

2001 Proclaimer

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, .. to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord!" - Isa. 61:1-2

A teaching and exhortation medium by members of the
Carmichael Church of Christ, meeting at 6044 Sutter Ave. Carmichael, CA 95608

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June 10th, 2001

PREDICTIVE PROPHECY

by Gordon Wilson

The Scriptures of the Old Testament are to a large degree authenticated by their fulfilled prophecies. These prophecies are basically of three kinds.

First, there are prophecies fulfilled historically outside the record of the Bible itself. For example, the fate of the city of Tyre was predicted by Ezekiel (chapter 26). The fulfillment of the prophecy is not entirely recorded in the Bible, but historians tell us of the destruction of Tyre in great detail. The details are, in fact, an exact and literal fulfillment of what Ezekiel said would come to pass. There are numerous such prophecies in the Old Testament, and they serve to show that the prophets were being guided by a wisdom more than human.

Second, we find prophecies internally fulfilled. For example, in Genesis chapter 15 God told Abraham that his descendants would go down into Egypt, would be slaves there, would later come out of their bondage, and would be given the land of Canaan. This prophecy was fulfilled four hundred years later, and the fulfillment is recorded in the Bible, beginning with Exodus. Again, there are quite a few such internal fulfillments of prophecy in the Bible.

Third, there are eschatological prophecies (a word that means "pertaining to the last days"). Most of these are fulfilled in the New Testament, with the coming of Christ, the establishment of the church, etc. There are a few dim predictions

concerning the final judgment, the resurrection of the dead, etc., which have not as yet actually come to pass, but which are illuminated by the New Testament promises.

The New Testament is different from the Old, in that it is not designed to be authenticated by its fulfilled prophecies, but rather by its fulfillment of the ancient predictions. Here we have the completion of God's plans revealed in full.

We do, however, have in the New Testament prophecies of the three types found in the Old Testament, but not in such abundance, since they do not comport with the primary purpose of the New Testament revelation. There are historical prophecies (e.g., destruction of Jerusalem); internal prophecies (such as the famine in Judea); and eschatological prophecies (the full development of themes such as the second coming of Christ and the end of time).

God has always fulfilled His word. We have every reason to believe that He will always do so. Let us then be prepared for every event that the Bible says will come to pass.

SERMONS IN JUNE:

- 10th- **Doing Right in our Own Eyes** (AM)
Enter Into His Rest (PM)
- 17th- **A FATHER'S LOVE** (AM)
Boldly Approach the Throne (PM)
- 24th- **Claim Your Opportunity** (AM)
Press On (PM)

(Tentative schedule of Vern's lessons)

NEED A PERSONAL TUNE-UP? **LOWER THE VOLUME AND LISTEN**

This may seem to be a statement of some prejudice. Exceptions to this rule must be granted. But I believe men have a special sense of knowledge about automobiles. Call this "mechanical aptitude," but when fully developed it is more like a hunch or intuition. Men with this skill can smell and predict trouble with the water-cooling system and hear when a plug is bad. They can feel things like wheel alignment and bad shocks. I worked on my own cars back before auto computer boards and gradually picked up little feelings and insights about typical car trouble. Men with this wisdom know that a good habit to follow is - periodically turn the AC and stereo off and just listen. You may hear something that needs attention. (One cool autumn day my wife called from her cell phone. She had turned both the AC and stereo off. She was a little alarmed in reporting to me that she heard this whining sound she hadn't heard before. **It was the engine!**).

In our personal lives - this may also be a good habit. Lower the volume and listen. The noises clamoring our chaotic daily lives, the shouts of competing loyalties and demands, and the intimidating resonance of pressures and problems all scream so loudly we often hear nothing else. **TURN IT ALL DOWN AND LISTEN** to what you are thinking, and planning, and feeling. Focus on your relationship with God; examine your present attitudes about obedience and growth; face the realities of your temporal existence and destiny. When you turn down the noise and listen, you may be shocked to learn that something significantly needs a major tune-up!

David wrote about this in **Psalms 119:59** where he said, "*I thought about my ways, and turned my feet to Your testimonies.*"

by Warren E. Berkley
adapted by clw

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Truman and Sue Claiborne

Helen Gray

Doris Hopper

Willa Lockett

Wendell Rapier

Norma Romine

Nancy Valine

Evie Westphal

Rachel Johnston (Sue Claiborne's sister)

THOSE WHO ARE TRAVELING:

Aaron Robertson is away for military responsibilities this week-end.

PLEASE PRAY for these, and others you may be aware of, who are sick or away from this church family.

Prayers do avail!

SIGNS OUTSIDE CHURCHES

The main cause for failure and unhappiness is trading what you want most for what you want at the moment.

A miser is but a rich pauper.

No matter how much you nurse a grudge it won't get better.

Start *living* to beat hell.

If some people lived up to their ideals they would be stooping.

Everything you always wanted to know about heaven and hell but were afraid to ask.

[At an Arizona church in August]
You think it's hot HERE?

BE EXHORTED

by David Riggs

"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." **(1 Cor 6:19-20)**

According to a January 15, 1989 article in the Lexington Herald-Leader, the family living in a home in West Palm Beach, Florida, told a film crew it was okay to use the front lawn as a set for an episode of the "B.L. Stryker" television series. They knew cars would be crashing violently in front of the house.

While the front yard was being blown up, the owner of the home was tipped off and called from New York demanding to know what was happening to his house. It seems the people who were living in the house were only tenants and had no right to allow the property to be destroyed as the cameras rolled.

Many times we live our lives under the mistaken impression that they belong to us. Paul tells us we were "bought with a price." We must live as those who know God will call us to account for the ways we have used this life entrusted to us. (From *Illustrations for Preaching & Teaching*, p. 232).

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"And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name."

Ac 22:16

DOING RIGHT IN OUR OWN EYES

Judges 17:1-6

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Why should we study history?
 - 1. It is a dead subject about dead men.
 - 2. But people [like George Santayana, for one] have been quoted as saying, "**Those who refuse to learn from history are condemned to repeat it.**"
- B. An example of just such things is what the Lord addresses in: Judges 2:16-20
- C. Paul told us the reason why we should study the Old Testament. Rom.15:4; 1 Cor.10:11

I. WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS?

- A. The first thing we learn is that religiously speaking, our society is not that far removed from the society of Israel at the time of the judges.
 - 1. We still find people giving only lip service to God.
 - 2. There is a distinct difference between obedience & compliance.
- B. Our "religious" nation is enamored by idolatry, just as Israel was. Vs. 17
 - 1. Many folks who church are chasing after other gods!
 - 2. To covet after anything of this world is idolatry. (Colossians 3:5)
- C. Many look at our society and say, "We may not be all that "good" – but we're not all that "bad" either." 1 Cor 11:31-32; Judges 17:1-6

II. WE CAN FIND SO MANY THINGS TO SAY ABOUT VERSE 2.

- A. In this passage a son STEALS from his mother.
- B. Look what the mother in the text did when she found the money missing ... She put a Curse on it.!
- C. Micah's mother had a problem with restraint. Prov 29:15
- D. Rebellion in the home cannot be tolerated.

III. VSS 4-6 IS A MICROCOSM OF OUR SOCIETY

- A. Judges 17:4-5
- B. Micah did what so many people are doing in the religious world today...
- C. Judges 17:6; 1 John 3:4.

IV. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE IN EITHER SOCIETIES?

- A. Judges 17:6. What a commentary on today's society.
- B. Work & Worship has been compromised.
- C. Care and concern for one another is often neglected, to our own benefits!

CONCLUSION:

- A. NO MATTER IF everything we do sounds like a good idea to us, if we don't have God's authority to do it, then it is rebellion on our part. Jesus warned about that in Luke 6:39-40
- B. "Doing right in our own eyes" is not so meaningful if we're unable to SEE SPIRITUALLY, is it?