



Bible Prophecy Guide

The World's Next Superpower

Summary 1

A general rule of thumb in Bible prophecy is that a prophecy always begins with the prophet's day unless otherwise stated.

Matthew 24:3-8 – Jesus warned against being deceived by many so-called Christian teachers. Jesus then went on to say that the signs of the last days would involve famine, pestilence, war, and natural disaster and that these signs would be like birth pains meaning they would become more frequent and intense as the day of His coming approaches.

Matthew 24:24 – The deception will be so great that if possible, it would ensnare even the elect.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15– Satan will use ministers of righteousness to accomplish his evil plans. We can easily be deceived. We can't go simply by what the majority do or say. For if the past is any indication of the present and future, the majority may well be deceived. We must stand by the Word of God alone, even when the rest of the World bows to the knowledge and will of man. Just because someone claims to be a Christian doesn't mean they are trustworthy.

Proverbs 14:12 – We can't go by opinions or feelings but by the Word of God alone.

2 Peter 1:20-21 – The Bible isn't a book of opinions but is a revelation of His will as given by the Holy Spirit through the prophets.

Matthew 12:5; 19:4; 22:31; Mark 12:10, 26 - All these texts state that Jesus expected His followers to have read and be familiar with the Word of God.

Matthew 24:35 – God's Word will never become irrelevant.

Revelation 1:1 – Revelation was written to reveal Jesus. It's a book that is intended to show what must shortly come to pass.

Matthew 24:15 – God also gave us the book of Daniel to address what's coming in the last days. He referenced this book in light of the question that the disciples asked regarding the last days. Note that we will address the abomination of desolation in a future study.

Daniel's historical section, chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, & 6 contain stories that illustrate what the prophetic portions are predicting. The prophetic portion of Daniel, chapters 2, 7, 8, 9, & 10-12 covers broad sweeps of human history from Daniel's day to our day.

Daniel 1 describes the cult of Babylon and how Daniel & his friends were trained in this cultish system. The attempted brainwashing of the captives of Judah took place in the following ways:

1. They were taken to cult headquarters.
2. They were heavily isolated and indoctrinated.
3. There was an attempt to control their behavior.
4. They were issued new names.

Daniel and his friends were made eunuchs which meant that they would never be able to have families of their own. They were trained in the Babylonian schools but the one matter they personally took issue with was their diet. While they humored the teachers and accommodations, they would not defile themselves with the unclean foods of the king. They would only accommodate the Babylonian system as long as it didn't cause them to break the laws of their God. When there was conflict, they took the side of truth.

Daniel 1:20 – The Lord blessed their faithfulness. We must stand for the right even with regards to the seemingly small matters of life.

Here are some ways to avoid becoming involved in a cult like Babylon:

1. Study the Bible for yourself.
2. Beware of groups who forbid outside contact.
3. Beware of groups who set dates for the end of the world.
4. Be faithful in practicing alone time with God in personal devotions.

Revelation 14:8 – Prophecy predicts that Babylon will rise & fall again but as you will soon learn, this isn't an actual city; no, it is much more far reaching than that. To avoid this coming deception, we must fortify ourselves with the Word of God and like Daniel avoid drinking the wine from the table of Babylon.

An Ancient Kings Dream

Daniel 2:1-13 – Nebuchadnezzar demanded that his wise men tell him what the dream was that troubled him so that then he could trust their interpretation. They told him such a request was impossible and so Nebuchadnezzar commanded that they be executed.

Daniel 2:14-23 – Daniel prayed to God for an answer and when he received the answer he took time to praise God. His focus was on God more than self.

Daniel 2:24-30 - Daniel tells the king that God read his thoughts and sent an answer to him in a dream. This story therefore demonstrates that Satan is unable to read our thoughts but God does. We should take comfort in this.

Isaiah 46:9-10 - God is unique from other God's in that He knows the end from the beginning.

Daniel 2: 31-45 – Daniel told both the dream and its interpretation. The king saw a large image in his dream. Here was the composition of the image and what each part represented.

Head of Gold – Babylon

Chest & Arms of Silver – Medes & Persians

Thighs of Bronze – Greece

Legs of Iron – Rome

Feet partly of Iron & Partly of Clay – Divided Europe

Rock – God's Heavenly Kingdom

The interpretation of each metal is based on history and God's Word. Daniel mentions the first three kingdoms in his book (see chpt 5 & 8:20-21) and the fourth is demonstrated by history. As iron doesn't mix with clay, so Europe remains divided today. No matter how much they have tried to unite, Europe is still composed of independent countries. The world's next superpower is, according to Bible prophecy, Christ's heavenly kingdom. The image contained no other metals.

Daniel 2:41-43 - Notice that the feet still include iron. The Roman power evidently doesn't disappear completely; it is just no longer in total control. It is unable to blend successfully with the potter's clay.

Isaiah 64:8; Jeremiah 18:3-6; Romans 9:20-21 – Potter's clay is usually mentioned in Scripture in connection with the relationship man has before God. It typically has a spiritual connotation. Therefore, we see in Nebuchadnezzar's dream the reality that faith and government would try to mix though unsuccessfully. Potter's clay according to Romans is fragile and thus we see in the feet an attempt to mix with that which is strong so as to try and protect itself. The reality is that when it seeks to blend with the iron, it only further weakens the clay for iron and clay do not mix.

Daniel 2:34-35 – The stone was cut out from a mountain and then destroyed the image and then became a mountain again. Based on the passage, God comes from heaven, takes His people unto Himself and then later returns to fill the earth with His kingdom. We will look at this in more detail in a future study. The good news for now is that Christ's heavenly kingdom is what's next based on God's prophetic calendar. We are almost home.

1 Peter 2:4-8 – Jesus is likened to a chief cornerstone and this stone will leave Zion to come and get His people and return to Zion (heaven). Daniel 2 and Revelation depict a day when Zion (the mountain) will come and fill the whole earth.

Luke 20:17-18 – Jesus referred to himself as a stone and invited us to fall upon Him and be broken. If not, then the day will come when the wicked according to Rev 6 will cry for the rocks to fall on them to avoid the judgment when the Stone returns, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Hebrews 9:11 – Not made with hands means not of this creation.

Mark 14:58 – Jesus likened His natural body (born of Mary) as a body made with hands but at the resurrection, He would receive a body made without hands, that is a supernatural resurrected body.

Revelation 11:15 - Revelation confirms that there is a day coming when the kingdoms of this world shall become the Lord's kingdoms and Jesus will reign forever and ever.

John 14:1-3 – Jesus is preparing the kingdom right now and He's building a home for you. He wants you to live with Him, to live in His neighborhood. Jesus wants a relationship with you!