

About the Prophetic Word

The Bible is unlike all other religious books in that it basis its authenticity, and authority, and inspiration on **PROPHECY**. All other religious books contain no predictions as to the future. If its authors had attempted to foretell future events, their unfulfillment would long ago have discredited their writings. Therefore prophecy is ...

HISTORY WRITTEN IN ADVANCE,

And it proves the foreknowledge of God. This the Prophet Daniel referred to when he told the heathen King Nebuchadnezzar the interpretation of his dream.

Daniel 2:45 (KJV), “Forasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass **HEREAFTER**: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof **SURE**.”

Prophecy is twofold, “**DESCRIPTIVE**” and “**PREDICTIVE**.” The prophets were both “**forthtellers**”¹ and “**foretellers**.”² They had both “**insight**” and “**foresight**.” Their prophetic declarations were not the product of reason, but were imparted to them by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:21 (KJV), “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

The importance of the study of “Prophetic Scriptures” is seen when we remember that two-thirds of the Scriptures are prophetic, either in type, symbolism, or direct statement, and that more than one-half of them are as yet unfulfilled. To those that have been fulfilled, were literally fulfilled, at the “First Coming” of Christ.

If we then so wish to know the “**MIND OF GOD**” as to the future fulfillment of remaining prophecies, we must study the “Prophetic Scriptures,” or we will remain in the condition that the Apostle Peter spoke of ... “**WILLINGLY IGNORANT**,” that one may claim as an excuse for their lack of effort (2 Peter 3:3-8). We are living in a dark world, and we need the “**SURE WORD OF PROPHECY**” to give **LIGHT** to us over the ages of time and history.

2 Peter 1:19 (KJV), “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto you do well that you take heed, as unto a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:”

We must never forget that “No prophecy of the Scriptures is of any private interpretation” (2 Peter 1:20). That is, no prophecy is to be interpreted by itself, but in harmony with the whole

¹ [Forthtell] These are those who “forthtell,” which means that they speak forth a living message from God for the hour. In this context, the prophet or individual is using interpretive gifts to 'forthtell' the will and counsel of God at that time.

² [Foretelling] To predict; to tell the future before it occurs; the true spirit of prophesy

body of prediction on any given subject. It is not to be interpreted to suit any theory or cult. There is no form of evil doctrine or practice that may claim Scriptural sanction or support from isolated passages taken out of their context. No erroneous doctrine can ever find support in the Word of God when examined within the whole body of text and the testimony of Scriptures is weighed against it.

The prophecies are not to be “**allegorized**”³ or “**spiritualized.**” God expounds prophecy by literally fulfilling it in every detail. As an illustration, when God said to Abraham ...

Genesis 15:13-14 (KJV),³ And he said unto Abram, Know of a certainty that your seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them **FOUR HUNDRED** years;¹⁴ And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I **JUDGE**: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. (also Ex.12:35-36)

Was God telling Abraham that his seed would enter into some spiritual experience which would cause great mental distress and heart searching experience, out of which they would emerge richer in experience and spirituality, or did He mean exactly what the words literally implied? Let the history of their experience in Egypt, as recorded in the first twelve chapters of Exodus, answer.

There was nothing allegorical in the whips of the Egyptian Taskmasters, not spiritual in the double tally of bricks. The Divine Law of Prophetic interpretation is that the prophecy will be literally fulfilled in exact detail.

For illustration, there were 16 detailed prophecies in reference to Christ’s First Coming that were literally fulfilled during the last week of His life, as follows ...

1. Sold for 30 pieces of silver. Zech. 11:12
2. Betrayed by a friend. Psa. 41:9
3. Forsaken by His Disciples. Zech. 13:7
4. Accused by false witnesses. Psa. 35:7
5. Dumb before His accusers. Isa. 53:7
6. Spit upon and scourged. Isa. 53:5
7. Hands and feet pierced. Psa. 22:16
8. His garments divided by lot. Psa. 22:18
9. Mocked by His enemies. Psa. 22:7-8

³ [*allegorized*] to treat or explain as an allegory. We encounter allegories in stories, movies, songs, paintings—anywhere that symbolism is used. An allegory is a work of written, oral, or visual expression that uses symbolic figures, objects, and actions to convey truths or generalizations about human conduct or experience. The word traces back to the Greek word *allēgorein* meaning "to speak figuratively."

10. Given gall and vinegar. Psa. 69:21
11. Prayed for His murderers. Isa. 53:12
12. Not a bone broken. Psa. 34:20
13. Crucified with thieves. Isa. 53:12
14. His forsaken cry. Psa. 22:1
15. His side pierced. Zech. 12:10
16. Buried as a rich man. Isa. 53:9

According to the law of “Compound probabilities” there is one chance in 65,536 that all these prophecies would culminate and be fulfilled in the same individual. When we consider that these prophecies were made by different prophets during a period of 600 years, and half of them about 1000 years before Jesus was born. Notice how they dovetail together with such marvelous accuracy to describe the betrayal, trial, and crucifixion of Jesus. We can only conclude that the men who foretold these incidents must have been indwelt by the “**SPIRIT OF GOD.**”

The book we are about to study is a “Prophetic Foreview” of the “Gentile Nations” and their last great ruler, **THE ANTICHRIST.**

The book is divided up into two main sections, the **GENTILE** nations which are chapters 1-9. The second section concerns the **JEWISH** people and Jerusalem, chapters 10-12.

THE GENTILE NATIONS

While the Book of Daniel speaks of the “Times of the Gentiles,”⁴ it does not give an outline of the Gentile nations, but only of those nations which had sway over the territory of the “Prophetic Earth.” Bible prophecy has nothing to say about the nation’s relationship to one another, but only in their relation to Israel and the Holy Land.

Deut. 32:8 (KJV), “When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.”

The key to all prophecy is the Jewish people. If they had not forsaken God and neglected His Sabbaths, there would have been no “**TIMES OF THE GENTILES.**” The Times of the Gentiles began when God transferred earthly rule from the Kings of Israel to the Gentile King Nebuchadnezzar, and they will continue until Israel again becomes the “Head of the Nations (Rev.20:4-6).”

⁴ The “Times of the Gentiles” began when Nebuchadnezzar conquered Jerusalem and took the people of God out of their land and back to Babylon, it ends in Rev. 20 :4-6

- Daniel is distinctly the Prophet of the “Times of the Gentiles.” His vision sweeps the whole course of Gentile World Rule until the setting up of the Messianic or Millennial Kingdom of Christ.
- The Book of Daniel is the Apocalypse of the Old Testament, as the Book of Revelation is the Apocalypse of the New Testament, one cannot be understood without the other. It is worthy to note that three times Daniel is called the man “greatly beloved” (Dan. 9:23, 10:11,19) the Apostle John is called the “beloved disciple” (John 13:23, 19:26, 20:2, 21:20) To these two men were given the privilege of seeing in vision the whole “course of time” from B.C. 606, on down to the Second Coming of Christ.