

Facing the Future with God's Prophetic Plan

A. The Coming of the Kingdom

The Prophecies

- **The Abrahamic Covenant** (Genesis 12:1-3, 7; 13:14-17, 15:1-21)
- **The Davidic Covenant** (2 Samuel 7:1-17) & **The New Covenant** (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
- **The Glorious Nature of the Kingdom** (Isaiah 2:1-4; 9:6-7; 11:6-9; 26:19; 35:1-10; 65:17-19; Daniel 2:44; 7:27; Amos 9:13-14; Micah 4:4, Revelation 21:1-4)
- **The Kingdom Offered, Rejected, and Postponed** (Matthew 3:1-3; 4:17; 6:10; 10:5-7; 21:33-45; 23:37-39; Acts 1:6-8)
- **Entrance into the Kingdom** (John 3:1-21; Ezekiel 36:24-27; Matthew 18:1-3; 2 Timothy 4:17-18)
- **Position in the Kingdom** (Luke 19:11-27; 1 Corinthians 3:9-15; 2 Timothy 2:11-13, Revelation 5:8-10; 20:4-6)

The Intended Effect of the Prophecies

To the Jews who received the promises of the kingdom, these prophecies provide a concrete hope for a gloriously better future. This hope provides a comfort in time of difficulty. To the believer in Christ who understands that we will be with Christ in this kingdom, the same hope and comfort are available.

To the Jews who were not aware of their need or not willing to trust in God to provide forgiveness of sins, these prophecies would prompt them to seek righteousness in order to enter a righteous kingdom. This righteousness could not be obtained by good works, but only by faith in their God.

To the believer in Christ who understands that we will be with Christ in the kingdom, and that one way we will be rewarded is in our rank or position in the kingdom, we find motivation to be diligently serving our Lord with the time we have.

To the person who knows the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ, which has the power to save lost sinners who are currently destined to miss the kingdom, we find motivation to share the saving message of the Gospel out of love for others.

B. The Coming of the Messiah

The Prophecies

- **The Messiah Will Suffer** (Luke 24:44-46; 1 Peter 1:10-12; Psalm 22:1, 6-8, 14-15; Isaiah 50:6; 52:14; 53:1-12;)
- **The Messiah Will Rule the Kingdom** (1 Peter 1:10-12; Isaiah 9:6-7; 52:13; Micah 5:2 Daniel 7:13-14, Luke 1:31-33)

The Intended Effect of the Prophecies

To the student of history who recognizes that many prophecies of the Messiah have already been fulfilled, we find a strong source of confidence in the Bible. This confidence ought to make us realize that other prophecies (which are not yet fulfilled) will one day come to pass.

To the sinner who realizes that the Messiah came to suffer on their behalf, we find a great source of comfort for whoever believes in Him. The one who believes is forgiven, granted righteousness, and promised eternal salvation.

C. The Rapture of the Church

The Prophecies

- **Jesus Said He would Come Again for His Disciples** (John 14:1-6)
- **We Will All Be Changed** (1 Corinthians 15:35-55)
- **We Will Meet the Lord in the Air** (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17)

The Intended Effect of the Prophecies

To the believer who has lost loved ones, there is immense comfort in knowing we will be reunited with “those who sleep in Jesus” when we are all united with our Savior. (1 Thessalonians 4:18)

To the believer who recognized that the rapture could occur at any moment, we find motivation to diligently serve our Savior with the time that we have, knowing with real urgency that today could be our last day in this life. (Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:58)

* How do you want to be found?