

DOCTRINE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPHECY

July 30, 1980

- I. Since all Scripture is profitable (2Tim.3:16), and prophecy is Scripture, prophecy is important.
- II. The Holy Spirit was sent at Pentecost to lead us into all truth, Jn.16:13, and prophecy (things to come), Jn.14:26.
- III. The apostle Paul taught prophecy to the model church, 1Thess.5:1-10, which information protects them from being in the dark concerning the Rapture generation and becoming disoriented.
- IV. The New Testament exhortations to alertness and sobriety presupposes knowledge of the sign of the fig tree, Lk.21:29; Mk.13:34-37; 1Thess.5:6,8,10; 1Pet.1:13; 4:7; 5:8; Ezek.29.
- V. Peter says knowledge of prophecy will alert the believer to the Rapture, therefore they do will pay attention to it, 2Pet.1:19.
- VI. John pronounces blessing on any Pastor-Teacher who exegetes Revelation and to those who listen to and apply the message of that book, Rev.1:3.
- VII. Conversely, there is cursing associated with anyone who adds to or takes away from the things in Revelation, Rev.22:18,19.
- VIII. Conclusion: "Do not despise prophetic utterances", 1Thess.5:20.
- IX. The Rapture generation lives in what James calls the "latter rains", Jam.5:7; Job.29:23; Deut.11:19; Jer.5:24; Joel.2:24; Hos.6:3.
- X. Prophecy was a spiritual gift.
 - A. As such, it was considered a greater gift, 1Cor.12:31; 14:31.
 - B. It was an edification gift for the believer until the canon was complete, 1Cor.14:3-5,12; 13:8-10.
 - C. It was a sign gift for the believer, 1Cor.14:22.
 1. That the canon was not yet complete.
 2. The end was not imminent.
 - D. Even as tongues was a sign to unbelieving Jews that gentiles would dominate the age, 1Cor.14:22.
 - E. Principle: God never does anything in history without first informing His servants, the prophets, Gen.18:16-20; Amos.3:7.
 - F. Prophecy predicted two Millennial days from the First Advent to the final restoration of the Jews, Isa.11:11; Hos.6:13 with 2Pet.3:1-10.