

1 **THE BEGINNING OF THE END**

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3 Session Nineteen – April 15, 2020

4
5
6 **WOULD YOU BUY HALF OF A CAR?**

7
8 This sounds like a strange title for a continuing study in prophecy.

9 – Car dealership that sells a tire, a transmission, and a steering
10 wheel and tells you that you just purchased a whole car

11 – A restaurant where you order a steak dinner with all the
12 trimmings and all they bring you is a glass of water.

13
14 **WELL... THAT IS MY FEELING ABOUT CHURCHES WHERE THEY**
15 **ONLY PRESENT A SMALL PORTION OF THE BIBLE, AND NEVER**
16 **TOUCH THE REST OF IT. I KNOW ONE CHURCH WHERE THEY**
17 **DON'T GIVE YOU THE WORD AT ALL – AND DISCOURAGE YOU**
18 **FROM STUDYING IT ON YOUR OWN – GIVING YOU INSTEAD**
19 **OLD PRAYERS AND DOGMA FROM HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO**
20 **THAT HAS LITTLE OR NOTHING TO DO WITH THE WORD.**

21
22 Tonight I speak to you about why you should know about the prophecies
23 in the Bible.

24
25 **HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?** A man told me his church never studied
26 prophecy or heard sermons on it because the pastor did not want anyone
27 to be offended or frightened by it.

28
29 Dr. Pentecost: “They feel that a man has to be either mentally unbalanced,
30 a religious fanatic or a heretic in doctrine to manifest interest in the study
31 of prophecy.” (Prophecy for Today / Pentecost / page 13)

32
33 Tonight we will study just some of the reasons why we preach the entirety
34 of scripture - including prophecy.

1 **1. Prophecy truths are supernatural in scope, proving the authority**
2 **of scripture and why the Bible is different from every other**
3 **religious book.**

4
5 SOME OF THE RELIGIOUS BOOKS TODAY - SUCH AS THE BOOK
6 OF MORMON AND THE KORAN TRY TO INTERPRET THE PAST,
7 BUT ARE TOTALLY SILENT ON THE FUTURE.

8
9 Cases in point:

- 10
11 ✓ Daniel 9 The coming birth of Jesus
12 ✓ Isaiah 7 The virgin birth of Jesus
13 ✓ Psalm 22 Jesus' suffering and death on the cross
14 ✓ Odds of all the OT prophecies happening - as they did -
15 1 in 87 plus 93 zeroes
16

17 **2. Prophecy reveals the genius of God and His veracity**

18
19 Isaiah 7 in which the prophet foresaw the virgin birth and its necessity.
20 AHAZ was a diabolical king of Israel and led his people into rank idolatry.
21 He dared God's prophets to prove their call and ministry veracity. Isaiah
22 would not "bite." "I will not tempt the Lord." Instead, the prophet replied:
23

24 Isaiah 7:14

25 ***Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall***
26 ***conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.***

27
28 If the king had listened to this prophetic coming reality, he could have
29 saved his nation much heartache. But he did not listen - any more than
30 people listen today.
31
32
33

1 **3. Prophecy reveals the purposes of God.**

2
3 Genesis 18:20-25

4 *And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great,*
5 *and because their sin is very grievous; [21] I will go down now, and see*
6 *whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is*
7 *come unto me; and if not, I will know. [22] And the men turned their*
8 *faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet*
9 *before the Lord. [23] And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also*
10 *destroy the righteous with the wicked? [24] Peradventure there be fifty*
11 *righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place*
12 *for the fifty righteous that are therein? [25] That be far from thee to do*
13 *after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the*
14 *righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the*
15 *Judge of all the earth do right?*

16
17 The only part of Israel I do not like is the Dead Sea area, where Sodom
18 and Gomorrah were located. Barren and dead and the stench of it all. God
19 revealed the plan ahead of time to Abraham so that when the destruction
20 came, it was clear to the patriarch that God would not continue to deal
21 with sinful people any longer.

22
23 **4. Prophecy eases the mind of the believer in perilous times.**

24
25 John 14:1

26 *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.*

27
28 Jesus told the disciples (at the Last Supper the night before He was
29 crucified) what was about to take place and then eased their consternation
30 by saying LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED. Knowledge of the
31 Word is a great peacemaker.

1 **5. Knowledge of God’s prophecy leads to a more holy life –**
2 **holy living.**

3
4 So often throughout NT scriptures, when there is teaching about what is
5 yet to come in God’s plan for the world, there are exhortations on
6 righteous or holy living.

7
8 Paul knew right well that he had not “arrived” in holy living to the point
9 where he wished to be. Listen to his heart in his scripture:

10
11 **Philippians 3:12**

12 ***Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I***
13 ***follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am***
14 ***apprehended of Christ Jesus.***

15
16 **3:13-15**

17 ***Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I***
18 ***do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto***
19 ***those things which are before, [14] I press toward the mark for the prize***
20 ***of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.***

21
22 It’s like a mile runner in track accelerating his speed even as his lungs feel
23 they’ll burst as he reaches the final few yards.

24
25 And let’s give heed to this incredible word from the Apostle:

26
27 **Col. 3:1-3**

28 ***If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where***
29 ***Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. [2] Set your affection on things***
30 ***above, not on things on the earth. [3] For ye are dead, and your life is***
31 ***hid with Christ in God.***

1 So tell me, if you can, why churches and preachers would give little or
2 no attention to prophecy when it produces so much in the life of
3 each believer.

4

5 “God has taken us into His confidence and has revealed Himself in the
6 prophetic scriptures. The study of those portions of the Word will give us
7 proof of the authority of the Bible, will reveal the power of God, will cause
8 us to understand the purposes of God, will give the child of God the peace
9 of God, but above all will produce a new kind of life in the light of His
10 return.” (Prophecy for Today / Pentecost / page 21)

11

12 I pray you are a part of a church that preaches all the Gospel - not just
13 parts of it.

14

15 Acts 20:27

16 ***For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.***

17

18 Amen!