

Understanding The Purpose Of Bible Prophecy

All Scriptures From The Old and New King James Version

Why should we study prophecy?

To become more familiar with God's word.

To gain a better understanding how God's plan unfolds.

To help give an account of the hope that is in us.

1Pe 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and **always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;**

1Pe 3:16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.

To gain an understanding how prophecies are fulfilled.

To learn that which has been fulfilled, and not misapply it.

People are somewhat careless in their explanations of prophecy. The following scripture is a reason to be careful in any explanation of prophecies. The safest thing is not to offer an opinion what it is referring to. Use only the explanations given by God in scriptures. I believe prophecy is given, so we can recognize it, when it happens, not before it happens.

Rev 22:18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, **If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:**

Rev 22:19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

When studying prophecy we need to understand the context of the verses around the prophecy. There may be a statement as "some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom."

Clearly this was fulfilled in their time.

Mat 16:28 Verily I say unto you, **There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.**

Mat 24:34 Verily I say unto you, **This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.**

So much of the prophecy was intended for the people in Bible times. We must be careful not to use scripture meant for their time, for our time. This is not always evident in all scripture, so we must be careful. If we attribute a meaning not intended by God, then we are asking for God to curse us. This is why explaining prophecy without certain knowledge given in scripture is asking for God's wrath. Be careful brethren.

2Pe 1:20 *Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.*

2Pe 1:21 *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.*

Understand that in most cases the prophets, kings even angels wanted to understand and see the meaning of prophecy.

Mat 13:17 *For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.*

Luk 10:24 *For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.*

1Pe 1:11 *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.*

1Pe 1:12 *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.*

If God would not reveal to them, what would make us so special? The people of that time did see the reveling of prophecy in the life of Christ. Many of the people believed but many did not. The prophecy of Christ was given. They should have recognized it. They did not because their hearts were not right. This is why we must guard our hearts so we can recognize the in the proper time.

What about the people of our time, that claims to prophesy?

Well let us see how God dealt with those who prophesied in bible times.

If they prophesy anything at any time and it does not come to pass, then they are a false prophet. Don't listen to anything they say. If they prophesy anything, which is contrary to scripture, then they are a false prophet.

Deu 13:1 *If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,*

Deu 13:2 *And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;*

Deu 13:3 *Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.*

Deu 13:4 *Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.*

Deu 18:21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?

Deu 18:22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

Act 13:6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus:

Act 13:7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

Act 13:8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

Act 13:9 Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

Act 13:10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

\ Explained prophecies were usually for the people of that time.

Gen 41:16 So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

Gen 41:17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph: "Behold, in my dream I stood on the bank of the river.

Gen 41:18 Suddenly seven cows came up out of the river, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow.

Gen 41:19 Then behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and gaunt, such ugliness as I have never seen in all the land of Egypt.

Gen 41:20 And the gaunt and ugly cows ate up the first seven, the fat cows.

Gen 41:21 When they had eaten them up, no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they were just as ugly as at the beginning. So I awoke.

Gen 41:22 Also I saw in my dream, and suddenly seven heads came up on one stalk, full and good.

Gen 41:23 Then behold, seven heads, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them.

Gen 41:24 And the thin heads devoured the seven good heads. So I told this to the magicians, but there was no one who could explain it to me."

Gen 41:25 Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do:

Gen 41:26 The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads are seven years; the dreams are one.

Gen 41:27 And the seven thin and ugly cows which came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty heads blighted by the east wind are seven years of famine.

Gen 41:28 This is the thing which I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do.

Gen 41:29 Indeed seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt;

Gen 41:30 but after them seven years of famine will arise, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine will deplete the land.

Gen 41:31 So the plenty will not be known in the land because of the famine following, for it will be very severe.

Gen 41:32 And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

Dan 2:1 Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him.

Dan 2:2 Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

Dan 2:3 And the king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream."

Dan 2:4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation."

Dan 2:5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap.

Dan 2:6 However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation."

Dan 2:7 They answered again and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation."

Dan 2:8 The king answered and said, "I know for certain that you would gain time, because you see that my decision is firm:

Dan 2:9 if you do not make known the dream to me, there is only one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation."

Dan 2:10 The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean.

Dan 2:11 It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh."

Dan 2:12 For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

Dan 2:13 So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.

Dan 2:14 Then with counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon;

Dan 2:15 he answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, "Why is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch made the decision known to Daniel.

Dan 2:16 So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation.

Dan 2:17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions,

Dan 2:18 that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

Dan 2:19 Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Dan 2:20 Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His.

Dan 2:21 And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.

Dan 2:22 He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him.

Dan 2:23 "I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand."

Dan 2:24 Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon. He went and said thus to him: "Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon; take me before the king, and I will tell the king the interpretation."

Dan 2:25 Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, "I have found a man of the captives of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation."

Dan 2:26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?"

Dan 2:27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king.

Dan 2:28 But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these:

Dan 2:29 As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be.

Dan 2:30 But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.

Dan 2:31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome.

Dan 2:32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze,

Dan 2:33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

Dan 2:34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.

Dan 2:35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Dan 2:36 "This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.

Dan 2:37 You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;

Dan 2:38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold.

Dan 2:39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.

Dan 2:40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.

Dan 2:41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

Dan 2:42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

Dan 2:43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

Dan 2:44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

Dan 2:45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."

Dan 2:46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him.

Dan 2:47 The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret."

Some prophecies were meant to show, who was the Christ. Because these scriptures have been fulfilled we can understand how God wants us to use prophesy.

Christ showed Emmaus and his companion on the road how to use Old Testament prophesy to understand the things that happened.

Luk 24:13 Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem.

Luk 24:14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

Luk 24:15 So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them.

Luk 24:16 But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him.

Luk 24:17 And He said to them, **"What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?"**

Luk 24:18 Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?"

Luk 24:19 And He said to them, **"What things?"** So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,

Luk 24:20 and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him.

Luk 24:21 But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

Luk 24:22 Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us.

Luk 24:23 When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive.

Luk 24:24 And certain of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but Him they did not see."

Luk 24:25 Then He said to them, **"O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!**

Luk 24:26 **Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"**

Luk 24:27 **And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.**

Old Testament terms Messianic in Hebrew (MASHIACH-Anointed One) or Christ In Greek (CHRISTOS).

Many of these prophecies are not clear in the time of their writing but are clear in New testament times. There is no way they could be understood in Old Testament times without God revealing them. Even without the understanding some things or principals might be understood, from the prophesy. Figurative language is used in many cases. Why would God do this but to keep the meaning unclear until the proper time or until people had the right heart to understand.

The tense of the scripture can revile whether it is fulfilled or is to be fulfilled in the time of the writing. Prophecies are not reveled in order of time in the Bible so don't try applying them chronologically. Many terms are used in Messianic prophecies.

(the seed of woman, of Shem, of Abraham, of Isaac, of Jacob, of David, seed, Prophet, Priest, King, Shepherd)

The first verse in Psams 22:1 links scripture with the same wording in **Mat 27:46.**

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, **"Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?"** that is, **"MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"**

Also in [Mar 15:34](#)

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"

Psa 22:1 *My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?*

Psa 22:2 *O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; And in the night season, and am not silent.*

Psa 22:3 *But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.*

Psa 22:4 *Our fathers trusted in You; They trusted, and You delivered them.*

Psa 22:5 *They cried to You, and were delivered; They trusted in You, and were not ashamed.*

Psa 22:6 *But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people.*

Psa 22:7 *All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,*

Psa 22:8 *"He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"*

Psa 22:9 *But You are He who took Me out of the womb; You made Me trust while on My mother's breasts.*

Psa 22:10 *I was cast upon You from birth. From My mother's womb You have been My God.*

Psa 22:11 *Be not far from Me, For trouble is near; For there is none to help.*

Psa 22:12 *Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.*

Psa 22:13 *They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion.*

Psa 22:14 *I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.*

Psa 22:15 *My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.*

Psa 22:16 *For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;*

Psa 22:17 *I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me.*

Psa 22:18 *They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.*

Psa 22:19 *But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me!*

Psa 22:20 *Deliver Me from the sword, My precious life from the power of the dog.*

Psa 22:21 *Save Me from the lion's mouth And from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered Me.*

Psa 22:22 *I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.*

Psa 22:23 *You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, And fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!*

Psa 22:24 *For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; Nor has He hidden His face from Him; But when He cried to Him, He heard.*

Psa 22:25 *My praise shall be of You in the great assembly; I will pay My vows before those who fear Him.*

Psa 22:26 *The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever!*

Psa 22:27 *All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You.*

Psa 22:28 *For the kingdom is the LORD's, And He rules over the nations.*

Psa 22:29 *All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship; All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him, Even he who cannot keep himself alive.*

Psa 22:30 *A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the next generation,*

Psa 22:31 *They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, That He has done this.*

This sounds like an account of the Crucifixion of Christ. There was no crucifixion during the time of the writing of this passage. How could anyone of this time understand it's meaning. It was meant for the people of Christ time to our time. The same logic would apply to all messianic prophecies.

Isa 53:1 *Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?*

Isa 53:2 *For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.*

Isa 53:3 *He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.*

Isa 53:4 *Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.*

Isa 53:5 *But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.*

Isa 53:6 *All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*

Isa 53:7 *He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.*

Isa 53:8 *He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.*

Isa 53:9 *And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.*

Isa 53:10 *Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.*

Isa 53:11 *He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.*

Isa 53:12 Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

Zec 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

Zec 12:10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Zec 13:5 But he will say, 'I am no prophet, I am a farmer; for a man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.'

Zec 13:6 And one will say to him, 'What are these wounds between your arms?' Then he will answer, 'Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.'

Zec 13:7 "Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, Against the Man who is My Companion," Says the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd, And the sheep will be scattered; Then I will turn My hand against the little ones.

Jer 23:5 "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

Jer 23:6 In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Jer 30:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

Jer 30:2 "Thus speaks the LORD God of Israel, saying: 'Write in a book for yourself all the words that I have spoken to you.

Jer 30:3 For behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will bring back from captivity My people Israel and Judah,' says the LORD. 'And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.' "

Jer 30:4 Now these are the words that the Lord spoke concerning Israel and Judah.

Jer 30:5 "For thus says the LORD: 'We have heard a voice of trembling, Of fear, and not of peace.

Jer 30:6 Ask now, and see, Whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins Like a woman in labor, And all faces turned pale?

Jer 30:7 Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.

Jer 30:8 'For it shall come to pass in that day,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'That I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them.

Jer 30:9 But they shall serve the LORD their God, And David their king, Whom I will raise up for them.

Jer 30:10 'Therefore do not fear, O My servant Jacob,' says the LORD, 'Nor be dismayed, O Israel; For behold, I will save you from afar, And your seed from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return, have rest and be quiet, And no one shall make him afraid.'

Zec 14:3 Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.

Zec 14:4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.

Zec 14:5 Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You.

Zec 14:6 It shall come to pass in that day That there will be no light; The lights will diminish.

Zec 14:7 It shall be one day Which is known to the LORD Neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen That it will be light.

Zec 14:8 And in that day it shall be— That living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, Half of them toward the eastern sea And half of them toward the western sea; In both summer and winter it shall occur.

Zec 14:9 And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be "The LORD is one," And His name one.

Zec 14:10 All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate and the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses.

Zec 14:11 The people shall dwell in it; And no longer shall there be utter destruction, But Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

Zec 14:12 And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

Zec 14:13 It shall come to pass in that day That a great panic from the LORD will be among them. Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor, And raise his hand against his neighbor's hand;

Zec 14:14 Judah also will fight at Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations Shall be gathered together: Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.

Zec 14:15 Such also shall be the plague On the horse and the mule, On the camel and the donkey, And on all the cattle that will be in those camps. So shall this plague be.

Zec 14:16 And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zec 14:17 And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.

Zec 14:18 *If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*

Zec 14:19 *This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*

Zec 14:20 *In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" shall be engraved on the bells of the horses. The pots in the LORD's house shall be like the bowls before the altar.*

Zec 14:21 *Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the LORD of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts*

Truly we can't understand how to use prophecy without studying fulfilled prophecy. In Christ's time the people only understood a physical kingdom they had no idea. This is God's way so the understanding could come when people were ready for it. This was also done this way in parables which were not understood until asked by the apostles or when all was fulfilled. So things are often hidden by God until people are ready to receive them.

The following are a few of the prophecies of Christ and when they were fulfilled. This shows how the people of the time of the writings could not understand but were written so future people could understand and accept.

Prophecy –

Gen 3:15 *And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."*

Topic - Born of the seed of a woman

Fulfillment –

Gal 4:4 *But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,*

Prophecy –

Gen 12:2 *I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.*

Gen 12:3 *I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

Topic – Born of the seed of Abraham

Fulfillment –

Mat 1:1 *The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:*

Prophecy –

Gen 17:9 *And God said to Abraham: "As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.*

Topic – Born of the seed of Isaac

Fulfillment –

Mat 1:2 *Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.*

Prophecy –

Num 24:17 *"I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel, And batter the brow of Moab, And destroy all the sons of tumult.*

Topic – Born of the seed of Jacob

Fulfillment –

Mat 1:2 *Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.*

Prophecy –

Gen 49:10 *The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.*

Topic – Descended from the tribe of Judah

Fulfillment –

Luk 3:33 *the son of Amminadab, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah,*

Prophecy –

Isa 9:6 *For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Topic – Heir to the throne of David

Fulfillment –

Luk 1:32 *He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.*

Luk 1:33 *And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."*

Prophecy –

Dan 9:25 *"Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.*

Topic – Time for Jesus' birth

Fulfillment –

Luk 2:1 *And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.*

Luk 2:2 *This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria.*

Prophecy –

Isa 7:14 *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.*

Topic – Born of a virgin

Fulfillment –

Luk 1:26 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,

Luk 1:27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

Luk 1:30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

Luk 1:31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.

Prophecy –

Mic 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."

Topic – Born in Bethlehem

Fulfillment –

Luk 2:4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,

Luk 2:5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child.

Luk 2:6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.

Luk 2:7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Prophecy –

Jer 31:15 Thus says the LORD: "A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted for her children, Because they are no more."

Topic – Slaughter of innocent children

Fulfillment –

Mat 2:16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.

Mat 2:17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying:

Mat 2:18 "A VOICE WAS HEARD IN RAMAH, LAMENTATION, WEEPING, AND GREAT MOURNING, RACHEL WEEPING FOR HER CHILDREN, REFUSING TO BE COMFORTED, BECAUSE THEY ARE NO MORE."

Prophecy –

Hos 11:1 "When Israel was a child, I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son.

Topic – Flight to Egypt

Fulfillment –

Mat 2:14 When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt,

Mat 2:15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "OUT OF EGYPT I CALLED MY SON."

Prophecy –

Isa 40:3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God.

Isa 40:4 Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth;

Isa 40:5 The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Mal 3:1 "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts.

Topic – Messenger to come before Christ to straiten the way

Fulfillment –

Luk 7:24 When the messengers of John had departed, He began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: "**What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?**

Luk 7:27 **This is he of whom it is written: 'BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER BEFORE YOUR FACE, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY BEFORE YOU.'**

Prophecy –

Psa 2:7 "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

Topic – Declared the Son of God

Fulfillment –

Mat 3:16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

Mat 3:17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Prophecy –

Isa 9:1 Nevertheless the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, As when at first He lightly esteemed The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, And afterward more heavily oppressed her, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, In Galilee of the Gentiles.

Isa 9:2 The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.

Topic – Galilean ministry

Fulfillment –

Mat 4:13 And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali,

Mat 4:14 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

Mat 4:15 "THE LAND OF ZEBULUN AND THE LAND OF NAPHTALI, BY THE WAY OF THE SEA, BEYOND THE JORDAN, GALILEE OF THE GENTILES:

Mat 4:16 THE PEOPLE WHO SAT IN DARKNESS HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT, AND UPON THOSE WHO SAT IN THE REGION AND SHADOW OF DEATH LIGHT HAS DAWNED."

Mat 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**"

Prophecy –

Deu 18:15 "The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,

Topic – The prophet to come

Fulfillment –

Act 3:20 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before,

Act 3:22 For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN. HIM YOU SHALL HEAR IN ALL THINGS, WHATEVER HE SAYS TO YOU.

Prophecy –

Isa 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

Isa 61:2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,

Topic – Came to heal the brokenhearted

Fulfillment –

Luk 4:18 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR; HE HAS SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET AT LIBERTY THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED;

Luk 4:19 TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

Prophecy –

Isa 53:3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

Topic – Rejected by his own

Fulfillment –

Joh 1:11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

Prophecy –

Psa 110:4 The LORD has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

Topic – A priest after the order of Melchizedek

Fulfillment –

Heb 5:5 *So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU."*

Heb 5:6 *As He also says in another place: "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK";*

Prophecy –

Zec 9:9 *"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey."*

Topic – Triumphal entry

Fulfillment –

Mar 11:7 *Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and He sat on it.*

Mar 11:9 *Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna! 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"*

Mar 11:11 *And Jesus went into Jerusalem and into the temple. So when He had looked around at all things, as the hour was already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve.*

Prophecy –

Psa 41:9 *Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.*

Topic – Betrayed by a friend

Fulfillment –

Luk 22:47 *And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him.*

Luk 22:48 *But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"*

Prophecy –

Zec 11:12 *Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver.*

Zec 11:13 *And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.*

Topic – Sold for thirty pieces of silver

Fulfillment –

Mat 26:15 *and said, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver.*

Mat 27:5 *Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself.*

Mat 27:6 *But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood."*

Mat 27:7 *And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in.*

Prophecy –

Psa 35:11 *Fierce witnesses rise up; They ask me things that I do not know.*

Topic – Accused by false witness

Fulfillment –

Mar 14:57 *Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying,*

Mar 14:58 *"We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.'"*

Prophecy –

Isa 53:7 *He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.*

Topic – Silent to accusations

Fulfillment –

Mar 15:4 *Then Pilate asked Him again, saying, "Do You answer nothing? See how many things they testify against You!"*

Mar 15:5 *But Jesus still answered nothing, so that Pilate marveled.*

Prophecy –

Isa 50:6 *I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.*

Topic – Spat upon and smitten

Fulfillment –

Mat 26:67 *Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands,*

Prophecy –

Psa 35:19 *Let them not rejoice over me who are wrongfully my enemies; Nor let them wink with the eye who hate me without a cause.*

Topic – Hated without reason

Fulfillment –

Joh 15:24 *If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father.*

Joh 15:25 *But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, 'THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.'*

Prophecy –

Isa 53:5 *But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.*

Topic – Vicarious sacrifice

Fulfillment –

Rom 5:6 *For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.*

Rom 5:7 *For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.*

Rom 5:8 *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Prophecy –

Isa 53:12 *Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.*

Topic – Crucified with transgressors

Fulfillment –

Mar 15:27 *With Him they also crucified two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left.*

Mar 15:28 *So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "AND HE WAS NUMBERED WITH THE TRANSGRESSORS."*

Prophecy –

Zec 12:10 *"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.*

Topic – Hands pierced

Fulfillment –

Joh 20:27 *Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."*

Prophecy –

Psa 22:7 *All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,*

Psa 22:8 *"He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"*

Topic – Scorned and mocked

Fulfillment –

Luk 23:35 *And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God."*

Prophecy –

Psa 69:21 *They also gave me gall for my food, And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.*

Topic – Given vinegar and gall

Fulfillment –

Mat 27:34 *they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink.*

Prophecy –

Psa 109:4 *In return for my love they are my accusers, But I give myself to prayer.*

Topic – Prayer for enemies

Fulfillment –

Luk 23:34 *Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots.*

Prophecy –

Psa 22:18 *They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.*

Topic – Soldiers gambled for his coat

Fulfillment –

Mat 27:35 *Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: "THEY DIVIDED MY GARMENTS AMONG THEM, AND FOR MY CLOTHING THEY CAST LOTS."*

Prophecy –

Psa 34:20 *He guards all his bones; Not one of them is broken.*

Topic – No bones broken

Fulfillment –

Joh 19:32 *Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him.*

Joh 19:33 *But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.*

Joh 19:36 *For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "NOT ONE OF HIS BONES SHALL BE BROKEN."*

Prophecy –

Zec 12:10 *"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.*

Topic – Side pierced

Fulfillment –

Joh 19:34 *But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.*

Prophecy –

Isa 53:9 *And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.*

Topic – Buried with the rich

Fulfillment –

Mat 27:57 Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus.

Mat 27:58 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him.

Mat 27:59 When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,

Mat 27:60 and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed.

Prophecy –

Psa 16:10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Psa 49:15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me. Selah

Topic – Would rise from the dead –

Fulfillment –

Mar 16:6 But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him.

Mar 16:7 But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

Prophecy –

Psa 68:18 You have ascended on high, You have led captivity captive; You have received gifts among men, Even from the rebellious, That the LORD God might dwell there.

Topic – Would ascend to God's right hand –

Fulfillment –

Mar 16:19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.

We must be careful not to add to or take away from prophecy or add to it. We need to understand and remember ,what is said, so when prophecy is fulfilled we can recognize it. Don't try to apply a prediction for future events just remember what is written.

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