

Prophets 12.

background who was also a prophet. They come from all sorts of social groups. God chooses them where and as He will. And then d. They are not men of particular type or attainments. We have men like Asaiah who speak with the most beautiful flowing Hebrew with a tremendous vocabulary and beautiful figures of speech. We have men like Elijah who come from out of the wilderness/^{and speak} in rough, harsh sentences. We find prophets who were highly educated and prophets who had very little formal education. They were not men of one particular type or attainments, whom the Lord chose to be His prophets. And then, d. They are not merely men of spiritual vision. It is common in our day to speak of a man as a prophet if he is a man who has any insight into social affairs or religious conditions. That is not the Biblical use of the word. The prophets ^{were} not simply men who thought a great deal and finally came to a remarkable insight. Some of them may have done a great deal of meditation and thinking and others, none at all. They were men to whom the Lord gave a message and they passed it on. The prophet is like the Western Union boy. Sometimes you will see a man with gray hair in the Western Union outfit, as he comes up to the door, sometimes a young boy of sixteen; sometimes a woman with the outfit. It doesn't matter what the background, what the education is, what the social class is of the person; what you are interested in is, do they have a message that the sender has sent and are they delivering the message in the form in which it was given? That's the work of the prophet. Then, 2 is Positively. After the call of the prophet, Positively. (Discussion with students.)

Now, Positively. a. In many cases we have records of a prophet having received a definite, divine call. In many cases we have records that a profit received a definite, divine call. Now, you notice I do not say it is necessary if a man be a prophet that he have a specific call of God to be a prophet, because we have no such statement anywhere in Scripture. We have no right to make such a statement as a requirement for a prophet because a requirement is nowhere stated, but in, not merely one or two cases, but in many cases we have records of specific calls to become a prophet given to an individual. Moses by the burning bush. God called him from the burning bush and told him to go and be His representative and deliver His people from Egypt. Samuel heard the voice of the Lord speaking so plainly that he thought it was Eli talking. He heard this voice calling him to listen and to receive God's message and thus Samuel (I Samuel 3:8, 9), became a prophet of the Lord