

The Seven Wonders of the Bible

Prophetic Consistency - Part 5

Sermon Outline

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What is prophecy: The English word prophecy is derived from the word 'propheteia,' which means "the gift of communicating and enforcing revealed truth. It's a message from God, communicated to a human prophet, who then shares it with the intended audience.

2 Peter 1:21 "For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

What is the purpose of Prophecy?

1 Corinthians 14:3 But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their **strengthening, encouraging and comfort.**

2 Chronicles 20:20 Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you **shall prosper.**"

John 14:29 "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you **may believe.**

It is amazing to discover that there are more than 1,800 prophecies in the Bible. To this day, no Biblical prophecy has ever been proven false!

Prophecies of the Bible

1. Redemption of the world

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

With the possible exception of John 3:16, no verse in the Bible is more crucial and definitive than Genesis 3:15. Jesus defeated Satan on Calvary’s cross when he pronounced those words “it is finished.” What started as sin on a tree in the garden of Eden, was put to an end by our Savior on a tree at Golgotha.

2. Pharaoh’s Dream of the Famine in Egypt

Genesis 41:29 Indeed seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt; 30 but after them seven years of famine will arise, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine will deplete the land.

Famine Stele: The Famine Stele ("Hungry Rock") is an inscription located on Sahel Island in Egypt, which speaks of a seven year period of drought and famine.

Inscription of the Famine Stele - "I was in mourning on my throne, Those of the palace were in grief, my heart was in great affliction. Because Hapi [the river god] had failed to come in time in a period of seven years. Grain was scant, kernels were dried up, scarce was every kind of food. Every man robbed his twin, those who entered did not go out. Children cried, youngsters fell, the hearts of the old were grieving; legs drawn up, they hugged the ground, their arms clasped about them. Courtiers were needy, temples were shut, shrines covered with dust, everyone was in distress."

Hieroglyphic images - depicting Egyptians retrieving grains from an open stairwell and A grain silo of the step pyramid.

A Caravan of Canaanites: arriving as traders or immigrants to Egypt. Accompanying inscriptions identify the people as Asiatics originating somewhere in southern Canaan. The whole scene includes 15 individuals, who seem to represent an extended family. In this segment, a donkey carries bellows, the man walking behind plays the lyre, and the women in front wear colorful dresses, characteristic of Canaan. The scene is depicted on the north wall in the tomb of Khnumhotep II, mayor of Menat-Khufu and overseer of the Eastern Desert. Dating from 1895 B.C.E. (12th Dynasty), the tomb is located near the village of Beni Hasan in Egypt.

3. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of the Great Image

Daniel 2:31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

1. Babylon - Neo-Babylon ruled the world from 612-539 B.C. as one of the mightiest empires of antiquity, one that could aptly be described as the head of gold.

The ruins of Babylon is in Iraq today, 60 miles south of Bagdad. The clay bricks in Babylon has the name Nebuchadnezzar stamped on it. Babylon also had one of the ancient wonders of the world, the hanging garden.

2. Medes and Persians - Who conquered Babylon? Persian King Cyrus.

Isaiah 45:1 "Thus says the Lord to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut."

World History - "While the residents of the city were distracted by one of their great religious feast days, the Persian army waded the river and

marched under the walls of Babylon unnoticed. It was claimed the city was taken without a fight.”

3. Greece - Who conquered Persia? Alexander the Great

Daniel 2:39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule **over all the earth**.

Daniel 7:6 “After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

Who were the four generals of Alexander? Cassander, Ptolemy, Antigonus, and Seleucus.

4. Rome - Who conquered Greece? Romans

Daniel 2:40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.

The iron monarchy of Rome conquered the Greeks and enjoyed world supremacy until Rome was captured by the Ostrogoths in A.D. 476. Rome is the kingdom that dominated the world when Jesus Christ was born.

5. Ten Divided Roman Empire - Who conquered Rome?

“Wave after wave of **Germanic barbarian tribes** swept through the Roman Empire. Groups such as the Visigoths, Vandals, Angles, Saxons, Franks, Ostrogoths, and Lombards took turns ravaging the Empire, eventually carving out areas in which to settle down.”

Daniel 2:41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

Daniel 2:43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

When the Roman Empire began to crumble in A.D. 476, it was not overtaken by another world power. Instead, barbarian tribes conquered the Roman Empire and divided it just as Daniel prophesied. Ten of these tribes evolved into modern Europe. They were the Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Alemannians, Sueves, Anglo-Saxons, Heruls, Lombards, and Burgundians. Seven of them still exist today in Europe. For example, the Anglo-Saxons became the English, the Franks became the French, the Alemannians became the Germans, and the Lombards became the Italians.

Through marriage, alliances, and treaties, men have vainly attempted to reunite the European continent. All throughout history, leaders such as Charlemagne, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, Mussolini, and Hitler have fought to build a new European empire but these words of Scripture have stopped every single would-be world ruler.

When all else failed, they tried to unite it through economic terms by the creation of the European Union and a common currency called Euro. Are they united today? Brexit is a classic example, that they can never unite.

4. Messianic Prophecies of the Old Testament

a. He would be born in Bethlehem

Micah 5:2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel...”

b. He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver

Zechariah 11:12 Then I said to them, “If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain.” So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver.

Matthew 26:14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests 15 and said, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. 16 So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.

c. He would enter Jerusalem on a donkey

Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

Matthew 21:2 "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me.

In his book *Science Speaks*, mathematician Peter Stoner calculated the mathematical probability of one person fulfilling only 8 these 300-plus prophecies. The result was 1 in 10 to the 17th power, or 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000

5. End Time Prophecies - Matthew 24, Luke 21, Mark 13, Revelation

a. Destruction of Jerusalem - Luke 21:20 When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near.

Historians tell us that not one Christian perished when Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD. They all heeded the warning and left Jerusalem.

Who conquered Jerusalem in 70 AD? Emperor Titus

Arch of Titus stands as a living proof of Titus' conquest of Jerusalem.

The temple articles including the menorah the seven golden lampstand and the tables are seen carrying by the Roman soldiers back to Rome.

b. End of the World

Luke 21:25 “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26 People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27 At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Luke 21:32 “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.