



# Bible Prophecy

Why I believe that the return of Jesus is near.

BibleTract.org

## 1. Why Study Bible Prophecy?

*"Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." (Revelation 22:7)*

### The Source of Prophecy

**Reference: 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

1. Verse 16: Who inspired the Scriptures?
2. Verse 16: For what should the Bible be used?
3. Verse 17: What will you become as you study the Scriptures?
4. Romans 10:17 - What will grow as you study the Scriptures?

### The Authority of the Prophetic Word

**Reference: 2 Peter 1:16-21**

5. Verses 16-18: What event in the life of Jesus do these verses refer to?
6. Verse 16: What did the apostle Peter say the story about Jesus was not?
7. Verse 19: What is Peter speaking of that is "confirmed" or "made more sure"?
8. Verse 19: How long should you heed the Bible?
9. Verse 20: What does it mean the Bible is not of any private interpretation?
10. Verse 21: From where and where not did the apostle Peter say the Bible came?
11. Verse 21: Why were these men called "holy"?
12. Verses 16-18: How did Peter know the story was true about Jesus on the mount of transfiguration?
13. Verses 19-21: What source did Peter indicate was superior to his experience?

### Some other reasons to study prophecy

14. Isaiah 46:9-10 - What is the only reliable source for knowing about the future?
15. 2 Timothy 4:8 - What reason did Paul give for why we should study Bible prophecy?
16. Titus 2:11-13 - What term did Paul use for the event that is coupled with the appearing of Christ?
17. Revelation 1:3 - What is the three-fold promise we are given concerning Bible prophecy in this verse?
18. Revelation 19:10 - What reason did the angel give John for the importance of prophecy?

### Why most churches avoid studying prophecy

19. Malachi 4:1 - What example of an excuse not to study prophecy might this verse represent?
20. Matthew 7:15-16 - What excuse not to study prophecy might this verse provide?
21. Matthew 24:36 - What excuse not to study prophecy might this verse provide?
22. 2 Peter 3:3-6 - What reason did Peter give for why people would not to study prophecy?
23. What other reasons can you think of for why churches avoid studying Bible prophecy?

## 2. The Olivet Discourse

*"when you see all these things, know that it is near-- at the doors!" (Matthew 24:33)*

### The Signs of the Times and the End of the Age

1. Matthew 24:1-2 - What did Jesus prophesy about the temple in Jerusalem?
2. Matthew 24:3 - What three questions did the disciples ask Jesus?
3. Matthew 24:3 - What assumption were the disciples making by the way they asked these questions?
4. Matthew 24:4-6 - Which questions did Jesus answer?
5. Matthew 24:4 - What did Jesus warn of?
6. Matthew 24:5-6 - What two deceptions were there to be aware of?
7. Matthew 24:6 - How should Christians react to "wars and rumors of wars"?
8. Matthew 24:7 - What five parts are given to "the sign of Your coming"?
9. Matthew 24:8 - What time frame is given for the five signs Jesus gave?
10. Matthew 24:9-14 - What period is described by these verses?
11. Matthew 24:9 - Who will be delivered into tribulation?
12. Matthew 24:9-14 - What things do these verses say will happen during the tribulation?
13. Matthew 24:9-14 - Have these things ever been fulfilled in history?
14. Matthew 24:13 - What will happen to those who endure to the end?

### **The Great Tribulation**

15. Matthew 24:15 - What is the event described in this verse? (see also Daniel 9:27, 11:31, & 12:11)
16. Matthew 24:16-20 - What does Jesus tell the Jews living at the time to do?
17. Matthew 24:21 - What does our Lord call this new phase of the tribulation?
18. Matthew 24:21 - What will make this period so terrible?
19. Matthew 24:22 - What will there be a lot of during this time period?
20. Matthew 24:22 - Why will the Lord intervene to end this terrible time?
21. Matthew 24:23-25 - What will deceive people during the tribulation?
22. Matthew 24:26-27 - How will the Lord return to the earth?

### **The Coming of the Son of Man**

23. Matthew 24:28 - What will attract the birds when the Lord returns?
24. Matthew 24:29-30 - What five miracles will happen when the Lord returns?
25. Matthew 24:30 - Why do the "tribes" mourn?
26. Matthew 24:31 - Who are "the elect" of verse 31?

### **The Parable of the Fig Tree**

27. Matthew 24:32-33 - What does the fig tree & summer symbolize? (see Hosea 9:10)
28. Matthew 24:34 - What generation is the Lord referring to?
29. Matthew 24:35 - What is temporary and what is permanent?

### **No One Knows the Day or the Hour**

30. Matthew 24:36 - Who knows when Christ will return?
31. Matthew 24:37-38 - What will the days be like that preceding Christ's return?
32. Matthew 24:39 - What does it mean, "took them all away"?
33. Matthew 24:40-41 - Who will be "taken"?
34. Matthew 24:42 - Why should we be watching for the return of the Lord?
35. Matthew 24:43-44 - What is the coming of the Lord compared to? Why?

## **3. Our Blessed Hope**

*"I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:3)*

### **Old & New Testament Resurrection**

1. What did people who lived in Old Testament times believe about life after death? (see Job 14:14-15, 19:25-27; Psalm 16:10-11, 23:4-6, 49:15; Isaiah 26:19; Daniel 12:1-2)
2. What have we learned about life after death since Jesus Christ? (see John 5:28-29, 11:25-26; Revelation 20:4-6; Philippians 3:20-21; Romans 8:29; 1 John 3:2)
3. Is there any difference in the way people were saved in Old Testament times as now? (see Ephesians 2:8 & Genesis 6:5-8)

### **The Mystery of Christ's Return for the Church**

**Reference: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58**

4. Verse 50 - How does Paul describe the resurrected body?
5. Verse 51 - What mystery is revealed to us in these verses?
6. Verses 51-52 - What does "sleep" mean here?
7. Verses 51-52 - What are the two parts of the mystery Paul reveals?
8. Verse 52 - How fast will the change of the corruptible to the incorruptible occur?
9. Verse 52 - What does the trumpet signal?
10. Verse 53: What must be taken off us and put on? How will we be changed?
11. Verses 53-54 - How essential is this change to the incorruptible?
12. Verses 54-55: What victory does Christ give us?
13. Verse 56: How is death and sin related?
14. Verse 57: How do we achieve victory?
15. Verse 58: What conclusion does Paul draw from his teaching on resurrection at the rapture?

### **Who will be Resurrected**

**Reference: 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18**

16. Verse 14 - Who gets to be with Christ when they die?
17. Verse 15 - When does the resurrection happen & in what order?
18. Verse 16 - What will happen just prior to the resurrection of the church?
19. Verse 17 - Where is Christ during the resurrection of the church?
20. Verse 18 - How are these verses comforting?

### **Two Phases of Christ's Coming**

21-27. Explain the distinction between the following sets of verses describing the second coming of Jesus:

21. 1Thessalonians 4:17 and Zechariah 14:4
22. John 14:2-3 and 1Thessalonians 3:13 or Jude 14
23. Hebrews 9:28 and Revelation 1:7
24. 1 Peter 1:7 and Matthew 25:31-32
25. Titus 2:13 + James 5:8 and Daniel 12:11-13
26. Psalms 12:1-2 or Micah 7:2 or Genesis 5:24 and Daniel 7:13
27. 1Thessalonians 5:9 or Revelation 3:10 and Isaiah 13:9

### **The Rapture Precedes the Tribulation**

**Reference: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

28. Verses 1-2 - What is Paul consoling the Thessalonians about?
29. Verse 2 - What is "the day of Christ"? (see Jeremiah 46:10)
30. Verse 3 - What must come before the day of Christ?
31. Verses 3-4, 8 - Who is the man of sin (a.k.a. son of perdition & lawless one)?
32. Verses 6-7 - Who restrains the lawless one?
33. Verse 8 - When will the lawless one be revealed?
34. Verses 10-12 - Is it a good strategy to wait until the rapture to put your trust in Christ?

## **4. End Time Chronology, Part 1**

*The prophets of the Bible give us the order of events*

### **The Accuracy of Prophecy**

1. Isaiah 44:28 - What was prophesied that this future gentile king would do?
2. Isaiah 45:1-4 - What did God have to say about this prophecy?
3. Jeremiah 29:10 - How long would it be before Judah (i.e. Israel) could return to Jerusalem?
4. 2 Kings 25:8-9 - Secular archeological history tells us that Nebuchadnezzar became king of Babylon in 605 BC, so when did he destroy the temple and take Judah into captivity?
5. How did Ezra 1:2 and 2 Chronicles 36:22-23 satisfy the prophecies about Cyrus in Isaiah and Jeremiah?
6. Secular archeological history tells us that Darius succeeded Cyrus as king of Persia in 522 BC who reinforced Cyrus' decree that the temple be rebuilt 520 BC (Ezra 4:24). So when was the second temple in Jerusalem completed?

7. How does Ezra 6:15-16 fulfill the prophecy recorded in Jeremiah 29:10?
8. The temple in Jerusalem was one thing, the city itself was another (cities represented political power). Let's determine another key date. Secular history from archeology tells us Artaxerxes became king of Persia in 464 BC. From Nehemiah 2:1-8, when was Israel permitted to rebuild Jerusalem and the wall?

### **The 70 Weeks of Daniel**

**Reference: Daniel 9:25-27**

9. Verse 25 - How many years are there between of "the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince" would come?
10. We know when "the command to restore and build Jerusalem" was given from Nehemiah 2:1-8 (question 8). So when would "Messiah the Prince" come?
11. Verse 26 - What does it mean "the Messiah is cut off"?
12. Verse 26 - What was to happen after "the Messiah is cut off"?
13. Verse 26 - What does the "it" in "the end of it" refer to?
14. Verse 26 - How did Daniel describe the time leading up to the 70th week?
15. Verse 27 - What happens during the 70th week?
16. Verse 27 - What does it mean the prince will "**confirm** a covenant with many"?

### **John's Revelation of the Tribulation**

**Reference: Revelation 12:1-6**

17. Verses 1-5 - Who is represented by the woman, Child, and dragon in these verses?
18. Verse 6 - What is the significance of the 1,260 days?
19. This 3.5 year period is called out other places in Scripture. Describe how we know the following verses refer to this period of time and describe what happens: Revelation 11:2, 12:14, 13:5; Daniel 7:25, 12:7
20. What do the time periods given in Daniel 12:11-13 refer to?

### **Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of World Governments**

**Reference: Daniel 2:31-44**

21. Verses 31-33 - How would you describe the image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream?
22. Verses 31-33 - What is the significance of the materials of the image?
23. Verses 34-35 - What happened to the image in the dream?
24. Verses 34-35 - How is the stone contrasted to the materials that make up the image?

25. Verse 34 - What is the significance of where the stone struck the image?
26. Verses 34-35 - What is to become of the stone and what is its significance?
27. Verses 36-38 - What does the gold head in the image represent?
28. Verse 39 - What is the commonality between all the statue's materials?
29. Verses 41-43 - What are the characteristics of the last world government?
30. Verse 44 - What is God doing during the time of the world governments in the dream?

## 5. End Time Chronology, Part 2

*The prophets of the Bible give us the order of events*

### **The Beginning of God's Judgment on the Earth**

31. Revelation 1:1 - What is revealed in the book of Revelation?
32. Revelation 1:19 - What may we conclude about the order of events in Revelation?
33. Revelation 6:2-8 - What effect do the four horsemen (first four bowl judgments) have on the earth?
34. Revelation 6:9-11 - What does the fifth seal reveal?
35. Revelation 6:12-16 - What events are associated with the sixth seal?
36. Revelation 6:16-17 - What is the period of time called?
37. Revelation 7:1-8 - Who will God protect during the tribulation?
38. Revelation 7:9-14 - Who makes up the "great multitude"?
39. Revelation 7:15-17 - What is the reward of the martyrs of Christ?

### **The Trumpet Judgments**

40. Revelation 8:1-2 - What does the seventh seal represent?
41. Revelation 8:6-9:19 - What effect do the first 6 trumpet judgments have on earth?
42. Revelation 9:20 - How did the people of the earth respond to these catastrophes?
43. Revelation 11:1 - What important structure will be in existence during the tribulation?
44. Revelation 11:2 - Who will control the city of Jerusalem for how long during the tribulation?
45. Revelation 11:3-6 - Describe the two witnesses.
46. Revelation 11:7-10 - What happens to the two witnesses when they finish their ministry?

### **The Beast**

47. Revelation 13:2 - What three things will the dragon give the beast?
48. Revelation 13:3 - What kind of following will the beast have?
49. Revelation 13:5 - How long will the beast have this total control?
50. Revelation 13:5-6 - What will the beast talk about?
51. Revelation 13:7-10 - Who will the beast persecute?
52. Revelation 13:11 - What does the appearance of the other beast suggest?
53. Revelation 13:12 - Where will the second beast get his power and what will he do with it?
54. Revelation 13:13 - What other powers will the second have?
55. Revelation 13:14 - What effect will these powers have on people?
56. Revelation 13:16-18 - What is the mark of the beast?

### **The Bowl Judgments**

57. Revelation 16 - What do each the bowl judgments cause to happen on earth?
58. Revelation 16:9 - How will mankind react to God's bowl judgments?
59. Revelation 19:11-17 - What names are given for Christ?
60. Revelation 19:11-15 - What will Christ do when He returns to earth?
61. Revelation 19:20 - What will become of the beast and the false prophet?
62. Revelation 19:21 - What will become of those who worshipped the beast?
63. Revelation 20:1-3 - What will become of Satan?
64. Revelation 20:4-6 - Who is involved in the first resurrection?

### **The Millennial Kingdom**

65. Isaiah 65:19-25 - What five things will not exist in this glorious Kingdom to come
66. Isaiah 65:19-25 - Will there be any sin in this Kingdom?
67. Revelation 20:7-8 - What will happen at the end of the Millennial reign of Christ?
68. Revelation 20:9-10 - How does God respond to this final rebellion?
69. Revelation 20:11-13 - What happens at the great white throne?
70. Revelation 21:1 - What happens to the world?
71. Revelation 21:4 - What will the new heaven and earth be like?

## 6. Signs of the Times

*"But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief." (1Thess 5:4)*

### Introduction... Reference: Matthew 16:1-4

1. Verses 1-3 - Why did Jesus call the Pharisees and Sadducees hypocrites?
2. Verse 4 - What sign did Jesus say would be given to them?

### Acts of God

3. Luke 21:25-26 - Will weather itself be a sign of the times?
4. Luke 21:11 - What can we expect concerning diseases as a sign of the times?

### Israel: God's Prophetic Clock

5. Isaiah 43:5-6 - What do we know about the order of Israel's return to the land?
6. Zephaniah 3:8-9 - What do we know about the Hebrew language that goes contrary to trends in the world?
7. Luke 21:24 - What occurred in 1967 that is a partial fulfillment of this verse?
8. Zechariah 12:3 - Why is there always something about Jerusalem in the news?
9. Zechariah 12:5 - How will the last days government of Israel differ from times before they were dispersed?
10. Zechariah 12:6 - What do we know about Israel's military power in the end times?

### Signs in Society (Spiritual Decay)

11. 2 Timothy 3:1-5 - What can we expect to see in the society of mankind before Christ returns?
12. 2 Timothy 3:13 - What trend can we expect for religious deception as we near Christ's return?
13. 2 Timothy 4:3-4 - What happens when people get away from the God of the Bible?
14. 1 Timothy 4:1-3 - What religious practices should we expect "in the latter times"?
15. Matthew 7:21-23 - What did Jesus have to say about false Christians?
16. Colossians 2:8 - What is the danger of even subtle deviations from true doctrine?

### Signs in Technology

17. Daniel 12:4 - What are we seeing today that is a fulfillment of this prophecy?
18. Nahum 2:3-4 - What does this verse describe using 7th century BC terminology?
19. Obadiah 4 - How could this verse be understood before the 1960s?

### World Politics

20. Revelation 13:7 - What sort of government will there be when Christ returns?
21. Does it look like we are moving toward or away from a one-world government?

### World Religion

22. Revelation 13:8 - What sort of religion will there be when Christ returns?
23. How have we seen the groundwork for a one-world religion today?

### War and Peace

24. 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3 - What kind of peace will there be when Christ returns?
25. 1 Thessalonians 5:3 - What does it mean "as labor pains upon a pregnant woman"?
26. We've always had wars in history. Is there anything special about the wars in the 20th Century that would indicate we are nearing the time of Christ's return?
27. Ezekiel 39:11-15 - What activity is described in these verses?
28. Isaiah 41:14-16 & Zechariah 14:12 - What weapons are represented by these verses?
29. Jeremiah 50:9, 51:1, 51:30, 51:43 - What war do these passages describe?
30. Hebrews 10:24-25 - What should we be doing as we see the Day of the Lord approaching?