



Why Do So Many Ignore, And Even Scoff At Bible Prophecy Being Fulfilled In Today's World?

Why Do So Many Ignore, And Even Scoff At Bible Prophecy Being Fulfilled In Today's World? Four Main Reasons...

First, many (including pastors) don't teach prophecy because they have a lack of belief in the power of God's Word.

Sadly, many in the 'church' today don't really believe the Bible is the inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God.

- The Lord Jesus once denounced the Pharisees because they were misinterpreting Scripture (see Matthew 22:29).
- Too many today are the same way. They are not carefully studying the whole Bible (see Acts 20:17-38).

Second, many don't teach prophecy because they have a lack of knowledge of (or sound training in) Bible prophecy.

There are many, of course, who do believe that the Bible is the Word of God. However, for a variety of reasons the majority of pastors and believers today have never taken the time to study prophecy carefully on their own, and/or weren't taught it in any detail or depth in seminary or Bible college or seminary. Thus, they understandably feel unprepared and inadequate to help people unpack the truths of these Scriptures.

- Some prophecies are, of course, complicated and confusing.
- Some of the names mentioned in prophecies (like "Gog" and "Magog" and "Gomer" and "Put" in Ezekiel 38-39) are strange and obscure.

- It takes some historical detective work to determine what these things mean, and some pastors/leaders decide they neither have the interest nor the time to do the research and teach others clearly and accurately, so they avoid teaching prophecy all together.

The Bible is clear that God will bless those who study and teach 'End Times' prophecy, and we should be faithful in doing just that.

Revelation 1:3 *"Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it, for the time is near."*

Third, many don't teach prophecy because they have a fear of being lumped in with "prophecy nuts" and those who peddle sensationalism.

Admittedly, there are many false teachers who try to teach prophecy.

Example: Harold Camping's prediction of the Rapture on May 21, 2011

Example: 88 Reasons Why Jesus Is Coming In 1988

We are right to avoid such false teachers, and to avoid creating an appearance of cheapening the Word of God in these ways. But just because some teach Bible prophecy wrongly, or badly, is no reason for solid teachers to avoid the topic. To the contrary, we should be teaching solidly on prophecy all the more because of the nuts out there. We shouldn't cede the battle for hearts, minds and souls to the false teachers.

2 Timothy 4:2-3 *"Preach the word: be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine."*

Fourth, many pastors and church leaders don't teach prophecy because they have a lack of understanding of the times in which we live and the increasingly close return of Christ.

Sadly, many who are sincere, are asleep to the times in which we live. Somehow they are not gripped by the remarkable moment of history that we're in, and the urgent need to prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ for the Church.

Like the Pharisees of old, Jesus is saying to them, *"Why do you not analyze this present time?"*

Matthew 16:1-4 *The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven. He replied, "When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,' and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah." Jesus then left them and went away.*

More than ever, we need to be people who do analyze and understand the times in light of Bible prophecy. Like the sons of Issachar, *“men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do.”* (I Chronicles 12:32),

Specifically, we need men and women ready, willing and able to rediscover the purpose and power of Bible prophecy.

How can we help others rediscover the purpose and power of Bible prophecy?

- The best way is not to belittle others who aren't listening to prophecy being fulfilled before our 'eyes'...
- The Biblical model is to do what Jesus did, urging others to... *“Come, follow me.”* (Mark 10:21)