

B. More Particular Use of the Prophetic Scriptures That are Predictive.

1. In our age the predictive passages are often used to speculate on the future course of events. We must remember that we are told many "things to come" and we should be alert for the reality of these. But it is essential to the integrity of biblical presentation that one make certain he is identifying Bible forms and not speculating on some political basis. Perhaps the poorest use of the prophetic-predictive passages (my opinion) is the use of them to "predict" items in world history that are not specifically mentioned in the Bible itself.

2. A second use of these passages is that of seeking to interpret history and the course of world events through them. This tends to become speculative...although that is not a "necessary" career...and must be guarded against. Interpreters of world affairs in the predictive light took a ferocious beating on the identity of Benito Mussolini and have often made the revealed Scriptures look very ill-informed.

3. A third use, and the most commendable although not an end in itself, is that of using the predictive dworks to tell us valuable lessons about God and His dealings. If we can glean a bit of his character and ways from the patterns in which he has shown himself faithful and true, then we are learning very important materials that will guide us in life decision and direction. In this use, the predictive Scriptures:

a. give lessons gleaned by observing the actions and responses of others..

b. teach by direct instruction and/or implication as to how a course should be set.

C. Our Approach in this series:

Working from one key predictive passage, and showing illustrations of its principles in other parts