



Daily Verse and Comment

2 Peter 1:19-21

(19) We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: (20) Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. (21) For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

King James Version

This warning is very instructive. First, Peter assures us that biblical prophecy is "more sure" than even eyewitness testimony (verses 16-18)! When [God](#) speaks, whatever He foretells WILL happen! God's Word will not return to Him empty; it will accomplish what God sends it to do ([Isaiah 55:11](#)).

The apostle also says we would "do well to heed" it. Prophecy is vital to our growth! It strengthens our [faith](#) in God, teaches us how He works, and gives us a guide to His purpose for humanity. Until [Christ](#) returns, we need to study the prophecies to understand where we are and what God is doing.

Then Peter sounds his warning note: Do not presume to believe that your particular understanding of prophecy is **THE** correct one! He says this is the "first" rule of studying prophecy; it is something we must arm ourselves with at the outset. We must be humble enough to realize that our interpretation of prophecy is *probably* **WRONG**!

God's thoughts are far higher than ours ([Isaiah 55:8-9](#)); He does not think as humans do. Though we are surely growing in forming His mind in us ([I Corinthians 2:16](#); [Ephesians 4:13](#), 15; [Philippians 2:5](#); [II Peter 3:18](#)), we still have a very long way to go! Paul puts it another way: "For *now we see in a mirror, dimly*, but then [in the resurrection] face to face. *Now I know in part*, but then I shall know just as I also am known" ([I Corinthians 13:12](#)). Or, as

he quotes Isaiah in [1 Corinthians 2:9](#), "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who [love](#) Him."

We, in this fleshly form, with our limited minds and perspectives, just do not know it all yet!

— Richard T. Ritenbaugh

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