



"Bible 101"

Wed April 29, 2026

Five-fold Ministry

I. ***Ephesians 4:11-16***

A. Five Ministries....The Hand of God

1. ***Apostle – The Thumb (Brings the fingers together setting the foundation for building up the church).***
2. ***Prophet – Index Finger (Known for Pointing the Way, giving Godly Direction from the Father's Heart).***
3. ***Evangelist – Middle Finger (The longest finger symbolizing the ability to reach the farthest to reach the lost).***
4. ***Pastor – Ring Finger (Symbolizing the Shepherd which is married to the church, nurturing and caring for the sheep).***
5. ***Teacher – Pinky Finger (Represents the ability to dig and get into the small places, explaining the deeper truths of God's Word).***

B. A couple of things to note

1. Four of the Five also teach (Evangelist would be the only one that does not typically operate in this gift).
2. Notice the absence of titles such as deacon, bishop, priest, etc. (Although deacon and bishop are mentioned in the Bible as helpers / Attendants and Superintendent).

II. The Five-fold Expounded

A. The Apostle

1. Who were the 12 apostles? Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Nathanael (Bartholomew), Matthew, Thomas, James (the lesser), Thaddeus, Simon, Judas.
2. Greek: ***Apostolous*** (two words): ***APO – forth or from*** & ***Stoulous – a sent one***
 - The Latin of this word is Missionary (A messenger sent on a specific mission).
 - Apostle vs. Disciple – One is learning and following while the other is sent out as an agent (The apostles were unique in the beginning because they were the witnesses of the resurrection, holding unique authority to establish the foundation of the church).
3. Jesus operated in all five gifts – but specifically, He is also called the Chief Apostle /High Priest (***Hebrews 3:1***)
4. Apostle appears in the N.T. 83 times/II Corinthians 11:13 mentions it twice in one scripture (9 in the gospels, 30 times in Acts, 36 in the epistles, 3 times by Peter, 1 time by Jude, and 3 times in Revelation).
5. ***Mark 3:13-15 / Mark 6:7-13*** (notice sending by two's for accountability)
 - Preach, Heal, Cast out demons

B. Prophet

1. In the O.T, it appears 315 times (Nabi – to speak by inspiration)
2. In the N.T. it appears 150 times (2 words: pro – meaning forth & phemi – meaning speak) / the root word for prophet means to make known.
3. A Prophet is a called ministry to speak by Divine Revelation in 2 forms: Forth Telling (Past and Present/**John 4:16-19**/Word of Knowledge) and Fore Telling (Future/**Acts 11:27-28**/Word of Wisdom)
4. The Ministry of the Prophet – **To Edify, Exhort, Comfort, and Warn** (**Acts 21:10-11**)
5. Prophetess - Five Women Mentioned in the O.T. (**Miriam, Deborah, Huldah, Noadiah, Isaiah's Wife** / Two Women Mentioned in the N.T. – **Anna** – **Luke 2:36-38** & **Jezebel** who called herself a prophetess – **Rev. 2:20**)
6. 12 Men Specifically in the N.T. – Jesus, John the Baptist, Agabus, Barnabas, Simeon, Lucius, Manen, Paul, Judas, Silas (**Acts 13:1** / **Acts 15:32**)
7. Difference between Apostle and Prophet: Apostle has a special task and the prophet has a special message.
8. False Prophets is one word in the Greek (psuedoprophetes – pretended foreteller or impostor) and only in the N.T.
9. Prophets could be loners or travel in groups (John the Baptist – **Matthew 3:4** and **Acts 15:32**).