

「わたしのことばを盗み合う預言者たち」  
(エレミヤ書 23 章 30 節)

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**ABSTRACT** D. T. TSUMURA, “‘The prophets ... who steal my words from one another’ (Jeremiah 23:30).” What does the phrase “to steal God’s word from one another” mean? Various explanations could be made such as:

- ① Those false prophets steal God’s true word from the true prophet and share it among them and pretend as if God himself spoke to them.
- ② They steal what other false prophets say is God’s word and use it as their own words from God.
- ③ They steal from one another what they believe is God’s word and speak as God’s word.
- ④ They steal the “right” to speak God’s word even though they had no right to speak God’s word.

One might rather treat the prophet as a messenger, sent by God with a message. In this context, the phrase “to steal God’s word from one another” probably means that the false prophets “appropriate” (pi. *HALOT*) God’s true message by stealing it from the messenger on the way (i.e. the true prophet) and share it among them.