



### 3. Avoid fearful predictions and grandiose illusions

The most common false imaginations / delusions tend to be



(a) fearful or paranoid thoughts about the future (such as conspiracies / persecutory themes), or



(b) grandiose illusions about someone's "amazing" destiny / future ministry (or their gifts / abilities).

Fear and pride are deadly enemies of the soul – and they are not from the Lord.

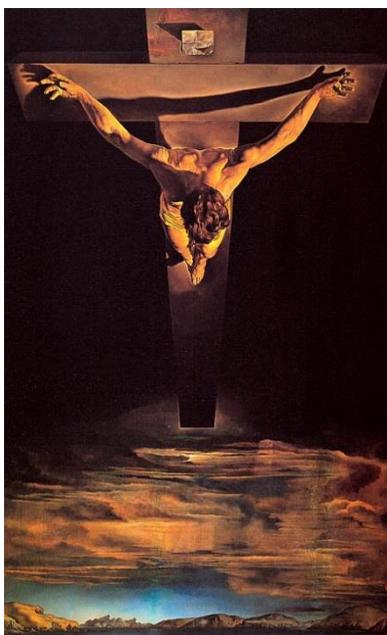
*"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and self-control" (2 Timothy 1:7)*

False prophecies (or hallucinations / delusions) are often rooted in intense emotional (or neurochemical) stimuli and impulsive reactivity – without reflective analysis or self-control.

Individuals with an "imaginative" or "emotive" neurological profile are particularly vulnerable to this, but it can also draw in a "neurotypical" person who struggles with social-emotional issues.

### 4. Stay focused on Christ.

Christ described the role of the Spirit as *"He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you"* (John 16:14). True prophecy points to – and exalts – Christ, not people.



*"The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy"* (Rev 19:10).

Although there are several legitimate interpretations of this verse, one clear interpretation is that the prophecies in scripture point to – and find their fulfillment - in Christ (John 1:45; 5:39).

*"God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world."* (Heb 1:1,2)

Christ Himself is the true prophet, speaking (and living) accurately the word and will of the LORD – He is the Word of God (John 1:1)

All prophecy finds its fulfillment in pointing to Christ, the Son of the Most High – and prophetic words that (a) glorify the person of Christ, and (b) are consistent with revealed written scripture – will fulfill the Biblically-defined purpose of prophecy.