

MESSIANIC PROPHECY INTRODUCTION PART TWO

Four Rules of Prophetic Interpretation

- **Golden Rule-** *When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning, unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in the light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicate clearly otherwise.*
- **Law of Double Reference-** *This law observes the fact that often a passage or a block of Scripture is speaking of two different persons or two different events that are separated by a long period of time. In the passage itself they are blended into one picture, and the time gap between the two persons or two events is not presented by the text itself, but is known due to other portions of Scripture (ie. Zech 9:9-10). NOTE: This is not to be confused with double fulfillment.*
- **Law of Recurrence-** *This law recognizes that there are consecutive blocks of Scripture that reveal general information in the first block followed by detailed information of the same event in the second block (ie. Ezekiel 38-39; Genesis 1-2).*
- **Law of Context-** *A text apart from its context is a pretext (eisogesis). A good example is Zechariah 13:6.*

The New Testament Use of the Old Testament

- 300 formal citations in the NT from the OT in addition to extensive allusions (800 in Revelation alone)
- Quotes from Hebrew (ie. Masoretic text -MT), Septuagint (LXX- Greek OT translated ca. 250 BC), neither MT or LXX, and blending of MT and LXX.
- Apologetic use (Ps 16:10; Acts 2:29-33); Prophetic use (Malachi 4:4-5); Typological use (1 Corinthians 10:1-2); Theological use (Hebrews 3:1-4); Practical use (1 Corinthians 9:8-10; James-Leviticus 19)

1 Peter 1:10-12

"As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that *would come* to you made careful searches and inquiries,¹¹ seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven-- things into which angels long to look." (1Pe 1:10-12 NAU)

- Prophesied of the grace that would come
- Made careful searches and inquires concerning the PERSON and TIME of the Messiah
- Predicted sufferings and glories of the Messiah
- Not serving themselves primarily, but the Messianic generations
- Quote from Scott Swanson, "Can We Reproduce the Exegesis of the NT? Why Are We Still Asking?" (Trinity Journal 17:1; Spring 1996)

"And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT *one* OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,³¹ he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY." (Act 2:30-31 NAU).