



Behold! I am doing a new thing. It is already springing forth, do you not perceive it? -Isa. 43:19

# Covering the Future

Taking our stories toward tomorrow

Evangelicals have been more adept at predicting the rain rather than building the ark.

BY JAY GARY

## 1. Future Fluency in cultural history

### Advent

Future comes to us  
Change happens to us  
Catastrophic view  
Coming

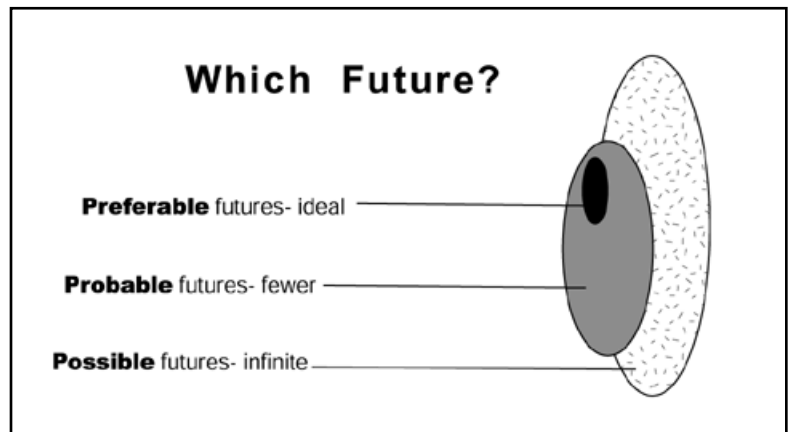
### Futurum

Future arises from present  
We create change  
Constructive view  
Becoming

## 2. The Forward View, Isaiah 43:18-19

## 3. Which Future?

- Preferable: Choices, Visionary, Ideals, strategic planning
- Probable: Constants, Trends, Scenarios, projections
- Possible: Discontinuities, Surprises, Speculative

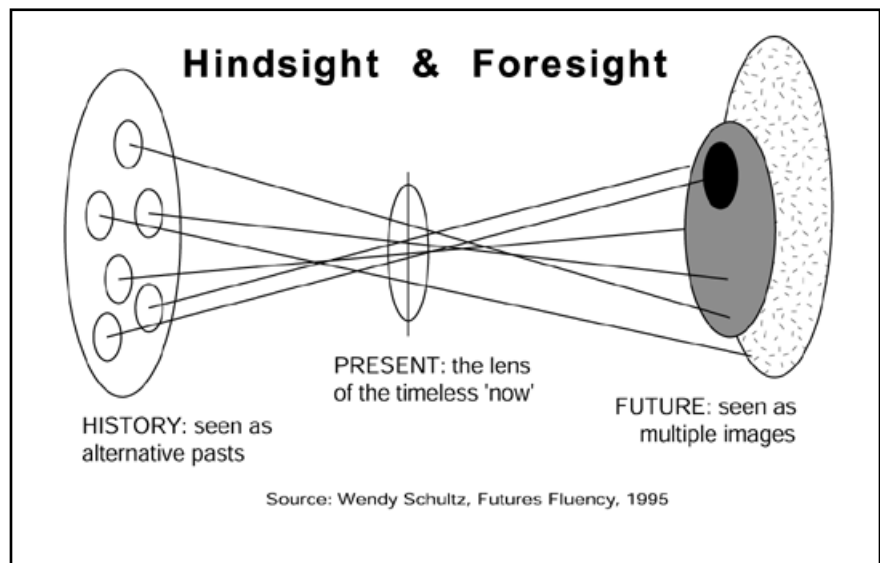


## 4. Faith acts on Hindsight & Foresight

- Hermeneutics: the dynamics of hindsight  
John Stackhouse, ed., *Evangelical Futures*, 2000
- Epistemology: polishing our lenses  
Ken Wilber, *A Theory of Everything*, 2000

## 5. Resources

World Future Society, [www.wfs.org](http://www.wfs.org)  
 Future of Religion FAQ, [www.wnrf.org](http://www.wnrf.org)  
*Knowledge Base of Future Studies* CD, \$60,  
<http://www.christianfutures.com/books>



“Helping Faith Gain Foresight”