THE PROPHETIC MESSAGE

II PETER 1:19-21

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: "The Word of God was written to common people, not to theological professors. The writers assumed that common people could read it, understand it, and apply it, led by the same Holy Spirit who inspired it. The humble individual believer can learn about God as he reads and meditates on the Word of God." Warren W. Wiersbe, The Bible Exposition Commentary, New Testament, Volume II, p. 445.

IS COMPLETELY RELIABLE. One of the reasons prophecy was written was to strengthen your faith. It is for you to see in God's Word the accuracy in the fulfillment of His prophecies. For an example in Psalm 22:14, David describes the result of crucifixion (unheard of in David's time) with bones out of joints. The late Dr. Drude confirmed that medically this would be the case with the crucifixion that Jesus underwent for us. (II Peter 1:19, fn 1:20-21, Psalm 22:14, 18, fn 22:1, John 19:23-24, fn 19:23,24, Isaiah 53:1-12, fn 53:1-12, I Peter 2:22-25, fn 2:22-25) How do you know that prophetic messages of the Bible are reliable?

IS GOD SPEAKING. "The Bible is the only book that when it is read, you are in the presence of the author." Joy Haddock Davis. God's Word was written by the prophets as they were inspired and led by the Holy Spirit. Now, under the Holy Spirit's power, you are able to understand it, interpret it, and apply it to your life. (II Peter 1:20, John 1:1, 14, fn 1:1-18, I Corinthians 2:10-14, fn 2:10, fn 2:12-13, John 14:15-20, fn 14:15-16, II Timothy 3:16-17, fn 3:16, fn 3:17, Ephesians 5:18, fn 5:18) What is necessary for you to understand Scripture?

IS FOR YOU. Just as Secret Service agents are taught to study the real dollar bill instead of the counterfeits to determine what is real, you study what is real about God when you read Scripture. It is revealed to us by the Holy Spirit when we come and "sit with the Lord Jesus" enjoying His presence and His Word. (II Peter 1:2, Hebrews 4:14-16, fn 4:14, Hebrews 10:19-25, fn 10:21-22, Romans 8:26-27 fn 8:26-27, I Peter I:8-9, Psalm 23:1-6, fn 23:1) When and how could you study Jesus?

Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?

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