

Peter said: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy" (II Pet. 1 : 19).

Jesus said: "Now I tell you before it come to pass, so that when it shall come to pass, ye might believe" (John 14 : 29).

The Bible contains at least 1,000 prophecies, some already fulfilled, some in process of fulfillment, some yet to be fulfilled. Approximately one-third of the Bible is devoted to prediction. These prophecies stretch like a long avenue of shining lights all the way from Genesis to Revelation.

What is History's answer? History is the echo of the voice of prophecy! Consider these examples:

Deut. 28 : 25, 37, 64, etc. The sufferings of the Jewish race. "Thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb and a byword among all nations." (Fulfilled by centuries of persecution and scattering.)

Isa. 13 : 19, 20. The desolation of ancient Babylon. "It shall never be inhabited from generation to generation." (Fulfilled by a succession of invasions and plunderings.)

Ezek. 26 : 4; 5, 12, 14. The destruction of ancient Tyre. "I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock." (Fulfilled by the armies of Nebuchadnezzar and Alexander the Great.)

Matt 24 : 1, 2. The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. "There shall not be left here one stone upon another." (Fulfilled by the Roman armies in A.D. 70.)

3.—THE POWER OF THE BIBLE

Consider finally the Bible's claim to have **life-changing power**.

Paul said: "The gospel is the power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1 : 16).

Peter said: "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God" (I Pet. 1 : 23).

Jesus said: "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life" (John 6 : 63).

How shall we test the truth of these claims? Only by **personal experience**. The Divine Authorship of the Bible is not established by argument, but by experiment. If we will give it a fair trial, it will prove itself to us!

II Cor. 5 : 17: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature."

I John 5 : 10: "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself."

This experience of spiritual renewal is the highest evidence that the Bible has come from God. We receive God's Word as food for the soul through the same evidence by which we receive bread as food for the body. Bread gives us nourishment and strength. We know by experience that it produces blood and bone and brain. Apply the same test to the Bible. When its principles have actually become the elements of character, what has been the result? What changes have been made in the life?

Through the power of the Bible, countless men and women have broken the chains of sinful habit. Blasphemers have become reverent and pure. Drunkards have become sober. Criminals have become trustworthy and industrious. Cannibals have become gentle and kind. Souls that have borne the likeness of Satan have been transformed into the image of God. This change is the miracle of miracles!

Conclusion Ps. 34 : 8: "O taste and see that the Lord is good."

Food does not nourish us unless we eat it for ourselves. Air does not keep us alive unless we breathe it for ourselves. Medicine does not heal us unless we take it for ourselves.

If we will receive the Bible for ourselves as a prescription from the Great Physician, we, too, will become living witnesses to its life-changing power!