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Fulfilled Prophecy

Nostradamus & the Bible

Robert C. Newman

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Prophecy?

- Great interest in the future these days
- Numerous claims to be able to predict
- We want to examine two of the strongest claims:
  - Nostradamus
  - The Bible

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Nostradamus (1503-1566)

- Latinized version of name Michael de Notre Dame
- Jewish descent
- French physician & astrologer
- Began to make prophecies about 1547.
- These published as *Centuries* in 1555, 1558.

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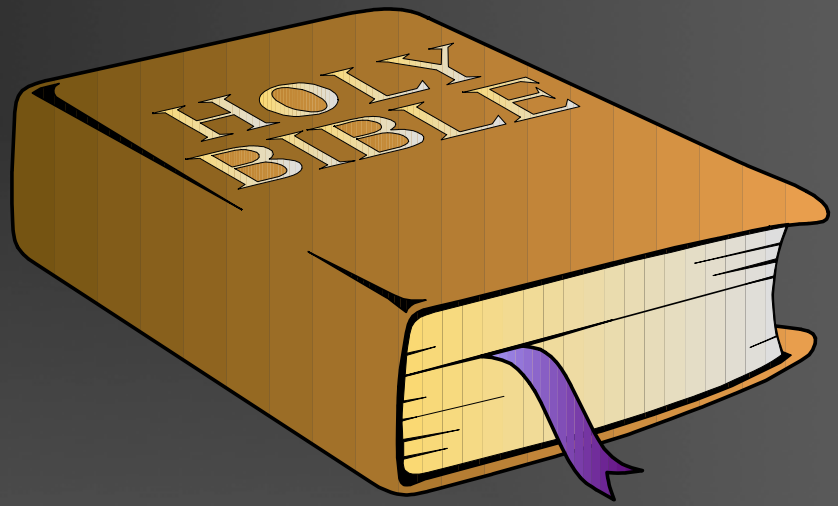
The Bible (1500 BC – 100 AD)

- Various authors
- Claim to be speaking for the Creator
- Connected with Moses, David, Jesus
- Prophecies begin in first book (Genesis) and continue to last book (Revelation).



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The Fire of London
(*Centuries* 2.51)

The blood of the just will make complaint to London.

Burnt by fireballs in twenty-three the sixes;

The antique dame will fall from the high place,

Of the same sect many will be destroyed.

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The Fire of London Fulfillment

- London's biggest fire – 1666
- City burned from September 2 to 5:
  - 9 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 = 23
  - Fireballs?
- Antique dame – St. Paul's cathedral the traditional site of temple to Diana.
- Same sect – other Anglican churches burnt.

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Israel's Future
(Hosea 3:4-5)

For the sons of Israel will remain for many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without ephod or household idols. Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king; they will come trembling to the LORD and to His goodness in the last days.

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Israel's Future, Fulfillment

- Six things Israel will lack for many days:
  - King/prince – neither revealed government nor their own leaders
  - Sacrifice/pillar – neither Sinai religion nor idolatry
  - Ephod/teraphim – ditto
- They have lacked all these from about AD 70 to 1948; still lack five of these.
- See an unprecedented turning of Jews to Jesus since 1960s.

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Napoleon?
(*Centuries* 8.1)

Pau.Nay.Loron will be more fire than blood,

To swim in praise, the great one to flee on the
confluence of waters,

He will refuse the Agassas entry,

Great bridge Durance he will hold them imprisoned.

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Napoleon, Fulfillment

- Pau.Nay.Loron an anagram for Roy Na.Pau.Lon?
- More fire than blood – more soldier than nobleman?
- Flee on waters – flight from Elba?
- Agassas = magpie = pie = Pius?
  - Napoleon imprisoned Popes Pius 6 & 7.
  - He imprisoned them in S France near River Durance.

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Time of the Messiah
(Daniel 9:25-26)

Know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing…

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Time of the Messiah, Fulfillment

- Unit of measurement – Sabbath-year cycles
- Starting point – 20th year of Artaxerxes (see Nehemiah 2:1-6) = 445 BC
- Method of counting – inclusive
- 69th week is AD 28-35
  - Spans ministry of Jesus!
  - Jesus is cut off!

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Hitler?
(*Centuries* 5.29)

Liberty will not be recovered,

A bold, black, base-born, iniquitous man will occupy it;

When the material of the bridge is completed,

The republic of Venice will be annoyed by Hister.

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Hitler, Fulfillment

- Hister, old name for River Danube – an anagram for Hitler?
- Bridge – pontoon bridge over Danube, February 1941?
- Republic of Venice – Italy?

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Messiah's Burial & Resurrection
(Isaiah 53:8-10)

By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people to whom the stroke was due? His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet he was with a rich man in his death, because he had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in his mouth. But the LORD was pleased to crush him, putting him to grief; if he would render himself as a guilt offering, he will see his offspring, he will prolong his days.

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Messiah, Fulfillment

- Whole context (52:13-53:12) an impressive picture of Servant-Messiah:
  - Put to death by oppression & judgment
  - Death a substitute for ours
  - Burial with a rich man instead of wicked as planned
  - Brought back to life after becoming a guilt offering

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Depopulation of World
(*Centuries*, preface §26)

From the time I am writing this [1 March 1555] before 177 years, 3 months and 11 days, by pestilence, long famine, and wars, and more still by inundations, the world between this day and that, before and after, shall be diminished, and its population so reduced that there will hardly be hands enough to attend to agriculture, and the lands will be left as long without culture as they have been under tillage.

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Depopulation, Fulfillment

Calculating the deadline:

	Day	Month	Year
	1	3	1555 – starting point
+	11	3	177 – interval
=	12	6	1732 = 12 June 1732

Nothing of the sort occurred!

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Regathering of Israel
(Isaiah 11:11)

Then it will happen on that day that the LORD will again recover the second time with his hand the remnant of his people who will remain, from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

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Regathering, Fulfillment

- 2nd regathering – presumably 1st is return from Babylonian captivity
- Names 7 specific areas:
  - Assyria – Iraq & Syria
  - Egypt – Egypt
  - Pathros – Egypt
  - Cush – Sudan
  - Elam – Iran
  - Shinar – Iraq
  - Hamath - Syria

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Regathering, Fulfillment

- Names one general area:
  - Island/coastlands of the sea – Europe and North Africa
- These are just the areas which have experienced large changes in Jewish population since the 1940s.

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Conclusions

- Both the Bible & Nostradamus give some impressive examples of successful prediction.
- Both predict events which have not yet happened.
- Nostradamus has clearly missed, obscure as he is; the Bible has not, though much clearer.

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Conclusions

- Biblical predictions are straight-forward; Nostradamus mostly riddles; difficult to guess what Nostradamus' fulfillment will look like in advance.
- Biblical predictions are intended to validate its message; what is the purpose of Nostradamus' predictions?
- Whom will you trust with your destiny?

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