

# Prophecy - Jew, Gentile, Church

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Paul sees the Jews, Gentiles, and the Church as being distinct entities. (1 Corinthians 10:32)
- B. Not every promise is for everyone - truth needs to be properly divided and it has been suggested that it be divided around these three. (2 Timothy 2:15)
- C. All of these streams of truth culminate before the last period of time will - the millennial reign of Christ. (Revelation 20)
- D. This is all in regards to what God showed Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel, Jesus, John and Paul.

## II. The Gentiles.

- A. The image to Nebuchadnezzar - the statue. (Daniel 2)
  - 1. A statue was shown that revealed the Babylonian kingdom, the Greek kingdom, and the Roman kingdom.
  - 2. During final kingdom Jesus will return.
- B. The first image to Daniel - the beast. (Daniel 7)
  - 1. He saw a beast revealing the final kingdom before Christ.
  - 2. This would be occupied by ten heads of state that would be subdued and would submit to a world dictator.
  - 3. The extent of his power would be great. (Revelation 13:5-7)
  - 4. The age of the Gentiles will end as it began - with one world ruler.
- C. The second image to Daniel - overspreading of abominations.(Daniel 9)
  - 1. When the abomination of desolations stood in the temple, the end would come. (Matthew 24)
  - 2. Paul clarified this - the abomination would claim that he is God. (2 Thessalonians 2)
- D. A note on prophesy.
  - 1. We must be careful to say whether these signs are coming into fulfillment today.
  - 2. However, some signs show a one-world government that is in line with what was prophesied.

### III. The Jews.

- A. God predicted that the Jews would return to their homeland. (Ezekiel 36:24)
- B. When they returned to Jerusalem they would also rebuild their temple and they will make a covenant with the world ruler. (Daniel 9:27)
- C. Current events.
  - 1. For the first time in two thousand years the Jews are in control of their city.
  - 2. Some have prepared for the rebuilding of the temple, and there is a fault on the old temple mount where the Muslim Temple is presently that could cause its fall even though it may not have to be rebuilt on the same spot.

### IV. The Church.

- A. Means “the called out.”
- B. When Christ returns the dead will return with Him and the believers will be caught up to the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:13, 1 Corinthians 15)
- C. God is going to rapture out His church throughout the earth. (Luke 17, Isaiah 26:20-21)
- D. The institutional church, however, will be ensnared by a religious leader working in conjunction with the world ruler for one world religion. (Revelation 13)
- E. Current events. There is evidence today of a united religious body (e.g. the Society of Abraham).

### V. The end.

- A. A great tribulation will come that will last for seven years.
- B. Christ will return in this situation.

### VI. Discussion.

- A. The speaker makes no comment as to the timing of the Rapture.
- B. The ruler will apparently cut loose after a three year period.
- C. The Jews will make a covenant with the man in the Temple. (Daniel 9:27)
- D. The Anti-Christ: the Bible seems to separate this final entity in such a way to make it difficult to determine which figure is the top man. (Revelation 16)
- E. There are strong reasons to believe that the three political organizations will be the king of the North and allies, the queen of the South and the ruler of Europe.

F. It is difficult to determine the timing of the Rapture because it appears that there are saints on earth after what is generally accepted to be a Rapture.

G. In Deuteronomy 34 the land that the Jews were given is laid out. It is considerably more territory than they had and that they have today.

VII. Conclusion.

A. It is more important to know about Christ than the details of the end times.

B. However, it is important to know the end times as they relate to current events.

C. We are responsible for teaching our children about this.

D. Christ taught about the end times as a warning against false teachers that would arise and we need to be wary of this.

Application questions.

1. Summarize the events of the three major divisions of people that prophesy is concerned with.

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2. In light of the message, what is a proper attitude to have concerning prophesy and current events?

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3. What was Christ's purpose in teaching about the end times? How will His purpose in this area find fulfillment in your own life?

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