

The Life & Ministry of Jesus

Lesson 9: Prophecy & Jesus in the OT

~ Summary of Old Testament Prophecy Fulfilled by Jesus ~

Speaking of puzzle pieces, let's conclude this blog post with a list of Old Testament prophecy that you can read for yourself. This exercise will be so worth the investment of your time, if you truly want to confirm what Scripture says. To have a Bible that you never open completely defeats the purpose of God giving His Word to us, right? Treat the Bible as your study guide, not a relic so sacred that it can't be opened — or marked up! *God is surely okay with your highlighting any passages that speak to you, in whatever hue of highlighter you choose!*

His Nativity and Early Years

The fact: Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Jeremiah 31:22

The place: Numbers 24:17, 19; Micah 5:2

Adoration by Magi: Psalm 72:10, 15; Isaiah 60: 3, 6

His Mission and Office

Mission: Genesis 12:3; 49:10; Numbers 24:19; Deuteronomy 18:18-19; Psalm 21:1; Isaiah 59:20; Jeremiah 33:16

Prophet like Moses: Deuteronomy 18:15

Conversion of Gentiles: Isaiah 11:10; Deuteronomy 32:43; Psalms 18:49; 19:4; 117:1; Isaiah 42:1; 45:23; 49:6; Hosea 1:10; 2:23; Joel 2:32

Ministry in Galilee: Isaiah 9:1-2

Preaching: Psalms 2:7; 78:2; Isaiah 2:3; 61:1; Micah 4:2

His Passion

Rejection by Jews and Gentiles: Psalms 2:1; 22:12; 41:5; 56:5; 69:8; 118:22-23; Isaiah 6:9-10; 8:14; 29:13; 53:1; 65:2

Persecution: Psalms 22:6; 35:7, 12; 56:5; 71:10; 109:2; Isaiah 49:7; 53:3

Triumphal entry: Psalms 8:2; 118:25-26; Zechariah 9:9

Betrayal by friend: Psalms 41:9; 55:13; Zechariah 13:6

False accusation: Psalms 2:1-2; 27:12; 35:11; 109:2

Silence under accusation: Psalm 38:13; Isaiah 53:7

Mocking: Psalms 22:7-8, 16; 109:25

His Resurrection

Psalms 2:7; 16:8-10; 30:3; 41:10; 118:17

His Ascension

Psalms 16:11; 24:7; 68:18; 110:1; 118:19

His Second Advent

Psalm 50:3-6; Isaiah 9:6-7; 66:18; Daniel 7:13-14; Zechariah 12:10; 14:4-8

His Universal, Everlasting Dominion

1 Chronicles 17:11-14; Psalms 2:6-8; 8:6; 45:6; 7; 72:8; 110:1-3; Isaiah 9:7; Daniel 7:14

<https://www.josh.org/jesus-fulfill-prophecy/>

10-20-2019 10:59pm

The Life & Ministry of Jesus

Lesson 9: Prophecy & Jesus in the OT

Suffering and death of Christ. One of the most amazing predictions of Christ in all of Scripture is that of Isaiah 53:2-12. This precise description of Jesus' sufferings and death was all literally fulfilled (see Matthew 26-27; Mark 15-16; Luke 22-23; John 18-19). Isaiah predicts twelve (12) aspects of Messiah's passion, all fulfilled. Jesus...

1. Was rejected;
2. Was a man of sorrow;
3. Lived a life of suffering;
4. Was despised by others;
5. Carried our sorrow;
6. Was smitten and afflicted by God;
7. Was pierced for our transgressions;
8. Was wounded for our sins;
9. Suffered like a lamb;
10. Died with the wicked;
11. Was sinless; and
12. Prayed for others.

Predictions elsewhere about Christ's death include:

13. The piercing of His hands and feet (Ps. 22:16; Luke 23:33);
14. The piercing of His side (Zech. 12:10; cf. John 19:34; and
15. The casting of lots for His garments (Ps. 22:18; cf. John 19:23-24).

The Life & Ministry of Jesus

Lesson 9: Prophecy & Jesus in the OT

Prophecy as Proof of the Bible – Why We CAN Believe

Prophecy as Proof of the Bible. “One of the strongest evidences that the Bible is inspired by God is its predictive prophecy. Unlike any other book, the Bible offers a multitude of specific predictions—some hundreds of years in advance—that have been literally fulfilled or else point to a definite future time when they will come true. In his comprehensive catalogue of prophecies, *Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecies*, J. Barton Payne lists 1817 predictions in the Bible, 1239 in the Old Testament and 578 in the New.”

The argument from prophecy as proof of the Bible is the argument *from* omniscience—the all knowingness of God. Limited human beings know the future only if it is told them by an omniscient Being. If highly improbable predictions are made in the name of God which come to pass without fail, then it is reasonable to assume that they are divinely inspired. Fulfilled prophecy does not necessarily prove the existence of God (although it has to be considered high on the list), but it does show that unusual events predicted in His Name that come to pass are evidence of His special activity.

Stated again, if an omniscient (all-knowing) God exists who knows the future, then predictive prophecy is possible. And if the Bible contains such predictions, then they are a sign of the Bible’s divine origin. We can trust the Bible as God’s revealed truth, and trust the God that the Bible presents to us.

Not everything called “prophecy” in the Bible is predictive. **Prophets *forthtold* God’s Word as well as *foretold* the future. There are several earmarks of a supernatural prediction, at least one with apologetic value. First, it is more than a vague guess or conjecture. It cannot be a *mere reading of the trends*. Second, it deals with human contingencies that are normally unpredictable.** Scientific predictions are not of the same order, since they deal with projections based on the regularity of nature, for example the prediction of an eclipse. **Third, it is a highly unusual event, not normally expected.** Sometimes the miraculous nature of the prophecy is manifest in the length of time in advance the prediction is made, so as to reduce the probability of guessing. At other times it is revealed in the unique fulfillment itself.

There are two broad categories of biblical prophecy: messianic and non-messianic. Payne lists 191 prophecies concerning the anticipated Jewish Messiah and Savior. Each was literally fulfilled in the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth!

A sampling of these prophecies includes: Messiah’s birth, Messiah’s ancestry, herald of Messiah’s coming, Messiah’s work, suffering and death of Christ, Christ’s resurrection, and the ascension of Christ

Messiah’s Birth. God said to Satan after he had enticed Adam and Eve to fall into sin. “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike His heel” (Gen. 3:15). The New Testament reveals that Jesus was indeed born of a woman in order to crush Satan’s power. For “when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law” (Gal. 4:4; also Matthew chapter 1 and Luke chapter 2). (continued on page x.)

The Life & Ministry of Jesus

Lesson 9: Prophecy & Jesus in the OT

Messiah's birth (continued). Isaiah 7:14 predicted that one named Immanuel (“God with us”) would be born of a virgin. “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel.” **This prediction was made over 700 years in advance.** The New Testament affirms that Christ fulfilled this prediction, saying, “All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel”—which means “God with us” (Matt. 1:22-23).

Micah made the unambiguous prophecy, “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times” (Micah 5:2). Even the unbelieving Jewish scribes identified this as a prediction of the Messiah and directed the inquiring Magi to Bethlehem (Matt. 2:1-6).

So, biblical prophecy predicted, hundreds of years before the actual events, that the Messiah would be (1) born of a woman's seed; (2) named ‘Immanuel (“God with us”); (3) born of a virgin; and (4) born in a little town called Bethlehem. True? Did this really happen? Yes!

Messiah's ancestry. The same prophetic precision occurred around Messiah's ancestry. God declared in Genesis 12:1-3 that **the Messianic blessing would come from the offspring of Abraham:** “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” (Gen. 12:2-3; 22:18).

The Redeemer would come through the tribe of Judah (Gen. 49:10; Luke 3:23, 33-34; Matt. 1:1-3; Heb. 7:14). The books of Samuel record the prediction that **the Messiah would be of the house of David** (2 Samuel 7:14; Matt. 1:1; Matt. 21:9; 22:42-45). Did this happen? Yes!

The books of Samuel record the prediction that **the Messiah would be of the house of David.** God said to David, “When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body (*God is talking about Solomon*), and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for My Name and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son” (2 Sam. 7:14). The NT repeatedly affirms that Jesus was “the son of David” (Matt. 1:1). Jesus Himself claimed to be the “son of David” (Matt. 22:42-45). The Palm Sunday crowd also hailed Christ as “the son of David: (Matt. 21:9). Did this happen? Yes!

Herald of Messiah's coming. Isaiah predicted that the **Messiah would be heralded by a messenger of the Lord** who would be “A voice of one calling: ‘In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God’ (Isa. 40:3).

This prediction was literally fulfilled in the ministry of John the Baptist. Matthew records: “In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.’” This is He who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the desert ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him (Matt. 3:1-3). Did it happen? Yes!

The Life & Ministry of Jesus

Lesson 9: Prophecy & Jesus in the OT

Isaiah 11:2 foretold that the **Messiah would be anointed by the Holy Spirit for His ministry**: ‘The Spirit of the LORD will rest upon Him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.’

This literally happened to Jesus at His baptism. Matthew 3:16-17 says, “As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.’” Did this happen? Yes!

Isaiah 61 said that the **Messiah would preach the gospel to the poor and brokenhearted**. Jesus pointed out His fulfillment of this ministry in the Nazareth synagogue. (Luke 4:17-20). Did this happen? Yes!

Jesus carefully cut off His reading in the middle of a sentence, failing to add the next phrase, “and the day of vengeance of our God.” That refers to His second coming; it was not fulfilled that day in their hearing, as was the rest of the prophecy.

Isaiah 35:5-6 declared that the **Messiah would perform miracles to confirm His ministry**, asserting: “Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.” The Gospel record is filled with Jesus’ miracles. “Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness” (Matt. 9:35). Jesus even cited these very things for John the Baptist as His messianic calling card. Did this happen? Yes!

Messiah’s work. Malachi 3:1 foretold the **authority over the temple worship** that Jesus showed when He twice drove out the moneychangers—at the beginning and at the end of His ministry: “See, I will send My messenger, who will prepare the way before Me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to His temple; the Messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come, says the LORD Almighty.”

Matthew 21:12-13 relates that “Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. ‘It is written,’ He said to them, ‘My house will be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a ‘den of robbers.’” Did this happen? Yes!

Among the many psalms applicable to the ministry of Jesus is 118:22, which foretells **Messiah’s rejection by His people**: “The Stone the builders rejected has become the capstone.” This very verse is cited repeatedly in the NT. For example, Peter wrote, “Now to you who believe, this Stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The Stone the builders rejected has become the capstone.” (1 Peter 2:7; Matt. 21:42; Mark 12:10; Luke 20:17; Acts 4:11). Did this happen? Yes!

The Life & Ministry of Jesus

Lesson 9: Prophecy & Jesus in the OT

Suffering and death of Christ. One of the most amazing predictions of Christ in all of Scripture is that of Isaiah 53:2-12. This precise description of Jesus' sufferings and death was all literally fulfilled (see Matthew 26-27; Mark 15-16; Luke 22-23; John 18-19). Isaiah predicts twelve (12) aspects of Messiah's passion, all fulfilled. Jesus...

1. Was rejected;
2. Was a man of sorrow;
3. Lived a life of suffering;
4. Was despised by others;
5. Carried our sorrow;
6. Was smitten and afflicted by God;
7. Was pierced for our transgressions;
8. Was wounded for our sins;
9. Suffered like a lamb;
10. Died with the wicked;
11. Was sinless; and
12. Interceded for others.

Predictions elsewhere about Christ's death include:

- The piercing of His hands and feet (Ps. 22:16; Luke 23:33);
- The piercing of His side (Zech. 12:10; cf. John 19:34; and
- The casting of lots for His garments (Ps. 22:18; cf. John 19:23-24).

Did these all happen? Yes!

Psalm 16:10: Christ's Resurrection. The OT also foretold the **resurrection of the Messiah from the dead**. Psalm 2:7 declares: "I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, 'You are my Son; today I have come your Father.'" In Psalm 16:10 David adds, "because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay."

Both of these passages are cited in the NT as predictive of the resurrection of Christ. Peter said explicitly of David's prophesy in Psalm 16, "But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay" (Acts 2:30-31; cf. 13:35). Did this happen? Yes!

The Ascension of Christ. In Psalm 110:1, David even predicted the Ascension of Christ, writing, "The LORD says to my Lord: 'Sit at My right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet: (cf. Ps. 2:4-6; 68:6; used in Eph. 4:8). Jesus applied this passage to Himself (Matt. 22"43-44). Peter used it as a prediction of the Ascension of Christ: "For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, 'The LORD said to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand (*paraphrased: "Come up here beside Me"*) until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet'" (Acts 2:34-45). Did this happen? Yes!

-Summarized from: *Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics*, by Norman L. Geisler, 609-613, 'Prophecy,, Proof of the Bible'.