

Isaac Newton on the Purpose of Bible Prophecy



Sir Isaac Newton

“The folly of Interpreters has been, to foretell times and things, by this Prophecy, as if God designed to make them Prophets. By this rashness they have not only exposed themselves, but brought the Prophecy also into contempt. The design of God was much otherwise. He gave this and the Prophecies of the Old Testaments, *not* to gratify men’s curiosities by enabling them to foreknow things, but that **after** they were fulfilled they might be **interpreted by the event**; and his own Providence, not the Interpreters, be then manifested thereby to the world. For the event of things predicted many ages before, will then be a convincing argument that the world is **governed by providence**.” – Isaac Newton, *The Prophecies of Daniel and The Apocalypse* (1733), pp. 244-245