

to be told what the derivation of the word is. And so in the case of the prophet. I want to know what the thing called a prophet is; not what the word means. It is not a Greek word only. There were prophets in Hebrew before anything was heard about prophets in Greek, and in Hebrew a prophet was a man who poured out because he was filled full. That has nothing to do with foretelling or forth-telling either. That has nothing to do with predicting; but it is just as much the meaning of the word in the Old Testament as the other is the meaning of it in the New.

Still, that leaves us where we were. I want to know what the man called a prophet is. To bring it to a point, let me put this plain question. Were the prophets in the Scriptures (from first to last) persons who foretold things to come, or were they not? Was that part of their work and part of their character? You can only answer that question by taking the book and looking up the prophets, all of them, from first to last. Did they foretell things to come or did they not? It is very interesting work, I can assure you. It appears to me, after having looked into that question, that the prophets, without exception, from first to last, were persons who foretold things to come. Take an instance or two. The first person in history called a prophet was Abraham. "He is a prophet and he shall pray for thee." That is in the 20th chapter of Genesis. Why was he called a prophet there? Why, because the Lord had just revealed to him two things that were to happen within the space of a year, and which man could not know by ordinary knowledge. One of those two things was that he should have a son by his wife Sarah, and the other was that God was about to visit personally the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, and to deal with them as He saw fit. After these things had been made known to Abraham, it was said to one of the Gentiles, "He is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee."

Then there is the case of Moses. There arose not a prophet in Israel like unto Moses." Was he foreteller of things to come? Most assuredly he was. The times of the plagues which should happen to the Egyptians, the time that the Lord would come down on Mount Sinai, the time and the day that He would appear to Aaron and his sons when they were consecrated priests, that which should happen to Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, the time of the coming of the manna