

School of the Prophets 2004

Context, Principles, Purpose and Design

**Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye
be established; believe his prophets, so
shall ye prosper. 2 Chronicles 20:20.**

The Purpose of Prophecy

“A revival of true godliness among us is the **greatest and most urgent** of all our needs. To seek this should be **our first work.**” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 121.

Revival Signifies a Renewal of Spiritual Life

“Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from spiritual death.”
Selected Messages, book 1, 128.

A Great Revival

“When we as a people understand what this book means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 113.

A Different Experience

- “When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood, believers will have an entirely different religious experience.” *The Faith I Live By*, 345.

Students of Prophecy

- “Whatever may be man’s intellectual advancement, let him not for a moment think that there is no need of thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light. As a people we are called individually to be students of prophecy.” *Testimonies, volume 5, 708.*

Rightly Dividing

- Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15.

No Private Interpretation

- We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts. Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. 2 Peter 1:19–20.

He Reveals His Secrets

- Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. Amos 3:7.
- The secret *things belong* unto the Lord our God: but those *things which are revealed belong* unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law. Deuteronomy 29:29.

The Ancient Truths of Prophecy

- “The more fully we accept the light presented by the Holy Spirit through the consecrated servants of God, the deeper and surer, even as the eternal throne, will appear the truths of ancient prophecy; we shall be assured that men of God spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost. Men must themselves be under the influence of the Holy Spirit in order to understand the Spirit’s utterances through the prophets. These messages were given, not for those that uttered the prophecies, but for us who are living amid the scenes of their fulfillment.”
Selected Messages, book 2, 114.

The Foundation of our Faith

- “Ministers should present the sure word of prophecy as the foundation of the faith of Seventh-day Adventists.”
Evangelism, 196.

The Ground of Our Faith

- “The Word of God, just as it reads, is the ground of our faith. That Word is the sure word of prophecy, and it demands implicit faith from all who claim to believe it. It is authoritative, containing in itself the proof of its divine origin.” *Signs of the Times*, June 2, 1898.

The Strongest Evidence of Faith

- “Beginning at Moses, the very Alpha of Bible history, Christ expounded in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. Had He first made Himself known to them, their hearts would have been satisfied. In the fullness of their joy they would have hungered for nothing more. But it was necessary for them to understand the witness borne to Him by the types and prophecies of the Old Testament. Upon these their faith must be established. Christ performed no miracle to convince them, but it was His first work to explain the Scriptures. They had looked upon His death as the destruction of all their hopes. Now He showed from the prophets that this was the very strongest evidence for their faith.” *The Desire of Ages*, 796.

The Definition of Prophecy

“Historical events, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth’s history.”
Selected Messages, book 2, 102.

Historical Events

“historical events, were set before the people”

James White: “Prophecy is history in advance.”

A Figurative Delineation

“a delineation of events”

DELINEATION, *n.* [L. *delineatio.*] 1. First draught of a thing; outline; representation of a form or figure by lines; sketch; design. *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary.*

Figurative

“prophecy was a figurative delineation of events”

- FIGURATIVE, a.** [Fr. *figuratif*, from *figure*.] 1. Representing something else; representing by resemblance; typical.
2. Representing by resemblance; not literal or direct. *Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.

The Close of this Earth's History

“events leading down to the close of this earth's history.”

**Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.
1 Corinthians 10:11.**

All the Books of the Bible End

“In the Revelation all the books of the Bible meet and end. Here is the complement of the book of Daniel. One is a prophecy; the other a revelation. The book that was sealed is not the Revelation, but that portion of the prophecy of Daniel relating to the last days.”
Acts of the Apostles, 585.

Complement: Fullness; completion; whence, perfection.
American Dictionary of the English Language, Noah Webster, 1828.

Their Propheying is in Force

- “Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us. ‘Now all these things happened unto them for **ensamples**: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.’ 1 Corinthians 10:11. ‘Not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.’ 1 Peter 1:12. . . .

- “The Bible has accumulated and bound up together its treasures for this last generation. All the great events and solemn transactions of Old Testament history have been, and are, repeating themselves in the church in these last days.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 338–339.
- **ENSAMPLES:** 5179. **tupos**, *too-pos*; from 5180; a *die* (as *struck*), i.e. (by impl.) a *stamp* or *scar*; by anal. a *shape*, i.e. a *statue*, (fig.) *style* or *resemblance*; spec. a *sampler* (“type”), i.e. *model* (for imitation) or *instance* (for warning):—en. (ex.) *ample*, *fashion*, *figure*, *form*, *manner*, *pattern*, *print*. *The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance*.

The Same Old Story

- “These men of the Old Testament spoke of things transpiring in their day, and Daniel, Isaiah, and Ezekiel not only spoke of things that concerned them as present truth, but their sights reached down to the future, and to what should occur in these last days.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 419–420.

Prophetic Subjection

- And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. 1 Corinthians 14:32.

Waymarks

- “The great waymarks of truth, showing us our bearings in prophetic history, are to be carefully guarded, lest they be torn down, and replaced with theories that would bring confusion rather than genuine light. *Selected Messages*, book 2, 101–102.
- **WAYMARK**, *n.* [*way and mark.*] A mark to guide in traveling. “Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps: set thine heart toward the highway, even the way which thou wentest: turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities.” Jeremiah 31:21. **Webster’s 1828 dictionary.**

The Bearing of Prophecy

- “showing us our bearings in prophetic history”
- **BEARING**, n. The situation of an object, with respect to another object, by which it is supposed to have a connection with it or influences upon it, or to be influenced by it. *Webster’s 1828 dictionary.*

Traced Upon a Line

- “We must have a knowledge of the Scriptures, that we may trace down the lines of prophecy, and understand the specifications given by the prophets, and by Christ and the apostles; that we may not be ignorant; but be able to see that the day is approaching, so that with increased zeal and effort, we may exhort one another to faithfulness, piety, and holiness.” *Review and Herald*, July 31, 1888.

Line Upon Line

- Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest herewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear. But the word of the Lord was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken. Isaiah 28:9–13.

The Same Line of Prophecy

- **“In it [the book of Revelation] the same line of prophecy is taken up as in Daniel. Some prophecies God has repeated, thus showing that importance must be given to them. The Lord does not repeat things that are of no great consequence.”** *Manuscript Releases, volume 9, 7–8.*

Daniel Supplements Revelation

- “Prophecy has been fulfilling, line upon line. The more firmly we stand under the banner of the third angel’s message, the more clearly shall we understand the prophecy of Daniel; for the Revelation is the supplement of Daniel.
- “The more fully we accept the light presented by the Holy Spirit through the consecrated servants of God, the deeper and surer, even as the eternal throne, will appear the truths of ancient prophecy; we shall be assured that men of God spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost. Men must themselves be under the influence of the Holy Spirit in order to understand the Spirit’s utterances through the prophets. These messages were given, not for those that uttered the prophecies, but for us who are living amid the scenes of their fulfillment.”
Selected Messages, book 2, 114.

Relate to the Same Subjects

- “It was my idea to have the two books bound together, Revelation following Daniel, as giving fuller light on the subjects dealt with in Daniel. The object is to bring these books together, showing that they both relate to the same subjects.”
Testimonies to Ministers, 117.

A Specific Order

- “The proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages has been located by the word of Inspiration. Not a peg or pin is to be removed. No human authority has any more right to change the location of these messages than to substitute the New Testament for the Old.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 26–27.
- “All that God has in prophetic history specified to be fulfilled in the past has been, and all that is yet to come in its order will be.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 109.

History is Repeated

“In history and prophecy the Word of God portrays the long continued conflict between truth and error. That conflict is yet in progress. Those things which have been, will be repeated.” *Selected Messages, book 2, 109.*

“Study Revelation in connection with Daniel, for history will be repeated.” *Maranatha, 30.*

Prophecy is Repeated

- “Some prophecies God has repeated, thus showing that importance must be given to them. The Lord does not repeat things that are of no great consequence.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 9, 7–8.

The Great and Solemn Events

- “We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Many of the prophecies are about to be fulfilled in quick succession. Every element of power is about to be set to work. Past history will be repeated. . . .
- “Study Revelation in connection with Daniel, for history will be repeated. . . .
- “As we near the close of this world’s history, the prophecies relating to the last days especially demand our study. The last book of the New Testament Scriptures is full of truth that we need to understand. Satan has blinded the minds of many so that they have been glad of any excuse for not making the Revelation their study.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 116–117.

The Great and Solemn Transactions

- “The Bible has accumulated and bound up together its treasures for this last generation. All the great events and solemn transactions of Old Testament history have been, and are, repeating themselves in the church in these last days. . . . There the whole accumulated truths are presented in force to us that we may profit by their teachings.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 339.

Events We Must Know

- “All that God has in prophetic history specified to be fulfilled in the past has been, and all that is yet to come in its order will be. Daniel, God’s prophet, stands in his place. John stands in his place. In the Revelation the Lion of the tribe of Judah has opened to the students of prophecy the book of Daniel, and thus is Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of the great and solemn events which we must know as we stand on the very threshold of their fulfillment.”
Selected Messages, book 2, 109.

The Dead Shall Speak

- God has given me light regarding our periodicals. What is it?—He has said that the dead are to speak. How?—Their works shall follow them. We are to repeat the words of the pioneers in our work, who knew what it cost to search for the truth as for hidden treasure, and who labored to lay the foundation of our work. They moved forward step by step under the influence of the Spirit of God. One by one these pioneers are passing away. The word given me is, Let that which these men have written in the past be reproduced. . . .
- “Let the truths that are the foundation of our faith be kept before the people. . . . We are now to understand what the pillars of our faith are, —the truths that have made us as a people what we are, leading us on step by step.” *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 28, 29.

The Old Paths

- Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk *therein*. Jeremiah 6:16.
- And *they that shall be* of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in. Isaiah 58:12.

Foundations, Waymarks, & Landmarks

- Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the Lord thy God giveth thee to possess it. Deuteronomy 19:14.
- Cursed *be* he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen. Deuteronomy 27:17.
- Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set. Proverbs 22:28.

A Work of Sacred Importance

- “There is a work of sacred importance for ministers and people to do. They are to study the history of the cause and people of God. They are not to forget the past dealing of God with His people. They are to revive and **recount** the truths that have come to seem of little value to those who do not know by personal experience of the power and brightness that accompanied them when they were first seen and understood. In all their original freshness and power these truths are to be given to the world.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 157.

Again and Again

- “Again and again I have been shown that the past experiences of God’s people **are not to be counted as dead facts. We are not to treat the record of these experiences as we would treat a last year’s almanac. The record is to be kept in mind, for **history will repeat itself.**”**
- Publishing Ministry, 175.*

The Testimony of Two

It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true. John 8:17.

If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true., John 5:31.

At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; *but* at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death. Deuteronomy 17:6.

- One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established. Deuteronomy 19:15.
- And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. Revelation 11:3.

- This *is* the third *time* I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established. 2 Corinthians 13:1.
- And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; *it is* because the thing *is* established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. Genesis 41:32.