



A Remarkable Prophecy

***Joshua 6:25-27
and 1 Kings 16:33-34***

God keeps His Word. Every prediction God has ever made has been fulfilled or will be in the future.

Prophets were to be put to death if their prophecy failed to come to pass (*Deut. 18:20-22*). A true prophet spoke the word of God, and when God says something will take place, it always does, even if we must wait hundreds or even thousands of years for its fulfillment.

Christ's promise that He would come again was given 2000 years ago (*John 14:1-3*), and it is absolutely certain that it will be fulfilled, perhaps very soon.

In Joshua 6:26 a curse was pronounced upon the city of Jericho which Joshua had defeated by God's miraculous intervention. This prophecy stated that the man who tried to rebuild and fortify the city of Jericho would do so at great cost. At the beginning of the building project ("the foundation") he would lose his oldest son ("firstborn"), and at the end of the construction ("the gates") he would lose his youngest son. Although people later lived in Jericho (*Judges 3:13*), no one dared to fortify the city with gates and walls.

Finally a man named Hiel, who lived during the reign of wicked King Ahab, decided he would fortify the city. This took place over 500 years after the prophecy was uttered by Joshua. This godless man Hiel was probably unaware of this ancient prophecy, or if he knew about it, he was in haughty defiance of it, as if daring God to curse him. The word of the LORD, spoken through Joshua so many years earlier, indeed came to pass. This man lost his oldest and youngest son exactly as predicted (*1 Kings 16:34*).

Today, if we choose to ignore God's prophetic statements, we do so at our own peril. God is not playing games. **HE MEANS WHAT HE SAYS.**

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org



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