

the Old Testament prophets declaring what was going to happen ten or twenty or a hundred years later, and then we see how the events turned out exactly as they said they would.

In I Kings 13 we read how an unnamed prophet predicted the coming of King Josiah, telling of his deeds, giving his lineage, and even specifying his name, three hundred years before his time. In Isaiah 44 to 45 the prophet reveals the coming of the Persian conqueror, Cyrus, even giving his name in advance. Four hundred years ahead of time, Daniel predicted the coming of the great Syrian persecutor, Antiochus Epiphanes. He did not name him, but he gave considerable detail about his character and actions, telling about his humiliation by the Romans, his ultimate defeat by the Maccabees, and his miserable end.

On a visit to Bible lands today, we can see how the present conditions in many areas are exactly as they were predicted by the prophets. We can see the desolate ruins of Nineveh, uninhabited for over 2500 years. Its utter destruction was predicted by the prophet Nahum. We can see the condition of Tyre, of Memphis, of Thebes, of Edom, of Babylonia, of city after city and country after country. The ruins stand today as mute witnesses to the fact that God enabled his prophets to tell exactly what was going to happen.