

NT 615 - 5-3-1 – *Kaiser & Silva, ch. 12*

Danny Furuyama

March 7th, 2023

Questions:

1. What percent of the Bible verses deal with predictions about the future?
2. What three books in the Bible have the highest percentage of future prophecies?
3. What are the four pieces of evidence that the prophets were self-aware of their prophetic messages?
4. What are the three classifications of prophecies based on fulfillment?
5. What are the three aspects of prophecy?

Answers:

1. A staggering 27 percent of the Bible deals with predictions about the future. 8,352 verses out of 31,124 verses in the whole Bible.
2. The three books in the Bible that have the highest percentage of future prophecies are (1) Ezekiel at 65 percent, (2) Revelation at 63 percent and (3) Jeremiah at 60 percent.
3. The prophets (1) were aware of the results of their prophecies, (2) were aware of the implication of their prophecies, (3) were told things that were humanly impossible to know, and (4) related their prediction to contemporary events and circumstances.
4. The three classifications of prophecies based on fulfillment are (1) unconditional prophecy (unilateral promises which do not depend on any mortal's obedience or pledge to maintain them), (2) conditional prophecy (has either an expressed or, more frequently, an implied "if" or "unless" connected to it), and (3) sequential prophecy (the predictions contained within them place several events together in one prediction even though they will be fulfilled in a sequence and a series of acts perhaps stretching over several centuries).
5. They are (1) the predicted word (that preceded the event toward which it pointed, (2) the historic means (by which God kept that predicted word alive for each succeeding generation by giving what amounts to down payments that connected the first announcement of the word with its climatic fulfillment, and (3) the ultimate fulfillment (of that word in the New Testament era of the First Advent, or in the days of the Second Advent).

Terms:

1. Forth-telling: declaring God's word to effect personal and social changes to the glory of God.
2. Prophetic perspective: phenomenon of blending together both the near and the distant aspects of the prediction in one and the same vision.
3. Inaugurated eschatology: It is the belief that the end times (or latter days) were inaugurated at the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. There is an "already-fulfilled" and a "not-yet fulfilled" aspect about the end times.

Summary:

There are two broad categories of prophecy which include forth-telling and foretelling. Twenty-

seven percent of the Bible deals with prophecies concerning the future. Biblical prophecies all have characteristics of intelligibility, definiteness, and organic unity. The prophets had an adequate understanding of what they prophesized, but they did not fully understand all the ramifications. There are three types of prophecies concerning fulfillment which are conditional, unconditional, and sequential. The prophets used terms from Israel's history, recurring prophetic formulas, and symbolic imagery or allusions to get their message across. Many prophecies are best understood as having multiple fulfillments that have both a "now" and the "not-yet" aspect.