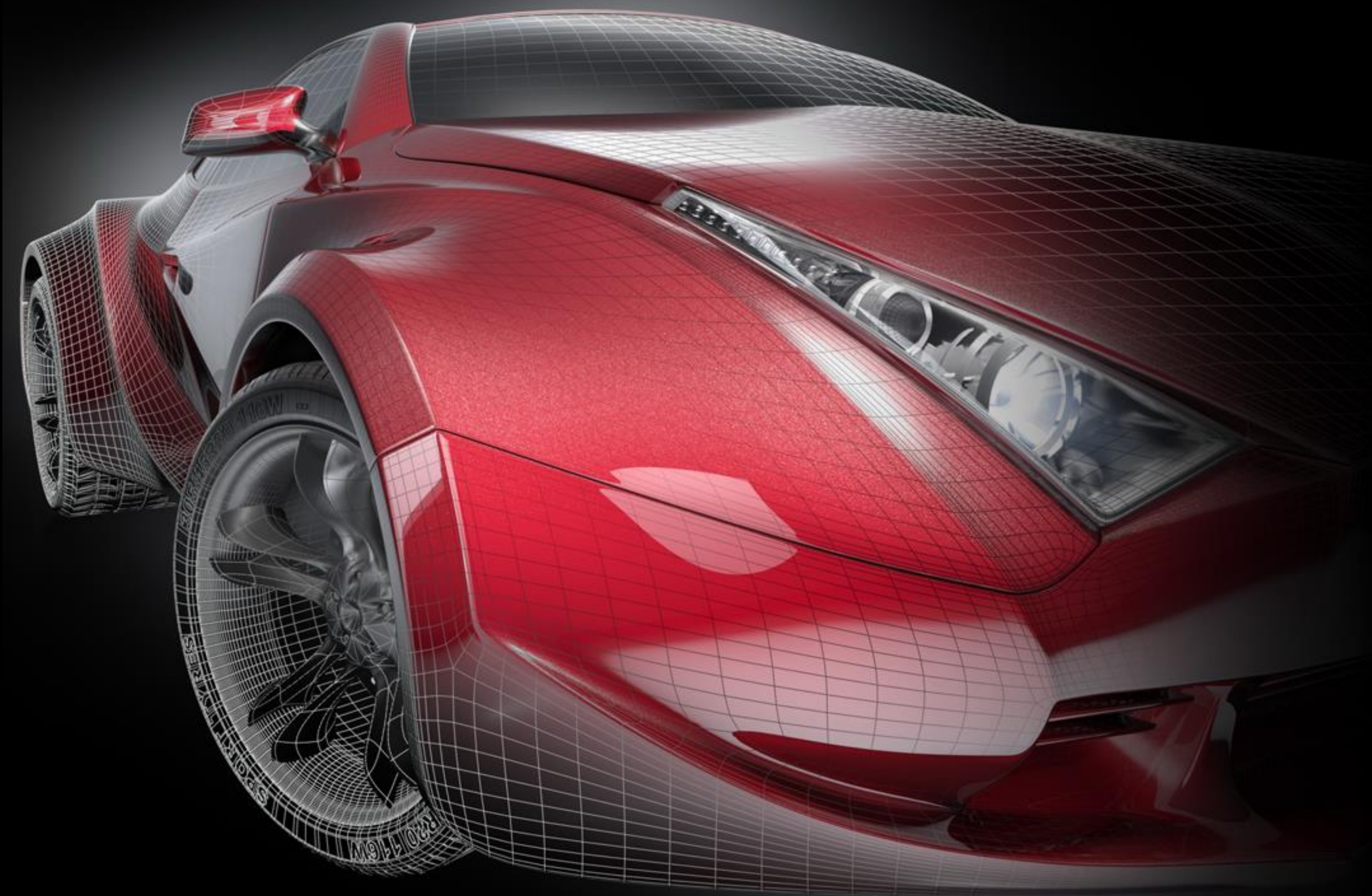


THE SECRETS
OF PROPHECY

Amos 3:7
Surely the Lord God
does nothing, unless
He reveals His secret
to His servants the
prophets

“Prediction is very difficult,
especially if it’s about the future.”





“The horse is here to stay;
the automobile is only a fad”

Advice to Henry Ford from Horace
Rackhan, President of Michigan
Savings Bank, 1903



“Who the hell wants actors to talk”

H.M.Warner,
Warner Brothers, 1927

A stack of three modern smartphones is placed on the keyboard of a laptop. The background is a solid blue color. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

“I think there is a world
market for maybe five
computers”

Thomas Watson,
Chairman of IBM, 1943



“Television won’t last because people will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night”

Darryl Zanuck,
20th Century Fox, 1946



“We don’t like their sound,
and guitar music is on the
way out anyway”

President of Decca Records,
commenting on The Beatles, 1962

THE BEATLES



“The prophets who wrote the ancient Scriptures used mysterious symbols and time codes to describe over one thousand startling and specific predictions.”



What did Bible prophets predict for our day?

- A rapid increase in technology and pace of life
- A union of religious and political powers causing war and destruction
- Greedy capitalists who use the cheap labour of the poor
- A global economic collapse
- Destruction of the environment
- The formation of global politics and the globalisation of the world



What are the keys that unlock
the “Secrets of Prophecy”?

Q1

WHO CLAIMS THE ABILITY TO TRULY KNOW THE FUTURE?

Q1

WHO CLAIMS THE ABILITY TO TRULY KNOW THE FUTURE?

Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done. **ISAIAH 46:9,10**



Mystics and Astrologers have been attempting
to predict the future for thousands of years

Millions of people read their
horoscopes to discover the
future

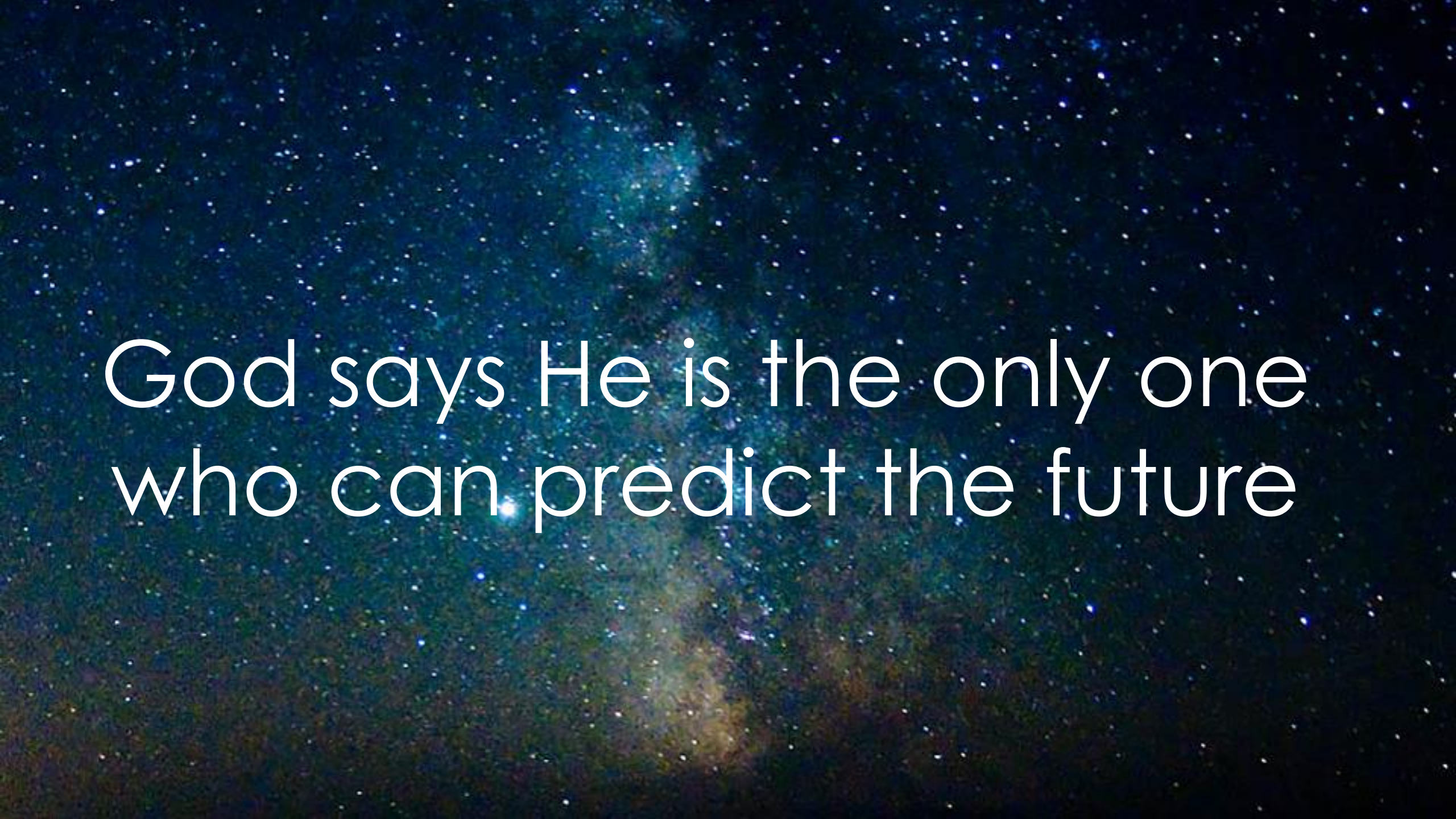




2012

The Mayan Calendar

The end of time?



God says He is the only one
who can predict the future

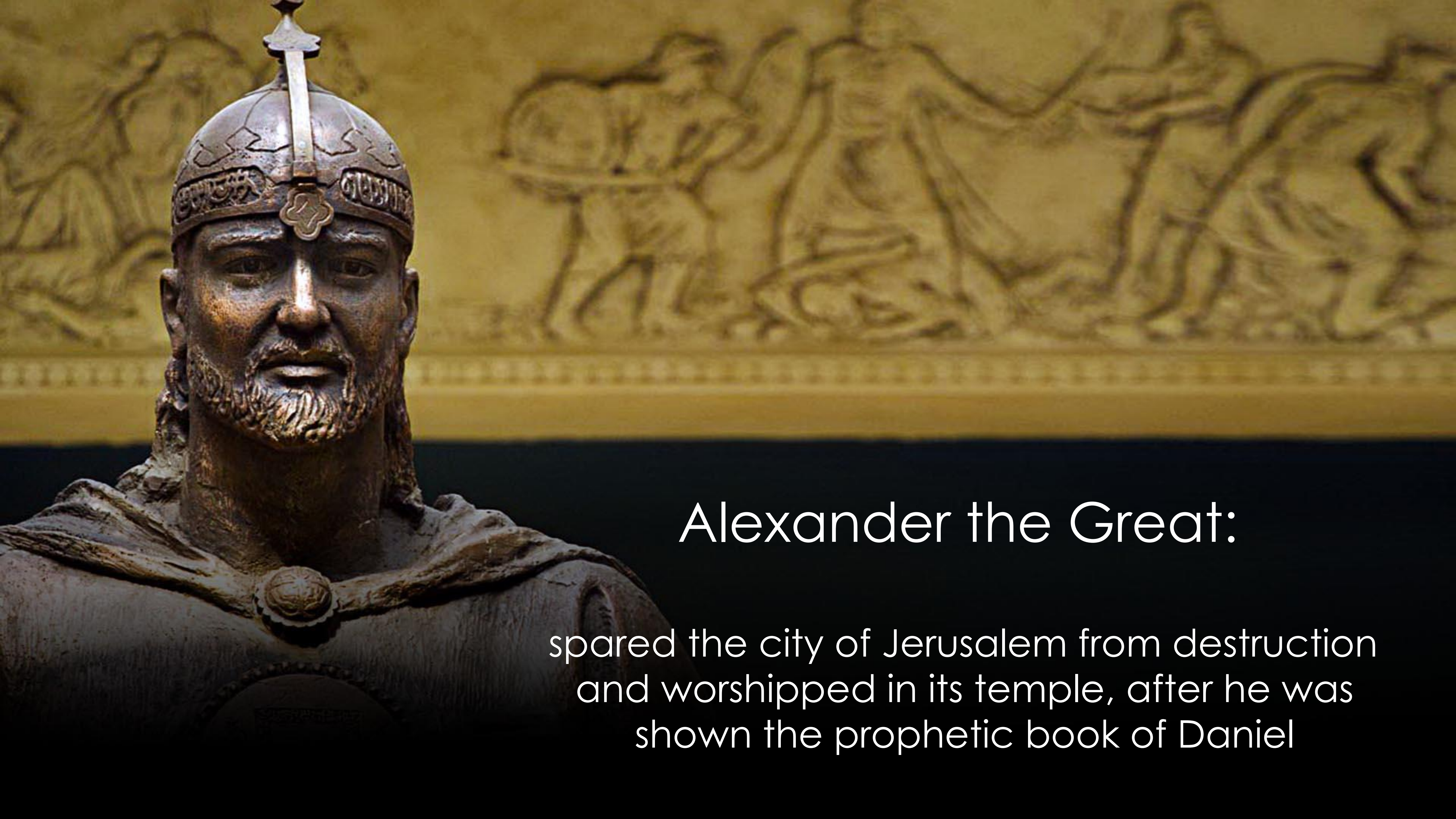


“With over 1,000 clear prophecies, and one-third of the Bible devoted to prophecy, you can take God’s challenge and test if He is real, and can truly predict the future.”



King Cyrus:

commanded the rebuilding of the Jewish temple, as a result of the prophecies contained in the books of Daniel, Isaiah and Jeremiah



Alexander the Great:

spared the city of Jerusalem from destruction
and worshipped in its temple, after he was
shown the prophetic book of Daniel

Jesus Christ:

told His followers they needed to study and understand the book of Daniel. His life and death, were also perfectly matched to the prophecies contained in the Old Testament

The Principal of Probability

Dr. Peter Stoner, former chairman of the departments of mathematics, astronomy and engineering at Pasadena College (California), worked with 600 students for several years applying the “principle of probability” to the prophecies of Messiah’s coming.

The Principal of Probability

They chose just eight from the many available and finally decided the chances of all eight being fulfilled in one man in a lifetime is 1 in 10^{33}

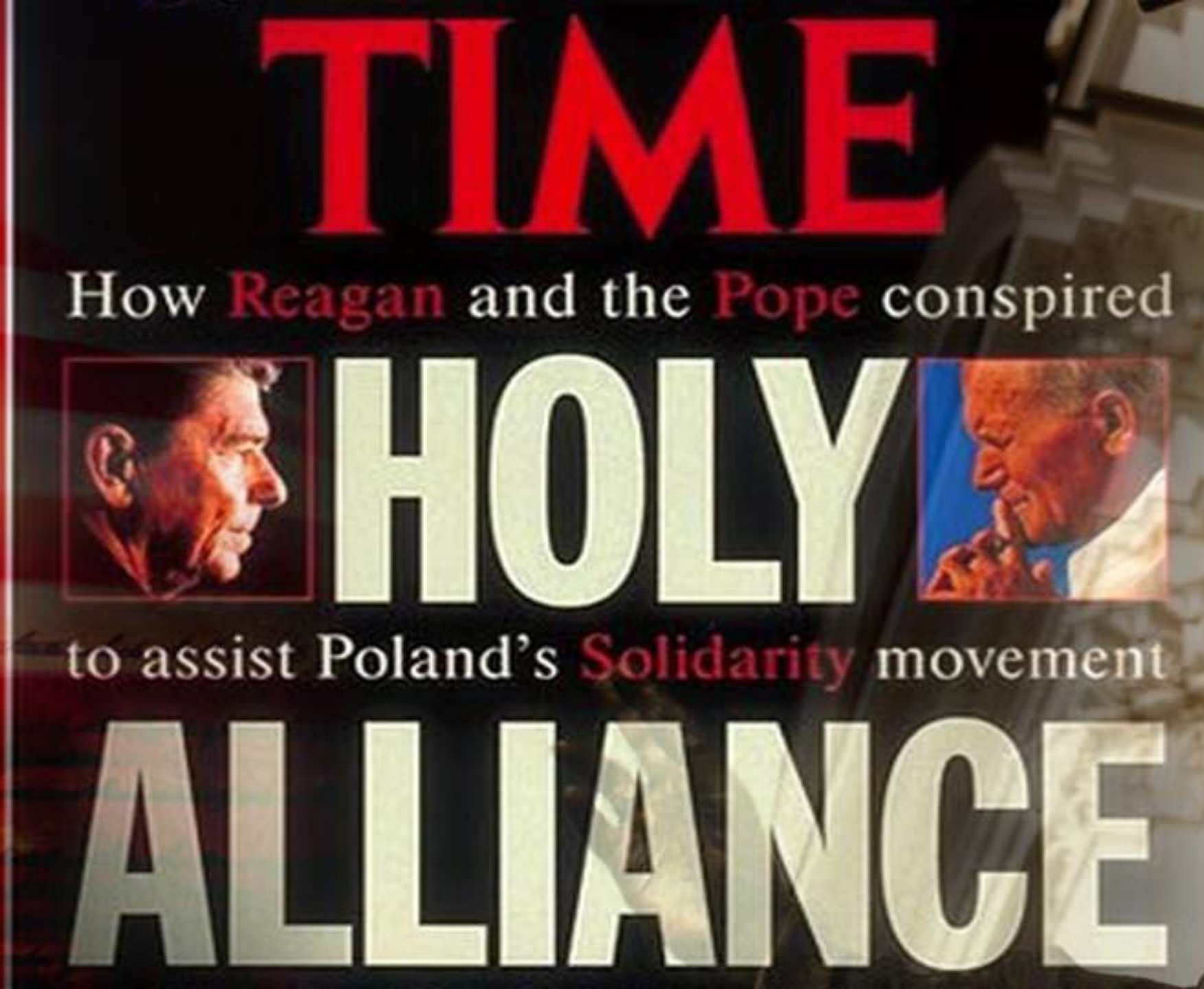
1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000.
(33 naughts) 10^{33} is called a decillion.

What would be the odds on all of the prophecies being fulfilled?

Putting things into perspective

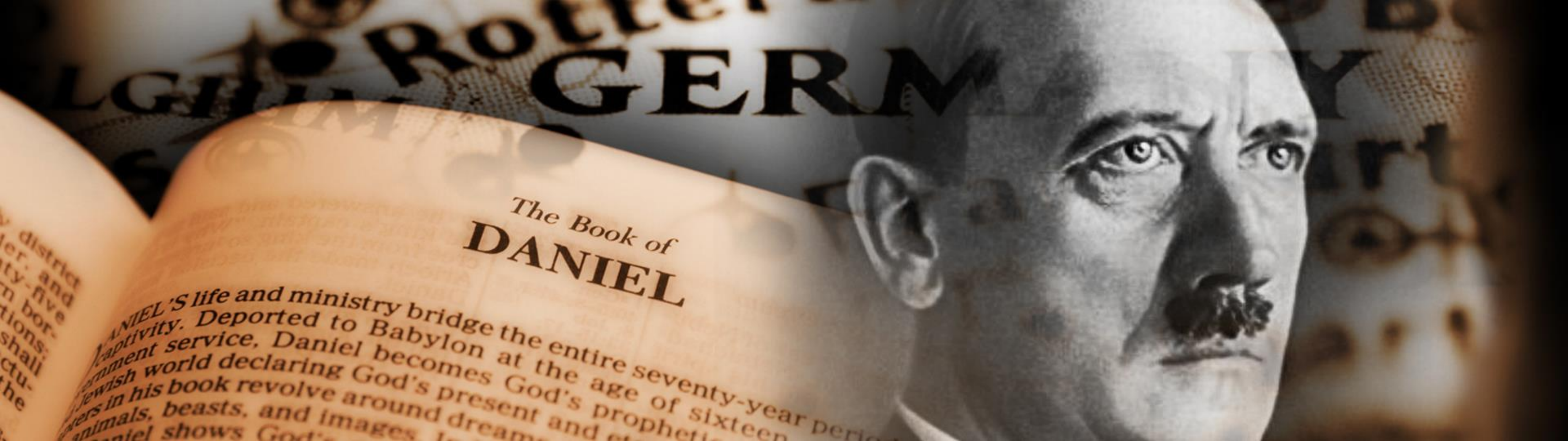
The background of the slide features a dramatic sunset or sunrise sky with hues of orange, pink, and blue. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of several tall, thin structures that resemble crosses or gallows, with some figures hanging from them. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

- It takes 11.57 days to count to a million
- It takes 11,570 days (31.7 yrs) to count to a billion
- It takes 11,570,000 days (31,698.63 years) to count to a trillion



Ronald Reagan:

worked with Pope John Paul II to overthrow communism, because he feared the prophetic battle of Armageddon



Adolf Hitler:

openly opposed the book of Daniel
and the prophetic God of the Bible



Saddam Hussein:

believed he was the modern fulfillment of a
key character in the prophetic book of Daniel;
King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon

Q2

WHO DOES GOD REVEAL HIS SECRETS THROUGH?

Q2

WHO DOES GOD REVEAL HIS SECRETS THROUGH?

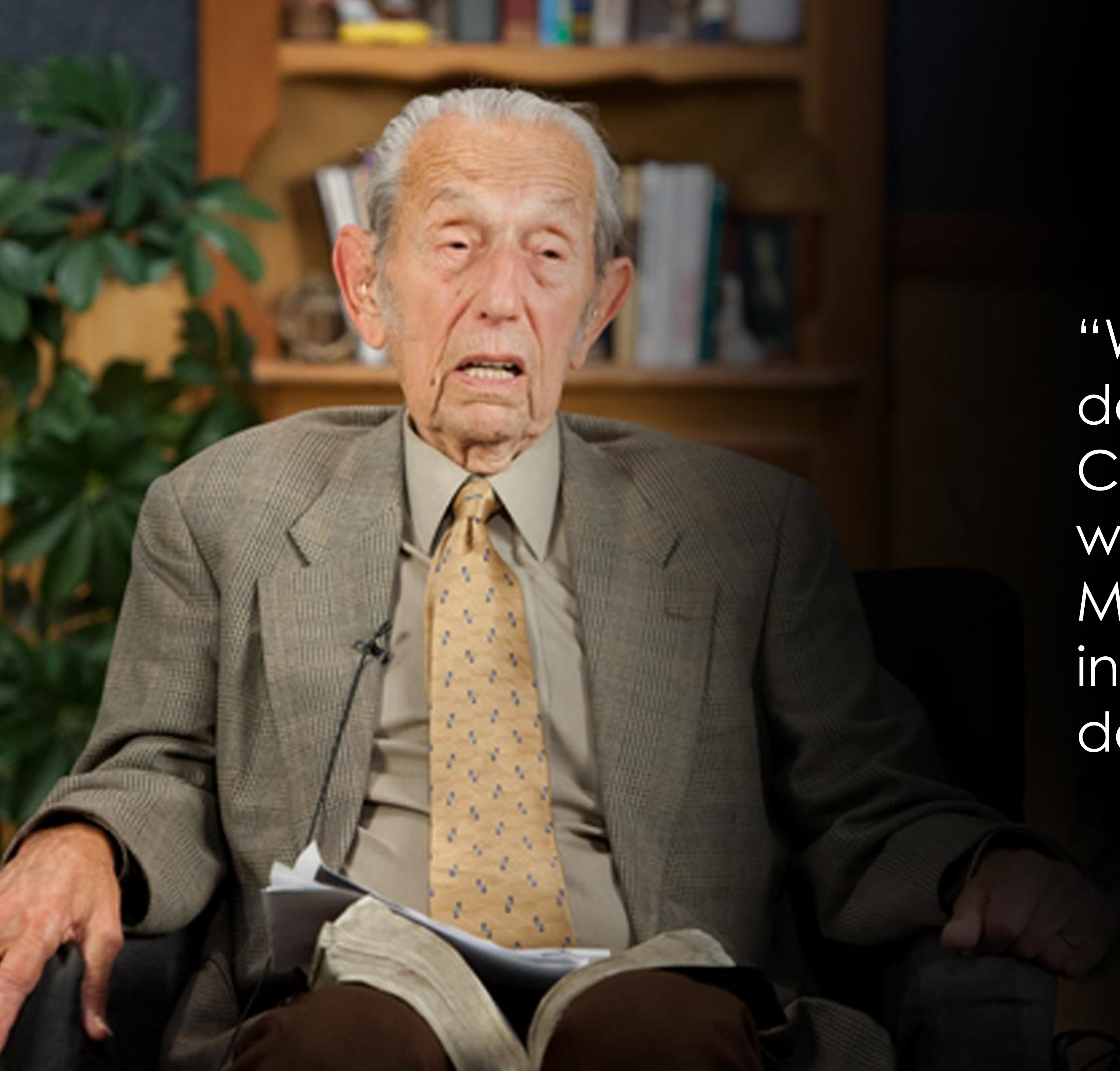
Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He
reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.
AMOS 3:7

Prophets often made predictions for the future, or “prophecies”.



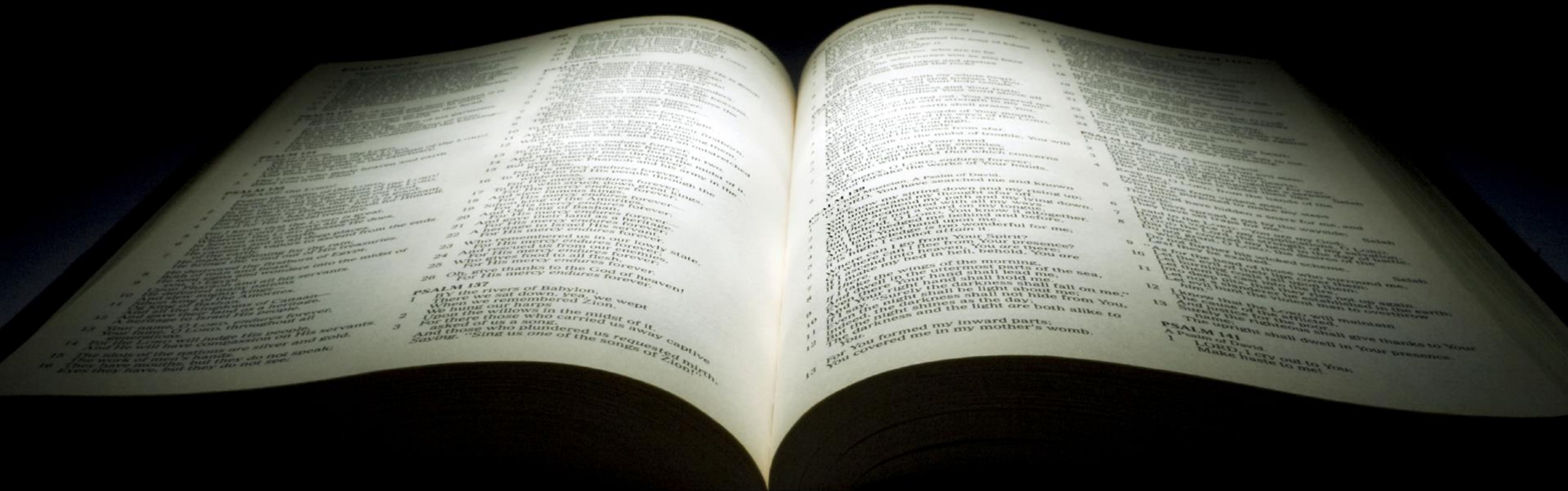


Jesus warned against
"false prophets".



“Warnings by a Christian doomsday prophet (Harold Camping) that the world would end on Saturday (21 May, 2011) sent some people into hiding and others into deep depression.”

The Scriptures are the benchmark for testing true vs false prophets





Q3

WHEN WILL THE SECRETS OF
PROPHECY BE REVEALED?

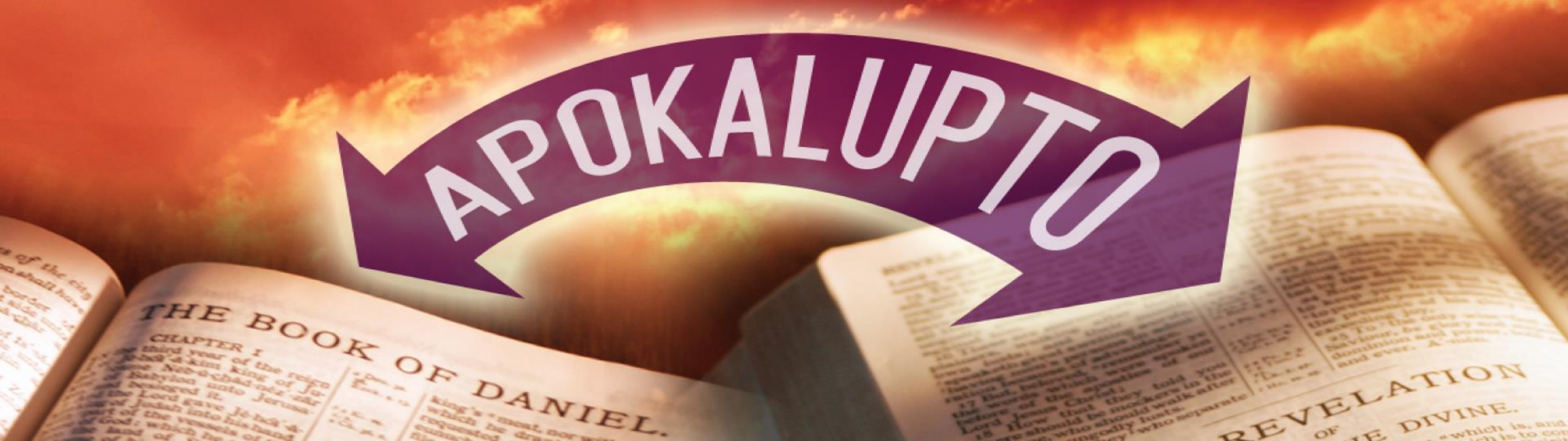


Q3

WHEN WILL THE SECRETS OF
PROPHECY BE REVEALED?

But you, Daniel, shut up the
words, and seal the book until
the time of the end; many shall
run to and fro, and knowledge
shall increase

DANIEL 12:4



“Revelation or “apocalypse” comes from the Greek word “apokalupto”, which means “to reveal a secret”. It is this book that unlocks the secrets of Daniel and also reveals new prophecies for our time today.”



Q4

HOW DID GOD REVEAL HIS
SECRETS TO HIS PROPHETS?



Q4

HOW DID GOD REVEAL HIS
SECRETS TO HIS PROPHETS?

Then He said, “Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream”

NUMBERS 12:6



Q5

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF BIBLE PROPHECY?



Q5

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF BIBLE PROPHECY?

And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe.

JOHN 14:29

“The primary purpose of prophecy is to give us confidence to trust in the God of the Scriptures If God created the past, and can see the future, you can trust Him to take care of your life today.”



Q6

WHAT APPROACH DOES GOD
USE TO OUTLINE HIS
PROPHECIES?

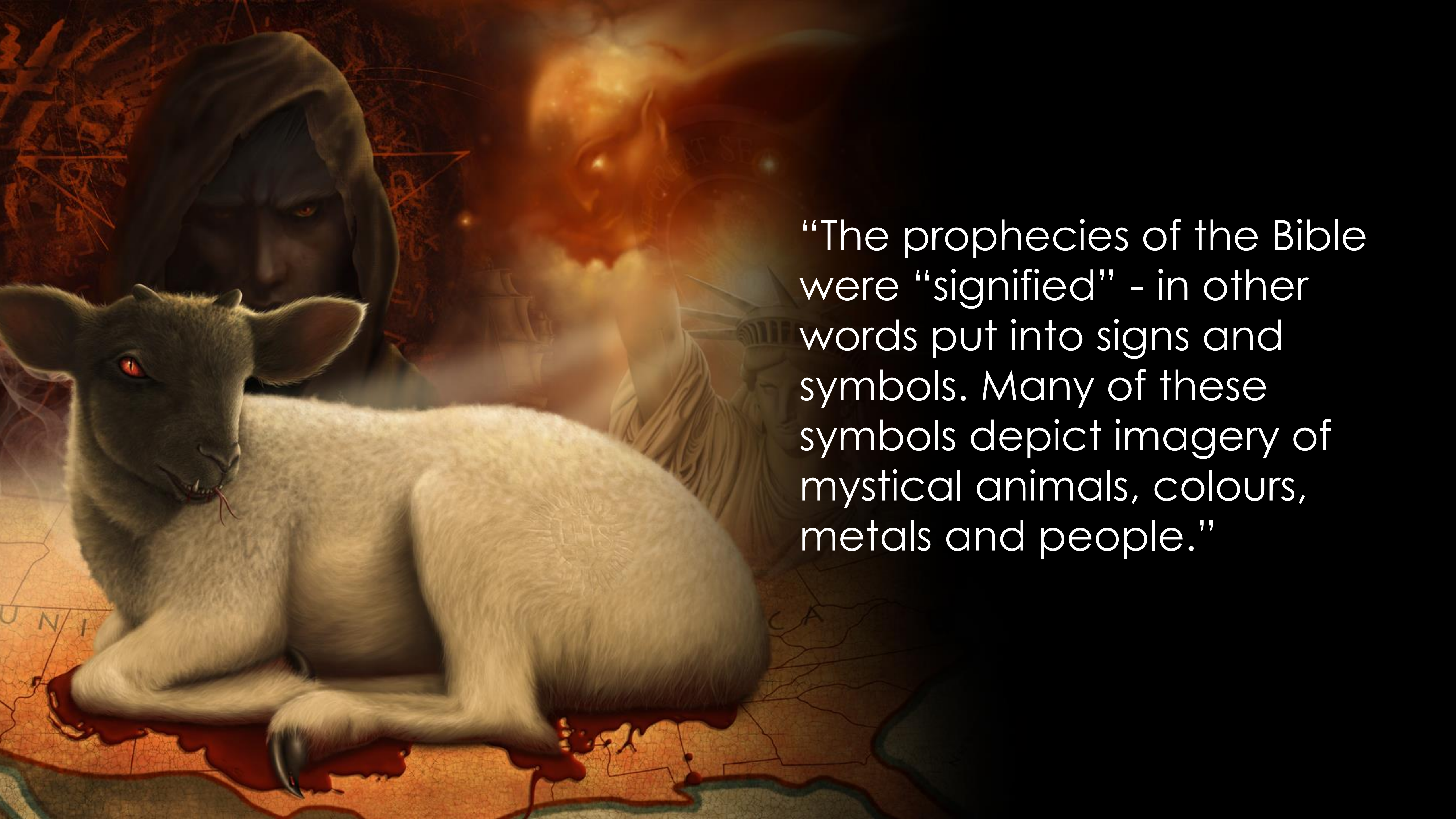


Q6

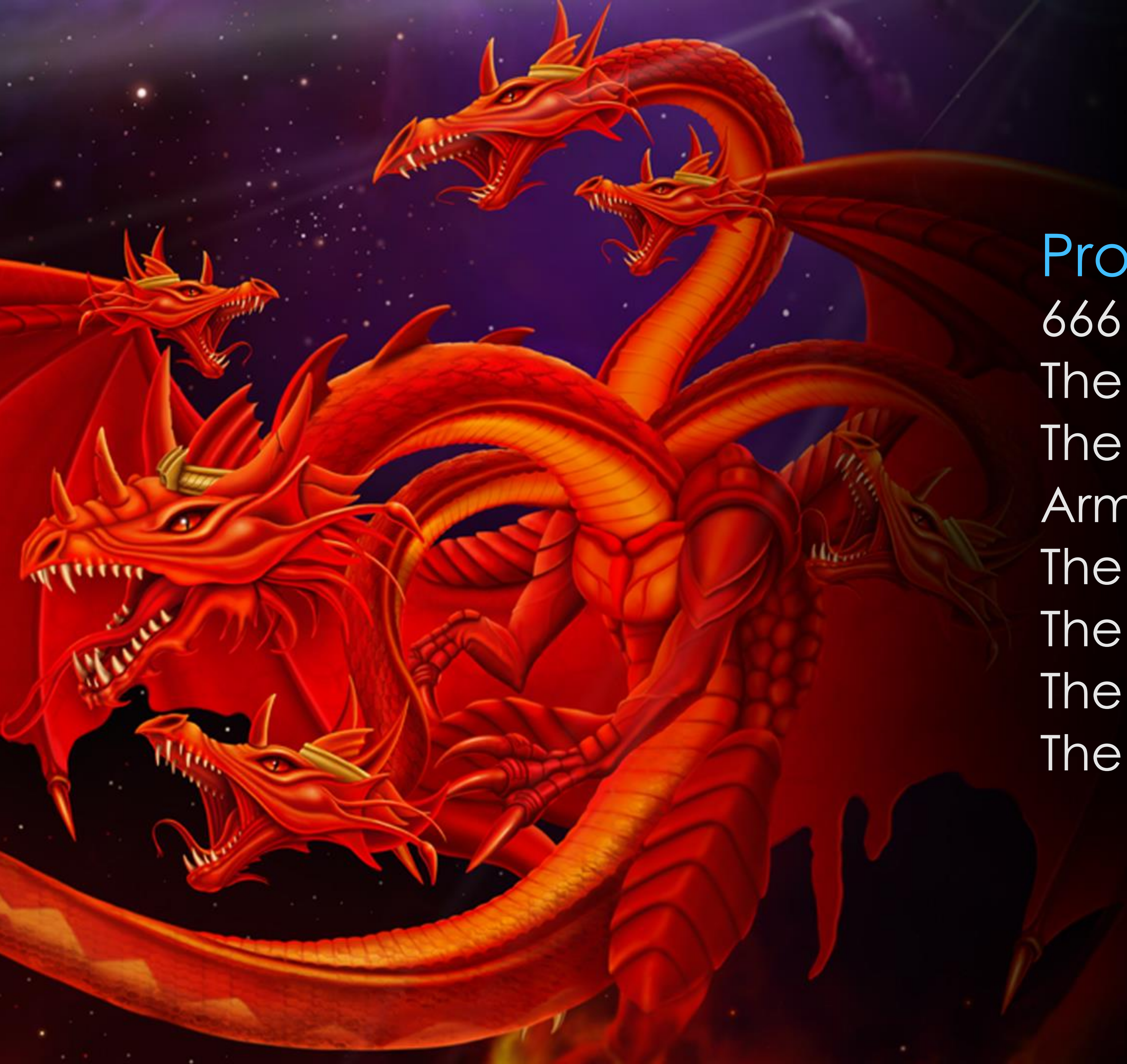
WHAT APPROACH DOES GOD
USE TO OUTLINE HIS
PROPHECIES?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ,
which God gave Him to show His
servants - things which must
shortly take place. And He sent
and signified it by His angel to His
servant John

REVELATION 1:1



“The prophecies of the Bible were “signified” - in other words put into signs and symbols. Many of these symbols depict imagery of mystical animals, colours, metals and people.”



Prophetic Symbols

666 and the Mark of the Beast

The Great Red Dragon

The Seal of God

Armageddon

The Beast from the bottomless pit

The Time, Times and Half a time

The Lord's Day

The Antichrist



Prophetic Symbols:

Over 60 symbols can be identified in Bible prophecy



Numerals:

Numbers are used in prophecy to convey a symbolic meaning



Q7

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO
TO GAIN THE MOST BENEFIT
FROM BIBLE PROPHECY?



Q7

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO
TO GAIN THE MOST BENEFIT
FROM BIBLE PROPHECY?

Blessed is he who reads and
those who hear the words of this
prophecy, and keep those things
which are written in it; for the time
is near

REVELATION 1:3



We need to put
into action the
things we learn

Q8

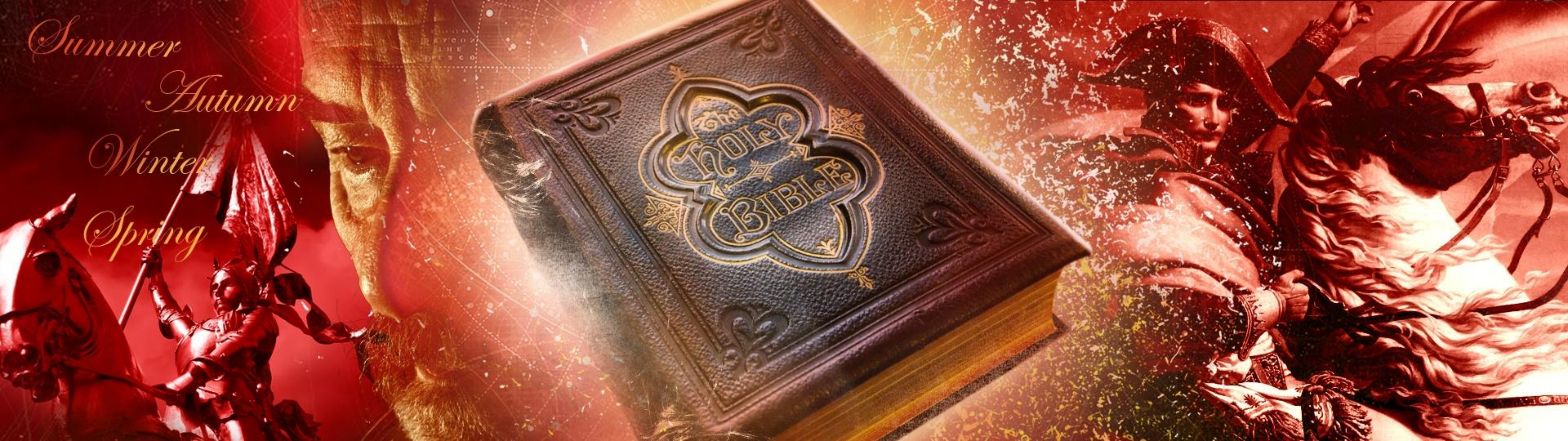
WHY WAS THE BIBLE WRITTEN IN MYSTERIOUS SYMBOLS?

Q8

WHY WAS THE BIBLE WRITTEN IN MYSTERIOUS SYMBOLS?

And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that "seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand."

LUKE 8:10



Q8

WHY WAS THE BIBLE WRITTEN IN
MYSTERIOUS SYMBOLS?

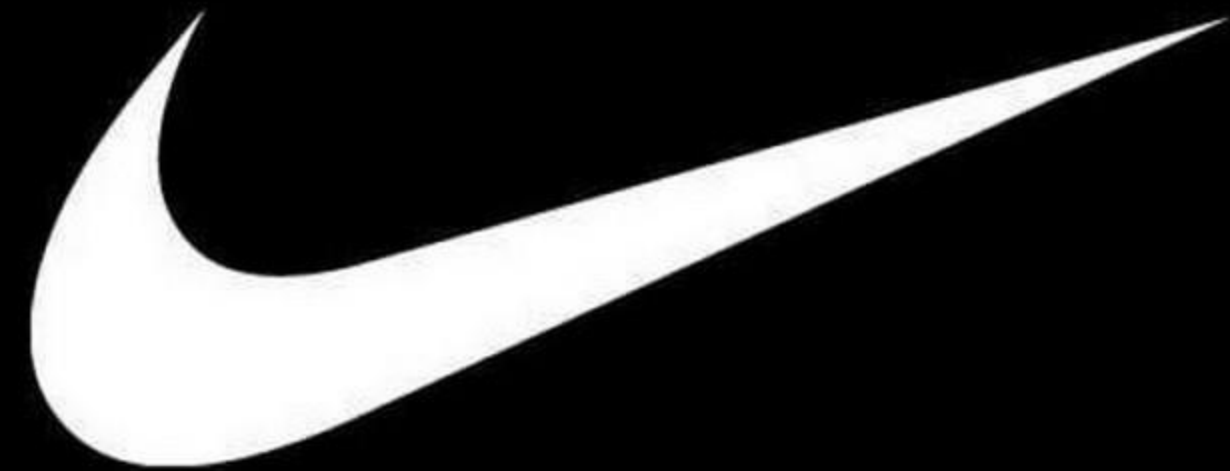
A) For protection



Q8

WHY WAS THE BIBLE WRITTEN IN
MYSTERIOUS SYMBOLS?

B) To increase faith



Q8

WHY WAS THE BIBLE WRITTEN IN
MYSTERIOUS SYMBOLS?

C) To effectively communicate



Q9

WHO IS THE CENTRAL
CHARACTER OF BIBLE
PROPHECY?



Q9

WHO IS THE CENTRAL
CHARACTER OF BIBLE
PROPHECY?

The Revelation of Jesus Christ...

REVELATION 1:1

“Although the prophecies outline future events, the focus of Bible prophecy is Jesus Christ. There are many prophecies that refer specifically to Jesus - describing unique names, His appearance, His character and the way He interacts with His people.”



Q10

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO
UNDERSTANDING BIBLE
PROPHECY?



Q10

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO
UNDERSTANDING BIBLE
PROPHECY?

A) Understand the symbols



Q10

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO
UNDERSTANDING BIBLE
PROPHECY?

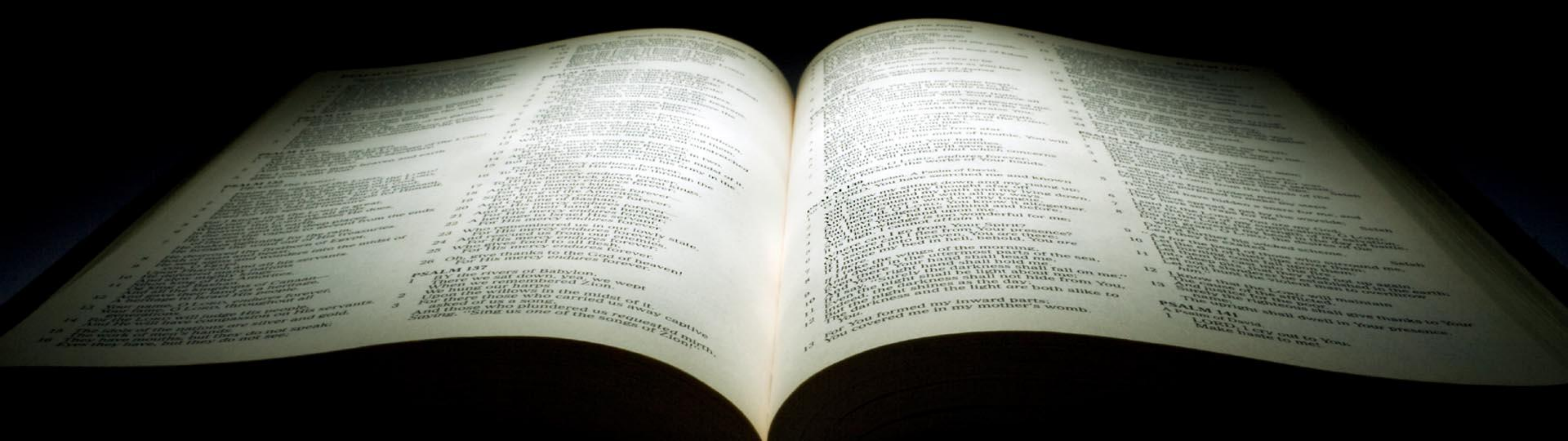
B) Pray for spiritual enlightenment



Q10

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO
UNDERSTANDING BIBLE
PROPHECY?

C) See the prophecies as signposts
in time



Q10

WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO
UNDERSTANDING BIBLE
PROPHECY?

D) Allow the Bible to interpret itself

1940 D. C. C. C.

OLD TESTAMENT

“Of the 404 verses in the book of Revelation, more than 270 refer back to the history, imagery and prophecy of the Old Testament”



Q11

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE KEY
SYMBOLS OF PROPHECY?



Beast = kingdom/political power

DANIEL 7:17,23



Kangaroos = Australians
Kiwis = New Zealanders
Springboks = South Africans
Eagle = Americans



Woman = church
JEREMIAH 6:2



Water = many people

REVELATION 17:15



Day = year

EZEKIEL 4:6

30 As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

The Truth Shall Make You Free

31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed."

32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, 'You will be made free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, He who is of the devil, he does not abide in the truth, but the liar and the deceiver. He who is of God, he hears the words of God. Therefore you hear them not, because you are not of God."



Q12

WHAT WARNING DOES GOD
GIVE WHEN INTERPRETING
PROPHECY?

30 As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

The Truth Shall Make You Free

31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed."

32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, 'You will be made free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever sins against the Son of Man, he shall lose his soul. Whoever sins against the Son of Man, he shall be made free."



Q12

WHAT WARNING DOES GOD
GIVE WHEN INTERPRETING
PROPHECY?

Knowing this first, that no
prophecy of Scripture is of any
private interpretation

2 PETER 1:20



“Prophecies are to be interpreted through an understanding of the Bible, not personal guesswork.”



Q13

WHAT PROMISE DOES JESUS
GIVE TO THOSE WHO OBEY HIS
WORD?

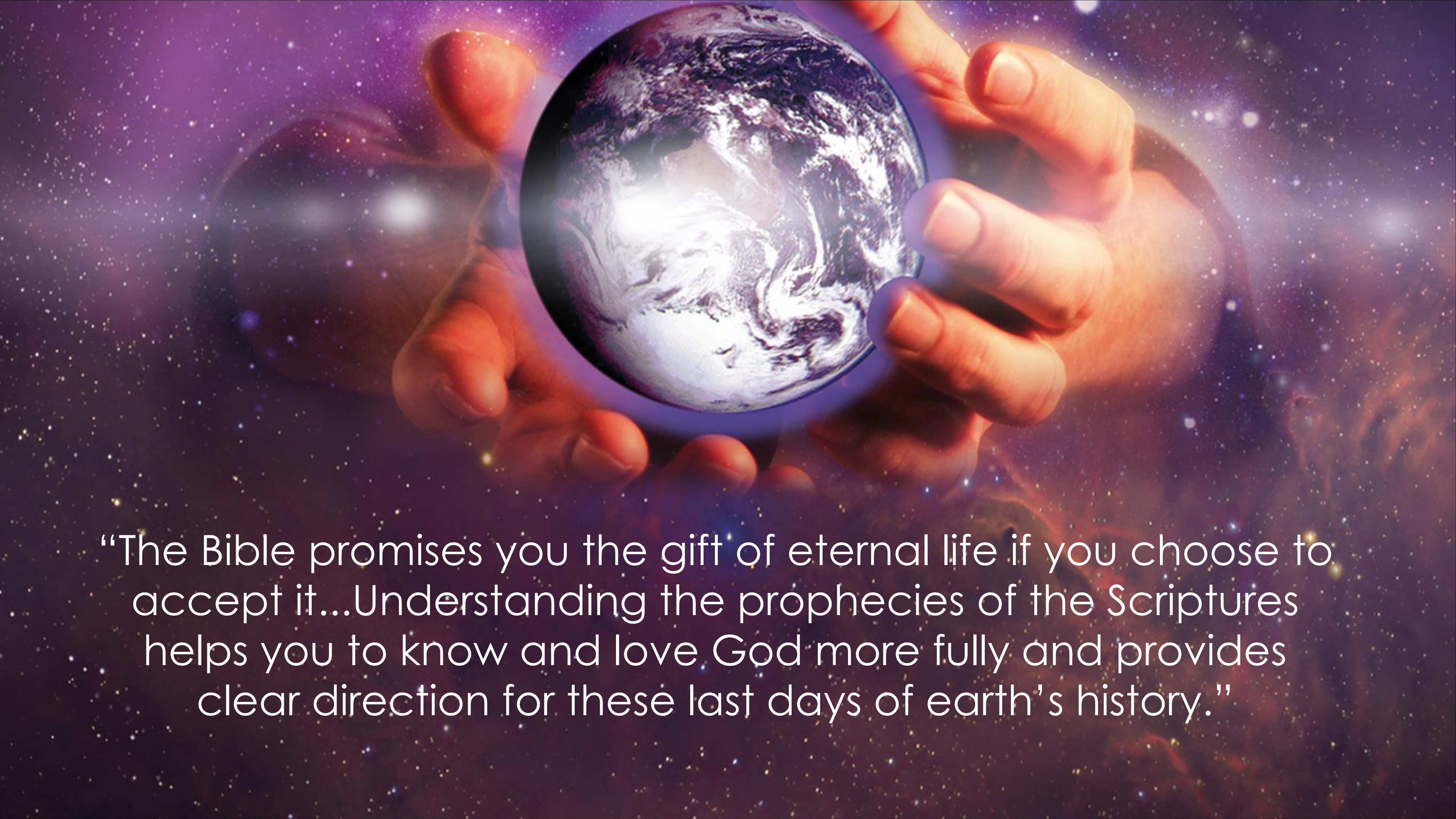


Q13

WHAT PROMISE DOES JESUS
GIVE TO THOSE WHO OBEY HIS
WORD?

Blessed are those who do His
commandments, that they may
have the right to the tree of life,
and may enter through the gates
into the city

REVELATION 22:14



“The Bible promises you the gift of eternal life if you choose to accept it...Understanding the prophecies of the Scriptures helps you to know and love God more fully and provides clear direction for these last days of earth’s history.”



THREE POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Only God knows the future
- The “secrets of prophecy” are understood by allowing the Bible to interpret itself
- Jesus is the centre of prophecy



RELATIONAL QUESTIONS

1. How could understanding prophecy impact your spirituality?



RELATIONAL QUESTIONS

2. In what ways do you think an understanding of prophecy will give you hope for the future?



RELATIONAL QUESTIONS

3. What do you think you can do in your approach to Bible study to ensure Jesus remains at the heart of prophecy, instead of just focusing on future facts and events?



YOUR RESPONSE

Knowing the importance and relevance of Bible prophecy, would you like to know God better by further investigating the meaning of Bible prophecy?
Yes!

SECRETS OF PROPHETCY

סְתֵרֵי נְבוּאָה