

WHAT IS THE CORRECT METHOD FOR INTERPRETING PROPHECY?

I. THE VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW IN ESCHATOLOGY

A. With Regards to the KINGDOM.

1. PREMILLENIALISM...which teaches that Christ will return to the earth BEFORE the Kingdom to fulfill the promises made to Israel concerning a future kingdom on the earth.
2. AMILLENIALISM...which _____ that there even will be a future Kingdom on the earth because the promises made to Israel are now being spiritually fulfilled by the Church (Replacement theology).
3. POSTMILLENIALISM...which claims that Christ will return _____ the Kingdom on earth has been introduced by the Church.

B. With Regards to the RAPTURE.

1. PRE-TRIBULATIONAL... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur _____ the 7 years of the Tribulation on the earth.
2. MID-TRIBULATIONAL ... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur in the _____ of the 7 year period of the Tribulation on the earth.
3. PRE- WRATH... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur about _____ of the way through the 7 year period of the Tribulation on the earth.
4. POST-TRIBULATIONAL ... which claims that the Rapture of the Church will occur _____ the 7 year Tribulation ends.

C. With Regards to PROPHECY and the Book of REVELATION.

1. PRETERISM ... believes that most, if not all, biblical prophecy has _____, usually in relation to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.
2. HISTORICISM ... believes that much of prophecy has been and continues to be _____ during the Church age.
3. FUTURISM ... believes that prophecy will be fulfilled and take place in the _____ at the Rapture, Tribulation, Second Coming, the Kingdom, or the Eternal State.
4. IDEALISM ... believes that the Bible teaches great ideas about God to be applied today with no specific reference to the _____ of these events.

II. THE BIBLICAL METHOD FOR CORRECTLY INTERPRETING PROPHECY.

A. What Can We Learn From the Prophecies That Have ALREADY BEEN FULFILLED?

1. The prophecies of the Old Testament were fulfilled in a _____, _____, _____, and _____ way of understanding language.

*What are some examples of this?

2. At times the prophetic passages of the Old Testament include _____ language, but they should were not fulfilled _____.

*What are some examples of this?

*What is allegorical interpretation and what's wrong with it?

*Does the book of Revelation contain symbols and figurative language at times?

B. The GOLDEN RULE OF INTERPRETATION by David L. Cooper.

When the _____ sense of Scripture makes _____ sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every _____ at its _____, _____, _____ meaning unless the facts of the immediate _____, studied in light of _____ passages and axiomatic and fundamental _____, indicate clearly otherwise.

*What are the three Cs of Bible interpretation?

C. When you INTERPRET PROPHECY...

1. Understand words in their _____ sense in their _____ without secret or hidden meanings.
2. Consider the proper usage of _____ and _____ language.
3. View prophesy as having its principal focus on _____ and the establishment of His _____ on earth.
4. Look for the interpretation of God that is already _____ in the Bible by comparing Scripture with Scripture.
5. Remember that some prophecies have either _____ or _____ or _____ fulfillment.
6. Remember to keep _____ and _____ separate.
7. Grant only _____ interpretation to each passage of Scripture though it may have many applications.