

## WHAT IS THE CORRECT METHOD FOR INTERPRETING PROPHECY?

### I. THE VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW IN ESCHATOLOGY

#### A. With Regards to the KINGDOM.

1. PREMILLENNIALISM...which teaches that Christ will return to the earth \_\_\_\_\_ the Kingdom to fulfill the promises made to Israel concerning a future kingdom on the earth.
2. AMILLENNIALISM...which \_\_\_\_\_ that there even will be a future literal Kingdom on the earth because the promises made to Israel are now being spiritually fulfilled by the Church (Covenant or Replacement theology).
3. POSTMILLENNIALISM...which claims that Christ will return \_\_\_\_\_ the Kingdom on earth has been introduced by the Church.

#### B. With Regards to the RAPTURE.

1. PRE-TRIBULATIONAL... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur \_\_\_\_\_ the 7 years of the Tribulation on the earth.
2. MID-TRIBULATIONAL ... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the 7 year period of the Tribulation on the earth.
3. PRE- WRATH... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur about \_\_\_\_\_ of the way through the 7 year period of the Tribulation on the earth.
4. POST-TRIBULATIONAL ... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur \_\_\_\_\_ the 7 year Tribulation ends.
5. PARTIAL RAPTURE... which states only \_\_\_\_\_ Christians are taken to heaven at the rapture, while carnal Christians will be \_\_\_\_\_ to go through the tribulation (kind of a protestant purgatory)

#### C. With Regards to PROPHECY and the Book of REVELATION.

1. PRETERISM ... believes that most, if not all, biblical prophecy has \_\_\_\_\_, usually in relation to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.
2. HISTORICISM ... believes that much of prophecy has been and continues to be \_\_\_\_\_ during the Church age.
3. FUTURISM ... believes that prophecy will be fulfilled and take place in the \_\_\_\_\_ at the Rapture, Tribulation, Second Coming, the Kingdom, or the Eternal State.
4. IDEALISM ... believes that the Bible teaches great ideas about God to be applied today with no specific reference to the \_\_\_\_\_ of these events.

### II. THE BIBLICAL METHOD FOR CORRECTLY INTERPRETING PROPHECY.

## A. What Can We Learn From the Prophecies That Have ALREADY BEEN FULFILLED?

1. The prophecies of the Old Testament were fulfilled in a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ way of understanding language.

- What are some examples of this?

2. At times the prophetic passages of the Old Testament include \_\_\_\_\_ language, but they should not be fulfilled \_\_\_\_\_.

- What is allegorical interpretation and what's wrong with it?
- Does the book of Revelation contain symbols and figurative language at times?

## B. The GOLDEN RULE OF INTERPRETATION by David L. Cooper. PP

When the \_\_\_\_\_ sense of Scripture makes \_\_\_\_\_ sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every \_\_\_\_\_ at its \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_ meaning unless the facts of the immediate \_\_\_\_\_, studied in light of \_\_\_\_\_ passages and axiomatic and fundamental principles, indicate clearly otherwise.

- What are the three Cs of Bible interpretation?

## C. When you INTERPRET PROPHECY...

1. Understand words in their \_\_\_\_\_ sense in their \_\_\_\_\_ without secret or hidden meanings.

2. Consider the proper usage of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ language.

3. View prophecy as having its principal focus on \_\_\_\_\_ and the establishment of His \_\_\_\_\_ on earth.

4. Look for the interpretation of God that is already \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible by comparing Scripture with Scripture.

5. Remember that some prophecies have either \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ fulfillment.

6. Remember to keep \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ separate.

7. Grant only \_\_\_\_\_ interpretation to each passage of Scripture though it may have \_\_\_\_\_ applications.