

“That Blessed Hope”
Principles Of Prophecy

Introduction:

1. We Have Been Looking At:
 - The Principles Of Prophecy:
 - The Last Couple Of Weeks!
 - That Is - The Principles Of Interpretation:
 - That Will Help Us Understand Better:
 - What We Are Reading & Studying:
 - In Biblical Prophecy!
 - And - We Will Be Using:
 - The Lesson Guide From Last Sunday!
2. So - To Review:
 - The Main - **“Point Of Prophecy!”**
 - Was & Is To Call God’s People:
 - Into A Closer ***Walk*** & Relationship With Him!
 - But Then:
 - Last Week - We Started Looking At:
 - **Six Other Principles Of Prophecy:**
 - And Managed To Look At:
 - Only 3!
3. The First Principle:
 - Had To Do With:
 - ***The Phrasing Of Prophecy***
 - And How That:
 - So Much Is Given To Us:
 - In ***Symbolic*** Language!
 - And So - “The Goal Of The Interpreter Must Be To Seek The One ***Intended*** Or ***Literal*** Sense Of The Text, And To Do So With The Recognition That God In Some Cases Has Chosen To Convey Meaning Through Symbolism And Figures Of Speech!”
 - And We Need To Be Aware Of:
 - Those Common Figures Of Speech:
 - To Properly Understand And Interpret:
 - Biblical Prophecy!
4. The Second Principle:
 - Dealt With:
 - ***The Perspective Of Prophecy***
 - And How - “Biblical Prophecy Often Does Not Picture For Us The Intervening Centuries Which Lie As Valleys Between The High Points Of Salvation History!”
 - If You Recall - This Is Also Known As:
 - Prophetic “Fore-***Shortening!***”
 - So - “Events In The Near And Distant Future Are Often Telescoped Into One Picture!”
5. The Third Principle:
 - Reminds Us Of:
 - ***The Period Of Prophecy***
 - Because The Prophecies:
 - In Both The OT & NT Were Written:
 - During Definite Life-Situations:
 - For Both The Prophet & The People!
 - So - We Need To Remember That:
 - The Language, Culture & Traditions:
 - Of God’s People In The Old Testament:
 - Will Have Some Bearing On:
 - How The Prophets:
 - Will Convey God’s Message!
6. Those Were The Three Principles:
 - That We Looked At Last Week!

- So - To Begin This Morning:
 - We Will See That The Fourth Principle Of Prophecy Has To Do With:

4. **The Pictures Of Prophecy:**

- Which Means That:
 - “Old Testament Prophecy, Especially When Dealing With Eschatological Themes, Is Often **Typical Or Typological** In Nature!”
 - This Is Related To The Symbolic Language That We Find In Prophecy:
 - But - Types In The Bible Are More For **Illustration** Than Explanation!
 - So - What Is A Biblical “Type”?
 - “A type is a real person, place, object, or event that God ordained to act as a predictive pattern or resemblance of Jesus' person and work!” (David Murray - “Jesus On Every Page”)
 - “Typology Is Visual Theology” (David Murray)
- In Romans 5:14 - The Apostle Paul:
 - Highlights This Principle:
 - In The Relationship Between Adam & Jesus Christ:
 - “Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam’s transgression, who is the **figure** of him that was to come!”
 - “Figure” - τύπος / Type
- So - There Are Many Different Kinds:
 - Of Types In The Bible:
 - Including:
 - People, Institutions, And/Or Events:
 - Which - “Prefigures Or Foreshadows A New And **Greater** Reality!” - Which Is Known As:
 - The “Antitype!”
 - Paul Uses This Principle Also:
 - In Colossians 2:16-17 - “Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: / Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ!”
 - This Means That The Special Days That The Old Testament People Of God Were To Consecrate & Celebrate Were “Object Lessons” That Point To Their Ultimate Fulfillment In Jesus!
 - Sabbath - Rest On A Day - Points To & Is Fulfilled In - Rest In Christ!
 - We See This Also:
 - In The **Sacrifices** Of The Old Testament!
 - From: “Old Testament Sacrifices’ Fulfillment in Christ” (Isaac Khalil - lifehopeandtruth.com)
 - Burnt Offering (Leviticus 1:3-17; 6:8-13):
 - Completely Burned Up On The Altar
 - Sweet Aroma To God
 - Unblemished Animal
 - Symbol Of The Atonement:
 - Provided Through Christ - Perfect & Pure & Willing To Give Himself For Us!
 - Romans 5:11 - “But we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement!”
 - Grain Offering (Leviticus 2:1-16; 6:14-23):
 - Accompanied All Burnt Offerings
 - Sweet Aroma To God
 - Flour / Oil / Frankincense / Salt
 - Symbol Of Dedication / Consecration:
 - Provided Through Christ - In Whom His Father Was “Well Pleased!”
 - John 10:17-18a - “Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. / No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself!”
 - Peace Offering (Leviticus 3:1-17; 7:11-34):
 - Sweet Aroma To God
 - Provided A Meal For Priests / People
 - Three Kinds - Thanksgiving / Vow / Voluntary (Free Will)
 - Symbol Of Reconciliation / Fellowship:
 - Provided Through Christ - “He Is Our Peace” (Ephesians 2:14) - He Is Our

Reconciliation!

- Sin Offering (Leviticus 4:1-35; 6:24-30):
 - Generally Not A Sweet Aroma To God
 - Only The Fat & Blood Offered On The Altar
 - When The Sin Offering Is For The Whole Congregation, The Rest Was Burned Outside The Camp
 - Symbol Of Propitiation:
 - Provided Through Christ - The One Who Satisfied The Wrath Of God Completely For The Sins Of Those Who Believe In Him!
 - 1 John 2:2 - "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world!"
 - Sufficient For All! Efficient For Believers!
 - Hebrews 13:12 - "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate!"
- Trespass Offering (Leviticus 5:14-6:7; 7:1-7):
 - Like The Sin Offering
 - Dealt With Specific Sins & Where Restitution Was Possible
 - Symbol Of Forgiveness:
 - Provided Through Christ - For Every Sin!
 - 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness!"
- So - These Were All Types & Shadows:
 - Of The Final Sacrifice:
 - Of Jesus Christ:
 - When He Shed His Blood On The Cross!
- We See This Also:
 - In The ***Tabernacle*** & Temple Of The Old Testament:
 - Which Were Also Types & Shadows:
 - Of The Final Dwelling-Place & Meeting-Place:
 - Of God With Man:
 - Jesus Christ!
 - The Furnishings Of The Tabernacle:
 - The Door:
 - John 10:9 - "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture!"
 - The Altar:
 - John 1:29 - "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!"
 - The Laver:
 - John 7:38 - "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water!"
 - The Table Of Shewbread:
 - John 6:35 - "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst!"
 - The Lampstand / Menorah:
 - John 8:12 - "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life!"
 - The Altar Of Incense - A Symbol For Prayer:
 - Hebrews 7:25 - "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them!"
 - The Ark Of The Covenant & The Mercy Seat:
 - John 1:14 - "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth!"
 - And - All Of This Helps Us Remember:
 - That The Fulfilment - The Antitype:
 - Is Always Greater Than:
 - The Type & The Shadow:
 - That Pointed To It!
 - And So - We Need To Think:

- Matthew Writes - "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son!"
 - This Is Found In Hosea 11:1!
- But - In Hosea - God Is Speaking:
 - About The Past - "When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt!"
 - Yet - Matthew Applies This As A Prophecy About The Future!
 - How Could He Do This?
 - Because Not Only Is Jesus The "True & Final Israel" - Prince / Son Of God!
 - But - Because The Life Of Christ, In Many Ways, Mirrors:
 - The History Of Israel!
- Because - After God "Called [His People] Out Of Egypt!"
 - What Happened? As Dr. Walt Russell Pointed Out:
 - They Had A "Water Experience!"
 - In The Red Sea - And Were:
 - "Baptized Unto Moses" (1 Corinthians 10:2)
 - And So Did Jesus!
 - Baptized By John In The Jordan!
 - They Had A "Wilderness Experience!"
 - And Tempted The Lord For 40 Years! (Numbers 14:22 / Psalm 95:9)
 - Well - Jesus Too Had A "Wilderness Experience" When He Was Tempted For 40 Days! Yet Was Faithful!
 - They Had A "Mountain-Top Experience!"
 - When God Gave Them His Law At Mt. Sinai!
 - Jesus Too - Gave His Great Sermon - Where - On A "Mountain!" (Matthew 5:1)
 - And - Even More:
 - When Moses Came Down From Mount Sinai:
 - The "Skin Of His Face Shone" From Talking With God!
 - But - When Jesus Took "Peter, And James, And John" - "Up Into A High Mountain!" (Mark 9:2)
 - What Happened? Matthew 17:2 - He "Was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light!" - Not From Without, But From Within!
 - And - There Are Many More Examples Of This:
 - When You Look For Them:
 - Through The Lense Of Christ!
 - This Is Not "Spiritualizing" The Text - This Is Using Christ & The New Testament For What They Were Intended!
 - 2 Corinthians 3:16:
 - The Veil Covering The Old Testament:
 - "Is Done Away In Christ!"
 - So - Jesus Is The "Filling Up" Of:
 - The History Of Israel!
 - So - In 33 Short Years - Jesus Was Able To Fulfill & Complete All That The Children Of Israel & Even All Of Humanity Couldn't In All Of History!
- But That Leads Us To A Sixth And Final Principle Of Prophecy:
 - And That Is:

6. **The Prefiguring Of Prophecy:**

- And Who Is Now:
 - The "People Of God!"
 - As We've Been Learning In Romans:
 - There Are Two "Israels" In The Bible:
 - And Really - Three!
 - Christ - The True Israel!
 - The National Israel!
 - And - The Spiritual Israel - Also Known As The Church!
 - The εκκλησία - The "**Called Out**" Of God! (Acts 7:38)
 - So - In Romans 9:6 - Paul Writes - "Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are

- not all Israel, which are of Israel!”
- This Means That:
 - Many - And Perhaps Even Most:
 - Of God’s Promises To Israel:
 - In The Old Testament:
 - Were Meant For The Spiritual Israel & Not The National Israel!
- So - It Is Important:
 - To Think About:
 - The Kinds Of Promises & Prophecies:
 - That Are Given To “Israel” In The Old Testament!
 - Are They:
 - Political Promises:
 - That Were Meant For:
 - The Nation Of Israel? Or:
 - Are They:
 - Spiritual Promises:
 - That Were Meant For:
 - The Spiritual Israel?
- **But - In The *True* Israel - Jesus:**
 - He Came To Fulfill:
 - Them All!

Conclusion:

1. So - Hopefully - This Helps Give You:
 - A Better Idea Of How We Need To Approach:
 - The Prophecies Given To Us In The Bible:
 - Especially About The End Times!
2. To Close:
 - **Titus 2:13** - “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ!”

*Grace Baptist Church
 Stephen Elmer, Pastor
 4245 North 200 West
 Greenfield, Indiana 46140
 317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com*