

voice of unbelief and doubt — and compel every skeptic to acknowledge the truth — we will never succeed. God will do this in His own time (Philippians 2), and we will have to leave it in His hands.

However, there is no need to apologize for presenting the facts as they are. And there are four areas that adequately prove the Bible if one will carefully weigh the facts:

1) **Fulfilled prophecy** — a wonderful confirmation of the nature of the Bible. Only God can fully predict the future. It is true that people (and computers!) try to do so with varied degrees of success and failure. But biblical prophecy is specific and exact. Study, for example, the prophecy in 1 Kings 13:1-3. In the days of its utterance the following items are predicted:

- a. a king of Israel is named by name 250 years before birth.
- b. the success of David's throne over that of Jeroboam.
- c. continuance of the Bethel altar for 300 years.
- d. the godly character of the Davidic king (and they were not all good men), as well as his specific attitude toward the Bethel altar.

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If the prophecy were to be fulfilled in five years, these might not seem so remarkable; but it was not fulfilled for nearly 300 years. The predictions could not be "lucky guesses." The improbability of a sequence of guesses so specific in fulfillment, is enormous.

Many other very specific examples might be given. In Ezek. 12:13 the prophet announces that Zedekiah, king of Judah, is to be carried captive to Babylon. "Yet," says the prophet, "shall he not see it, though he shall die there." It is a prophecy of the blinding of Zedekiah as later performed by Nebuchadnezzar's soldiers. (A similar prophecy is given by Elisha in 2 Kings 7:19.) Consider also Christ's prophecy of Peter's death in John 21 and His