LESSON 3
What is Bible Prophecy?

The Bible is essential in finding God our Creator
The Bible says, “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). It is important that people have a confidence in God’s Word. How do we know the Bible is credible? At the time it was written, one third of the Bible was prophetic (in other words, it predicted what would happen in the future). Jeane Dixon was a so-called 20th century psychic who often tried to predict the future. She became world famous by predicting the assassination of President Kennedy, but ironically was still wrong on her predictions over half of the time (anyone could do better than that by flipping a coin). Yet, God’s Word has predicted the future correctly 100% of the time with pin-point accuracy (due to the Author who knows the future).

God started the Jewish race 3500 years ago and promised to preserve it for all time.
While many other races and civilizations have been eliminated, the Jews have survived all the persecution of Babylon, Greece, Rome, Hitler, etc. God predicted the Jews would go into a 70-year captivity beginning in 606 BC (Jer 29:10). In Isaiah 44:28, God mentioned a King by the name of Cyrus, and predicted that he would free the Jews from this captivity one hundred years before Cyrus was even born! God drove the Jews from their land in 70AD for nearly 1900 years. In May of 1948, the Jews returned in a fulfillment of prophecy. In Ezekiel 12:25, God says, “For I am the LORD: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass.”

The Bible Gives Insight to the End of the World
In Matthew 24:3, the Apostles asked Jesus, “What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?” Jesus replied with several things. First of all He said, “Men’s hearts (shall be) failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth” (Luke 21:26). Due to stress and tension, heart disease and heart attacks, are the leading killers (over cancer, strokes, accidents, etc), costing Americans $260 billion/year.

Secondly, Jesus said that the end of history would be a time of “famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers (multiple) places” (Matt 24:6-7). While there were only 35 natural disasters reported in 1960, there were 150 disasters in 1980, 300 in 1990 and over 500 in 2007. Even a casual observer will notice “there’s something going on.” During a 1400 year period from 500-1900AD, there were only 21 major earthquakes. During the following 83 years from just 1900 to 1983, there have been 52 major earthquakes. Since 1983, there have averaged 40 major earthquakes every year! Years ago, the Holiday Inn hotel chain had planned to erect a hotel on the Mount of Olives on the east side of
Jerusalem. It sent a group of engineers to prepare for the erection. After some investigation, they said it could not be done. They found a geological fault line under the Mount which is causing it to split. The Bible mentioned this fact over 2500 years ago in Zechariah 14:4.

Jesus also mentioned famines. According to a recent report by the BBC, the world’s population will double in the next 38 years which will obviously affect the food supply. Jesus also mentioned pestilence which seems to continually be in the news relative to problems with bees, ants, bats, AIDs, etc. The Bible also mentions that lifestyles will become very hectic in the end times. People will be able to travel like never before. Daniel 12:4 mentions, “The time of the end (when) many shall run to and fro.” Back during the “Little House on the Prairie” days, many people were born, lived and died in the same county. Today, it’s possible to have breakfast in Mexico City, lunch in New York, and supper in Paris.

The Bible also mentions that in the last days “knowledge shall be increased” (Dan 12:4). If technological advances were measured in inches, the inventions discovered from the time of Adam up until the year 1800 would measure about one inch. It would only take another 100 years from 1800 to 1900 to equal another inch of technological advancement, doubling the previous amount from the beginning of time. But if you were to measure the explosion of technology since the year 1900, it would be as tall as the Washington Monument (555 feet)!

The Bible and Technology
The Bible predicts things that would have been impossible without the invention of satellite transmission (Rev 11:8-9). The Bible also describes nuclear fallout (II Peter 3:10-12 & Zech 14:12). Jesus also mentioned that the sexual morals of people (as well as alcohol consumption) would be just like it was before the flood of Noah (Matt 24:37). What was it like just before the flood? The Bible says, “And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth... and that every imagination of the thoughts of (man’s) heart was only evil continually,” (Gen 6:5, 12).

The Bible foretells of a one-world government (Rev 13:7, 16), a one-world ruler (Dan 8, II Thes 2, Rev 6, 13), a one-world religion (Rev 17), and a one-world economic system. We see this taking place before our eyes with the UN, NATO, the European Union, G20, etc. Just last month the UN strongly suggested that the world should go to a one-world currency with the US needing to cooperate. The Bible also implies that the world will eventually go to a cashless system which will require all citizens to receive a mark (chip implant?) containing the data of 666 in order to purchase anything (Rev 13:16-18).
Unknown to most is the fact that this number is already found in computer language on most retail items in the form of the UPC symbol (notice the same two long narrow bars at the beginning, middle, and end of the items you purchased from the store). Our society will most likely promote the benefits of a cashless system by virtue of ‘how it will eliminate’ the drug traffic, black market, the mafia, all robbery, money laundering, etc. If you think the potential of putting micro chips in people is outrageous, it is already being done.

**The Bible speaks of the Second Coming of Christ**

Jesus also told us that just before he returns there “shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matt 24:21). This awful time of chaos is described in the book of the Revelation as a bloodbath on the earth.

Before this takes place, truly born-again Christians will be raptured off the earth. The Bible says, “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up (raptured) together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words” (I Thess 4:16-18).

There are over 1800 Bible verses that speak of Jesus coming again (nearly 6 times as many as the 333 prophecies which foretold His first coming). In the very last Bible promise, Jesus says in Revelation 22:12, “Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me.” There are many other things we could look at considering Bible prophecy, but suffice it to say, “Blessed be the LORD,…there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised” (I Kings 8:5-6).

Natural disasters reported 1900 – 2009

Source: ODFA/CRED International Disaster Database