

1 Peter 1:9-12, Psalms 16:10, Zechariah 9:9, Zechariah 14:9, Exodus 34:6-7, John 14:16-17, Matthew 16:3, 2 Timothy 2:15, Daniel 9:2-3, Psalms 91:11-12, Romans 15:4, 2 Timothy 3:16, Romans 5:3-5, Titus 2:13, 2 Peter 1:20-21

### The Prophets' Dilemma

- Even though inspired men wrote under the Mosaic Law, they were conscious that their writings had a future and wide-ranging application.
- The Spirit of God made them aware of a future grace that would be shed on mankind.
- We think grace did not operate in Old Testament times because the Jews were under the Law, but it did.
- The story of David and Mephibosheth is an illustration of grace in the Old Testament.

# The Prophets Spoke As The Holy Spirit Spoke To Them

- The prophets prophesied of the grace that would come but did not understand it.
- The person of Christ was always before the Old Testament prophets in their writings, but they did not know Him.
- Old Testament prophets were inspired to write as the Holy Spirit gave them utterance.
- Old Testament prophets spoke of the Person who would come and of His sufferings.
- We must examine what is happening today to discern God's will about the One coming just like the Old Testament prophets did.

## Daniel Labors Over A Passage In Jeremiah

- We need to approach the Scriptures with the same dedication as Daniel.
- We must be prepared to wait before God to understand the things that lie in the future.
- The prophets understood something of Christ's sufferings, but they also wrote of the glories that were to follow.
- It is easy for us to understand the sufferings of Christ but as for Old Testament prophets, we must admire their endeavors to ascertain the truth.

### Service

- The Old Testament prophets were actually serving us as they faithfully wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
- Even though they did not understand some of the inspiration God revealed to them, they knew it had a purpose.
- The Holy Spirit took the inspired Word He had given in the past and opened it up with great illumination to those in the future when many of the prophecies came to pass.
- Angels do not know the future but operate in the continuous present.

### Conclusion

- The Old Testament prophets were serving not themselves but us, so we must value the Old Testament Scriptures.
- The Old Testament scriptures were the scriptures of the early church during most of the first century.
- Hope is obtained through perseverance and encouragement of the Scriptures.
- There is no longer any mystery regarding the Person, time or place of which the prophets wrote, as God's revelation had come at the appointed time.