

Prophecy

1. Bible Predictions

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Bible Prophecy is both a Prediction and a Promise from the Creator God



By one count, about 27 percent of the Bible is predictive. This means that, when written, over one fourth of the Bible—more than one in four verses—was prophetic, about 1,817 prophecies according to one calculation*. The consistent relation of prophecy in the Bible is staggering; on top of that is the amazing accuracy of those detailed prophecies.

(Source: *Payne, J. B., *The Encyclopaedia of Biblical Prophecy*, Baker Pub. Group)

The amount of prophecy in the Bible is one of the things that **make it unique among all other religious books**. There is absolutely no emphasis on predictive prophecy in the Qu'ran or the Hindu Vedas, for example. In contrast, the Bible repeatedly points to fulfilled prophecy as direct proof that it is the Creator God who is speaking to us, and we should listen.

Prophecy in the Bible is:

- **A Warning** - change what you're doing or this will happen, you have been told.
- **A Promise** - if you do this, I (God) will bless you like this for your faith in Me.
- **A Declaration** - it is I, the Lord God, the Almighty that is saying this & I can prove it.
- **A Comfort** - God knows the future, do not be afraid if you trust Him - heaven awaits.
- **A Challenge** - this is the future, plan for it and get active for the Kingdom now.

“Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

‘I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God. And who can proclaim as I do?

Then let him declare it and set it in order for Me, since I appointed the ancient people.

And the things that are coming and shall come, let them show these to them.

Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it?

You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.’ ”

Isaiah 44:6-8

Prophecy accounts for a major portion of the entire canon of Scripture. Numerous books in the Old Testament contain prophecy—some include short statements about the future, and others feature entire prophetic visions. In the New Testament, almost every book contains some prophecy, with Revelation being wholly devoted to a prophetic vision.

Given God's omniscience (all knowing attribute), it should come as no surprise that the Bible contains so many clear predictions, or that those predictions are literally fulfilled.

- Prophecy in the Bible can be divided into two broad groups: **Fulfilled** and **Not-yet Fulfilled**.
- Also some prophecies have **only partially been fulfilled** and are awaiting complete fulfilment in the future.
- And others have a **double fulfilment**, one nearer to the time of the prophet and one further in the future.