

me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord...” (Luke 4:16-21)

“To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord,... and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; 3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.” (Isaiah 61:2-3)

“And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.” (Luke 4:20-21)

JESUS INTERPRETATION SHOWED THE GAP

CONCLUSION

1. Because Future unfulfilled prophecy must be interpreted in a literal sense.
2. This is the only way to keep men's imaginations in check, so they do not read into what the Scripture is teaching.
3. This helps us to see how we are to interpret other prophetic passages in the Old and New Testaments.
4. It shows that when we study the future of the church, we cannot find any direct prophecies in the Old Testament about the Church.
5. Finally, We learn the distinction of what God's future plan is for Israel and God's separate future plan for the church.



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THE PERSPECTIVE OF PROPHECY

RICK HOUK | MAY 17, 2023

Text: 1 Peter 1:9-12

“Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.” (1 Peter 1:9-12)

INTRODUCTION

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;” (Hebrews 1:1-2)

“But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;” (Daniel 2:28)

“This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: 2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: 3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.” (2 Peter 3:1-4)

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” (2 Peter 1:19-21)

1. WHAT THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

A. They _____ the Testimony of Jesus Christ

THEY RECEIVED WHAT GOD GAVE THEM

“The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.” (Deuteronomy 29:29)

THEY RECORDED WHAT GOD GAVE THEM

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

B. They _____ the Testimony of Jesus Christ

“And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Revelation 19:10)

REVEALED THE PURPOSE OF PROPHECY

Quote: “...Prophecy at its very heart is designed to unfold the beauty and loveliness of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the present age, therefore, the Spirit of God is not only to glorify Christ but to show believers things to come as they relate to His person and majesty. Christ is not only the major theme of the Scriptures but also the central theme of prophecy.” —**John Walvoord**

REVEALED THE PURPOSE OF CHRIST’S COMING

“Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.” (1 Peter 1:9–12)

2. WHAT THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

A. They Did Not See the _____

GOD DID NOT SHOW THEM ALL FUTURE EVENTS.

“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” (Daniel 12:4)

“And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? 9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.” (Daniel 12:8–9)

GOD DID NOT SHOW THEM A GAP BETWEEN CHRIST’S “SUFFERING AND THE GLORY TO FOLLOW”

GOD DID NOT REVEAL THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

“If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to youward: 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery;...5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; 6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel.” (Ephesians 3:2–3, 5–6)

GOD DID NOT REVEAL THE MYSTERY OF THE RAPTURE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

“Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.” (1 Corinthians 15:50–53)

THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES CANNOT REVEAL THE GAP BETWEEN CHRIST’S 1ST AND 2ND ADVENTS UNLESS YOU RIGHTLY DIVIDE IT AS JESUS HAD SHOWN US.

“And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. 17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon