



Journey: A Summit on Christian Manhood

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Bible Prophecy Series Syllabus

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Research the Scriptures – Proclaim the Scriptures

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A Ministry of Donn & Sue Williams

Introduction to Prophecy

*Is the Bible prophetically accurate?
Can we trust the Bible prophetically?*

Presuppositions

- A presupposition is a condition that you assume and accept as true.
- A presupposition is not necessarily logically proven.
- A presupposition requires FAITH.
- Your presuppositions will determine your world view and theological view.
- Your worldview attempts to answer life's basic questions:
 - 1) Who am I?
 - 2) Why am I here?
 - 3) Where did I come from?
 - 4) Where am I going?
- Only two possible basic worldviews:
 - 1) Everything is a result of an accident. (Someone sarcastically defined the big bang: First there was nothing and then it exploded! – Unless you accept eternal matter/energy)

- 2) Everything is a result of the deliberate design of an intelligent Creator.
- My Presuppositions:
 - 1) God is.
 - 2) God is Absolute Truth.
 - 3) God has Revealed Himself in His Written Word (Scripture) and His Living Word (God the Son, Jesus Christ).
 - 4) God is the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe.
- My Approach to Theology
 - 1) Dispensational
 - 2) Prophetic (or Futurist) view of Revelation
 - 3) Pre-Millennial and Pre-Tribulation view of the Rapture of the Church
 - 4) The Church has NOT replaced Israel. God has separate future plans for Israel and His church.
 - 5) Belief in a literal Kingdom where Jesus Christ is King. It is challenged by Satan's final revolt at the end of 1000 years. Satan is defeated and the Kingdom of Jesus Christ continues forever in a New Heaven, New Earth, and New Jerusalem.

Introduction to Prophecy

- A. Definition of Prophecy
 1. Must be 100% accurate. Deuteronomy 18:20-22 (See also Numbers 12:6; Deuteronomy 13:1-5; Deuteronomy 18:15-22)
 2. New Testament attitude
 - a. Public attitude – Matthew 13:57; Mark 6:4; John 4:44
 - b. God's attitude – James 3:1
 3. Declares: "Thus saith the LORD."
 4. Prophecy can reference the past, present or the future. True prophecy of things to come is history that is yet to happen. Let us call it "unfulfilled history" at this point in time. It absolutely will happen and is as reliable as events in the past.
- B. The Purpose of Prophecy
 1. It is not a "crystal ball" to tell the future.
 2. It's purpose is to validate God's Word.
 3. God's Word (the Scriptures) come from God, completely outside this physical realm (matter and space) and outside of time itself. But the problems is this: How do you validate its message as true? By proving its accuracy 100% of the time when it deals with subjects outside of time.
- C. First and Second Mentions of Prophecy
 1. Generally taught to be Genesis 3:15.
 2. Consider Genesis 2:17 (KJV) --- "*But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: [imperative command] for in the day that thou eatest thereof **thou shalt surely die.***" [prophetic consequence]
 3. The second mention is indeed Genesis 3:15 (KJV) --- "*And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, [Satan did not win the allegiance of the woman] and between thy seed [a possible*

reference to the Nephilim first mentioned in Genesis 6] ***and her seed***; [a reference to the virgin birth] ***it shall bruise thy head***, [The woman's seed, Jesus Christ, would inflict a mortal wound up on Satan, eventually putting all sin and evil away forever] ***and thou shalt bruise his heel***" [Satan would inflict only a painful wound upon Christ].

4. An interesting note regarding the heel: It is often incorporated into the ancient myths and legends of antiquity which would of course be the descendants of Adam. An example would be the Achilles Heel.
5. An obvious note regarding the head: If it is crushed, it means death. It is the only effective way to destroy a serpent (we reference the use of the word here as snake, not seraphim).

D. History Summed up in Three Verses --- Matthew 23:37-39 (KJV)

*37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often **would I have gathered thy children together**, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and **ye would not!***

38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

*39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, **Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.***

1. The Determination or Commitment (Purpose) of all History
 - a. "how often would I have gathered thy children together"
 - b. God's desire from the very beginning, including Eden
 - c. God's desire is opposed by Satan, who is constantly trying to defeat God
 - d. History records this struggle and it is often called the "Conflict of the Ages: (with Satan always ultimately losing)
2. The Disaster or Calamity (Tragedy) of all History
 - a. "ye would not"
 - b. Israel, God's chosen people to bring the Christ, were not faithful.
 - c. They murdered prophets, and embraced idolatry.
 - d. They ultimately rejected the Messiah and had Him crucified.
 - e. Yet, this was necessary (the Lamb slain for the sins of the world) to accomplish salvation.
 - f. The work of redemption (salvation) had to be accomplished first in order to bring in the Kingdom.
 - g. This disaster, calamity, or tragedy is the central focus of all history.
3. The Delight or Conquest (Triumph) of all History
 - a. "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord"
 - b. The ultimate goal of history is reached.
 - c. Messiah establishes His kingdom.
 - d. All sin and rebellion is eradicated.
 - e. The utopian "Garden of Eden" life is restored, this time without danger of evil entering in.

E. When will this delight, conquest, or triumph happen?

1. "Til' you shall say" – Sequential link
2. "Blessed be He that cometh in the name of the Lord!" – From Psalm 118:26
 - a. Messianic Psalm
 - b. Part of the Hallel Psalms
 - 1) The Hallel Psalms (113-118)
 - 2) J. Vernon McGee tells us that there were six Hallel (Hallelujah) Psalms (Psalms 113-118), which were likely sung at all of feasts of Israel, particularly the Passover feast, the Feast of Pentecost, the Feast of Tabernacles and Dedication. It is not certain if they were sung intermittently or three at the beginning and three at the end.
 - 3) Quoted by the crowds in Matthew 21:9

Hosea 5:15 (KJV)

"I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early."

4. "I will go and return to my place" He had to leave in order to return.
5. Messiah came but was rejected by His own people (John 1:11)
6. He returned to the right hand of the Father Psalm 110:1; Romans 8:34
7. "till" appears again as in Matthew 23:39
8. "offence" is singular and specific (Arnold Fruchtenbaum)
9. Leviticus 26:14-46 Another prophecy
10. Jeremiah 30:1-7 Jacob's trouble
11. Zechariah 13:8-9 Holocaust destroyed 1 in 3; Tribulation will destroy 2 in 3