

**PARTICULAR LAWS OF BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION
PART 5–THE LAW OF “DOUBLE REFERENCE”**

- I. The Law Stated:**
The BIBLE sometimes refers to a NEAR SUBJECT or EVENT and a FAR SUBJECT or EVENT in the same passage. In other words, sometimes a SCRIPTURE passage which applies to a PARTICULAR PERSON or EVENT NEAR AT HAND may also apply to a ANOTHER PERSON or EVENT.

This law often seen in OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY.

II. Some Examples:

A. *Ezekiel 28:1-19.*

This passage is addressed to the king of TYRE who at that time was ETHBAAL II.

However, it indisputably goes beyond the immediate earthly reference to give great detail of the original estate and fall of the evil one behind ETHBAAL—SATAN.

B. *Hosea 11:1–“When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.”*

This SCRIPTURE primarily applies to the NATION of ISRAEL, but the HOLY SPIRIT also uses it of GOD’S “GREATER” SON, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Matthew 2:14-15–“When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: 15And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.”

C. *Jeremiah 50 and 51.*

This prophecy concerns the judgment of GOD upon the ancient kingdom of BABYLON through the agency of the MEDES and the PERSIANS—an event which was historically fulfilled in 586 B.C.

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However, the PROPHECY also looks into the FUTURE, and is a reference to the doom of BABYLON PROPHESED in REVELATION 17 and 18.

D. *Daniel 8 and 11.*

A portion of this PROPHETIC chapter (*Chapter 8*) foretold of the wicked *ANTIOCHUS IV “EPIPHANES”* (175-164 B.C.), who PERSECUTED the JEWS and DESECRATED the TEMPLE. (*Daniel 8:9-12*)

However, the passage goes on to describe the coming *ANTICHRIST*, who, in a far greater way will persecute the JEWS and desecrate the TEMPLE! (*Revelation 12; 2 Thessalonians 2*). (*Daniel 8:23-25*)

The same “double reference” is seen in *Daniel 11:21-33 (ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES)* and *Daniel 11:36-45 (ANTICHRIST)*.

III. Warning:

Much care should be exercised when applying this principle!