

The background is a composite image. In the upper center, there is a classical-style sculpture of a winged figure riding a horse, holding a trumpet aloft. The scene is set against a bright, hazy sky. In the lower right foreground, a large, detailed winged figure, possibly an angel or cherub, is shown in profile, looking upwards. The overall color palette is muted, with greys, blues, and soft yellows.

A Primer On Prophecy (pt.2)

Dr. Luther Ray Smith Jr.

Those are never referred to as prophecies,
but mysteries!

The Greek word for mystery is μυστήριον (pronounced *musterion*)

CONCERNING THE GOSPEL (OR CHRIST) (ROM. 16:25; 1 COR. 2:7; EPH. 6:19; COL. 1:26-27).

CONCERNING THE UNION BETWEEN JEW & GENTILE
IN CHRIST (EPH. 5:32).

CONCERNING THE GLORIFICATION OF THE SAINTS (1 COR. 15:51-58).

CONCERNING THE RAPTURE OF THE SAINTS (1 THESS. 4:15-19).

CONCERNING THE MAN OF LAWLESSNESS (2 THESS 2:7).

CONCERNING THE STUBBORNNESS OF ISRAEL (ROM. 11:25)

Interesting Note...

Paul is the **ONLY** apostle to use this word in his epistles. Peter and John (and the other NT authors do not use this word mystery!

Reasons He May Have Used This Word

- **This word is *specific* to use in Church economy with Paul.**
- **This word is used in connection with issues Paul was dealing with in the church.**
- **These mysteries are “universal” for the church, as prophecies in the church at this time were “local” and specific to an individual.**

Reasons He May Have Used This Word

- **This is used to reveal the very nature and future of the church in this economy to Jew and Gentile (covenant vs. no covenant).**
- **It shows the distinction of God's plan between Israel and the Church in program and plan.**

AND ANOTHER THING!

Peter, when mentioning Paul
does not call Paul's words
prophecy! (c.f., 2 Pet 3:16)

Question

OKAY...SO WHAT ABOUT REVELATION
BEING MENTIONED AS PROPHECY?!

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Why This May Be Important!

Exhibit A

DEUT.
18:15-19

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Deut. 18:15-19 NASB

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, **you shall listen to him.**" This is according to all that you asked of the Lord your God in Horeb on the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, let me not see this great fire anymore, or I will die.'

"The Lord said to me, 'They have spoken well.' I will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. 'It shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him.

Why This May Be Important!

Exhibit A

Exhibit B

The
Transfiguration

DEUT.
18:15-19

MATT. 17:5/
MK. 9:7

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Matt 17:5 NASB

WHILE HE WAS STILL
SPEAKING, A BRIGHT CLOUD
OVERSHADOWED THEM, AND
BEHOLD, A VOICE OUT OF
THE CLOUD SAID, "THIS IS
MY BELOVED SON, WITH
WHOM I AM WELL-PLEASSED;
LISTEN TO HIM!"

Mk 9:7 NASB

THEN A CLOUD FORMED,
OVERSHADOWING THEM,
AND A VOICE CAME OUT OF
THE CLOUD, "THIS IS MY
BELOVED SON, **LISTEN TO**
HIM!"

Why This May Be Important!

Exhibit A

DEUT.
18:15-19

Exhibit B

The
Transfiguration

MATT. 17:5/
MK. 9:7

Exhibit C

The Sending
of The
Disciples (i.e.
the apostles).

MATT.
28:19-20

Matthew 28:19-20 NASB

16 But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. 17 When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Why This May Be Important!

Exhibit A

Exhibit B

Exhibit C

Exhibit D

The
Transfiguration

The Sending
of The
Disciples (i.e.
the apostles).

The focus of the
church

DEUT.
18:15-19

MATT. 17:5/
MK. 9:7

MATT.
28:19-20

COL. 3:15-16;
HEB. 1:1

Col. 3:15-16 NASB

LET THE PEACE OF CHRIST RULE IN YOUR HEARTS, TO WHICH INDEED YOU WERE CALLED IN ONE BODY; AND BE THANKFUL. LET THE WORD OF CHRIST RICHLY DWELL WITHIN YOU, WITH ALL WISDOM TEACHING AND ADMONISHING ONE ANOTHER WITH PSALMS AND HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS, SINGING WITH THANKFULNESS IN YOUR HEARTS TO GOD.

Heb. 1:1 NASB

GOD, AFTER HE SPOKE LONG AGO TO THE FATHERS IN THE PROPHETS IN MANY PORTIONS AND IN MANY WAYS, IN THESE LAST DAYS HAS SPOKEN TO US IN HIS SON, WHOM HE APPOINTED HEIR OF ALL THINGS, THROUGH WHOM ALSO HE MADE THE WORLD

Revelation

Chaps. 1-4

The prophetic
focus is the
church:
Correction,
encouragement
& Comfort

Chaps. 5-19

The prophetic
focus is Israel,
Nations, Trib.
saints.

Chaps. 20-22

The prophetic
focus is all saints

And Prophecy

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Similarities in Prophecy Regarding Israel & Church

ISRAEL	SEVEN CHURCHES
There was a focus of the charges given by YHVH for their rebellion.	There is a focus of a charge given by Jesus (whom is God) for their rebellion.
There is a warning that if they do not reconsider their instruction (and the behavior that is connected with that false teaching they are embracing) there will be punishment from YHVH.	There is a warning that if they do not reconsider their instruction (and the behavior that is connected with that false teaching they are embracing) there will be punishment from Jesus.
There is a general call to Israel to heed to the message that YHVH is saying to them.	There is a general call to the church to heed to the message that Jesus is telling them.

Differences in Prophecy Regarding Israel & Church

ISRAEL	CHURCH
<p>Prophecy was given for national means (Israel only)</p>	<p>Prophecy was given for local (or even personal) means (International)</p>
<p>A large majority of descriptive prophecy: Was given in terms of how the deliverance of Israel would ultimately play out (additionally prophecy also included condemnation from rebellion)</p>	<p>No descriptive prophecy is recorded. Prophecy is given for the foundation and specific instruction of the particular locale church body (before the word of Christ was completed).</p>
<p>Old Testament prophecy is highlighted and expanded in last half of Revelation.</p>	<p>New Testament underscores instruction and correction in the first half of Revelation</p> <p>MADE BY DR. LUTHER RAY SMITH JR.</p>

Types of References In Revelation

When it comes to the Book of Revelation there are several types of references in this book:

Allusion: Something that is said or written that is intended to make you think of a particular thing or person.

Example: “A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars” (Rev. 12:1 NASB).

Types of References In Revelation

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Association: A feeling or thought, or idea that relates to someone or something else.

Example: “When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, **Gog and Magog**, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore” (Rev. 20:7-8 NASB).

Types of References In Revelation

When it comes to the Book of Revelation there are several types of references in this book:

Parallels: Describe an event or situation that happens at the same time as and/or is similar to another one:

Example: Rev. Chaps. 4-5 vs. Ezek. Chap. 1

The prophetic images and scenes that we observe in the Old Testament are consistent with the images and scenes that we observe in Revelation. In order to “crack the code” of the images in Revelation we have to understand Old Testament history and prophecy!

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Furthermore, although the church can read these things and marvel at the work of God in the future, the prophecies in the OT and the middle aspect (chaps. 6-20) are not about the church, but Israel and the nations.

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Implications

- Prophecy is consistent from the Old Testament & the book of Revelation.
- The Book of Revelation has a past, present, and future aspect. **Not** just a future aspect.

Implications

- John knew exactly what he was looking at in terms of the images found in the book of Revelation.
- The essence of all major prophecies concerning Israel, and the nations are intimately connected to Christ Himself (c.f., Rev. 19:10).
- Prophecies although is done for the church, is not yet complete with Israel.

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