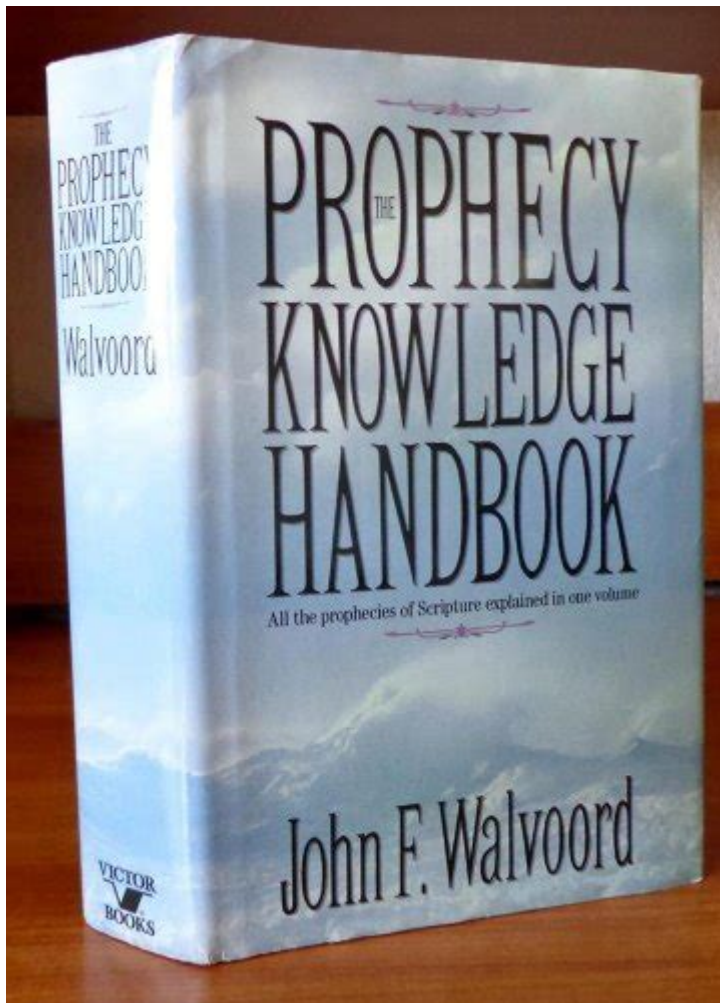# Dr John Walvoord The Prophecy Knowledge Handbook

Dr. John Walvoord's The Prophecy Knowledge Handbook is a significant contribution to the field of biblical prophecy and eschatology, offering readers a comprehensive resource for understanding God's plan for humanity as outlined in the scriptures. Dr. Walvoord, a respected theologian and former president of Dallas Theological Seminary, dedicated his life to the study and teaching of biblical prophecy. This handbook serves as a synthesis of his extensive knowledge, presenting complex theological ideas in an accessible format for both lay readers and scholars.

Understanding the Author: Dr. John Walvoord

Background and Education

Dr. John Walvoord was born in 1910 and went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona. He continued his studies at Dallas Theological Seminary, where he obtained both a Bachelor of Sacred Theology

and a Doctor of Theology degree. His academic journey laid the groundwork for a lifetime of research, teaching, and writing on biblical prophecy.

Career Highlights

- Dallas Theological Seminary: Dr. Walvoord served as the president of Dallas Theological Seminary from 1952 to 1986, significantly impacting the institution and shaping its curriculum to emphasize dispensationalism and premillennialism.
- Author: He authored more than 30 books, including notable works such as "The Rapture Question" and "End Times Prophecy".
- Lecturer and Contributor: Dr. Walvoord was a sought-after speaker and contributed to various theological journals, sharing his insights on eschatology with a broad audience.

An Overview of The Prophecy Knowledge Handbook

Published in 1990, The Prophecy Knowledge Handbook is structured to serve as a reference guide for understanding the prophecies contained within the Bible. It is designed for those seeking to deepen their comprehension of biblical texts related to end times, providing clarity on frequently misunderstood topics.

Structure of the Handbook

The handbook is organized into several key sections, each addressing different aspects of prophecy:

1. Biblical Foundations: Discusses the basis for prophecy within the scripture.
2. Major Prophetic Themes: Explores significant themes such as the Second Coming, the Rapture, and the Tribulation.
3. Specific Prophetic Books: Analyzes various biblical books known for their prophetic content, such as Daniel and Revelation.
4. Current Events and Prophecy: Examines how contemporary events relate to biblical prophecy.
5. Future Events: Discusses the eschatological timeline according to scriptural interpretations.

Key Features of the Handbook

- Comprehensive Index: The handbook includes an extensive index that allows readers to quickly find specific topics.
- Charts and Timelines: Visual aids are utilized to illustrate complex prophetic timelines and events.
- Scriptural References: Each section is thoroughly referenced with relevant Bible verses to support the commentary and discussions.

Major Themes Explored in the Handbook

The Nature of Prophecy

Dr. Walvoord emphasizes that prophecy serves as a vital aspect of God's revelation to humanity. He outlines several key points regarding the nature of biblical prophecy:

– Divine Origin: Prophecies are not mere human predictions; they are divinely inspired messages from God.
– Purpose: The primary purpose of prophecy is to reveal God's plan for redemption and judgment.
– Fulfillment: Many prophecies have been fulfilled in history, providing a basis for confidence in those that remain unfulfilled.

The Rapture and Second Coming

A significant focus of the handbook is on the Rapture and the Second Coming of Christ. Dr. Walvoord presents a dispensational view that differentiates between these two events:

– The Rapture: Occurs when believers are caught up to meet Christ in the air, often seen as a precursor to the Tribulation.
– The Second Coming: This event marks Christ's return to Earth to establish His kingdom, bringing fulfillment to many of the Old Testament prophecies.