

THE BIBLE'S PROPHECY

Theme: God revealed truths about the end times so we might understand and be assured of His plans.

I.	Bible Prophecy		
	A. It is (I	Rev. 22:7)	
		of the Bible is re about the	
	Jesus said that He will the person who knows about the end times and for His		
	B. It is	_ (Deut. 13:1–4; 18:20–22; 2	? Peter 1:21)
		moved authors to record He wanted us to and	without (inerrantly) about the end times.
II.	II Bible Prophecy (Ezek. 26:4–21; 2 Peter 1:19)		
		de guesses about His writings had to	is so improbable that we be prophecies from God.
	All the Old Testament pr	ophecies about Jesus'	came
	Peter tells us to God's prophetic Word until		
III.	Bible Prophecy		
	A. Rely on the	(1 Cor. 2:9–12	2)
		in us to help us its	God's
	B. Practice	interpretation (2 Tim. 4:	1–4)
	When the	sense of Scripture makes sen	se, seek other sense.
	C. Study the	(2 Tim. 2:15)	
	When studying Bible prophecy, we must study the text's, and, contexts.		
	D. Recognize	(Mic. 5:	2; Acts 1:6–9)
		ays alert us to	

Read each passage and answer the questions to spend personal time with God.

MONDAY

Read Revelation 22:7.

What are you doing to learn about the end times?

THURSDAY

Read 1 Corinthians 2:9-12.

Why can't you claim the Bible is too hard to understand and not worth your study?

How do you expect God to bless you for living in light of the end times?

What should you expect the Holy Spirit to do in response to your diligent study of God's Word?

TUESDAY

Read Deuteronomy 18:20-22; 2 Peter 1:21.

How could the Israelites tell if a prophet was from God?

FRIDAY

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-4.

What will Christ do in the future that makes how we handle God's Word today so important?

What makes all of the Bible's prophecies important?

What might Christ say to someone who thinks what a person believes about the end times isn't important?

WEDNESDAY

Read 2 Peter 1:19.

Peter said to respond to the prophecies in God's Word until Christ returns (the dawning). How often do you think about Christ's return for you?

SATURDAY

Read 2 Timothy 2:15.

Understanding God's Word takes hard work. Why is working hard to understand God's Word so important?

How might you increase your awareness of and response to Christ's return?

Does being a teen excuse you from working hard to understand God's Word, including its prophecies? Explain.





Why is it important to understand end-time prophecy?



If you're a believer and living for Christ, then you're prepared for whatever happens in the end, right? So, why is it important to study and understand end-time events? How can knowledge of this topic influence your life right now?

First, studying end-time prophecy helps you recognize false predictions about the future. You're bound to hear misguided theories and wrong ideas about the end of the world. God doesn't want you to be confused or worried by these wrong interpretations. Although He does not give us all the details, He's given us enough information so that we won't waste time and energy following false predictions (2 Peter 1:21).

As you learn about God's prophecy and trust His plan, you will strengthen your relationship with Him.

Some believers are led astray by false teachings and fear the end times because of misunderstandings. God wants us to

live with joy, not in fear of the final judgment or other end-time events (1 John 4:17, 18). Believers have nothing to fear. As we study the truth, God can replace our fears with peace, hope, and comfort (1 Thess. 4:18).

Diligent study keeps us aware that Christ could return at any moment (Matt. 24:36) and motivates us to stay faithful in our efforts to please Him. Paul encouraged believers to stay alert and to live wisely (1 Thess. 5:6). When Christ returns, we want Him to find us faithfully serving Him.

A better understanding of the future also increases our sense of urgency to share the gospel. No one who rejects Christ can escape God's wrath. This knowledge should encourage us to share the good news that salvation is available.

Studying end-time prophecy deepens our understanding of God's character. It inspires us to trust Him more fully, not only for the future of our world but also for the future of our individual lives. As you learn about God's prophecy and trust His plan for the future, you will strengthen your relationship with Him, and you'll be blessed in your efforts to understand His words (Rev. 22:7).

Probability and Coin Flips



The world record for flipping a coin and getting the same result is only 8 flips. A man named Billy Morgan did it on July 9, 2003. Eight flips in row with the same result seems really low. But the chances of that happening are just 1 in 256. And the chances of 9 coin flips coming up the same is just 1 in 512. Ten flips with the same result is a 1 in 1,024 chance. If you are sharp at math, you noticed that adding one flip makes the outcome twice as hard to achieve.



God isn't limited by probability and chance. He could flip a coin and have it always come up heads because He is sovereign, meaning He controls all things. God's sovereignty makes the Bible's prophecies accurate and sure. We can study God's descriptions of future events and know they will happen just as He said they would. The probability that all the prophecies about Jesus' first coming would come true is so small that we would have

to conclude it was impossible. Yet, they all came true. We can be sure that all God's prophecies about the future will come true too.

Memory Verse Review



Memory Verse—2 Peter 1:21

Every Bible prophecy about the end times came from God. None of the prophets who recorded them embellished the prophecies or changed them in any way. In fact, the prophets couldn't change the prophecies because the Holy Spirit directed what they wrote. They had to write exactly what God wants us to know about the future. We must trust the Bible's prophecies about the end times and live in anticipation of them coming true.

- 1. How often do you think about the end times?
- 2. How, if at all, are you living in anticipation of the end times?
- 3. Commit to God to live every day in light of what you learn about the end times.

Additional Memory Verses—1 Corinthians 2:9, 10; Revelation 22:7.

Measuring Growth



About a quarter of the Bible is prophetic and about half of the prophecies are about the end times. The prophets who wrote about the end times did so under God's authority and with certainty. We can trust what they wrote. When interpreting Bible prophecy, we must rely on the Holy Spirit to guide our understanding. We must also practice normal interpretation of Scripture, study the context of the passages that reveal truths about the end times, and recognize time issues with end-time revelation.

Look for the following indicators that you recognize the importance of Bible prophecy.

- 1. I am taking time to study Bible prophecy.
- 2. I use good Bible interpretation guidelines when studying Bible prophecy.
- 3. I consider how specific Bible prophecies should affect my daily life.