

# **A Lesson from the First Coming in Recognizing Prophecy**

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January 2019

11<sup>th</sup> Month 6018

The first time Yeshua came, everyone was looking for a Messiah who would be someone famous, someone who was a prince in the palace, or a great military general, or a well-known statesman in politics, or a prominent Rabbi religious leader who had gone to seminary and had the backing of the Sanhedrin. But instead Yeshua came as a nobody, a person who no one had ever heard of before. He came without any seminary degree and even though he was of the lineage of King David, he did not come in princely clothing from a palace. He was only 30 years old, a young man with no experience in politics or military tactics or religious training from the Rabbis. He was a low life, dead beat without a job, who had no house or family, no roof over his head. He was a homeless man who traveled about the country side and towns preaching and teaching.

The 12 apostles he chose were local fishermen, bankers, tradesmen, laborers who had not theological degrees, no religious training whatsoever. None of them were skilled in speaking as politicians or had any military capability. None of them were famous or popular or particularly wealthy, none of them had any positions of power or authority in society. Even the banker Matthew was requiring interest from his fellow Jewish brothers in violation of the Torah, which is why he was disliked. They were all nobodies who no one had ever heard of outside of their circles of friends and relations. And they all gave up their jobs and their lives in order to follow this homeless man Yeshua, who supernaturally healed everyone who came in contact with him, not only physically but also spiritually inside.

Yeshua spoke and taught the Torah and the Scriptures with an authority that no other Rabbi or religious leader was able to duplicate. Because this humble man Yeshua was the son of Yahuweh/Yehovah; Yahuweh/Yehovah come to earth to dwell within the body of a man among men. And he sat down together to eat and drink with the sinners in the bars and public houses; those who had done wrong and committed evil, with the robbers and criminals and the outcasts of society, to save the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Everyone was expecting a Messiah who would sit with the high and righteous religious Rabbis, in a position of authority with the Sanhedrin and the other religious sects at the time, setting up a kingdom to rule and reign from Jerusalem. But instead he set up a kingdom within the hearts and minds of the people of earth, setting up the people as clean vessels and temples for him to rule and reign inside of with his Spirit.

And because the people loved and followed Yeshua, and he turned everyone away from following the religious rules and commands of men of the Rabbis, the Sanhedrin knew that they had to get rid of him or lose their power. And that is why they turned Yeshua over to the gentiles to be crucified and to die on Passover as the eternal Lamb sacrifice to take away the sins of the world; and then to rise again 3 days and 3 nights later, conquering death for all those who believe in Yeshua, the Passover Lamb. And that is why the majority of the world missed Yeshua's first coming, because he came with a different plan and in a different manner than what everyone expected or wanted.

The lesson in Yeshua's first coming is that the religious leaders and scholars and the people of the day had determined their own interpretations of how the prophecies in Scripture would be fulfilled. And when they saw the messianic prophecies fulfilled before their eyes through Yeshua, instead of throwing out their interpretations of the prophecy and accepting the fulfillment of prophecy that had taken place, they threw out the fulfillment of the prophecy in order to hold onto their interpretation of the prophecy. If none of the prophecies were fulfilled

according to man's interpretations the first time Yeshua came, why should we expect his second coming to be any different? Why should we expect any of the prophecies in his second coming to be fulfilled according to any of man's interpretations?

If no one was able to figure out how any of the prophecies were going to be fulfilled ahead of time the first time that Yeshua came, and were only able to figure them out after the prophecies had already been fulfilled, then why should we expect Yeshua's second coming to be any different? Why should any of us think that we have any of the prophecies of his second coming figured out ahead of time? Should we not expect Yahuweh/Yehovah to again fulfill all of his prophecies at his second coming in completely different ways from how anyone has figured them or interpreted them?

The first time everyone was watching for the Messiah everyone just assumed that the fulfillment of the prophecies would be so obvious to see that nobody would miss them, and yet the entire nation of Israel missed them. Even Yeshua's closest followers missed them when they happened. It was not until it was all over that a very small number of Yeshua's disciples finally understood and saw them, but not until Yeshua explained it to them first. Are we again going to assume that Yeshua's second coming will be so obvious that nobody is going to miss it? Yet we are told by Sha'ul (Paul) in I Thessalonians and Yeshua in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and again by Yeshua through Yochanan in Revelation that he will come as a thief in the night, that the entire world will miss the prophecies of his second coming and will be taken by surprise because life at his coming at the end of the tribulation will look so normal like it has always looked.

Only those who are of the day, who are closely following Yahuweh/Yehovah will not be taken by surprise when he comes; only those who know Yeshua will know ahead of time that he is coming and will be prepared. But even so, there is nothing in Scripture that says that even those following Yahuweh/Yehovah closely will see or recognize all of the prophecies being fulfilled before their eyes. The lesson of Yeshua's first coming is that we should expect to miss and be perplexed at the fulfillment of the prophecies when they happen, then understand and recognize them later, after they have happened.

But the biggest lesson in prophecy from Yeshua's first coming is that the proud who hold onto their interpretations of prophecy will never be able to accept the fulfillment of prophecy when it happens, because they will always throw out the fulfillment of the prophecy in order to hold onto their beloved interpretations. Only the humble, who hold interpretation loosely and throw it out when a prophecy is fulfilled differently from how they thought it would happen, will be able to accept the fulfillment of prophecy when it happens according to Yahuweh/Yehovah's interpretation.