

# THE IMPORTANCE of UNDERSTANDING PROPHECY/ THE PROPHECIES

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- 1681 hits on “prophecy” in the EG White CD Rom/EG White Section
- 953 hits on “prophecies” in the same section of that CD Rom

## WHY UNDERSTANDING PROPHECY/THE PROPHECIES IS SO IMPORTANT:

- **2 Peter 1:19**  
Prophecy causes the Day Star to arise in our hearts
- **John 14:29**  
He tells us before things come to pass so when they do we might believe
- **Ezekiel 37:1-11**  
Prophecy wakes up the Dead, dry bones  
The bones represent the House of God  
Death is represented by a “sleep”  
It’s true prophecy(not false) that is going to wake up the sleeping Virgins

## CHRIST URGED THAT A STUDY OF THE PROPHECIES IS VERY IMPORTANT:

“...**CHRIST URGED UPON HIS DISCIPLES THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPHETIC STUDY...**” {DA 234.1}

## SDA MINISTERS TO TEACH PROPHECY IS THE FOUNDATION OF THE SDA CHURCH:

“**MINISTERS SHOULD PRESENT THE SURE WORD OF PROPHECY AS THE FOUNDATION OF THE FAITH OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS...**” {GW 148.1}

“...**THE LORD DESIRES THAT EVERY SOUL WHO CLAIMS TO BELIEVE THE TRUTH SHALL HAVE AN INTELLIGENT KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT IS TRUTH. FALSE PROPHETS WILL ARISE AND WILL DECEIVE MANY...THEN DOES IT NOT BECOME EVERY ONE TO UNDERSTAND THE REASONS OF OUR FAITH?...**” {9MR 359.1}

## WHY?

“...**MANY WILL STAND IN OUR PULPITS WITH THE TORCH OF FALSE PROPHECY IN THEIR HANDS, kindled from the hellish torch of Satan...**” (TM 409-410)

## JESUS WAS A STUDENT OF PROPHECY:

- **Jesus** {ST, July 30, 1896 par. 8}

## STEPHEN WAS A STUDENT OF PROPHECY

- **Stephen**  
“**Stephen**, the foremost of the seven deacons, was a man of deep piety and broad faith...Not only did he speak in the power of the Holy Spirit, but it was plain that **he was a student of the prophecies** and learned in all matters of the law. He ably defended the truths that he advocated and utterly defeated his opponents...” {AA 97.1}

## Q: WHO ARE TO BE STUDENTS OF THE PROPHECIES TODAY?

- **Those who claim to be the children of God** {7MR 57.4}
- **Each individual who claims to be God’s**

“...**AS A PEOPLE, WE ARE CALLED INDIVIDUALLY TO BE STUDENTS OF PROPHECY...**” {CW 41.1}

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## WHO WAS TRUE PROPHECY GIVEN TO IN THE BEGINNING OF OUR WORK?

"GOD SENT HIS ANGEL TO MOVE UPON THE HEART OF A FARMER who had not believed the Bible, TO LEAD HIM TO SEARCH THE PROPHECIES. ANGELS OF GOD REPEATEDLY VISITED THAT CHOSEN ONE, TO GUIDE HIS MIND AND TO OPEN TO HIS UNDERSTANDING PROPHECIES which had ever been dark to God's people..." {EW 229.1}

"...GOD DIRECTED THE MIND OF WILLIAM MILLER TO THE PROPHECIES..."{EW 231.1} (EW 258.1-.2)(CW 145.2)

WHO ELSE WAS PROPHECY GIVEN TO?

"...ELDER SIMPSON SHOWED THAT THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY HAS AN IMPORTANT PART TO ACT IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TRUTH..." {PC 99.3}

"...Men may get up scheme after scheme, and the enemy will seek to seduce souls from the truth, but ALL WHO BELIEVE THAT THE LORD HAS SPOKEN THROUGH SISTER WHITE, AND HAS GIVEN HER A MESSAGE, WILL BE SAFE FROM THE MANY DELUSIONS THAT WILL COME IN IN THESE LAST DAYS."{8MR 320.2}

SOME INFO TO KNOW REGARDING PROPHECY:

"SOME PROPHECIES GOD HAS REPEATED, THUS SHOWING THAT IMPORTANCE MUST BE GIVEN TO THEM. THE LORD DOES NOT REPEAT THINGS THAT ARE OF NO GREAT CONSEQUENCE." (8MR 413.2) Ms 107, 1897, pp. 1, 2.

"PROPHECY NOT ONLY FORETELLS THE MANNER AND OBJECT OF CHRIST'S COMING, BUT PRESENTS TOKENS BY WHICH MEN ARE TO KNOW WHEN IT IS NEAR..." {GC88 304.1}

"BUT THERE IS A DAY THAT GOD HATH APPOINTED FOR THE CLOSE OF THIS WORLD'S HISTORY. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." PROPHECY IS FAST FULFILLING. MORE, MUCH MORE, SHOULD BE SAID ABOUT THESE TREMENDOUSLY IMPORTANT SUBJECTS..." {FE 335.2}

**SOMETHING VERY CRUCIAL TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND:**

"...HE WHO PRESENTS THE TRUTH OF THE PROPHECIES IN THE RIGHT WAY WILL USE SCRIPTURE TO EXPLAIN SCRIPTURE. HE WILL MAKE THE BIBLE ITS OWN EXPOSITOR." (2MR 96.2) Ms 27, 1908

**EXPOSITOR –**

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/expositor>

One who expounds or explains; an interpreter.

1. A dictionary or vocabulary which explains words.

**A:** It is true that there are prophecies yet to be fulfilled. But VERY ERRONEOUS WORK HAS BEEN DONE AGAIN AND AGAIN, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE DONE BY THOSE WHO SEEK TO FIND NEW LIGHT IN THE PROPHECIES, AND WHO BEGIN BY TURNING AWAY FROM THE LIGHT THAT GOD HAS ALREADY GIVEN...THE LORD DOES NOT LAY UPON THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HAD AN EXPERIENCE IN HIS WORK THE BURDEN OF MAKING A NEW EXPOSITION OF THOSE PROPHECIES WHICH HE HAS, BY HIS HOLY SPIRIT, MOVED UPON HIS CHOSEN SERVANTS TO EXPLAIN". {17MR 15.1}

**Q:** WHY SHOULD WE KNOW THE PROPHECIES?

**A:** To be able to give an answer of the faith that is in us

"...OUR PEOPLE, WHO ARE EXPECTING SUCH GREAT AND IMPORTANT EVENTS SOON TO TRANSPIRE, SHOULD KNOW THE REASONS OF THEIR FAITH, THAT THEY MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERY MAN THAT SHALL ASK THEM A REASON FOR THE HOPE WHICH IS IN THEM WITH MEEKNESS AND FEAR...AS A PEOPLE, WE SHOULD BE EARNEST STUDENTS OF PROPHECY..." {RH, November 27, 1883 par. 9} (LDE 16.2-.3)\*\*\**continue on next page*\*\*\*

**A:** Because we will be brought before counsels, kings, courts, etc.

See → LDE 209-210

**A: TO MAKE THE WAY OF THE LORD STRAIGHT** (RH, February 21, 1893 par. 4) (last sentence)

**A: TO BE ABLE TO FIGHT A GOOD WARFARE** (1 Timothy 1:18)

**A: BECAUSE WE WILL BE SURE OF WHAT TO BELIEVE IN**

**"The history which the great I AM has marked out in His word, uniting link after link in the prophetic chain, from eternity in the past to eternity in the future, tells us where we are today in the procession of the ages, and what may be expected in the time to come. ALL THAT PROPHECY HAS FORETOLD AS COMING TO PASS, UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME, HAS BEEN TRACED ON THE PAGES OF HISTORY, AND WE MAY BE ASSURED THAT ALL WHICH IS YET TO COME WILL BE FULFILLED IN ITS ORDER."** {Ed 178.3}

**A: BECAUSE WE WILL BE REWARDED BY THE DISCOVERY OF IMPORTANT TRUTHS**

**"Those who will devote their powers to the study of God's word, and especially the prophecies referring to these last days, will be rewarded by the discovery of important truths..."** {BTS, January 1, 1913 par. 2}

**Q: HOW SHOULD WE STUDY THE PROPHECIES**

**A: "Every Bible student should study these prophecies with DILIGENCE..."** {BTS, January 1, 1913 par. 3}

**DILIGENCE**, *noun* [Latin , to love earnestly; to choose.]

1. Steady application in business of any kind; constant effort to accomplish what is undertaken; exertion of body or mind without unnecessary delay or sloth; due attention; industry; assiduity.

2. Care; heed; heedfulness.

**Q: WHAT SHOULD STUDENTS OF PROPHECY SET THEIR HEARTS TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND?**

**A: The prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation AND Matthew 24**

**"MINISTERS SHOULD PRESENT THE SURE WORD OF PROPHECY AS THE FOUNDATION OF THE FAITH OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS. THE PROPHECIES OF DANIEL AND THE REVELATION SHOULD BE CAREFULLY STUDIED, and in connection with them the words, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." [John 1:29.]** {GW 148.1}

**"...THERE IS GREAT NEED TO SEARCH THE BOOK OF DANIEL AND THE BOOK OF REVELATION, AND LEARN THE TEXTS THOROUGHLY, THAT WE MAY KNOW WHAT IS WRITTEN."** {Ev 363.2}

**Q: WHAT ELSE SHOULD WE BE STUDYING?**

**A: "THE TWENTY-FOURTH CHAPTER OF MATTHEW IS PRESENTED TO ME AGAIN AND AGAIN AS SOMETHING THAT IS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL. We are today living in the time when the predictions of this chapter are fulfilling. LET OUR MINISTERS AND TEACHERS EXPLAIN THESE PROPHECIES TO THOSE WHOM THEY INSTRUCT. Let them leave out of their discourses matters of minor consequence, and present the truths that will decide the destiny of souls."** {GW 148.2}

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**PROPHECIES WE WILL BE COVERING OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS:** (the following is a tentative schedule)

- ✓ **Why Understanding Prophecy/the Prophecies is So Important**
- **Some Rules We have been counseled to know to make sure we are following the voice of the True Shepherd**
  - part 1
  - part 2
- **Symbols of Daniel and Revelation and their literal meanings {GC 438.2}**
  - part 1
  - part 2
- **From the Days of Moses to the Scattering of Israel and Judah by Assyria and Babylon**
  - part 1
  - part 2
- **Daniel 2**
  - part 1
  - part 2
- **Daniel 7**
  - The 4 Beasts
  - The Time of the End
  - Time, Times and Dividing of Time AND MORE
- **Daniel 8**
  - The Battle of Arbela
  - The Division of Greece AND MORE
- **The 2300 days**
  - Proving 457 B.C. as the starting point
- **Daniel 9**
- **The 70 weeks**
  - 7 week
  - 62 weeks
  - 1 week
- **Daniel 11**
  - The battle of Actium
  - The transfer of Roman headquarters from the West to the East
  - The French Revolution
- **Daniel 12**
  - Time of Trouble** (the plagues)
  - Michael stands up** (judgment closes on the world)
  - Written in the book**
    - The Book Sealed till the Time of the End**
    - The 1290**
    - The 1335**
- **Matthew 24**
- **Lisbon Earthquake and other earthquakes**
- **Moon turning to blood**
- **Sun turning black**
- **The French Revolution**
- **Stars falling from heaven**
- **The 1260 days**
- **The time of Christ's(1<sup>st</sup>) coming**
- **His anointing by the Holy Spirit**
- **His death**
- **and the giving of the gospel to the Gentiles**

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- **The Scattering and Gathering**

- Judgment of the Living
- Revelation 8 – The division of Rome into 10 by Barbarian tribes
- Revelation 9 (1<sup>st</sup> Woe) – Islam and Turkey
- Revelation 9 (2<sup>nd</sup> Woe) – Turkey and the Ottoman Empire
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Angel’s Message
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Angel’s Message
- The Midnight Cry
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Angel’s Message
  - The Sabbath
  - The Faith of Jesus
  - The Mark of the Beast
  - The Sunday Law
  - The Sealing
  - The 144,000 and the special resurrection
- Revelation 12 (The Christian Church in Prophecy from the days of Christ down to our day)
- Signs that precede the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent

**MORE QUOTES TO READ:**

**“In the Revelation, THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH HAS OPENED TO THE STUDENTS OF PROPHECY THE BOOK OF DANIEL, and thus is Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of the great and solemn events which WE MUST KNOW AS WE STAND ON THE VERY THRESHOLD OF THEIR FULFILLMENT.”** {1MR 47.2}

**“In it**(the book of Revelation) **THE SAME LINE OF PROPHECY IS TAKEN UP AS IN DANIEL...**” Ms 107, 1897,

**“THE BOOKS OF DANIEL AND THE REVELATION ARE ONE. ONE IS A PROPHECY, THE OTHER A REVELATION; ONE A BOOK SEALED, THE OTHER A BOOK OPENED...”** {19MR 320.2}

**“...NINE-TENTHS OF OUR PEOPLE, INCLUDING MANY OF OUR TEACHERS AND MINISTERS, ARE CONTENT WITH SURFACE TRUTHS.”** {1MR 38.1}

**“In the evening, ELDER HASKELL SPOKE ON THE PROPHECIES OF DANIEL, MAKING THE MATTER SO CLEAR THAT ALL COULD UNDERSTAND THE PROPHECY.** {RH, March 28, 1899 par. 10}

See → RY 124.1-.2 AND 9T 73.1-.2

**“...I am in a position where I cannot change the past experience if I would; for THE LORD HAS LED ME AND HAS GIVEN ME SUCH EVIDENCE OF HIS POWER IN EVERY ADVANCE MOVEMENT OF OUR WORK, THAT I HAVE ASSURANCE, MADE DOUBLY SURE, AS [TO] EVERY POSITION WE NOW HOLD AS TRUTH. WE CANNOT DISTRUST SUCH MANIFESTATIONS OF THE LORD'S POWER IN DEFINING WHAT IS TRUTH...WE NOW NEED CLEARLY TO DEFINE WHAT IS TRUTH,** and let not the enemy steal a march on us. {RY 124.1}

**WE KNOW, AND ELDER HASKELL...KNOW ALSO, OF THE EARLIER HISTORY OF THIS WORK.** ..{RY 124.2} 1906

**“Then INSTRUCTION WAS GIVEN TO ELDER HASKELL that in his anxiety to SUPPLY THE PEOPLE WITH THE PRECIOUS TRUTH CONTAINED IN HIS BOOKS...he was selling his books too cheap, and thus making his own burden too heavy.** {9T 73.1}

**OUR COUNSELOR SAID: “THE BOOKS SHOULD BE SOLD...”** {9T 73.2}

**HASKELL’S BOOKS THAT SISTER WHITE WAS REFERRING TO IN 1909, AS THEY WERE THE ONLY 2 PUBLISHED AT THAT TIME:**

1. ‘Story of Daniel the Prophet’ (1901)
2. ‘Story of the Seer of Patmos’ (1904/1905)

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**MORE QUOTES:**

“...MR. MILLER TRACED DOWN THE PROPHECIES WITH AN EXACTNESS that struck conviction to the hearts of his hearers...” (1T 14.2)

“...So IN THE PROPHECIES THE FUTURE IS OPENED BEFORE US AS PLAINLY as it was opened to the disciples by the words of Christ...” {GC 594.1}

“THOSE WHO ARE PREPARING TO ENTER THE MINISTRY, WHO DESIRE TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS OF THE PROPHECIES, WILL FIND DANIEL AND THE REVELATION AN INVALUABLE HELP. THEY NEED TO UNDERSTAND THIS BOOK. IT SPEAKS OF PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE, LAYING OUT THE PATH SO PLAINLY THAT NONE NEED ERR THEREIN. THOSE WHO WILL DILIGENTLY STUDY THIS BOOK WILL HAVE NO RELISH FOR THE CHEAP SENTIMENTS PRESENTED...THE GREAT, ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS WHICH GOD WOULD HAVE PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE ARE FOUND IN DANIEL AND THE REVELATION. THERE IS FOUND SOLID, ETERNAL TRUTH FOR THIS TIME. EVERYONE NEEDS THE LIGHT AND INFORMATION IT CONTAINS.” {1MR 61.2}

“THE USE OF CHARTS IS MOST EFFECTIVE IN EXPLAINING THE PROPHECIES RELATING TO THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE FUTURE...” {VSS 280.5}