

of the word is not a man who gives you a prediction about the future. He may do that, but that's not what makes him a prophet. To prophesy is not to tell what is going to happen in the future. To prophesy is to tell the message that God desires to have given. Now in this class, I like to distinguish between the words prophesy and predict, because predict because predict is a word which clearly and unambiguously means to declare before hand something that is later going to come to pass. The word prophesy is very often used in that loose sense in modern English to describe something to take place in the future, but it also is used in modern English in various other senses and in the Bible to prophesy means to act as a spokesman for God and to pass on God's message, and so I like to, if we want to speak about telling what's going to happen in the future in this class, for the sake of having clear what we mean, let's, please, always use the word predict. A prophet prophesies--that means he gives God's message ~~or~~ perhaps he is telling what happened a thousand years before his time, perhaps he's telling what the people could do now; perhaps he is describing God's attributes; perhaps he is describing what God is going to do or what is going to come to pass in the future. Any one of these may be included in a man's prophecy but if the man makes a prediction, then it is perfectly clear what we mean. We mean that he is telling what is going to happen in the future; and so, in order to avoid misunderstanding if in this class we can say prediction, /we mean specifically to describe what is going to happen in the future it will save us time and misunderstanding.

Now, that is the main thing which we draw from Exodus 7. We find the word prophet used on other occasions in the Pentateuch. One of the most important of them is Numbers 11 which I ask you to look at for today. And I ask you to see what you could deduce about the meaning and functions of a prophet from Numbers 11, Verses 25 through 29. In Verses 25 to 29 of Numbers 11 what do you learn there about what a prophet is, Mr. Mac ? (Answer) You can see certainly that it ~~is~~ means one upon whom the Spirit of God rests, but it describes people prophesying about the camp and some people not liking it and Moses wishing all the people might be able to prophesy. It doesn't give any specific definition ~~of~~ exactly what .

So it doesn't throw a great deal of light on it except to show that the Lord puts His Spirit upon a man who is prophesying. That is about all we can gather from this particular phrase.