want to thank you for realizing the value of teaching people God's precepts for life, for studying the whole counsel of God, for moving through it book by book so that we're not tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine and cunning craftiness of men, by which they lie in wait to deceive, but so that you and I can know truth for ourselves. So I want you to know that when you listen to this radio program, as you contribute to it, this is our ministry.

It is not just my ministry, cause I can't do it without you. It is our ministry. You and I are ministering this Word of God to a host of people. And then what you need to do is you also need to tell others, hey, are you listening to Precepts for Life? It's on this station and it's on this time and you're going to learn the Word of God for yourself. You're going to learn how to discover truth for yourself. You're going to know how to spot the true from the false and that's what it's all about and that's why we're stopping here at this point to look at the word prophet, because you're going to see it more and more as we move through 1 & 2 Samuel and into Kings. And you're going to need to understand the role of a prophet then. But you also need to understand it so that you can spot a true word from God from an imagination of a man's mind or a manipulation of a person upon others. So let's go. All right what is the Hebrew word for prophet? It is nabi, n-a-b-i. And we're going to look at what it means and we're going to see it in just a few minutes. But what I want to do is I want to take you back to Genesis and I want us to go to Genesis, chapter 20, verse 7 where the word is used for the very first time. Now many times when you find a word that is used for the very first time you want to see the surrounding the setting of that word, because God's introducing that word to you that is going to remain because the New Testament talks about there apostles and there were prophets, and there were evangelists and there were pastor/teachers given for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry. So when it's a major word like love or grace or judgment or like the names of God, Lord of hosts, as we saw being used for the first time in 1 Samuel, chapter 1, verse 3, you want to look at the setting. All right, so Genesis, chapter 20. Now Abimelech has taken Sarah and he's going to sleep with Sarah and he doesn't know that she is Abraham's wife, so God speaks to him in a dream and this is what he says in verse 6, "...‘Yes, I know that in the integrity of your heart you have done this, and I also kept you from sinning against Me; therefore I did not let you touch her.’"(Genesis 20:6b) In other words Abimelech, I did not let you touch Sarah sexually because you would have been sinning against Me and I know that you were innocent in this matter and you think that this is a single

woman who is very, very gorgeous that you would like to add to your harem. So God is speaking to him. God knows the integrity of his heart and God is saying I kept you from touching her. You know, let me just stop there and just say this: if the integrity of your heart beloved is to be pure, then you can know that God is going to protect you. God is going to say don't go with that person, don't get near that person, avoid this, go the other way. This one's all right, that one's not all right because God knows that you want to keep your purity. So you can just commit your way unto the Lord in this area. Verse 7: "Now therefore, restore the man's wife, for he is a prophet..."(20:7a) All right, now who is a prophet? Well He says Abraham's a prophet, "...and he will pray for you, and you will live. But if you do not restore her..." if you do not give her back, "...know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours."(20:7b) Well you can imagine what Abimelech did. I mean he got up in the morning and he told his men what happened and Sarah went home and she went back to Abraham. But Abraham, God says, is a prophet. All right now, when we come to Exodus, chapter 7, verse 1 it says, "Then the Lord said to Moses, 'See, I make you as God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet.'"(Exodus 7:1) Now what do you see? You see from this what a nabi, what a prophet is. A nabi, a prophet is a spokesman. It's somebody that speaks for another, that's standing there and giving another persons message. All right, so now we see Abraham is going to give God's message. Moses is going to give God's message, and we'll see that later, but Aaron is going to give God's message that comes through Moses. In other words Moses is saying I can't talk, so God says okay, I'll send Aaron and he'll be your mouthpiece. All right so when you think of a prophet you've got to think of somebody that is speaking for another. And so He says I will make you as God to Pharaoh and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. I'm sending you before Pharaoh and you're going to deliver God's message and Aaron's going to be the mouthpiece. Now go to Deuteronomy, chapter 34 and we want to look at verses 9 through 10, Deuteronomy, chapter 34, verses 9 through 10. "Now Joshua the son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had

laid his hands on him; and the sons of Israel listened to him [listened to Joshua,] and did as the Lord had commanded Moses. Since that time no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face, for all the signs and wonders which the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt against Pharaoh, all [of] his servants, and all [of] his land, and for all the mighty power and...all the great terror which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.”(Deuteronomy 34:9-12) In other words, God spoke face to face with Moses and Moses was God’s man for the hour. All right now, we want to look at the fact that a nabi then is a spokesman for God. Exodus, chapter 7, verses 1 and 2 are the verses that we saw, so put it down. A nabi is a spokesman for God. Number 2: The message that comes from a nabi is to come from God, but it doesn’t always come from God. And this is what you see in Jeremiah, chapter 23. Now this is going to be your assignment, okay. Your assignment overnight is for you to read Jeremiah, chapter 23. All right, we’re going to look at Jeremiah, chapter 23 and I want you to read the whole chapter. And as you read the whole chapter I want you to mark every reference to mouth of the Lord or His word and every reference to prophets or prophesy, because this is going to help you answer the question: how do I know whether something that is being given to me as a message from God is a genuine message from God or not? Now we’re going to have to continue this tomorrow. But it’s so important beloved that you understand this, so that you are not lead astray, so that you can discern truth from error; a person who really has a message from God and a person who has their own imagination going or is trying to manipulate you. Just remember, God doesn’t want you to be led astray and that’s why it’s so important for you to know His Word for him, for yourself. And that’s why it’s so important for you to know God’s Word for yourself. I love you and I’m so proud of you.