Learn What God Wants You to Know

GOD IS REAL! Part 6



Why is Bible Prophecy IMPORTANT?



Junior Edition



11-23-08

SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name*. (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom. (Colossians 3:16a KJB)

We've begun to study some of the FANTASTIC FACTS which God wants ALL MANKIND to **KNOW & BELIEVE!** The first FACT that we have begun to look at is that **GOD IS REAL!** We have learned that God has given many WITNESSES & PROOFS that HE IS REAL! We've learned that CREATION (all of nature) is one of those witnesses & proofs We've learned that TRUE SCIENCE is another one of those witnesses & proofs. And last week, we learned that BIBLE PROPHECY is another of those witnesses & proofs. What is **PROPHECY**? It is the "telling of future events". And only GOD, who is ALL KNOWING, ALREADY KNOWS THE FUTURE PERFECTLY !



No matter how hard the wizards & witches & psychics & fortune tellers try, NO HUMAN BEING & NO SUPERNATURAL BEING EITHER has the power to KNOW ALL THINGS as God does! <u>NO ONE IS LIKE GOD</u>! (And

remember that God says we ought NOT to go to these psychics etc. God says they are evil & we will only end up in ruin when we go to them! Get last week's lesson about God's warning about this!)

Now let's read AGAIN what God says about Himself as being the ONLY ONE who KNOWS EVERY-

THING—past, present, future!

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and <u>there is none else; I am God and</u> <u>there is none like me</u>,

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken *it*, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed *it*, I will also do it."

Isaiah 46:9-11 KJB Now we will continue learning more about BIBLE PROPHECY. We will answer 3 questions.

- 1. Why is Bible prophecy so important?
- 2. How does God tell us His prophecies?
- 3. What was the test of a REAL PROPHET (Note the word <u>WAS</u> in that question!)



Why is Bible prophecy so IMPORTANT?

Well, as we have seen last week, one reason is that Bible Prophecy PROVES beyond a doubt that God is REAL! EVERYHING that God has said would happen in history up to this point in time, HAS HAP-PENED <u>EXACTLY</u> as He said it would—EXACTLY as He has determined it & declared its so! And, of course this is VERY IMPORTANT because WHY EVER would a person BELIEVE God if God had not shown Himself to be REAL? But God HAS & we SHOULD!

And there is a VERY IMPORTANT REASON why God wants us to know that He is REAL! In fact it is the MOST IMPORTANT REASON that God has for showing us that He is REAL! In fact this REASON is the MOST IMPORTANT REASON why God has given us the Bible with its' BIBLE PROPHECY! Can you guess what the reason is? This next scripture tells us CLEARLY what God's MOST IMPORTANT REASON for giving us the scriptures & BIBLE PROPHECY is!

Let's read it CAREFULLY now!



"...for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." Revelation 19:10d KJB

Did you understand that scripture? Let's take just a moment to look at what the words in that scripture mean. This will help us understand that scripture. First of all, that word TESTIMONY is a word that is used in COURTS OF LAW! In any court, before a judge makes a decision, he or she listens to the TES-TIMONY or EVIDENCE given by WITNESSES! That word TESTIMONY means EVIDENCE like the EVIDENCE that is given to a judge in a court of law by WITNESSES.



A witness is someone who knows FIRST HAND that something is so. For example, if you saw with your own eyes someone commit a crime, you are a WITNESS to that crime. In a court of law, you could give your TESTIMONY—your saying what you saw with your own eyes. And your testimony could be used as EVIDENCE to prove the person is

the one who committed the crime.

It is important to understand that TESTIMONY & EVIDENCE & WITNESSES are not always used to prove that someone is GUILTY of something evil. No, not at all! Sometimes, TESTIMONY & EVIDENCE & WITNESSES are used to prove that a certain person has, in fact, done something GOOD!

Sometimes, TESTIMONY & EVIDENCE & WIT-NESSES are used in courts of law to prove that a certain person IS, in fact, who they CLAIM TO BE! And, in fact, this is EXACTLY the main way in which God uses BIBLE PROPHECY! He uses BIBILE PROPHECY to PROVE that JESUS CHRIST IS IN FACT WHO HE CLAIMS TO BE!

Revelation 10:19 tells us that this us the MAIN REASON for Bible Prophecy—to give TESTI-MONY, EVIDENCE or WITNESS that Jesus is who He claims to be. Jesus Christ is who God the Father says He is! Revelation 10:19 says:

"...for the testimony of Jesus is <u>the spirit of</u> prophecy."

What does the <u>spirit of prophecy mean</u>? The word spirit there means the "most important principle or reason". And prophecy means something that is COMPLETELY KNOWN— past, present, future. And like we found out, God is the ONLY ONE who knows EVERYTHING! His PROPHECIES are 100% TRUE!

So although God has given many, many prophecies in the bible about various nations & people, the MAIN & MOST IMPORTANT REASON for ALL GOD'S PROPHECIES - HIS PREDIC-TIONS OF FUTURE EVENTS—which ONLY HE KNOWS COMPLETELY—is to give TESTIMONY OR EVIDENCE that JESUS CHRIST is who He claims to be—God, our Savior!

In our next few lessons, we will look at how God uses BIBLE PROPHECY as the TESTIMONY or WITNESS or EVIDENCE or PROOF that Jesus Christ is God, His Son, the SAVIOR OF THE WORLD! In fact, Jesus HIMSELF said that this was the MAIN REASON for BIBLE PROPHECY! And remember, prophecy is the ability to tell us EX-ACTLY how certain things will happen way BE-FORE the things happens! Jesus told His disciples the MAIN REASON for

Bible Prophecy:

"Now I tell you <u>before it come</u>, that, <u>when it is come to pass</u>, <u>ye</u> <u>may believe that I am *he*." John 13:19 KJB</u>



Jesus said that the reason He gave prophecy of what would happen, was so that when it came to pass when it happened as He said it would — "ye may believe that I am *be* "

"<u>ye may believe that I am *he*.</u>"

And WHY is it so important for people to BELIEVE who Jesus is? Because Jesus is God, our Savior! Jesus is our ONLY way to God! Jesus is our ONLY WAY to receive eternal life & live with God forever right on in to eternity when we leave this earth! God has given us the TESTIMONY of BIBLE PROPH-ECY as evidence that Jesus is God our Savior, our ONLY way to receive eternal life. That is WHY Bible Prophecy is so important! Bible prophecy is an important WITNESS that Jesus is God our Savior. It is a witness or proof that GOD IS REAL & people should BELIEVE what He says about Jesus!

What does GOD say or TESTIFY about Jesus there in our King James Bible?

"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son,.

He that hath the Son hath life, *and* he that hath not the Son hath not life. "



1John 5:11-12 KJB

The bible is FILLED with God's testimony about who Jesus Christ is! And the MAIN REASON for God giving us His Word—the Bible with its' prophecies — is so that we will understand that Jesus Christ is GOD OUR SAVIOR—our only way to God & heaven! God gave us His written Word & Bible prophecies so that we might believe in Jesus & be SAVED! Saved from what? Saved from spending our life here on earth apart from God & then spending eternity in THE LAKE OF FIRE—separated from God in pain & torment forever! I'm so glad that God showed us that HE IS REAL. I'm so glad that He gave us His written Word & Bible Prophecy, which God calls the HOLY SCRIPTURES, to show us that Jesus Christ is God, our Savior! Here is what God says about His HOLY SCRIPTURES:

"..the holy scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." 2Timothy 3:15b KJB

We sure hope that YOU have BELIEVED God's HOLY SCRIPTURES — HIS WORD & PROPHECIES — concerning Jesus Christ! So that we would KNOW who Jesus is & BELIEVE in Him is God's MOST IMPORTANT REASON for BIBLE PROPHCY!

Next week we'll continue with the next 2 questions:

1. How does God tell us His prophecies?

2. What <u>was</u> the test of a REAL PROPHET?



Until then keep reading God's written testimony about His Son Jesus saved for you in your King James Bible!

BIBLE CHALLENGE:

Read John 5:17-40. Who was Jesus speaking to? What did Jesus say about the scriptures in verse 39? Why did Jesus say that to them?

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service 10:00 A.M. Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

> Weekly Services Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

> **Communion Service** First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room Available for Every Service

> Email info@gracecfellowship.org

Directions

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6** W.
- Take <u>Killingly St</u> (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* Take <u>Mineral Spring</u> to end on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn Left at light (CVS on corner), and then bear Left at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- G.C.F. is on the *Left*.

- **From Rt. 146**
- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From 146 N turn *Left* off Exit; from 146 S turn Right.
- and stay Left around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
 - Take next Right onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
 - Go about 1¹/₂ mi.
 - G.C.F. is on the *Right*.

Grace Christian Fellowship

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