

# The Importance of Prophecy

## Description

An exploration of why prophecy matters to the believer—revealing God’s nature, strengthening faith, shaping sanctification, and anchoring our hope in the return of Jesus Christ.

---

## Primary Texts

Revelation 1:3 | Revelation 22:7

## Supporting Texts

Revelation 19:10 | Acts 2:16–17 | 1 Corinthians 14:3 | Isaiah 46:9–10 | Matthew 24:48–51 | Luke 12:35–40 | Matthew 25:1–13 | Philippians 1:6 | Matthew 24:14 | Ezekiel 40:4

---

## Explanation of the Context of the Primary Text

From beginning to end, Revelation is explicitly called “**prophecy**” (Revelation 1:3; 22:7, 10, 18–19). This means the book is not merely symbolic or devotional—it is a **divinely revealed message meant to be heard, understood, and obeyed**.

Revelation 19:10 declares:

“For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

This anchors prophecy in two inseparable realities:

- **Foretelling** → Declaring what God will do
- **Forthtelling** → Proclaiming what God has said in Christ

Throughout Scripture, prophecy is not limited to predicting future events. It is deeply tied to the **proclamation of the Gospel**. In Acts 2:16–17, Peter connects prophecy to the outpouring of the Spirit, where believers declare “the mighty works of God.” Similarly, in 1 Corinthians 14, prophecy is described as that which **builds up the Church**.



At the same time, prophecy does include **predictive revelation**, as seen in passages like Acts 21:10–14. The book of Revelation uniquely holds both together—it is simultaneously:

- A proclamation of Jesus Christ
- A revelation of what God will bring to pass

This means prophecy is not optional to the Christian life—it is **central to how God reveals Himself and His purposes**.

## Christ at the Center

Prophecy is not primarily about events—it is about **Jesus Christ**.

Revelation 19:10 tells us that:

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

This means:

- Prophecy **originates from Christ**
- Prophecy **reveals Christ**
- Prophecy **points to the fulfillment of Christ’s work**

Whether prophecy is foretelling future events or proclaiming present truth, its purpose is the same—to make Christ known.

Even the predictive elements of prophecy—His first coming, His return, His kingdom—are not ends in themselves. They exist to **confirm that Jesus is who He said He is** and that all of God’s promises find their fulfillment in Him.

Just as hundreds of Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled in Christ’s first coming, so too the remaining promises will be fulfilled in His second. This consistency reveals the authority and faithfulness of Christ as both **Savior and King**.

To study prophecy rightly, then, is not to chase timelines—it is to **see Christ more clearly, trust Him more deeply, and proclaim Him more faithfully**.



# Why It Matters

## 1. Prophecy Strengthens Our Faith

God uniquely identifies Himself as the One who: “declares the end from the beginning” (Isaiah 46:10)

Nearly **one-quarter of Scripture is prophetic**,

- 8,362 Predictive verses that contain ...
- 1,817 Prophecies (~ 27% of the Bible) on ...
- 737 separate matters

Demonstrating that prophecy is not a minor theme—it is a defining characteristic of God’s revelation. Fulfilled prophecy—especially in the life of Jesus—confirms that:

- God is sovereign
- God is truthful
- God’s Word can be trusted

This anchors our faith in the **one true and living God**.

## 2. Prophecy Shapes Our Sanctification

Prophecy is not just informational—it is transformational.

Jesus warns that the servant who assumes the Master is delaying will begin to live carelessly (Matthew 24:48–51). Likewise, Scripture consistently teaches that **expectation of Christ’s return produces holy living**.

When we truly believe: Christ will return, We will give account, This world is temporary ...it changes how we live.

Prophecy keeps us:

- Watchful
- Spiritually alert
- Separated from worldly entanglement

It produces a life that is **ready, not complacent**.



### 3. Prophecy Fuels Our Hope

Prophecy gives the believer a forward-looking hope that is unshakable.

Because of prophecy, we know:

- Christ **will return**
- Justice **will be established**
- Evil **will be judged**
- God's kingdom **will be fully realized**

This hope fuels:

- Endurance in suffering
- Urgency in evangelism (Matthew 24:14)
- Confidence in God's ultimate plan

Prophecy reminds us that history is not random—it is moving toward the **certain return and reign of Jesus Christ**.

### Personal Reflection

- Do I see prophecy as essential to my faith, or as something optional?
- Does the certainty of Christ's return affect how I live daily?
- Am I more focused on this present world—or the one to come?
- How can I grow in both understanding and sharing what God has revealed?

