

The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage
By Richard Rohr

**Book Discussion at Precious Blood Renewal Center, Liberty, Missouri.
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Discussion Questions

Chapter 4 — Welcoming Holy Disorder: How the Prophets Carry Us Through

1. Rohr speaks of moving from initial order, to disorder, to reorder. What “initial order” has grounded/helped you?
2. Where have you seen “inside and effective critics” at work in the church or in society?
3. Put into your own words the how the usual role of priest differs from prophet, according to Rohr.

The Qualities of a Prophet

1. Which of Rohr’s qualities of a prophet strikes you as most important?

A Prophet’s Reward

1. A true prophet does not work for any kind of payment. Why is this so difficult? What kinds of “payment” do false prophets desire?

Encouraging Holy Disorder

1. Do you hear any prophets today proclaiming “necessary disorder?”
2. How does one become an “effective insider critic” without becoming negative or cynical?

Chapter. 5 — Jeremiah: The Patterns That Carry Us Across

The Reluctant Prophet

1. Jeremiah challenged and criticized his religious community for its superficiality, as it valued external displays and rituals more than genuine faith and trust. Do you see this happening today? If so, how?

Redeeming the Collective

1. What are some modern-day examples of collective consequences (positive or negative) that resemble the biblical notion of collective reward or punishment?

Breaking the Link with Violence

1. We distrust, and often attack, whoever/whatever threatens to disrupt our idea of the proper order of things. What is it that we fear when this happens?

The “Threat” of Unconditional Love

Why is God’s unconditional love a “threat” to many of us?

1. How would society/the church/the human race be different if we truly operated out of the new covenant?



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