

PREDICTIONS -- TIME OF FULFILLMENT

The great bulk of the prophetic predictions seem to deal with things in the comparatively near future, to have particular reference to the prophet's own times. From this it is not difficult as a rule to distinguish those elements of prediction which look somewhat further into the future. However, when two things are mentioned which are quite a bit further into the future than the immediate future, it is not as a rule possible to tell which of them comes first, if they are mentioned in different contexts. All that we can tell is that they are a little beyond the immediate future.

It is of this he says, he went out in the evening and looked at the moon, went out the next morning and what he saw was the sun. This gives no idea of the fact that the moon was only a few thousand miles away while the sun was over ninety million miles away. Similarly one might speak of two piers at New York. One might say, from this pier the boats go to Baltimore, from this pier they go to London. That would not in itself tell which was further away, Baltimore or London.

However, very frequently when two predictions which are distant are mentioned, they are mentioned in such a way that it is possible to tell which is nearer, and also possibly whether there is a great or small interval between them. However, in fixing the time of prophecy, we can say that we are compelled to depend upon two different criteria: One is the context which may tell us that it is beyond the immediate future