

END TIMES

What You Should Know What You Can Do

A Bible Study with Debbie Taylor Williams



End Times

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| Session 1 | The Reasons for End Time Prophecies |
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Watch the accompanying videos for *End Times* at www.debbietaylorwilliams.com/

The written and video materials are humbly shared with you not as one who is a scholar of eschatology nor as one intent on defending a certain position. Rather, I invite you to join me in reading the scriptures with fresh eyes and childlike wonder, praying the Lord enlighten the eyes of your heart.

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe." Ephesians 1:18-19

The Truth Or A Lie

When is it okay to tell a well meaning lie?¹ Harvard Business Review addressed this question citing examples such as when a manager gives an employee overly-positive feedback to boost their confidence; a doctor gives a patient a too-rosy prognosis to foster hope, or a government official conceals a security threat to prevent widespread panic. The article stated, “These are relatively understandable scenarios in which an individual tells a lie because they think they are helping someone.” The review continued, “In each case, however, it’s unclear whether the lie actually makes the recipients better off. Employees could benefit from honest criticism in order to improve; patients may benefit from a candid prognosis; citizens might take actions to make themselves less vulnerable to security threats. Given the ethical issues surrounding deception, how can one be sure when telling a well-meaning lie is the right thing to do – and when it’s not?”

In our study today you will be encouraged to know that our Heavenly Father and Lord Jesus Christ do not tell us what the article refers to as “paternalistic lies” to make us feel better. Rather, the Bible tells us truth so we *are better off; can improve; and take action.*

End Times: What You Should Know

“People are exhorted to be ready for the return of Jesus Christ over fifty times.”
Mark Hitchcock²

Jesus revealed, not hid, the truth about future events. In Matthew 24:25, 26, Jesus said, “Behold, I have told you in advance” in response to the disciples question, “what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age” (24:3). In today’s study we will look at what the word prophecy means and how the accuracy and fulfillment of past prophecies give credibility to Biblical teachings about future events.

1. The context in which we are using the word prophecy is speaking under the influence of God’s divine Spirit. It is translated from a Greek word that means “a discourse emanating from divine inspiration and declaring the purposes of God, whether by

¹ <https://hbr.org/2018/09/when-is-it-ok-to-tell-a-well-meaning-lie>

²Mark Hitchcock, *The End: A Complete Overview of Bible Prophecy and the End of Days*, 2012, Tyndale House Publishers, IL, pages 4-5.

reproving and admonishing the wicked, or comforting the afflicted, or revealing things hidden; esp. by foretelling future events.”³

When you think of prophets in the Bible, who comes to mind?

2. Below the following verses, record the Old Testament prophet to whom Jesus referred and therefore gave credibility. Then, record how Jesus used the Old Testament prophets to foretell or prophesy something future.

“He answered, ‘A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.’” Matthew 12:39-40

The Prophet:

The Prophecy:

“Jesus replied, ‘To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands.’” Matthew 17:11-12

The Prophet:

The Prophecy:

³ <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g4394/nasb95/tr/0-1/>

"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself." Luke 24:27

The Prophet:

The Prophecy:

3. On the basis of Jesus's words, check the following statement that describes Jesus's opinion of Old Testament prophets and prophecy.

- Jesus thought the Old Testament prophets were wackos.
 Jesus spoke of prophets as allegorical figures, not real people.
 Jesus considered the Old Testament prophets relevant to the new covenant He ushered in through His death, burial, and resurrection.

Without question, Jesus took the Scriptures, prophets, and prophecy seriously. The Bible is the story of God's love and Jesus coming to save us from our sins. It is more. It is it a historical and prophetic document God spiritually breathed (downloaded) into His servants that gives past, present, and future events.

4. As a reminder of Biblical prophecies fulfilled, draw a line matching the Scripture in the left hand column to its fulfillment in the right hand column.

Genesis 7:11-17	Jesus would be crucified and rise 3 days later.
Genesis 18:1,10; 21:1-2	Jesus's legs were not broken.
Micah 5:2; Luke 2:4-7	Sara would conceive and give birth the next year.
Mark 10:32-34, John 18-20	Flood on the entire earth.
John 19:36	Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.

5. Recognizing that past prophecies have been fulfilled gives us confidence that future prophecies will be fulfilled. Record the following prophesied events. (If you don't have time to look up each one, choose a sampling to do.)

Matthew 24:27, Acts 1:11

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

2 Corinthians 5:10

Revelation 16:1-2

Revelation 16:16

Revelation 19:11

Revelation 20:1-2

Revelation 20:10, 15

Revelation 22:7, 12

End Times: What You Can Do

People may lie as the Harvard article at the beginning of today's study pointed out, but God tells the truth. What are your thoughts about future events on God's calendar? What should/can you do in light of them? Use the following or any other verses to prompt your thoughts about what you might do on the basis of what you studied today.

Colossians 3:2, Matthew 6:19-20, Matthew 28:19-20,
1 Corinthians 15:34, Ephesians 2:10, 1 Timothy 6:14, Revelation 3:22

Based on what I have studied, I want..., need to..., can...

Dig Deeper

The following are provided if you would like to dig deeper and look at additional amazing fulfilled Bible prophecies.

1. The Prophecy: Exodus 3:7-8

The Fulfillment: Exodus 14:27-31

2. The Prophecy: Genesis 15:13-14

The Fulfillment: Exodus 12:40-41

3. The Prophecy: Genesis 37:5-11

4. The Fulfillment: Genesis 42:3-9

We have barely touched on God foretelling what was to take place and how it was fulfilled and we are still in Genesis. How does this impact you regarding what is yet to take place?

Record additional thoughts, prayers, verses you want to study, memorize, or pray over in your *Prayers of my Heart* journal.

VIDEO NOTES (Record points from the video you want to remember or further study.)

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. Which of the prophecies about the future most thrills you?

2. Which of the prophecies stir you to consider the course of your life?

3. What points from the video do you want to remember and/or study more in-depth?

4. What is the “golden nugget” you want to remember from this week?

5. How is God speaking to you? What action will you take as a result?

Record the prayer that is on your heart as a result of this week’s study.

You can leave your comments about the study, what you are learning, and how it is impacting you on the End Times Online Bible Study page at debbie@debbietaylorwilliams.com.



We hope you’ll share ***End Times: What You Should Know, What You Can Do. Here’s how.*** Since this study is the intellectual property of Debbie Taylor Williams and we want people to have access to the complete study, please reference any portion you share by including the full title, “***End Times: What You Should Know, What You Can Do***” by **Debbie Taylor Williams**” with the link to the study at www.debbietaylorwilliams.com.

Questions? We’re here to help. Contact us at debbie@debbietaylorwilliams.com.