

Isaiah 48:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I shewed them; I did them suddenly, and they came to pass.

Analysis

God's declaration 'I have declared the former things from the beginning' establishes His prophetic credentials through fulfilled predictions. The phrase 'I did them suddenly, and they came to pass' emphasizes divine sovereignty in executing purposes. This pattern of prediction-fulfillment validates Scripture's divine origin and assures that future promises (new covenant, Christ's return) are equally certain.

Historical Context

The 'former things' include predictions of Assyrian invasion, Babylonian exile, and Cyrus's decree - all fulfilled exactly. This demonstrable track record distinguishes biblical prophecy from vague pagan oracles.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do God's fulfilled prophecies strengthen your confidence in yet-unfulfilled promises?
2. What 'former things' has God done in your life that assure you of His present and future faithfulness?

Interlinear Text

הָרָאשֹׁנוֹת	מֵאֲז	הִגַּדְתִּי	וּמִפִּי	
the former things	from the beginning	I have declared	out of my mouth	
H7223	H227	H5046	H6310	
וַיֵּצְאוּ	וַאֲשַׁמִּיעַ	פְּתָאֵם	עָשׂוּ יָדֵי	וַתְּבֹאנָה:
and they went forth	and I shewed	them suddenly	them I did	and they came to pass
H3318	H8085	H6597	H6213	H935

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 41:22 (Parallel theme): Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come.

Isaiah 42:9 (Parallel theme): Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.

Joshua 21:45 (Parallel theme): There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.

Isaiah 45:21 (Parallel theme): Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

Isaiah 43:9 (Parallel theme): Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former

things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth.

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