

Hence the Evangelists were not "simple-minded," as Dr. Smith says, but sensible-minded, when they found "in the sacred books of their nation prognostications of the character and mission of Jesus," inasmuch as such prognostications or foreshadowings of him really occur in the n. What the prophecies foreshadowed the Son of Man fulfilled.

The view of prophecy presented "by modern divines such as Keith," is uncritical, of course. His work on prophecy was written from the standpoint of traditionalism, as Dr. Smith well knows, and was published before the scientific study of the Bible had fairly commenced. His view assumes that a prophet was a predictor who possessed "the most perfect knowledge of futurity,"¹ whereas a prophet was a man divinely influenced to communicate spiritual truth, whether he foretold future events or not. He was an inspired teacher whose office it was to declare the divine will and to interpret the divine purpose, whether his declarations and interpretations related to the past, to the present, or to the future.

¹ "Keith on Prophecy," abridged edition, p. 18.