

Theologizing is a constant threat (the reading of various truths of authorial preference into a sequence of teaching) and some guards must be kept against it...guards established by the teacher or preacher as the case may be.

e. Prophetic Problems

(1) Unfulfilled predictions: those things which have not yet been fulfilled although seemingly they should have been.

(2) Inorganic matters: small aspects of a particular prediction that serve chiefly to show the reality of fulfillment.

(3) Double fulfillment (or double prediction and fulfillment): the concept that one reference may carry to two or more fulfillments.

I will offer some examples of these in class and explain the reason in my thinking for same. The last of the three is the hardest to be fair with and yet the one most often heard from preachers.

3. The Purposes of Prophecy and Prediction

a. Immediate Purpose: To inform the people of God for a particular action at a particular time.
(Jeremiah 29)

b. To convict in matters of sin, disobedience, etc.
(Jeremiah 28)

c. To demonstrate the reality of God's control in the universe with the subsequent expectation of belief and yieldedness on the part of the people of God.
(Jeremiah 24)

d. By expression of Divine will to instruct in even the most basic pursuits of life. (Jeremiah 13)

e. To authenticate a messenger beforehand so as to make the reality of his person and message convincing. (I Kings 13)

f. To explain (and sometimes vindicate) the character and dealings of God with His people. (Jeremiah 23)

g. To demonstrate how the life of the nation is to fulfill the concepts expressed in the law.
(Jeremiah 2)