



A STUDY RESOURCE
from Gary Ray

WHAT MAKES BIBLE PROPHECY DIFFERENT, AND SUPERIOR TO OTHER PREDICTIVE METHODS?

There are many ways to predict the future—a few are noted below. Though several methods indeed show some degree of accuracy, no predictive method for forecasting the future comes close to the accuracy of biblical prophecy. A brief profile of several common ways to predict future happenings are noted below:

- **Prediction based on signs:** This method of foretelling the future is often based on feelings or signs. For example, when Aunt Sue's shoulder begins to ache, she predicts rain tomorrow. The ancient maxim, '*Red sky at night, sailors' delight. Red sky at morning, sailors take warning*' references a way to forecast the weather based on certain atmospheric conditions. This method of foretelling has its highest degree of accuracy when dealing with fairly local and near-future issues.
- **Prediction based on probability:** This method of foretelling the future uses past performance or happenings to predict future events. The old Farmer's Almanac is a good example—a sports betting pool is another. This method of predicting future events is limited, and a very poor method of predicting non-near-future events.
- **Web Bot:** This method of foretelling the future is newer and more sophisticated. Basically, it assumes that most, if not all of humanity has a 6th sense—an intuition that draws them to gather information on significant future events. In our current digital age, it is possible to track Google-type search engine queries. And if, for example, there is a statistical spike in searches for *west coast earthquakes*, the theory is that there will be a *west coast earthquake* in the near future. Though there is some interesting research on this predictive method, it should be considered highly questionable.
- **Distance seeing:** This method of foretelling the future focuses on 'training' the mind or utilizing 'gifted individuals' to see into the future, and/or observe non-local happenings. It is said that the US Military has experimented with this. The 2009 movie, "Men Who Stare at Goats" referenced this activity ('Third Eye' viewing or 'Remote Viewing' are related subjects). Again, though there is some interesting research on this predictive method, it should be considered highly questionable, if not dubious.
- **Clairvoyance:** This method of foretelling the future focuses on 'gifted' individuals who utilize different means to see into the future. Edgar Casey had dreams--Jeane Dixon had feelings—Nostradamus utilized nutmeg and wrote quatrains. Related to this are crystal

balls, séances, Ouija boards, etc. This method of foretelling generally seeks information from the spirit world. It is dangerous and expressly forbidden in Scripture (Deuteronomy 18, 19; Exodus 22).

- **Divine Revelation:** This method has two arms. Note: Only this method has a proven accuracy rating of 100%.
 - Gaining insight via dreams, visions, or special direct inspirations from God.
 - Gleaning insight into future events via an understanding of prophecies in the Bible.