Prophecy in Gospel of John

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Prophecy Is Important: Why?

- 1/3 of the whole Bible is Prophecy
- Longest Answer to a question Jesus Ever Gave is about Prophecy
- Synoptic Gospels have prophecies almost every chapter
- All scripture is profitible
- Prophecy gives us
  - Hope
  - Urgency
  - Faith
  - Confidence
  - Patience
My Interpretative Assumptions

• Bible Can Be Understood
  – Holy Spirit
  – Effort
• Bible Intended to be Understood
  – Not secret codes
  – Revelation meant to communicate
• Prophecy Can and Should Be Understood
Some Principles of Interpretation: Context

• Importance of Context
  – Immediate context
  – Context of the work/book/letter
  – Context of the Author
  – Context of the NT
  – Context of the Bible
  – Context of Roman Empire in First Century
Some Principles of Interpretation: Scripture Interprets Scripture

- Which Scriptures Interpret Which Scriptures?
- Easy Interprets Difficult
  - (narrative → epistles → prophecy)
- Detailed Discussions Interpret Isolated References
- Order of Priority
  - Same Book
  - Same Author
  - Same Genre
  - NT
  - Bible
Some Principles of Interpretation: Progressive Revelation

- Later Revelation Can Explain, Amplify, Clarify & Illustrate Earlier Revelation
- But
- Later Revelation Cannot Contradict Earlier Revelation
- Each Revelation Should be Understandable at time Written, based only on it and what came before it
  - OT → Gospels → Epistles → Revelation
Some Principles of Interpretation: How Scripture Interprets Itself

• NT Interprets OT
  – How OT prophecies fulfilled in Gospels
  – How OT law explained in Gospels
  – How OT Prophecies explained in Gospels
HOW PROPHECY IS FULFILLED IN JOHN
How Prophecy is Fulfilled
John 1:21-23

• They asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?"
  And he said, "I am not " "Are you the Prophet?"
  And he answered, "No."

• Then they said to him, "Who are you, so that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?"

• He said, "I am A VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY OF THE LORD,' as Isaiah the prophet said."
How Prophecy is Fulfilled
John 2:13-17

• The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.

• And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables;

• and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a place of business."

• His disciples remembered that it was written, "ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE WILL CONSUME ME."
How Prophecy is Fulfilled: John 12:14-15

- Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written, “FEAR NOT, DAUGHTER OF ZION; BEHOLD, YOUR KING IS COMING, SEATED ON A DONKEY'S COLT.”
How Prophecy is Fulfilled
John 19:23-24

• Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His outer garments and made four parts, a part to every soldier and also the tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece.

• So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, to decide whose it shall be"; this was to fulfill the Scripture: "THEY DIVIDED MY OUTER GARMENTS AMONG THEM, AND FOR MY CLOTHING THEY CAST LOTS."
Then the Jews, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath ..., asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.

So the soldiers came, and broke the legs of the first man and of the other who was crucified with Him; but coming to Jesus, when they saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.

But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe.

For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, "NOT A BONE OF HIM SHALL BE BROKEN." And again another Scripture says, "THEY SHALL LOOK ON HIM WHOM THEY PIERCED."
JOHN’S TERMINOLOGY
John’s Terminology: Lamb of God
John 1:29, 35

• The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

• Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"
And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified, behold, He is baptizing and all are coming to Him."

John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven.

"You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent ahead of Him.'

"He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full."
"I know that you are Abraham's descendants; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.

"I speak the things which I have seen with My Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father."

They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you are Abraham's children, do the deeds of Abraham.

"But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has I told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do.

"You are doing the deeds of your father." They said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father: God."

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me."
John’s Terminology: Death
John 8:51-56

• "Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he will never see death."
• The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon Abraham died, and the prophets also; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste of death.' "Surely You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too; whom do You make Yourself out to be?"
• Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'He is our God'; and you have not come to know Him, but I know Him; and if I say that I do not know Him, I will be a liar like you, but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."
John’s Terminology: Death
John 11:11-17

- This He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I go, so that I may awaken him out of sleep."
- The disciples then said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."
- Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that He was speaking of literal sleep.
- So Jesus then said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,
- and I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe; but let us go to him."
- Therefore Thomas, who is called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, so that we may die with Him."
- So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days.
John’s Terminology: Death and Resurrection
John 11:21-26

• Martha then said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. "Even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

• Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

• Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

• Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"
John’s Terminology: Hour
John 12:27

• Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour.
John’s Terminology: Hour
John 16:1-2

• "These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling. "They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God."
• Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named **Nicodemus**, a ruler of the Jews; this man came to Jesus by night and **said** to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

• **Jesus answered** and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

• **Nicodemus said** to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?"

• **Jesus answered**, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. "Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'"
The Issue of the Temple
John 4:20-24

• "Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship."

• Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

• "You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

• "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

• "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."
The Two Resurrections
John 5:21-20

• "For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.
• "For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.
• "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life
• "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. "For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He (gave to the Son also to have life in Himself; and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man.
• "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which (all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment."
Resurrection of Believers on Last Day
John 6:37-40

• All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.

• "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

• "This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.

• "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."
The Rapture?
John 14:2-3

• "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

• "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."
The Rapture?
John 14:18-20

• "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

• "After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; because I live, you will live also.

• "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."
The Rapture?
John 14:28-29

• "You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

• "Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe."