Journey Through the Bible: Revelation
Session 11: The Biblical View of Prophecy
Remember Acts 17:11

Prophecy: 1: an inspired utterance of a prophet
2: the function or vocation of a prophet specifically: the inspired declaration of divine will and purpose
3: a prediction of something to come
Merriam-Webster Dictionary Online
(www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prophecy)

נְבוּאָה *nᵊḇû'â*: (Heb) of any book written by a prophet
1. under influence of divine spirit:
a. in the ecstatic state, with song and music
Brown-Driver-Briggs Lexicon
speak (or sing) by inspiration (in prediction or simple discourse) *Strong's Definitions*

Greek-Roman: A divinely inspired forecast of the outcome of future events, often offered in vague language or riddles.
Prediction – Fulfillment

Midrash-Rabbinic: A Divinely inspired offering of praise or instruction that presents the truth of a situation from God's perspective, offering descriptions of future events as evidence of authentication.
Truth Offered Through Patterns

Truth: Immediate/Practical
Imagery Fulfilled by Future Events
-"Now but Not Yet"
-Echoes in the Future

Prophetic Patterns: Numbers (7 – Holy/Complete)
Colors (White – Purity)
Materials (Silver – Blood)
Animals (Lion – Royalty)
Rituals/Festivals(Ancient Wedding)

Eternity: Outside the Confines of Linier Time
-Does Not Refer to a Long Time
-Does Not Refer to the Extended Future

Review of Prophetic Ministry (Deut. 18:9-22):
-Prophetic Insight is the Ministry of the Holy Spirit
-Primarily Concerns the Will of God for His People
-Foretelling is Primarily for Divine Verification
-"Prophets" Represent God in an Intimate Way
-Direct Representation Requires Absolute Accountability

Review of Prophetic Ministry (1 Pet. 1:16-21):
-Prophecy is a Word from God
-Real Prophecy is as Authoritative as Scripture
-Means By Which Scripture is "God Breathed"
-Held to the Same Standard
-Cannot Deviate or Contradict Scripture

General Prophetic Pattern:
-God Identifies Himself (Provides a Title)
-Shares a Related Part of Israel's Past/Culture
-Offers Instruction Regarding Present
-Provides a Warning or Forecast of the Future

Prophetic Communication
-Poetic and Full of Symbolic Imagery
-Figures of Speech (Simile, Metaphor, Pun, Personification)
-Are Not Written with Linier Time in Mind (Patterns)
-Wording is Precise

Looking for Prophetic Meaning (Hos. 11:1-12):
-Meaning for Hosea's Immediate Audience (Present)?
-What is God's Will for that Audience?
-What Figures of Speech Does Hosea Use?
-What Does God Say to Israel's Immediate Future?
-What Does God Imply for Israel's Far Future?
-Where Do You See Christ (Either 1st or 2nd Coming)?

For Next Session:
-Read Rev. Ch. 4
-Journal Impressions and Symbols
-What Truths Do They Reveal?
-Share With Your Group.