

# CHAPTER 3: INSPIRATION AND PROPHECY □ PARAGRAPH 3

by Rabbi Yaakov Feldman

Don't think for a moment that the prophetic experience is at all static or pre-fit. In fact, it happens on many levels, encompasses different nuances and hues, and is colored by a number of phenomena.

For some prophetic experiences last long, while others are sudden then gone; some are overwhelming, others are of little effect; some touch upon universal cataclysm, others on local minutiae, etc. Yet despite the variables, the one common denominator is the surety the prophet senses that he's in the midst of a prophetic experience.

There are other times, though, when someone experiences a low degree of communication loosely referred to as "Divine Inspiration" (which it really isn't) or a "cryptic message". When that happens, the recipient doesn't so much sense *revelation* but rather a "hunch" or a "feeling" that this or that is true.

Just know that that a recipient of true Divine Inspiration (which is actually subordinate to real prophecy, it should be pointed out) would still-and-all know that he or she was experiencing the "real thing", since it would be so clear and vivid.

*This series is dedicated to the memory of Yitzchak Hehrsh ben Daniel, and Sarah Rivka bas Yaakov Dovid.*

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