

Prophecy Is Not Sure

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Prophecy Is Sure (2Pet. 1:19).

Prophecy Is Not Sure (Jer. 18:7-10).

Historically, there have been many false prophets as well as false interpretations of God's prophecies. However, God's prophecies are sure and will be fulfilled in the manner and time of His choosing. Those who claim to understand God's prophecies will be held to account if their pronouncements do not come to pass.

But **that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death** (for prophesying falsely), **because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the Lord your God**, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the Lord your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away (exterminate) the evil from your midst (Dt. 13:5; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My (God's) name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die (Dt. 18:20; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Mediums, soothsayers, astrologers, and other prognosticators all predict, to varying degrees, future events. However, none of them speak according to God's law and as a consequence they are deceivers.

And when they say to you, 'Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter,' should not a people seek their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰ To the

law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is not light (truth; cf. Psalms 119:105; Proverbs 6:23) in them (Isaiah 8:19-20; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

According to God's law these deceivers are to be put to death. As strange as it may sound in this day and age, God's law and commandments will be enforced by Jesus Christ following his return (cf. Isa. 2:2-4), but genuine repentance of sin will allow anyone to avoid everlasting death (Rom. 6:23; 1Jn. 3:4; 2Pet. 3:9; Ac. 2:38).

You shall not permit a sorceress to live (Ex. 22:18; cf. Lev. 19:31; emphasis added).

A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits (demons), **shall surely be put to death**; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood shall be upon them (cf. Rom. 6:23) (Lev. 20:27; cf. Dt. 18:10-12 Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

The texts in Jeremiah 18:7-10, that supposedly say God's prophecies are not sure, are proof that God's warnings will come to fulfillment unless sinners repent. This truth has been witnessed time and again throughout man's history. Sadly, mankind does not learn from these past events and consequently continues to repeat them.

The instant I (God) speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it, ⁸ if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil (repents), I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it. ⁹ And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, ¹⁰ if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent (change of mind or intent) concerning the good with which I said I would

benefit it (Jer. 18:7-10; cf. Jonah 3:1-10; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Because the nation of Judah ignored the prophecies God gave them through Jeremiah, they eventually went into Babylonian captivity. Therefore, is it a falsehood for anyone to claim the prophecies that Jeremiah gave to the people of Judah were not sure. It is very dangerous to assume that when God does not fulfill His prophecies quickly His word is unreliable. Almighty God does not view time like human beings do.

For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it is past, and like a watch in the night (Ps. 90:4).

But beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years (in man's estimation), and a thousand years as one day (as God views time) (2Pet. 3:8; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Those who claim that God's prophecies are "not sure" are similar to the people in the next scripture because they think God is slow in fulfilling His predictions.

Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, 'Where is the promise of his (Christ's) coming? For since the fathers fell asleep (died), all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation' (2Pet. 3:3-4; Ed. notes in parentheses).

It's human nature to confuse God's patience with, what can appear to be, His slow response to sinful behavior. In other words, because God doesn't always punish sinful conduct immediately, many understand this as meaning God condones it. Add to this error that God's

prophecies are "not sure" and then societies go from bad to worse, as we see happening today.

But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master (i.e. Christ; cf. Jn. 13:14) is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat the menservants and maidservants, and to eat and drink and be drunk, ⁴⁶the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at a hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers (Lk. 12:45-46; Ed. note in parenthesis).



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God's obedient servants do not consider any of His words as unsure, including the prophecies describing Christ's return to remove Satan and establish the law and commandments worldwide (Rev. 20:1-3; Isa. 2:2-4).

We also have the prophetic word made more sure, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star (Jesus Christ; cf. Rev. 22:16) rises in your hearts (2Pet. 1:19; Ed. note in parenthesis).

So, there is no contradiction between the scriptures in the heading of this study. Those who make this claim are misinformed, not knowing God's nature or correctly understanding His word (cf. Isa. 28:10, 13). Jeremiah 18:7-10 does not prove that God's prophecies are unsure. Instead, it's another proof of God's mercy and willingness to forgive sinful mankind,

providing they show “fruits of repentance” for their sins (cf. Mt. 3:7-8).

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