# THE PROPHET DANIEL, A KEY TO THE VISIONS AND PROPHECIES OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

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The Prophet Daniel, a key to the visions and prophecies of the Book of Daniel by  $\,$  A. C. Gaebelein

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# A. C. GAEBELEIN

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A KEY TO THE VISIONS AND PROPHECIES OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

BY

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## THE PROPHET DANIEL

## Introduction

The Book of Daniel with its great prophecies, both fulfilled and unfulfilled, is one of the most interesting portions of God's Holy Word. Before we follow this blessed book in a series of studies a few general remarks on Prophecy and its importance may be in order.

Prophecy is history prewritten. The center of all Prophecy and the goal as well is the Lord Jesus Christ, His sufferings and His Glory, His two Comings, as Man of Sorrows to suffer and to die, as King of Glory to reign were beheld and written in advance by the holy men of God through the power of God's Spirit. The entire history of the chosen people Israel is written in the prophetic Word. All their sufferings and wanderings, what has befallen them in the past; their present lot, scattered among all the nations of the earth; what is yet to come upon them in tribulation and judgment, as well as blessing and peace, are found prewritten in the Bible. The history of nations, the times of the Gentiles, the present age in which we live, its course and end, the coming glories in a future age, all this and much more God has been

pleased to reveal to us in His Word. By far the

greater part of the Bible is Prophecy.

In view of such a marvellous Book with divine and infallible predictions concerning this earth and its future, the destiny of nations, one can hardly understand why the professing church of to-day should almost completely ignore and neglect the study of Prophecy. Yet such is the case. The study of a Book like Daniel, or the great New Testament prophetic book, the Revelation, is frowned upon by many. The great majority of professing Christians have little desire to know what God has said concerning the future. They rather listen to the theories or dreams of the human mind than to God's plan, how He is going to bring this earth to a knowledge of Himself. This rejection of what God says about the future appears strange and inconsistent, when one thinks of the natural eagerness and curiosity of the human heart to know the future. Thousands of fortune tellers, astrologers, demon possessed mediums, who ask the dead, make a fine living throughout Christendom and profit greatly by the desire of thousands to know a little about the future. It is said that the great rulers of Europe, the rulers of the so-called Christian nations, employ and have employed clairvoyants and mediums. And here in the Bible God has uncovered the future, but a few of His people pay any attention to it. We say it is strange indeed. But behind this fact looms up the dark shadow of the enemy of the Truth, Satan.

And this almost absolute neglect of the study of Prophecy has avenged itself. On account of it Christendom has sunk into the deplorable condition in which it is to-day. The denial of the inspiration of the Bible has become widespread. If Prophecy were intelligently studied such a denial could not flourish as it does, for Prophecy gives the clearest and most conclusive evidence, that the Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God. Because the study of Prophecy has been set aside scepticism has come in. One of the most powerful answers to infidelity is Prophecy.

The prophetic Word neglected leaves man ignorant of God's plan and the future and man becomes the easy prey of lying inventions and delusive theories. For this reason we see about us among Christians an unscriptural optimism, which holds in theory and practice, the very opposite from what the Bible teaches; an optimism, which has no use for the solemn declarations of the Word, that this age is an evil age and that it will close with apostasy and judgment. All the present evil conditions, the denial of the faith, the indifference and worldliness of professing Christians are the result of ignoring Prophecy.

And if we, His people, have learned to "love His appearing" and know of the coming manifestation of our ever blessed Lord, the consummation to which all prophecy points, we too must beware of neglecting Prophecy. It is the lamp, which shineth in a dark place till the Day dawn. Never before is there such need of this lamp as now. The dark