

Prophets 11.

He gave them a warning not to trust everyone who claimed to be a prophet. He said, "The prophet which shall presume to speak a word in my name which I have not commanded him to speak or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die, and if thou say in thine heart how shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken, when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord if the thing follow not nor come to pass, that is a thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously; thou shalt not be afraid of him." Professor Frederick Delitzsch of the University of Berlin in 1921 published a book called "The Great Fraud" and he took this verse, if a prophet predicts something that doesn't come to pass, then you'll know that he didn't speak from God, and he called the Old Testament the Great Fraud and went through it trying to show how many cases there were in which predictions had been made which have never come true, and therefore we may know that it is not a true book but is a fraud. Now Professor evidences

I do not think stand , but I think it is an eminently worthy method of investigation and even though he went to it with extreme bias, I think that it is sometimes helpful if people go with extreme bias to attack a point of our Christian belief. It stimulates us to examine it thoroughly and to bring out into clear relief the evidences which the Lord has given. This, by the way, is not Franz Delitzsch, the great commentator, but his son Professor Fredrich Delitzsch, the son who in his early began with adopting the higher criticism of ^{the} Wellhausen theory and publicly maintaining that and who in his later life went to a far greater--calling the Old Testament, in fact the whole Bible a great fraud. But here is the test which the Lord gives. He says the prophet makes a prediction to the people; if it doesn't come to pass, that is not a true prophet. Well that makes it very important for us then that we find out just how are these predictions fulfilled. What are the correct means of interpreting the predictions? In order that we may not be place ourselves rightly subject to the accusation of taking words and then twisting them around so that they will prove true no matter what, let us see just how fulfillment corresponds to prediction, in order that we may know what are the true principles of interpretation of prediction, but this is a third test and now here comes a man and this man says, "I am a prophet of God," and he gives the signs and makes a prediction which comes true. Does that prove that he is a true prophet? No, that alone is not sufficient, because we find in Deuteronomy 13 again,