

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPHECY

A COMPILATION OF QUOTES BY ELLEN G. WHITE

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PROPHECY REVEALS CHRIST

“Those who with humility of heart search the Scriptures with a sincere desire to know and obey the truth, will not be left to walk in darkness. Jesus says, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. **The whole Bible is a revelation of Christ....**” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 2, p. 90 par. 1

“In studying the Scriptures we become acquainted with God and are led to understand our relation to Christ, the Sin Bearer, the surety for the fallen race.” *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 429 par. 1

The prophecies are part of the revelation of Christ, and they too reveal important things about the work of Christ in the earth, and His great purposes for the salvation of souls.

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. John 5:39

“...The Bible is made up of many parts—history, biography, song and praise, prayer, and **prophecy**. But **all is inspired of God, and ‘is profitable** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.’ **In the term ‘scripture’ is included the whole treasure house of revelation and knowledge, in whatever form it is given.**” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 2, p. 91 par. 4 (2 Timothy 3:16 quoted)

TRUTHS OF PROPHECY ARE A SACRED TRUST

“God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth, the messages of the first, second, and third angels, He has separated them from the churches and from the world to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself. **He has made them the depositaries of His law and has committed to them the great truths of prophecy for this time.** Like the holy oracles committed to ancient Israel, **these are a sacred trust to be communicated** to the world. The three angels of Revelation 14 represent the people who accept the light of God's messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth....” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 455 par. 2

“The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844, and we are now under the proclamation of the third; but all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed. It is just as essential now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth. **By pen and voice we are to sound the proclamation, showing their order, and the application**

of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel's message. There cannot be a third without the first and second. **These messages we are to give to the world in publications, in discourses, showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been and the things that will be.**" *Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 104 par. 3

A LIFE AND DEATH MESSAGE WHICH INCLUDES PROPHECY

"Our warfare is aggressive. Tremendous issues are before us, yea, and right upon us. Let our prayers ascend to God that the four angels may still hold the four winds, that they may not blow to injure or destroy until the last warning has been given to the world. Then let us work in harmony with our prayers. Let nothing lessen the force of the truth for this time. The present truth is to be our burden. **The third angel's message must do its work of separating from the churches a people who will take their stand on the platform of eternal truth.**

"**Our message is a life-and-death message, and we must let it appear as it is, the great power of God.** We are to present it in all its telling force. Then the Lord will make it effectual. It is our privilege to expect large things, even the demonstration of the Spirit of God. This is the power that will convict and convert the soul.

"The perils of the last days are upon us, and in our work we are to warn the people of the danger they are in. **Let not the solemn scenes which prophecy has revealed be left untouched. If our people were half awake, if they realized the nearness of the events portrayed in the Revelation, a reformation would be wrought in our churches, and many more would believe the message.** We have no time to lose; God calls upon us to watch for souls as they that must give an account. Advance new principles, and crowd in the clear-cut truth. It will be as a **sword cutting both ways.** But be not too ready to take a controversial attitude. There will be times when we must stand still and see the salvation of God. **Let Daniel speak, let the Revelation speak, and tell what is truth. But whatever phase of the subject is presented, uplift Jesus as the center of all hope,** 'the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright and morning Star.' Revelation 22:16." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 61 par. 2-4

"But there is a day that God hath appointed for the close of this world's history. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.' **Prophecy is fast fulfilling. More, much more, should be said about these tremendously important subjects. The day is at hand when the destiny of every soul will be fixed forever.** This day of the Lord hastens on apace. The false watchmen are raising the cry, 'All is well'; but the day of God is rapidly approaching. ... 'Be ye also ready: for in an such hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.' People are now settling to rest, imagining themselves secure under the popular churches; but let all beware, lest there is a place left open for the enemy to gain an entrance. **Great pains should be taken to keep this subject before the people.** The

solemn fact is to be kept not only before the people of the world, but **before our own churches also**, that the day of the Lord will come suddenly, unexpectedly. The fearful warning of the prophecy is addressed to every soul. Let no one feel that he is secure from the danger of being surprised. Let no one's interpretation of prophecy rob you of the conviction of the knowledge of events which show that this great event is near at hand." *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 355 par. 2

"'A new heart will I give you and a new spirit will I put within you.' **I believe with all my heart that the Spirit of God is being withdrawn from the world, and those who have had great light and opportunities and have not improved them, will be the first to be left.** They have grieved away the Spirit of God. **The present activity of Satan in working upon hearts, and upon churches and nations should startle every student of prophecy. The end is near. Let our churches arise.** Let the converting power of God be experienced in the heart of the individual members, and then we shall see the deep moving of the Spirit of God. Mere forgiveness of sin is not the sole result of the death of Jesus. He made the infinite sacrifice not only that sin might be removed, but that human nature might be restored, rebeautified, reconstructed from its ruins, and made fit for the presence of God. . . ." *Selected Messages*, book 3, p. 154 par. 1

"**Are we to wait until the fulfillment of the prophecies of the end before we say anything concerning them?** Of what value will our words be then? Shall we wait until God's judgments fall upon the transgressor before we tell him how to avoid them? Where is our faith in the word of God? Must we see things foretold come to pass before we will believe what He has said? In clear, distinct rays light has come to us, showing us that the great day of the Lord is near at hand, 'even at the doors.' **Let us read and understand before it is too late.**" *Counsels for the Church*, p. 64 par. 4

OUR DUTY

"**As a people, we should be earnest students of prophecy;** we should not rest until we become intelligent in regard to the subject of the sanctuary, which is brought out in the visions of Daniel and John. This subject sheds great light on our present position and work, and gives us unmistakable proof that God has led us in our past experience...." *Evangelism*, p. 222 par. 3

"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.** We must watch with earnestness that we may discern any ray of light which God shall present to us. We are to catch the first

gleamings of truth; and through prayerful study clearer light may be obtained, which can be brought before others.

“When God's people are at ease and satisfied with their present enlightenment, we may be sure that He will not favor them. It is His will that they should be ever moving forward to receive the increased and ever-increasing light which is shining for them. **The present attitude of the church is not pleasing to God. There has come in a self-confidence that has led them to feel no necessity for more truth and greater light.** We are living at a time when Satan is at work on the right hand and on the left, before and behind us; and yet as a people we are asleep. God wills that a voice shall be heard arousing His people to action.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 708 par. 2-3

“When the students of prophecy shall set their hearts to know the truths of Revelation, they will realize what an importance is attached to this search. Christ Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega, the Genesis of the Old Testament, and the Revelation of the New. Both meet together in Christ....” *S.D.A. Bible Commentary*, vol. 6, p. 1093 par. 1

“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.**” *The Review and Herald*, July 31, 1888 par. 6

“...It is essential to have an intelligent knowledge of the truth; for how else could we meet its wily opponents? The Bible must be studied, not alone for the doctrines it teaches, but for its practical lessons. You should never be surprised, you should never be without your armor on. Be prepared for any emergency, for any call of duty. Be waiting, watching for every opportunity to present the truth, **familiar with the prophecies,** familiar with the lessons of Christ. But do not trust in well-prepared arguments. Argument alone is not enough. God must be sought on your knees; you must go forth to meet the people through the power and influence of His Spirit...” *Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 279 par. 2

“...Though no man knoweth the day nor the hour of His coming, we are instructed and required to know when it is near. We are further taught that to disregard His warning, and refuse or neglect to know when His advent is near, will be as fatal for us as it was for those who lived in the days of Noah not to know when the flood was coming. And the parable in the same chapter, contrasting the faithful and the unfaithful servant, and giving the doom of him who said in his heart, ‘My Lord delayeth His coming,’ shows in what light Christ will regard and reward those whom He finds watching, and teaching His coming, and those denying it. ‘Watch

therefore,' He says. 'Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when He cometh shall find so doing.' Verses 42, 46. 'If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.' Revelation 3:3." *The Great Controversy*, p. 370 par. 2

"The secret things which belong to God are to be left with Him; but the things which He has revealed are for us and for our children. We are not now back in Paul's time. We are nearing the great day of God. The signs are fulfilling. And yet we have no message to tell us of the day and hour of Christ's appearing.

"The Lord has wisely concealed this from us, that we may always be in a state of expectancy and preparation for the second appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ in the clouds of heaven. **We are to search the prophecies that point to the roll of fast fulfilling events, and which Christ has plainly told us will take place prior to the end of this earth's history.** We are to watch and pray, wait patiently, and work faithfully to save perishing souls. Time is a most precious talent, and every moment is to be improved in doing our work wisely and well, so that if we are suddenly called to lay off the armor, we may be prepared to give up our account to God." *Letter 28*, 1897

"Every child of God should be intelligent in the Scriptures, and able, by tracing the fulfillment of prophecy, to show our position in this world's history. The Bible was written for the common people as well as for scholars, and is within the comprehension of all. The great truths which underlie man's duty to his fellow men and to his Maker are clearly revealed; and those who really want the truth need make no mistake. The way is not left in uncertainty, as though we were standing where four roads met, not knowing which one to take. The truth is our guide; it is to us like a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

"The many contradictory opinions in regard to what the Bible teaches do not arise from any obscurity in the book itself, but from blindness and prejudice on the part of interpreters. Men ignore the plain statements of the Bible to follow their own perverted reason. Priding themselves on their intellectual attainments, they overlook the simplicity of truth; they forsake the fountain of living waters to drink of the poisonous stream of error.--Review and Herald, Jan. 27, 1885." *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, p. 23 par. 1-2

"When God sends to men warnings so important that they are represented as proclaimed by holy angels flying in the midst of heaven, He requires every person endowed with reasoning powers to heed the message. The fearful judgments denounced against the worship of the beast and his image (Revelation 14:9-11), **should lead all to a diligent study of the prophecies to learn what the mark of the beast is, and how they are to avoid receiving it...."** *The Great Controversy*, p. 594 par. 2

“There is a study of history that is not to be condemned. Sacred history was one of the studies in the schools of the prophets. In the record of His dealings with the nations were traced the footsteps of Jehovah. So today we are to consider the dealings of God with the nations of the earth. **We are to see in history the fulfillment of prophecy, to study the workings of Providence in the great reformatory movements, and to understand the progress of events in the marshalling of the nations for the final conflict of the great controversy.**” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, p. 307 par. 2

We need to:

- *see in history the fulfillment of prophecy*
- *study the workings of Providence in the great reformatory movements*
- *understand the progress of events in the marshalling of the nations for the final conflict of the great controversy*

“**We need to study the working out of God's purpose in the history of nations and in the revelation of things to come**, that we may estimate at their true value things seen and things unseen; that we may learn what is the true aim of life; that, viewing the things of time in the light of eternity, we may put them to their truest and noblest use....” *Education*, p. 184 par. 1

“As a people, **we should be earnest students of prophecy**; we should not rest until we become intelligent in regard to the subject of the sanctuary, which is brought out in the visions of Daniel and John. This subject sheds great light on our present position and work, and gives us unmistakable proof that God has led us in our past experience....” *Evangelism*, p. 222 par. 3

DUTY OF MINISTERS

“Much ignorance of Scripture prevails, even among those that preach the Word. Well-educated, intelligent men preach at the Word, and around the Word, but **they do not touch the inner meaning** of the Word. They do not present truth in its genuine simplicity. These men, considering themselves authority, tell their hearers that they cannot understand either Daniel or Revelation.

“Many ministers make no effort to explain Revelation. They call it an unprofitable book to study. They regard it as a sealed book, because it contains the record of **figures and symbols**. But the very name that has been given it, ‘Revelation,’ is a denial of this supposition. Revelation is a sealed book, but it is also an opened book. **It records marvelous events that are to take place in the last days of this earth's history.** The teachings of this book are definite, not mystical and unintelligible. In it 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.--Ms 107, 1897, pp. 1, 2." *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 8, p. 413 par. 1-2

"There are many who do not understand the prophecies relating to these days, and they must be enlightened. It is the **duty of both watchmen and laymen** to give the trumpet a certain sound. Be in earnest, 'cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.'" *Evangelism*, p. 194 par. 4

"Let the watchmen now lift up their voice and give the message which is present truth for this time. Let us **show the people where we are in prophetic history...**" *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 716 par. 2

"Ministers should present the sure word of prophecy as the foundation of the faith of Seventh-day Adventists. The prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation should be carefully studied, and in connection with them the words, 'Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.' [John 1:29.]

"The twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew is presented to me again and again as something that is to be brought to the attention of all. We are today living in the time when the predictions of this chapter are fulfilling. **Let our ministers and teachers explain these prophecies** to those whom they instruct. Let them leave out of their discourses matters of minor consequence, and present the truths that will decide the destiny of souls." *Gospel Workers*, p. 148 par. 1-2

DUTY OF OUR INSTITUTIONS

"Prophecy and history should form a part of the studies in our schools..." *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 525 par. 4

"In the book of Revelation we read of a special work that God desires to have His people do in these last days. He has revealed His law and shown us the truth for this time. This truth is constantly unfolding, and God designs that we shall be intelligent in regard to it, that we may be able to distinguish between right and wrong, between righteousness and unrighteousness.

"The third angel's message, the great testing truth for this time, is to be taught in all our institutions. God designs that through them this special warning shall be given, and bright beams of light shall shine to the world. Time is short. The perils of the last days are upon us, and **we should watch and pray, and study and heed the lessons that are given us in the books of Daniel and the Revelation.**" *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 127-128

PUBLICATIONS

“This is our work. The light that we have upon the third angel's message is the true light. The mark of the beast is exactly what it has been proclaimed to be. Not all in regard to this matter is yet understood, and will not be understood until the unrolling of the scroll; but a most solemn work is to be accomplished in our world. The Lord's command to His servants is, ‘Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.’ Isaiah 58:1. **A message that will arouse the churches is to be proclaimed.** Every effort is to be made to give the light, not only **to our people**, but **to the world**. I have been instructed that the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation should be printed in small books, with the necessary explanations, and should be sent all over the world. **Our own people need to have the light placed before them in clearer lines.**” *Counsels on Health*, p. 520 par. 3

“Let more time be given to the publication and circulation of books containing present truth. Call attention to books dwelling on practical faith and godliness and to those that treat on the **prophetic word**. The people are to be educated to read the sure word of prophecy in the light of the living oracles. They need to know that the signs of the times are fulfilling.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 158 par. 2

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPHECY

“Bible reading, the critical examination of Bible subjects, essays written upon topics which would improve the mind and impart knowledge, the **study of the prophecies** or the precious lessons of Christ--**these will have an influence to strengthen the mental powers and increase spirituality**. A familiar acquaintance with the Scriptures sharpens the discerning powers and fortifies the soul against the attacks of Satan.” *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 543 par. 3

“Why should not this book--this precious treasure--be exalted and esteemed as a valued friend? This is our chart across the stormy sea of life. It is our guidebook showing us the way to the eternal mansions and the character we must have to inhabit them. There is no book the perusal of which will so elevate and strengthen the mind as the study of the Bible. Here the intellect will find themes of the most elevated character to call out its powers. **There is nothing that will so endow with vigor all our faculties as bringing them in contact with the stupendous truths of revelation.** The effort to grasp and measure these great thoughts expands the mind. We may dig down deep into the mine of truth and gather precious treasures with which to enrich the

soul. Here we may learn the true way to live, the safe way to die.--RH, Jan 4, 1881." *Mind, Character, and Personality*, vol. 1, p. 97 par. 4

"The prophecies which the great I AM has given in His Word, uniting link after link in the chain of events, from eternity in the past to eternity in the future, **tell us where we are today in the procession of the ages**, and what may be expected in the time to come. All that prophecy has foretold as coming to pass, until the present time, has been traced on the pages of history, and we may be assured that all which is yet to come will be fulfilled in its order." *Evangelism*, p. 193 par. 4

"What is our condition in this fearful and solemn time? Alas, what pride is prevailing in the church, what hypocrisy, what deception, what love of dress, frivolity, and amusement, what desire for the supremacy! All these sins have clouded the mind, so that eternal things have not been discerned. **Shall we not search the Scriptures, that we may know where we are in this world's history?** Shall we not become intelligent in regard to the work that is being accomplished for us at this time, and the position that we as sinners should occupy while this work of atonement is going forward? If we have any regard for our souls' salvation, we must make a decided change. We must seek the Lord with true penitence; we must with deep contrition of soul confess our sins, that they may be blotted out.

"We must no longer remain upon the enchanted ground. We are fast approaching the close of our probation. Let every soul inquire, How do I stand before God? We know not how soon our names may be taken into the lips of Christ, and our cases be finally decided. What, oh, what will these decisions be! Shall we be counted with the righteous, or shall we be numbered with the wicked?" *Selected Messages*, book 1, p. 125 par. 2-3

DANIEL AND REVELATION

"The close study of Daniel's visions and warnings is essential...." *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 19, p. 166 par. 2

"The book of Daniel is unsealed in the revelation to John, and carries us forward to the last scenes of this earth's history." *Letter 59*, 1896

"As we near the close of this world's history, the prophecies recorded by Daniel demand our special attention, as they relate to the very time in which we are living. With them should be linked the teachings of the last book of the New Testament Scriptures. Satan has led many to believe that the prophetic portions of the writings of Daniel and of John the revelator cannot be understood. **But the promise is plain that special blessing will accompany the study of these**

prophecies. ‘The wise shall understand’ (verse 10), was spoken of the visions of Daniel that were to be unsealed in the latter days; and of the revelation that Christ gave to His servant John for the guidance of God's people all through the centuries, the promise is, ‘Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein.’ Revelation 1:3.

“From the rise and fall of nations as made plain in the books of Daniel and the Revelation, we need to learn how worthless is mere outward and worldly glory. Babylon, with all its power and magnificence, the like of which **our** world has never since beheld,--power and magnificence which to the people of that day seemed so stable and enduring,--how completely has it passed away! As ‘the flower of the grass,’ it has perished. James 1:10. So perished the Medo-Persian kingdom, and the kingdoms of Grecia and Rome. And so perishes all that has not God for its foundation. Only that which is bound up with His purpose, and expresses His character, can endure. His principles are the only steadfast things our world knows.

“A careful study of the working out of God's purpose in the history of nations and in the revelation of things to come, will help us to estimate at their true value things seen and things unseen, and to learn what is the true aim of life. Thus, viewing the things of time in the light of eternity, we may, like Daniel and his fellows, live for that which is true and noble and enduring. And learning in this life the principles of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, that blessed kingdom which is to endure for ever and ever, we may be **prepared at His coming** to enter with Him into its possession.” *Prophets and Kings*, p. 547-548

“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. But Christ through His servant John has here declared what shall be in the last days, and He says, ‘Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein.’ Revelation 1:3.” *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 133 par. 2

“The unfulfilled predictions of the book of **Revelation** are soon to be fulfilled. **This prophecy is now to be studied with diligence by the people of God and should be clearly understood.** It does not conceal the truth; it clearly forewarns, telling us what will be in the future.--1NL 96 (1903).” *Last Day Events*, p. 15 par. 6

“The solemn messages that have been given in their order **in the Revelation are to occupy the first place in the minds of God's people.** Nothing else is to be allowed to engross our attention.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, p. 302 par. 1 (1904)

“To the apostle John on the Isle of Patmos were revealed the things which God desired him to give to the people. Study these revelations. Here are themes worthy of our contemplation, large and comprehensive lessons which all the angelic host are now seeking to communicate. Behold the life and character of Christ, and study His mediatorial work. Here is infinite wisdom, infinite love, infinite justice, infinite mercy. Here are depths and heights, lengths and breadths, for our consideration. Numberless pens have been employed in presenting to the world the life, the character, and the mediatorial work of Christ, and yet every mind through which the Holy Spirit has worked has presented these themes in a light that is fresh and new.” *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 59 par. 1

“‘And he said unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book; for the time is at hand.’ Shall we, then, treat this prophecy as if it were sealed? **Let us search it carefully, to learn what it says about the very last scenes of this earth’s history.**” *Manuscript 110*, 1905 (Revelation 22:10 quoted)

“This book [Revelation] demands close, prayerful study, lest it be interpreted according to the ideas of men, and false construction be given to the sacred Word of the Lord, which in its symbols and figures means so much to us. **There is so much that we positively must understand in order that we may shape our course of action so that we shall not receive the plagues which are coming upon the world.**

“In the Revelation the deep things of God are portrayed. Those whose hearts are wholly sanctified to God will be brought nigh to see priceless gems through the telescope of faith. And as they apply the truth to practice, the still deeper mysteries are stamped on the soul. Those thus honored are to communicate to others that which they have received. And as they do this, angels make the impression upon hearts.

“All who understand the Word of God will realize that the things of minor importance which in the past have occupied their time and consumed their strength have deprived them of an experience and knowledge which they might have obtained had they kept the faith untarnished by selfishness. Had they done this, they would have understood the result of possessing that faith which works by love and purifies the soul.

“Let none think, because they cannot explain the meaning of every symbol in the Revelation, that it is of no use for them to search this book with deep earnest longing and intense desire to know the meaning of the truths it contains. The One who revealed these mysteries to John can and will give the diligent searcher for truth a foretaste of heavenly things, hereafter to be realized. **Rich blessings will come to him who reads and hears the words of this prophecy, and keeps those things which are written therein.** Letter 16, 1900, pp. 2, 3.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 1, p. 42 par. 1-4

“We are to know more than we do at the present time. We are to comprehend the deep things of God. There are themes to be dwelt upon which are worthy of more than passing notice. Angels have desired to look into the truths which are revealed to the people who are searching God's word and with contrite hearts praying for wisdom, for greater lengths and breadths and heights of that knowledge which God alone can give.

“Hundreds of commentaries have been written upon the gospel by men who are called great, and as we near the closing scenes of this earth's history still more wonderful representations will be made. We need to study the scriptures with humble, contrite hearts. **Those who will devote their powers to the study of God's word, and especially the prophecies referring to these last days, will be rewarded by the discovery of important truths. The last book of the New Testament scriptures is full of truths that need to be understood.** Satan has blinded the eyes of men, and they have been glad of any excuse for not making a study of this book. Here Christ has declared through His servant John what shall be in the last days.

“Every Bible student should study these prophecies with diligence. As we search the scriptures, the character of Christ will appear in its infinite perfection...” *Bible Training School*, January 1, 1913 par. 1-3

“There is need of a much closer study of the word of God; especially should Daniel and the Revelation have attention as never before in the history of our work. We may have less to say in some lines, in regard to the Roman power and the papacy; but **we should call attention to what the prophets and apostles have written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God.** The Holy Spirit has so shaped matters, both in the giving of the prophecy and in the events portrayed, as to teach that the human agent is to be kept out of sight, hid in Christ, and that the Lord God of heaven and His law are to be exalted. Read the book of Daniel. Call up, point by point, the history of the kingdoms there represented. Behold statesmen, councils, powerful armies, and see how God wrought to abase the pride of men, and lay human glory in the dust....

“The light that Daniel received from God was given especially for these last days. The visions he saw by the banks of the Ulai and the Hiddekel, the great rivers of Shinar, are now in process of fulfillment, and all the events foretold will soon come to pass.

“Consider the circumstances of the Jewish nation when the prophecies of Daniel were given.

“Let us give more time to the study of the Bible. We do not understand the word as we should. **The book of Revelation opens with an injunction to us to understand the instruction that it contains.** ‘Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy,’ God declares, ‘and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.’ **When we as a people understand what this book means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival.** We do not understand fully the lessons that it teaches, notwithstanding the injunction given us to search and study it.” *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 112-113

“When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood, believers will have an entirely different religious experience. They will be given such glimpses of the open gates of heaven that heart and mind will be impressed with the character that all must develop in order to realize the blessedness which is to be the reward of the pure in heart.

“The Lord will bless all who will seek humbly and meekly to understand that which is revealed in the Revelation. This book contains so much that is large with immortality and full of glory that all who read and search it earnestly receive the blessing to those ‘that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein.’

“One thing will certainly be understood from the study of Revelation--that the connection between God and His people is close and decided.” *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 114 par. 3-5

“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; old controversies will arouse to new life**, and peril will beset God's people on every side. Intensity is taking hold of the human family. It is permeating everything upon the earth. . . .

“Study Revelation in connection with Daniel, for history will be repeated. . . . We, with all our religious advantages, ought to know far more today than we do know.

“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. . . .” *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 116 par. 2, 3, and 5

“Let us read and study the twelfth chapter of Daniel. It is a warning that we shall all need to understand before the time of the end.--15MR 228 (1903).” *Last Day Events*, p. 15 par. 4

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

“As a people and as individuals we need to have a deeper sense of our duty to God and our responsibility to the world. **There should be more earnest study of the Scriptures. I have been deeply impressed with the importance of studying the book of Daniel in connection with the smaller prophets, especially Malachi.** And we need to give careful attention also to the lessons taught in the building of the tabernacle and the temple, and in the temple service. **Through the prophets God has given a delineation of what will come to pass in the last days of this earth's history**, and the Jewish economy is full of instruction for us.” *The Review and Herald*, November 10, 1896 par. 11

“The last books of the Old Testament show us workers taken from the laborers in the field. Others were men of high ability and extensive learning, but the Lord gave them visions and messages. 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.--Letter 132, 1898.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, p. 419 par. 5

“This is a time when every soul needs to cling earnestly to God. Those whom the Lord is leading to do his last work in the earth are to stand as **Micah and Zephaniah and Zechariah** stood in their day, to call to repentance and good works. **The writings of these prophets contain warnings and instruction applicable to this time, and should receive our careful study.** They should teach us to shun every phase of evil that made such warnings essential to the people of the past. Let every soul arouse and make diligent examination of self, that everything that would separate the people of God from righteousness may be put away.” *The Review and Herald*, September 16, 1909 par. 4

“...The book of Ezekiel is deeply instructive.” *The Review and Herald*, February 25, 1896 par. 5

“Let God's workmen study the sixth chapter of Isaiah, and the first and second chapters of Ezekiel.” *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 213 par. 2

“Study the ninth chapter of Ezekiel....” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 18, p. 236 par. 2

“We are amid the perils of the last days, the time will soon come when the prophecy of **Ezekiel 9** will be fulfilled; that **prophecy should be carefully studied**, for it will be fulfilled to the very letter. Study also the **tenth chapter** which represents the hand of God as at work to bring perfect method and harmonious working into all the operations of his prepared instrumentalities. The **eleventh and twelfth** chapters also should receive critical, thoughtful attention. **Let these prophecies be studied on your knees before God**; unless you take up the stumbling-blocks which by your own perverse spirit you have laid in the way of many who have been connected with you, God will turn His face utterly from you and your associates.” *The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*, p. 1303 par. 1

“I ask our people to study the twenty-eighth chapter of Ezekiel.... (Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 17, p. 30).” *S.D.A. Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, p. 1162 par. 8

“Study faithfully the thirty-third chapter of Ezekiel...” *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 416 par. 1

“Read and study the thirty-fourth chapter of Ezekiel. In it we are given most precious encouragement. ‘I will save my flock, and they shall be no more a prey,’ the Lord declares. ‘. . . And I will make with them a covenant of peace. . . .’” *God’s Amazing Grace*, p. 138 par. 3

CHRIST AND PROPHECY

OLD TESTAMENT TYPES ARE PROPHECY

“Through the teachings of the sacrificial service, Christ was to be uplifted before all nations, and all who would look to Him should live. Christ was the foundation of the Jewish economy. The whole system of types and symbols was a compacted prophecy of the gospel, a presentation in which were bound up the promises of redemption.” *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 14 par. 1

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST WAS BASED ON PROPHECY

"The burden of Christ's preaching was, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the gospel.' **Thus the gospel message, as given by the Saviour Himself, was based on the prophecies...**" *The Desire of Ages*, p. 233 par. 1

“The time of Christ's coming, His anointing by the Holy Spirit, His death, and the giving of the gospel to the Gentiles, were definitely pointed out. **It was the privilege of the Jewish people to understand these prophecies**, and to recognize their fulfillment in the mission of Jesus. Christ urged upon His disciples the **importance of prophetic study**. Referring to the prophecy given to Daniel in regard to their time, He said, ‘Whoso readeth, let him understand.’ Matthew 24:15. After His resurrection He explained to the disciples in ‘all the prophets’ ‘the things concerning Himself.’ Luke 24:27. The Saviour had spoken through all the prophets. ‘The Spirit of Christ which was in them’ ‘testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.’ 1 Peter 1:11.

“As the message of Christ's first advent announced the kingdom of His grace, so the message of His second advent announces the kingdom of His glory. **And the second message, like the first, is based on the prophecies**. The words of the angel to Daniel relating to the last days were to be understood in the time of the end. At that time, ‘many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.’ ‘The wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.” Daniel 12:4, 10. **The Saviour Himself has given signs of His coming**, and He says, ‘When ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.’ ‘And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon

you unawares.' **Watch ye therefore**, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.' Luke 21:31, 34, 36." *The Desire of Ages*, p. 244 par. 1, 4

"The disciples from Emmaus told over all the circumstances of their meeting with Jesus, and how he was known to them in the breaking of bread. They declared that though their hopes had been buried with Christ, they now believed that he would indeed reign on the throne of David. And while they were uttering these words of faith, Jesus himself stood among them, and said, 'Peace be unto you.' Those hands that were uplifted in blessing, were the same hands that had been pierced upon the cross. **He unfolded to their minds the prophecies concerning his life and death and resurrection. He took up the Old Testament and confirmed it by the facts that are now recorded in the New Testament. He proved to the disciples that he was indeed the Messiah, the Saviour of the world.**

"Christ did on this occasion just as he desires us to do now. We are to show that the specifications of prophecy have been fulfilled in the history of the world. In the light of the prophetic word the disciples did not have the least reason for unbelief, for all had come to pass according to the Scriptures. We should take the Old Testament to explain the New Testament, and the New Testament to reflect light into the Old. The typical service pointed forward to Christ, and in him type met antitype. The disciples were to carry on this very work, for they were to go forth to teach all nations that the Messiah had come." *The Signs of the Times*, October 14, 1889 par. 6-7