

Prophetic Promises for a Glorious Church

Foretelling and Forthtelling

Foretelling refers to predicting future events as revealed by divine inspiration, while forthtelling involves delivering messages that address current situations and encourage or correct people based on God's word. Both aspects are important in understanding the role of prophecy in the Bible.

John 4:23 **"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. 24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Now is = present access for those who have ears to hear

The Ephesians Prophecy

1:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might 20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

An hour is coming and now is...

When our greatest passion will be to know and live by God's amazing wisdom, and to receive revelation after revelation of who Jesus is so we can know Him intimately. **Do you agree?**

An hour is coming and now is...

When we will clearly see and know our calling as those who are one with Jesus and manifest His divine nature.

An hour is coming and now is...

When we will deeply know the priceless value of each and every one of our brothers and sisters to our Father's heart, and we'll truly honor and love one another as He loves us.

An hour is coming and now is...

When we will personally experience the earth-shaking resurrection power of God and release it to accomplish everything the blood of Jesus paid for.

An hour is coming and now is...

When we will truly and actually and finally be fully submitted and surrendered to Jesus as the one and only Head of His own body, and together in Him we will fully manifest Him to the whole world.

3:14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. 20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

An hour is coming and now is...

When we will continually experience His power within us, which enables us to actually do all things because of our oneness with Jesus.

An hour is coming and now is...

When we will be so rooted and grounded in His love that no one will ever feel separated, rejected, unworthy or unqualified to be His precious child, but we will personally know by experience His limitless love, and we all will be filled up to all the fullness of God.

An hour is coming and now is...

When every limit we have placed on God because of our false ideas and negative opinions about Him, His nature and His ways, will be totally removed, and He will finally be fully glorified through us to all generations forever and ever, amen!

4:11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. 14 As a result, we are no longer to be

children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

An hour is coming and now is...

When we all will be one in our love and devotion to Jesus, we will know Him intimately, and become a body that is fully mature and in proportion to the size of our head, Jesus.

5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

An hour is coming and now is...

When the Bride of Christ becomes so perfect and beautiful that she is everything Jesus has always desired for Himself.

Spot: un-renewed mind, unbelief, religious tradition/practices

Wrinkle: whatever divides us, a "line in the sand" disagreements, unforgiveness, cold love

The big questions: How are we doing? Where are we in all this? **How will Jesus accomplish these things?**

A Divine Reset

1 Peter 4:17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

Hebrews 12:26 And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN." 27 This expression, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

What is He shaking? Everything that was initiated, built, and sustained by us.

Church defined:

Matthew 16:13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." 15 He *said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and **upon this rock I will build My church**; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

Matthew 18:18 "Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven. 19 "Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. 20 "**For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.**"

- According to Jesus, how did He define the focus and practice of His Church?
- How is this different from how Church is typically defined?

Acts 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- How is this different from current church practice?
- What is clearly the priority of these gatherings?

Ephesians 4:11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service [ministry], to the building up of the body of Christ;

15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

- Who is primarily responsible for growing and building up one another?

Leadership Burnout

- Over 40% of pastors consistently reported serious contemplation of quitting full-time ministry within the last year. (Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, 2023)
- A comprehensive survey of 1,050 pastors revealed that 90% were considering leaving their ministry roles, with 50% stating they would depart if other career options became available. (Burrow, M. L., 2023)
- 75% of pastors report regularly feeling “extremely stressed” or “highly stressed.” (Soul Shepherding)
- 90% of pastors consistently work between 55 and 75 hours per week, leading to severe fatigue and chronic exhaustion, experienced weekly by 90% of pastors.
- 40% report facing serious conflicts with parishioners at least monthly. (Soul Shepherding)
- Strikingly, 78% of pastors have been forced to resign from their roles, with 63% experiencing this repeatedly, often due to unresolved church conflict.

<https://standingstoneministry.org/shepherd-resources/state-pastoral-burnout-insights/>

Why is this happening? Ephesians 4:11-12

Mark 10:42 Calling them to Himself, Jesus *said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them. 43 "But it is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; 44 and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. 45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Acts 11:25 And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

The Pattern

1 Cor. 14:26 What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.