

Sermon: Prophecy Is Important

Text: II Peter 1:12-21 ESV

Gary L. Wackler

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Introduction: It might be well, from the beginning, to have a working definition of “prophecy.” “Prophecy is proclamation, or forth-telling the Word and will of God, coupled with a command to obey. Prophecy’s focus, then, is not primarily on predicting the future, but on obedience to God’s Word and will in the present.” - (Robert A Lowery, *Revelation’s Rhapsody: Listening to the Lyrics of the Lamb*, pp. 213-214)

I. _____ People of God’s Desire for Them (vv. 12-15).

A. To _____ the Truth of God’s Word

1. for the _____ generation.

2. for the _____ generation(s).

B. To Be _____ as Long as Possible.

II. Develop a _____ with God (vv. 16-18).

A. Credible Witnesses _____ Reasons to Believe.

B. Credible Witnesses _____ Reasons to Believe.

III. Be _____ in What We Believe (vv. 19-21).

A. Until We _____ God’s Word

B. _____ Whose Source Is God (Holy Spirit)

Conclusion: Prophecy is not mere words, and the Bible is no ordinary book. How do you feel about God’s Word? I hope you believe it, and that prophecy is important. It is important to remember the cost of our salvation. It is critical to our success as Christians that we are reminded of our godly responsibility to lead God-honoring lives.

II Peter 1:12-21 ESV

12 Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. 13 I think it right, as long as I am in this body,[a] to stir you up by way of reminder, 14 since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. 15 And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

Christ's Glory and the Prophetic Word

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son,[b] with whom I am well pleased,” 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Footnotes:

[a] 2 Peter 1:13 Greek *tent*; also verse 14

[b] 2 Peter 1:17 Or my Son, my (or the) Beloved