

Symbols in Bible Prophecy

What is a Symbol?

A symbol is a thing that represents or stands for something else, especially a material object representing something abstract.

Examples of Symbols

In **Music**, a note is a symbol of a specific tone.



If everyone chose a different tone for the same symbol, music would just be a lot of noise with clashing melodies that no one would want to listen to.

In the **Periodic Table** the different elements are given a one or two letter symbol:

- **C**: Carbon
- **O**: Oxygen
- **N**: Nitrogen
- **S**: Sulfur
- **Al**: Aluminum

If everyone assigned each symbol a different element, all kinds of chemical reaction disasters including poisoning and explosions would be the result.

Mathematics is a very exact symbolic language. Each symbol represents an action or relationship of mathematical objects used for structuring other mathematical symbols in formulas or mathematical expressions.

Examples of mathematical symbols are +, -, x, =, etc., and all of the symbols used in Calculus and other categories of mathematics.

If everyone assigned their own meanings to each symbol, it would literally cause absolute chaos in the entire world. Everything in life is related to mathematics in one way or another.

Symbols **usually** only represent one specific thing. The meaning is either an established meaning that everyone agrees on, or it is a symbol that is defined by the author of the symbol. All of the examples above depend 100% on everyone knowing exactly what each symbol means.

Bible Prophecy

In the Bible, symbols are used primarily in prophetic dreams, visions and also in parables. If everyone assigned different meanings to the symbols...oh wait, they do! That's why there are so many conflicting views on Bible prophecy.

Rules for Interpreting Symbols In the Bible:

- The symbols are often defined in the context in which they're found, or
- They have been defined or alluded to somewhere else in the Bible.
- Each symbol has ONE meaning, unless another is specifically given in Scripture.
- Although the symbols are figurative, they have a LITERAL meaning. You CANNOT interpret them allegorically, and you should NOT "spiritualize" them.

We do not have the permission to give our own meaning to symbols in the Bible. It is important to recognize and interpret symbols in prophecy and parables according to the author of the symbols—God.

The Demise of Damascus

Isaiah 17 describes the destiny of Damascus being taken away from being a city. Has this prophecy been fulfilled? Watch this presentation by Dolores McCrory.

To watch the presentation click here: [The Demise of Damascus](#)

Psalms 83 War

The Magog Invasion of Ezekiel 38-39 is discussed a lot and is well known, but have you ever noticed that the countries involved do not include any of the countries that border Israel? Considering the threats from the bordering countries, you would think they would be involved. Could something happen before the Magog Invasion which takes them out of the equation?

The answer is that the Psalm 83 War involves all of the bordering countries and results in Israel's borders being greatly expanded.

The recent events in Israel with Hamas has increased interest in how this may be the beginnings of the Psalm 83 war. Dolores McCrory created the following presentation in 2013,

but much of it is relevant to what is happening right now. To watch the presentation, click on the link below.

The Psalm 83 War

Is the Sealed East Gate a Fulfillment of Prophecy?

A number of Bible prophecy teachers believe that the eastern gate on the Temple Mount in Israel is sealed shut as a fulfillment of the prophecy in Ezekiel 44:1-3. However, there are two main reasons why this is impossible. Taken in context, this passage refers to the eastern gate of the Millennial Temple complex, which is one square mile – it would not fit on the comparatively tiny Temple Mount. Secondly, the eastern gate will be sealed *after* the glory of the Lord enters through it, **not before**.

Ezekiel chapters 40-48 describe the future Millennial Temple. In Ezekiel 43:1-4, Ezekiel watched the glory of the Lord enter through the eastern gate of the Millennial Temple – at this point the gate is open.

“1 Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing east; and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone from His glory. And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw, like the vision which I saw when He came to destroy the city. And the visions were like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face. And the glory of the Lord entered the house by way of the gate facing east. And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner courtyard; and behold, the glory of the Lord

filled the house.” [Emphasis Mine] [NASB]

Then later, in Ezekiel 44:1-3, Ezekiel is brought back to the eastern gate, and it is shut. At this point God tells him:

*“This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no one shall enter by it, for the Lord God of Israel **has entered by it**; therefore it shall be shut.” [Emphasis Mine] [NASB]*

This is referring to the previously mentioned eastern gate, which was open when the glory of the Lord entered by it. It was closed *after* the glory of the Lord had entered through it. Again, this is a future prophecy that cannot occur until the Millennial Temple is built. Therefore the eastern gate spoken of by Ezekiel doesn't even exist yet.

From this we can determine that the sealing shut of the eastern gate on the Temple Mount is not a fulfillment of Bible prophecy.