

THE DISCREPANCIES SURROUNDING DR DAVID OWUOR'S CLAIMS: A REVIEW OF THE BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING

Author

Joseph Kitur 

Email: jpkitur14@gmail.com

Kabarak University, Kenya.

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Abstract

This study sought to find out the discrepancies surrounding Dr David Owuor's claims. Dr Owuor is a self-proclaimed prophet who has replaced his human history with a heavenly autobiography through an alleged supernatural origin. In 2003, Dr Owuor reported a vision from the Lord with Prophets Moses, Elijah, and Daniel and a conversation with John the Baptist, who revealed to him the events leading up to the second coming of Christ. He also claims that God gave him golden wedding rings and a handwritten note from heaven, explaining the character of those preparing to enter the Kingdom. Dr Owuor believes that God transferred authority to Christ in 2006, contradicting Matthew 28:28. This research also found out that Prophet Owuor appropriated upon himself God's Omnipotence, Omniscience and Omnipresence attributes when he declared that he is the one who strikes the earth with deadly plagues like coronavirus, know the deep thoughts of humanity and pushed two neutron stars shaking the entire universe. He further claims to have the power to destroy the earth and send listeners to the grave. However, the Bible states that anything in the universe other than God belongs to Him. The study concludes that believers today do not require new revelations or visions to understand God's will, as the Written Word is sufficient for spiritual maturity. Therefore Dr. Owuor's claims do not conform to sound and established principles of biblical hermeneutics.

Key terms: Heavenly autobiography, human nature, individual revelation, sermon, visions.

INTRODUCTION

Dr David Owuor, a self-proclaimed Prophet and the second-born in a family of six, was born in 1966 in Goma village, Usenge Bondo District in Kenya. He did his Primary and Secondary studies in Kenya and Uganda. He completed his Bachelor of Science degree in 1988 at Nairobi University. He later did his Masters and PhD in Israel before relocating to America, where he established himself as a distinguished research specialist on cancer before starting the repentance and holiness movement in 2003 (Digital, n.d.).

He has successfully replaced his human history with a heavenly autobiography through an alleged supernatural origin. Repentance and Holiness website and Jesus is Lord Radio documents some of the visions, which portray the Prophet to be a superhuman from heaven, and not of this Earth. Dr Owuor identified himself as one of the two witnesses that must come from heaven, wielding enormous power before the second coming of Christ. He commented;

The biblical identity of the two witnesses, he says, number one, they are appointed by God himself; because remember, he said, I will appoint my two witnesses, meaning there are some people God will lower down from heaven. Number two, God himself gives them his power. That is what we have read in the Bible until now, in Revelation 11. You have to shake the universe, you must shake it, and you must resurrect Mama Rosa (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.; Jesus Is LORD Radio, n.d.)

DISCUSSION

He Elevates Himself to a Mediator Position

At the beginning of his ministry in 2003, Dr Owuor alleged that the Lord appeared to him, "this time with Prophets Moses and Elijah on one side of the Ark of the New Covenant of the Lord GOD in heaven, while Daniel was on the other side of the Ark of the New Covenant of the Lord GOD. This was followed by another 'mighty visitation' in the same month at 3:26 am in the morning when the Lord GOD presented to him the Rod of Moses (Rod of GOD) (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.).

According to Dr Owuor, this vision details the conversation with John the Baptist. It is at this encounter that John the Baptist explained to Dr Owuor things to happen before the second coming of Christ, unveiled and discussed by the slain Lamb. Then, the Lamb affirmed to Dr Owuor what John was saying. The Lamb acknowledged, "Yes, indeed it is ME that DIED for the sins of the world, and what John the Baptist is telling you is TRUE. So please will you just go for me and tell the nations to prepare" (Jesus Is LORD Radio, n.d.).

Not only has Dr Owuor purportedly descended from heaven, commissioned by God in the presence of John the Baptist, Moses, Elijah and Daniel, but also incredibly transformed from being the Prophet Owuor to Moses and Elijah of the Old Testament. Jesus is Lord Radio claimed to have captured in camera three incidences when he was seen as Moses and Elijah. In "Kisumu, Kenya, December 31, 2012; Riverside, Nairobi, February 2, 2018; and Central Park, Nairobi, May 24, 2019. The Lord doubles His 'Mightiest Prophet' and reveals the 2nd witness" (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.). Prophet Owuor is purported to have been visited by the Holy Spirit the same way Christ was visited at Christ's baptism. "January 1, 2009, God the Holy Spirit descended on him like he did the Messiah" (Jesus Is LORD Radio, n.d.). By arrogating

himself to the position of a Messiah, it creates an impression that he is the fourth powerful being after God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. It explains why members of his Church referred to him as the "Two mightiest, mightiest most dreadful and most glorified prophets" (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.; Jesus Is LORD Radio, n.d.). On February 20th, 2017, Bishop Joan, a member of Prophet Owuor's Church, ran short of equating him with God in her description of the said prophet to the people of Mombasa.

People of Mombasa, do you know who is visiting you in the next few weeks? The Mightiest Prophet of the Lord... Who is he? When we read from the book of Matthew 11:8-11, it tells us that he is more than a prophet. "If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine are in kings' palaces". Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one where it is written, 'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you'.

He comes to us in the spirit of Elijah, preparing the way for the Messiah. He came directly from the throne of the Father. His interaction with God the Father is like a friend talking to a friend... Severally, the Father has visited him in a pillar of cloud... deliberately introduces him to the World... God the Father transfigured him in our presence... This is he who stands on the throne of the Father (Jesus Is LORD Radio, n.d.).

Dr Owuor Usurp God's Incommunicable Attributes upon Himself

On May 6, 2020, Dr Owuor assigned himself characteristics attributed to God alone in his sermon titled, "THE ENTRY OF THE CHURCH INTO HEAVEN | MAY 6, 2020, SPECIAL TEACHING." The speech is two hours, forty-one minutes and forty-four seconds long (2:41:44). This excerpt is selected from 1:33:37 to 2:09:10 from his speech. The reader is hereby informed that the punctuation marks may not be rightly placed since the extracted section is a direct copy of a radio live speech.

The one speaking with you right now is the one walking with God openly in the present day. Look at the glory in my head. I have walked with God, and I am walking with God in a manner never seen in the entire Bible, openly and publicly. Until God the Father came by voice and said you are the first for me to do this...

Those of you who are closer to me, with whom I have shared deeper things about the relationship I have with God, you are very shocked at how God is involved in my life in the finest details, the smallest details, everyday... He orders everything such that I can see tomorrow from today and get to know what people are thinking. God knows everything. You can imagine with this calibre of Prophet how he makes me know what people are thinking as I am talking to them. I know so much. It is unbelievable to hear what is being discussed in the oval office in the US, to hear what is being discussed where... you get to know so much. You are in many places at the same time; you are preaching here, but you are in many places... (The Entry of the Church into Heaven | Special Teaching, 2020).

In this two-hour-long sermon, the self-proclaimed Prophet assigned himself qualities ascribed to God alone. He claimed to have glory in his head. In Isaiah 42:8 and 48:11, God says that He can't share his glory with anybody else and that all human beings have fallen short of God's glory (Rom. 3:23). So, is Dr Owuor

disqualifying himself from the human race? He also claims to have foreknowledge, able to know the discussion in the White House, USA, while he is in Nairobi. Nothing is hidden from him. It is only God who knows and can search the deep thoughts of mankind (Ps. 139:1-2; Rom. 8:27 and 1 Cor. 2:11). Dr Owuor further made the most outrageous declaration when he claimed that he is in many places at the same time. He said, "you are preaching here, but you are in many places" (The Entry of the Church into Heaven | Special Teaching, 2020). In a nutshell, he is claiming that he can be preaching in Nairobi, and yet he is in Washington, DC, USA, at the same time. It is only God alone who possesses such a quality (Ps. 139:7-10; Jer. 23:23-24 & Heb. 4:13); If that is not blasphemy, then one wonders what blasphemy is. The Thesaurus dictionary defines blasphemy as "the act of claiming the attributes of a deity" (Definition of Blasphemy, 2023).

Christ was not in different places at the same time when he took human nature. Even though "...being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant being made in human likeness" (Phil. 2:6-7). Christ humbled himself and "completely abandoned all the rights and privileges to which he was entitled" (Adeyemo, ed. (2010). The Lord Jesus " set aside the voluntary display of his divine attributes and submitted himself to the Spirit's direction (cf. Matt. 24:36; John 1:45-49) (MacArthur, 2005). How can Dr Owuor, who is created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27) and living in human fallen nature (Rom. 3:12) claim these rights?

Dr Owuor Uses his Revelations and Visions as his Sole hermeneutical principles of his interpretation of Scripture

The visions of the Prophet, Dr David Owuor, Is another example, which illustrates how some believers use visions or revelation to explain the meaning of Scripture. Prophet Owuor used a vision of two golden rings, which he saw in the sky on November 01, 2006, to explain the second coming of Christ. He describes as follows:

The two Golden Glorious Spiritual Wedding Rings presented to me by the Father God on November 01, 2006, thus combine simplicity, humility, holiness, righteousness, faithfulness, obedience, trustworthiness, peacefulness, longevity, stability, integrity, maturity, originality, thickness of the Gold on them shout the identity and wealth of the Kingdom of God to which the Church is getting married. The weight of the gold on these two wedding Rings further presents an enormous and stable capacity to love, among other Heavenly qualities. These qualities, if well examined, are the qualities of Christ Jesus in this spiritual equal yoking (2 Cor. 6: 4-18), which qualities the Bride of Christ MUST wear to wed Christ Jesus.

At first, I did not understand the greater depth and gravity of this statement until I received revelation from the Holy Spirit on what had just happened to the entire Heaven and Earth on this material day, November 01, 2006. Later, I began to slowly understand that this was a major fulfilment of Biblical End time Prophecy. The authority that The Father Jehovah God was talking about as being given to Christ Jesus essentially and officially marked the Firstborn of all creation means He also took authority over death and was the first to be birthed out (Raptured) from death. The authority of The LORD GOD is given to Christ Jesus through the Wedding Rings, allowing Him to redeem the dead in the Rapture, thereby taking complete authority over death, the authority

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that overcame death and locked the gates over hades and hell for the righteous. This complete authority over Heaven and earth that was transferred to Christ Jesus by The FATHER JEHOVAH GOD on November 01, 2006, brings to fulfilment the prophecy in this much anticipated and awaited enthronement of Christ Jesus as King over the Heavens and the earth. This spiritual landmark, happening over my ears through the Voice of JEHOVAH GOD HIMSELF, is a very sharp turning point and a critical landmark towards the final end.

According to Dr Owuor, God the Father gave him the golden wedding rings. He did not indicate the purpose why it was presented to him. Through this vision, Dr Owuor explains the character of those who are preparing to enter into the Kingdom as supposed to possess heavenly qualities such as "simplicity, humility, holiness, righteousness, faithfulness, obedience, trustworthiness, peacefulness, longevity, stability, integrity, maturity, originality." From this vision, Dr Owuor makes his readers believe that God the Father transferred authority to Christ on November 01, 2006, in the presence of Dr Owuor, contradicting what Christ declared to his disciples after his resurrection and before ascension that all power in heaven and earth has been given to Him (Matthew 28:28).

Dr Owuor expounded on the second coming of Christ through another vision of May 11, 2009, in which he claims God gave him a handwritten note from heaven. It is through this note that Dr Owuor wants his followers to interpret Matthew 24:6-8, 12 and all other verses which refer to the signs of Christ's second coming based on his visions. He believes that his vision unlocks the mysteries of Christ's return.

The shocking vision when God Almighty presented to me a note written by His own hands in the vision of May 11th, 2009 night, became yet another moment of HIS tender disposition towards today's church of Christ. Such a phenomenal vision effectively translates into unending love and grace unveiled upon humanity.

Then abruptly and without any advance forewarning, a tremendous voice spoke aloud from heaven, while in South Africa saying, "Look and see what has fallen at your feet." All I can clearly remember is that when the Lord spoke in that glorious vision, instead of looking at my feet to see what had fallen on them, out of shock, I immediately looked right up above me and towards the sky from where the tremendous Voice of the Lord had come. The Voice of the Lord was so overwhelming that it became practically impossible for me to ignore it in that vision.

That is the moment when it ultimately dawned on me the gravity of the fact that I had just received a written message from God in heaven. What surprised me even more was that the note I had just received was, as a matter of fact, a hand-written note by God in heaven written using a blue ink fountain pen. In a nutshell, then, this is God's hand-written message on the glorious heavenly piece of paper.



Figure 1: Alleged God's handwritten note from heaven to Dr Owuor

I woke up from the vision when I looked at the clock and realized it was at about 2:50 am in the morning. But for the Lord to say three times that the Messiah is coming, it must verily imply that, indeed, this time around, He is coming. The Lord is telling the church that she needs to prepare in absolute righteousness and holiness in order to be able to receive the coming Messiah. It also points to the fact that time is over (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.; Welcome to Jesus is Lord Radio, n.d.; Repentance & Holiness, n.d.).

He Intertwines his Revelations and Visions with Scripture

Dr Owuor seems to have mastered the skill of camouflaging his alleged revelations, visions, ideas and dreams with Scriptures until both are inseparable. Below is Owuor's live speech via Jesusislordradio.info in relation to the cause of Covid-19.

Well, blessed people, the Lord Sabaoth, the Lord of hosts, the God Almighty, the one that was hovering over the water in the darkness before there was any land on this earth, this is what is coming to happen to those who are rebellious, those who are apostate, those who have fallen. Right now, this is the Voice of the Lord; this is the Voice of Yahweh, the Voice of the Lord God. I have opened Heaven many times, eleven (11) times now, and Heaven has obeyed. I have commanded God in his cloud to come to me, and He has come.

"I can destroy the earth right now! I am very angry!" Says the Lord of hosts. Even when I struck them with the coronavirus, nobody has repented," says the Lord even when I struck them with the coronavirus, nobody has repented," says The Lord and they have been full of sin and blackmail and mockery and ridicule to the God of Israel. I can destroy the whole earth right now. With your children and your wives, you can go down right now, down right now, down to the grave right now, right now as I speak here. You can go down to hell right now, the entire earth (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.; Jesus Is Lord Radio, n.d.).

In this context, the Prophet deliberately choose to refer to God as 'Sabaoth', 'The Lord of Hosts' and 'The God Almighty' titles which rhyme with Owuor's self-claim of being a 'mega ancient prophet of eternity', 'most fearful' and 'most dreadful'. When he proclaimed on live TV and Radio, 'right now this is the Voice of the Lord, even when I struck them with the coronavirus, nobody has repented, says the Lord.' He puts his

statements in such a way that it is impossible to tell whether he meant God is speaking or he is the one speaking. However, it is clearer from his previous claims that he is the one who struck the earth again with a deadly plague, coronavirus, in 2020 as a fulfilment of his December 1, 2015 prophecy, while on the other hand, he claims it is God who strikes. The double tongue approach makes God's own Words and his inseparable. (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.; Jesus Is LORD Radio, n.d.). He is insinuating that he (Dr Owuor) is the one who opened the heavens eleven times, struck the earth with Covid -19, and has the power to destroy the whole earth and send the listeners down to the grave even as he (Dr Owuor) was speaking.

This interplay of words is consistent with other claims, such as the one that he claimed that he was the one who pushed two neutron stars with his finger and caused them to collide. He has made his followers to believe that he has such a power. Bishop Joan Mutai stated, "The mightiest Prophet of the Lord shakes the entire Universe", causing "2 Neutron Stars collide" (The Mightiest Prophet of the Lord Shakes the Entire Universe as Two Neutron Stars Collide, 2017; "...if you would be 1000km closer to the star you will be liquefied. But the mightiest prophet went there, pushed the stars out of its galaxy with his finger" (Repentance & Holiness, n.d.; Jesus Is LORD Radio, n.d.). That is how Bishop Joan of the Repentance and Holiness Church amplified the Prophet's claim through Jesus is Lord Radio on 7th November 2017.

Thielemann et al. (2017) stated, "neutron stars, whose existence was postulated shortly after the discovery of the neutron, were predicted to be the ultimate fate of massive stars, ending in supernova events: (1) Their existence was proven in the 1960s after the first observations of pulsars (2) ...". If the Prophet is citing this article and other related ones, then the question arises as to who has been pushing the neutron stars or shaking the universe since their discovery in 1960s? The closest neutron star to the planet is "found 250 to 1,000 light-years away" (Possible Closest Neutron Star to Earth Found, n.d.).

Definitely, no human, even with the assistance of space rock, is able to reach there. If the Prophet's claims are "true", then the Prophet is neither human nor an angel or any other God's created creature. Is he God? The answer is NO, for God Himself declares that "there I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God" (Isa. 45:5). The Bible makes it clear anything in the entire Universe other than God is God's creations (Gen. 1:1) and all belongs to Him (Ps. 24:1). In several occasions, Prophet Owuor purported to: command God to come down to where he was; destroy the earth with earthquakes, floods; strike the earth with coronavirus and Zika virus; pushed the universe and causing the neutron stars to collide.

CONCLUSION

This study concludes that Dr David Owuor's claims are fabricated stories with no biblical basis.

In 2 Peter 2:1-3, the Scriptures says;

But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers... They will secretly introduce destructive heresies... Many will follow their shameful ways... In their greed, these teachers will exploit you stories they have made..."

These prophets and teachers use false words and flattery words (1 Thess. 2:5). Therefore, these teachers fabricate stories in the name of the Lord. God spoke through the Prophet Jeremiah, saying, "The prophets are prophesying lies in my name. I have not sent them, appointed them, or spoken to them. They are

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prophesying to you false visions, divinations, idolatries and the delusions of their own minds" (Jeremiah 14:14). The Apostle Paul calls them "savage wolves" whose sole purpose is to distort the truth (Acts 20:29-30) for their own benefit (Hosea 4:1-2).

The Bible calls them "deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ" (2 Cor. 11:13) and Jesus calls them ferocious wolves (Matt. 7:15).

Breese (1986) writes;

The final truth, therefore, is the Person, the Word, and the work of Jesus Christ. No subsequent revelation as to the nature of the truth can supersede the revelation of Jesus Christ. It is simply impossible for there to be a greater revelation than that of Christ in this universe or any other under the god who made this and all possible universes. (Breese, 1986).

Jude 1:3 further testifies that God did not extend the writing of His Word beyond the Apostles of Jesus Christ. Bruce comments: "Therefore, all claims to convey and additional revelation... are false claims... whether these claims are embodied in books which aim at superseding or supplementing the Bible..." (Bruce, 1986).

God's oral Revelation in both the Old Testament and the New Testament was written in order for his people to know about them and for them to function as an objective standard for faith (Deut. 13:1-5; Isa 8:20; 2 Pet. 1:21). Therefore, the only acceptable revelations, visions and prophecies given to guide God's people are the written Scriptures (the Bible).

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