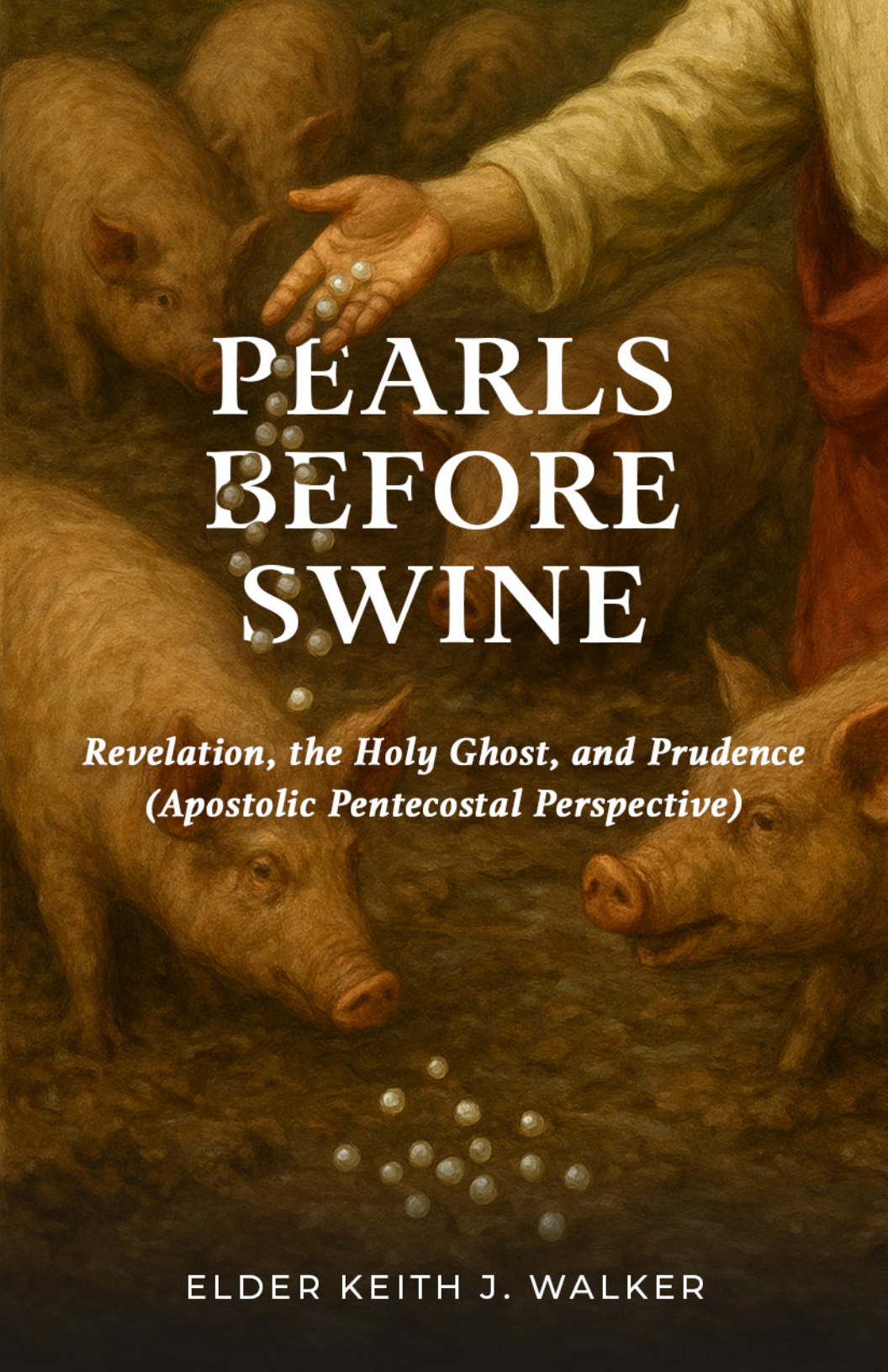


The background of the cover is a classical painting. It shows a hand in a white sleeve reaching down, offering several pearls to a group of pigs. The pigs are depicted in a muddy, dark environment, looking up at the hand. The pearls are scattered on the ground in front of the pigs. The overall tone is somber and symbolic.

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

*Revelation, the Holy Ghost, and Prudence
(Apostolic Pentecostal Perspective)*

ELDER KEITH J. WALKER



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Opening Word

Matthew 7:6 warns: “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces.” From an Apostolic Pentecostal understanding, this is not merely a lesson about prudence in speech; it is a solemn warning about how we steward revelation given by the Holy Ghost — received in our spirit through the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues — and how we protect the ordinance of Jesus-name water baptism, which is essential for salvation.

Part I — Pearls: Revelation, Not Jewelry

Pearls As Living Revelation

- In this view, pearls in Matthew 7:6 stand for precious, living revelations—truths born in the inner man by the Spirit of God. These are not trinkets for public display or status tokens.
- True revelation is formative and transformative: the Spirit unpacks deep realities into our spirit, showing what the eye has not seen and the ear has not heard (cf. 1 Cor. 2:9–10). Revelation changes heart, life, and ministry.

How Revelation Comes

- Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues: Apostolic Pentecostal teaching emphasizes an empowering, sanctifying encounter in the Holy Ghost and fire. Speaking in tongues is the initial evidential sign that the Spirit is forming and releasing revelation in the believer's spirit.
- The Spirit as revealer: Jesus promised "the Spirit of truth" who would guide into all truth (John 16:13). The Holy Ghost moves within the spirit man to disclose dreams, visions, prophetic utterances, and insight into Scripture and the heavenly realm—pearls of revelation.
- Jesus-name water baptism: In Apostolic Pentecostal doctrine, water baptism in Jesus' name (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48) is essential for salvation and must be properly administered as part of the plan of salvation.

Part II — The Danger of Wearing Pearls as Jewelry

Display Without Stewardship

- When revealed truth is paraded for honor, fame, or to prove spiritual superiority, the pearl becomes jewelry—superficial, consumable, and vulnerable to mockery or theft.

Provocation and profiteering

- Flaunting revelation can invite scorn, testing, or provide ammunition to those who would exploit or distort the gift.

Loss of Potency

- Revelation mishandled loses sanctifying power; public spectacle can dilute truth into rumor, sensationalism, or caricature.

Part III — The “Dogs” and “Pigs”: Whom to Guard Against

Behavioral—Not Merely Ethnic

- The dogs and pigs Jesus warns against are those chronically antagonistic to the gospel—people whose predictable response is to trample the sacred and turn on the messenger.

Signs to Watch For

- Persistent mockery or contempt for spiritual things.
- A pattern of twisting, slandering, or weaponizing what is shared.
- Spiritual hostility driven by envy, doctrinal control, or political/organizational agendas.

Discernment, Not Hatred

- This discernment is pastoral and protective, not vindictive. Scripture elsewhere calls us to love

enemies and to pursue the lost; Matthew 7:6 governs method and timing, not the motive of outreach.

We must be careful not to cast our pearls before swine and the dogs. Guard revelation and ordinances from contexts that will profane them while maintaining a heart of compassion for the lost.

Part IV — Stewardship: How to Handle Pearls Faithfully

Test the Soil

- Start with small pearls—practical practices, short prophetic insights, or simple words of encouragement—and observe fruit. Hearts that receive will show reverence, repentance, and alignment with Scripture.

Humility and Submission

- Keep revelation under the authority of Scripture and accountable spiritual leadership. Revelation never excuses covenantal avoidance of accountability.

Protect Context and Confidentiality

- Share intimate revelation in contexts of trust. Avoid publicizing delicate visions or prophetic words where they will be sensationalized or misused.

Build the Vessel

- The Spirit usually prepares a heart. Teach first, form character, and then deepen into mysteries; spiritual maturity is the safe container for deeper pearls.

Avoid Spectacle

- Let fruit authenticate revelation rather than theatrical displays that attract attention to the messenger rather than to God.

Part V — Practical Checklist — Before You Speak a Pearl

- Pray and confirm: Seek confirmation in prayer and counsel from mature leaders.
- Ask for readiness: “May I share something very personal and delicate?” Consent matters.
- Offer a small pearl first: Gauge response and fruit.
- Watch the receiver’s heart: Is there openness, reverence, and humility?
- Protect what must be protected: If the listener is hostile or controlling, withhold; plant seeds of truth in safer ways.

Part VI — If the Pearl Is Profaned

- Withdraw wisely: Remove the revelation from public misuse; protect vulnerable people.
- Seek vindication in God, not in defense: When

attacked, maintain a spirit of grace and let God vindicate.

- Learn and refine stewardship: Ask the Spirit what went wrong in timing, context, or motive, and adjust.

Part VII — Historical and Jewish Context: Why Caution Matters

Jewish Background for Prudence

- Jewish tradition long distinguished levels of teaching (peshat, derash, remez, sod); esoteric teachings were reserved for the prepared (see Talmud, Chagigah 13a–15b). Matthew 7:6 resonates with prudential concerns about disclosing what may be profaned.

A Cautionary Historical Example: Misuse of Sacred Teaching

- Stories such as the Midrashic account of ten sages under Hadrian illustrate how ignorance or malice can turn sacred texts into instruments of injustice. Such history reminds us that revelation must be guarded from hostile hands.

Responsibility and Reconciliation

- While guarding pearls, believers must also acknowledge historical wrongs—especially against Jewish communities—and pursue repentance, dialogue, and reconciliation where the Church has caused harm.

Part VIII — Ethical and Theological Cautions

Do Not Weaponize Prudence

- Matthew 7:6 must not be turned into a blanket justification for excluding whole peoples or for cold indifference. Scripture also commands love for enemies (Matt. 5:44) and mission to all nations (Matt. 28:19).

Hold Doctrine and Charity Together

- Affirm the necessity of the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire with evidence of speaking in tongues and the necessity of Jesus-name water baptism for salvation, while practicing grace in evangelism and care in historical relations.

Part IX — Practical Applications

For Ministers and Prophetic Voices

- Teach accountability and train discernment. Test visions and prophetic words in accountable community.
- Use gradual disclosure: small, verifiable confirmations first; deeper revelation later as character and discernment grow.

For Local Church and Small Groups

- Create safe spaces for sharing and accountability.

Protect personal confidences.

- Train leaders to recognize predatory or manipulative behavior and to act to protect vulnerable members.

For Interreligious Engagement

- Begin with shared service and respect. Avoid insisting on contested mysteries in hostile forums. Acknowledge historical Christian harms and seek honest reconciliation.

For Personal Life

- Guard intimate spiritual realities (time, testimony, prophetic words) with trusted, proven listeners.
- Practice humility and discernment when sharing spiritual experiences publicly or on social media.

Part X — Closing Exhortation

The Holy Ghost gives pearls to transform lives and bring glory to Jesus. Treat every revelation as a sacred trust. Do not fling what is holy where it will be trampled or turned against you. At the same time, do not bury the gift out of fear. Be bold in obedience, humble in speech, discerning in timing, and ever dependent on the Spirit to lead you when to speak and when to remain silent. Let the pearls you hold build the Bride and bless the world—without becoming trophies that expose the treasure to theft

and profanation.

Short Prayer

Lord Jesus, Spirit of truth, baptize us again in the Holy Ghost and fire; confirm your presence by your witness in our spirit through the evidence of speaking in tongues. Teach us to steward every revelation and to obey your command for water baptism in Jesus Name is essential for salvation. Grant discernment to know when to speak and when to protect. Give us humility to love those who oppose us and courage to stand for the truth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Appendix — Suggested Next Steps and Resources

Study Acts passages on Pentecost, the Samaritans, and household conversions (Acts 2; 8; 10; 19) for Apostolic Pentecostal insight into Holy Ghost baptism with the evidence of speaking in tongues and water baptism in Jesus Name is essential for Bible Salvation

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