#### PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE COURSE FIFTY FIVE

# THE GIFT OF PROPHECY VS DIVINATION

#### How to Use This Guide

This self-study guide is a companion document to the video course "The Gift of Prophecy vs Divination"

This guide will help you understand the Gift of Prophecy vs Divination.

Each Glory to Glory Study guide is organized around five areas of learning:

- 1. **Synopsis of Key Learning -** The synopsis will provide summaries of key points from the video that are important for you to understand and serve as foundational knowledge for the next course in the learning series.
- 2. **Important Vocabulary and Concepts** This study guide will provide explanation of important words or ideas that are critical to understanding biblical truth.
- 3. **Deeper Learning** The more you know and understand about who God is and how He works, the deeper in love you fall. God wants to have a deep and abiding relationship with you. He desires for you to know Him. This section of guide will give you additional insights into the teaching from the video for you to study on your own. If you have questions, there will be mentoring moments in the online school for you to get your guestions answered.
- 4. **Life Application** God calls for us to not just be a hearer of His word, but a doer also. (James 1:22). This means that God expects for us to apply what we learn about Him in our everyday lives. This section of the study is to help you think about the ways to apply what you learn from the course to your everyday life.
- 5. Memory Scriptures Scriptures that support key concepts in the course will be highlighted. We encourage you to memorize these scriptures by meditating on them until they are hidden in your heart. When you hide God's word in your heart, it makes it hard for the enemy to deceive you. In this way, you are less likely to sin against God. (Psalm 119:11)

# **Introduction to Course Fifty Five**

In this Course you will learn the difference between the Gift of Prophecy which is given by God versus divination which is from the devil.

It is important in the body of Christ that we are able to discern the difference and the bible has clear guidelines to help each believer.



# The Gift of Prophecy vs Divination

### **Synopsis**

Both the Gift of Prophecy and Divination has to do with telling of future events. To someone that doesn't have a relationship with Jesus Christ and/or does not read the bible the two can appear to be virtually the same.

As a matter of fact, both may be able to give you information that sounds the same with the main difference being the source of the information.

Divination is done through familiar spirits which are demonic spirits that keep tabs on people and report back to practitioners with the information.

While it may seem harmless to dabble in this just to receive information, the consequences from God are severe for those who practice divination and for those who visit these practitioners.

# Key Vocabulary/ Concepts

### **Hebrew Strong's Concordance - 7080**

Qasam: To practice divination, to divine, to distribute, determine by lot, magical scroll, to divine

Usage: The Hebrew verb "qasam" refers to the act of divination or seeking to predict the future or gain hidden knowledge through supernatural means. This practice is often associated with pagan rituals and is condemned in the Hebrew Bible as contrary to the worship and reliance on the one true God. It is typically used in contexts where individuals or nations are engaging in forbidden spiritual practices.

Cultural and Historical Background: In the ancient Near East, divination was a common practice among various cultures, including the Canaanites, Egyptians, and Babylonians. It involved interpreting omens, consulting spirits, or using objects like arrows, entrails, or stars to predict future events or gain insight. The Israelites were explicitly forbidden from engaging in such practices, as they were to rely solely on God's revelation and guidance through His prophets and the Law.



# Deeper Learning

Discerning of spirits is one of the gifts of the spirit given by the Holy Spirit. This gift allows you to know the source behind each message or a person's actions. While every believer in Christ does not possess this spiritual gift there are ways to discern whether someone is using divination or the gift of prophecy to tell of future events.

*Discernment* is not a spiritual gift. This is basically knowing right from wrong or what is truth from what is false. You can get discernment from reading the bible.

Since the bible holds all truth and it doesn't change, you can use it to determine right from wrong. By reading the bible you can quickly discern if the message is biblical or not. You can also use the stories of people in the bible, including their lifestyle, to determine if what someone says or does lines up with others in the bible, whether good or bad.

This offers a layer or protection against divination. Even if you missed it initially, at some point you will begin to realize that the person bears no resemblance to any of the godly bible characters that you've read about.

# Life Application

What are the consequences for those who visit these practitioners? By reading 1 Samuel 28, you see the story of Saul and what happened when he consulted a witch. When the prophet of the Lord, Samuel passed away, and he had no one to consult to find the direction he should take, he went and consulted a medium.

He did this because he was fearful. Impatience is also another thing that leads to people consulting evil practitioners. This points to their unwillingness to wait on the Lord to give an answer. Disobedience is another thing that causes people to fall into this trap because when the Lord does answer, if they are not happy with what He said, they find other ways and means to get what they want even if it means going the demonic route.

This tells us that when we are afraid, disobedient or impatient we are at risk to do things that are not godly.

Saul was stripped of his role as king.



So, consulting anyone practising divination, necromancy, sorcery, witchcraft, reading horoscopes, tarot cards, reading tea leaves, any place where you get information that is not directly from the Lord or reading the bible puts you at risk of forfeiting your blessings and the calling God has on your life.

#### Leviticus 19:31

"Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them.

I am the LORD your God.

#### Leviticus 20:6

"I will set my face against anyone who turns to mediums and spiritists to prostitute themselves by following them, and I will cut them off from their people."

#### Leviticus 20:23

"A man or woman who is a medium or spiritist among you must be put to death. You are to stone them; their blood will be on their own heads."

If you have been involved in this in the past, please repent for it and ask the Lord to restore you. He is willing to forgive us when we repent. It is when we refuse to acknowledge that we have made this mistake that we continue to carry the burden of the sin and consequences of it.

# Memory Scriptures

(Acts 16:16 AMP) "It happened that as we were on our way to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination [that is, a demonic spirit claiming to foretell the future and discover hidden knowledge], and she brought her owners a good profit by fortune-telling."

## **Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you for Your word that offers clarity to us so that we can discern what comes from you and what is of the world. I ask you to give me this gift of discerning of spirits as well so that I can quickly identify when I am hearing or seeing something that comes from a source contrary to You, In the name of Jesus, Amen.