

## Purposes of Prophecy

### Genesis 49

*In Genesis 49 Jacob issued a prophetic utterance to each of his sons regarding their descendants and the future of their tribes. Hebrews 11:13 tells us that all these “died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them.”*

### The Prophecies

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Reuben (3-4)     | 7. Dan (16-17)     |
| 2. Simeon (5-7)     | 8. Gad (19)        |
| 3. Levi (5-7)       | 9. Asher (20)      |
| 4. Judah (8-12)     | 10. Naphtali (21)  |
| 5. Zebulun (13)     | 11. Joseph (22-26) |
| 6. Issachar (14-15) | 12. Benjamin (27)  |

### The Problems

*What good is prophecy if we can't understand or verify the details of its \_\_\_\_\_?*

1. It may be beyond our \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet 1:10-11).

2. It may not yet be \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Pet 3:1-8).

3. It may be the exercise of God's \_\_\_\_\_ (Jonah 3:10-4:2; Jer 18:7-10).

*What good is prophecy if people aren't around to see its \_\_\_\_\_?*

### The Principles

1. Prophecy focuses our attention on the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Pet 3:10-13; Heb 11:24-26).
2. Prophecy focuses our attention on the \_\_\_\_\_ (Heb 11:1; 1 Pet 1:3-5).