

The Prophecies of Jesus

The Book ©

Written by:

Don Walker Jr.



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Acts 2:41-43 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in THE APOSTLE'S DOCTRINE and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

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About the Author

Dr. Donald F. Walker Jr. has been passionately winning souls for Jesus Christ since January 2001. His ministry team has led over 11,001 individuals to Christ since October 2020, demonstrating a powerful commitment to evangelism. Don Walker's journey in ministry began in 2003 at Victory Christian Ministries International (VCMI) in Maryland, where he contributed to both the Usher Ministry and the Fishers of Men soul-winning ministry. In October 2006, he transitioned to Biloxi, Mississippi, as a sergeant in the United States Air Force, where he received a divine call to ministry.

After being anointed by Pastor David Salstrand and Pastor Clint Hatton at Jesse Duplantis Ministries (Covenant Church), Don Walker was sent to Gulfport and Biloxi, Mississippi, as a lay minister and urban evangelist. There, he creatively ministered through rap music and preaching, reaching diverse communities.

In 2008, he married his beloved Khiedrae Walker, and they founded a nonprofit organization and after-school program in partnership with Refuge Temple C.O.G.I.C. under Elder Hubert O'Neal Fulton Sr. and 1st Lady Dora Fulton, offering biblical teachings, mentorship, academic tutoring, and hot meals to youth in the neighborhood. Together they joined Living The Word International Ministries, led by Pastors Lawrence and Chiquita Weathersby. They served in several roles, including as directors of the Teen Ministry.

In 2014, the U.S. Air Force relocated the Walkers to Woodbridge, Virginia, where they reunited with VCMI, taking on the role of directors for the Chrisma Teen Ministry under Apostles Tony and Cynthia Brazelton. After Don Walker Jr's retirement from the U.S. Air Force, he and Khiedrae pastored an urban mission church in St. Petersburg, Florida, known as Revival Center. Together, they founded Don Walker Ministries and The A.T.O. Outreach, a Christian nonprofit

organization aimed at preventing suicides through training, international outreach, and evangelism. This initiative has had a profound global impact, reaching countries like Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, and India.

Khiedrae Walker is a Juris Doctorate, an accomplished attorney that serves in nonprofit and governmental roles. The Walkers hold pastoral ordinations under Tony and Cynthia Brazelton Ministries (TCBM) and international licensures and ordinations with Revival Ministries International Ministerial Association under Drs. Rodney and Adonica Howard-Browne. Don Walker earned his Bachelor's degree in Pastoral Studies from Southwestern College. He earned Master's and Doctorate degrees in Biblical Studies from Kingdom Life University, and his wife Khiedrae is currently working on a PhD in Biblical Studies. Don Walker also completed a Project Management Internship at Cornell University, a Ministry Outreach Internship at River University, and earned two Associate's Degrees in Human Resources and Fire Science from the Community College of the Air Force.

With a deep commitment to serving Christ and impacting lives both locally and globally, Dr. Donald F. Walker Jr. continues to inspire, lead, and bring hope with the love and message of Jesus Christ.

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The Book

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THE PROPHECIES OF JESUS - The Book

Introduction

The testimony of Jesus demonstrates the enduring spirit of true prophecy across the ages. Even with the promise of Christ's Second Coming, over 1,000 years of prophecy remains unfulfilled.

Revelation 19:10 ...Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

I will not site any denominational theology. For accuracy, I will only pull definitions of Hebrew and Greek words from Strong's Concordance and Lexicons that contain references from the original scrolls and manuscripts.

There are over 320 prophecies of Jesus in the bible. To keep from duplicating our efforts, we will examine more than 110 prophecies. Some specific prophecies were spoken by more than one prophet. In examining the prophecies, we will divide our study into 21 key segments, each focusing on a significant aspect of His life, ministry, and role in God's redemptive plan. Our first focus will be on the virgin birth and the genealogy of the Messiah, laying the foundation

for the divine and earthly lineage of Jesus. From there, we will explore the childhood of the Messiah, looking at the prophecies that foretold His early life and upbringing. Following this, we will examine Jesus' earthly ministry, investigating the fulfillment of prophecies regarding His teachings, miracles, and divine mission.

Next, we will delve into the Theophanies, which encompass all the Old Testament appearances of the Messiah—the moments when Christ appeared in a pre-incarnate form to reveal God's will.

Afterward, we will explore the prophecies concerning Jesus As God, reflecting on His divine nature and the ways He was foretold as both fully human and fully divine. We will also look at the prophetic implications regarding who Jesus is, particularly in the context of the Law and the prophets, revealing how His coming was foreshadowed throughout Scripture.

We will then shift our attention to the events of Jesus' time in Israel, focusing on the detailed prophecies surrounding His betrayal by a friend, the priests, and the elders. We will spend time learning about prophecies surrounding the torturous crucifixion and His victorious resurrection. These pivotal moments in His life were foretold with remarkable accuracy, and we will explore how they align with Old Testament predictions. Finally, we will conclude our study of Jesus'

ministry by examining the foretelling of Jesus' second coming and millennial reign. In conclusion we will offer a brief overview of the lives of those who were foretold about Christ and prophesied about the Messiah from Adam and Isaiah to John the Baptist, tracing the thread of Messianic prophecy throughout history. This study will help us understand how the prophecies of Jesus are intricately woven into the fabric of scripture. We will show the genius of God's placement of prophecy and the fulfillment of God's plan through the life, death, resurrection, and promised return of the Messiah.

Let's begin with the miraculous Virgin Birth!

Chapter 1: Virgin Birth

PROPHECY:

* The Messiah / Christ would be the seed of a woman, born of virgin

* The Messiah / Christ would be called Emmanuel

- *Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

- *Jeremiah 31:22 How long wilt thou go about, O thou backsliding daughter? for the Lord hath created a new thing in the earth, A woman shall compass a man.*

- *Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*

- *Isaiah 8:8 And he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach even to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel.*

IN DEPTH: In the Garden of Eden, the Lord God reveals the punishment designated for the serpent, which includes the first prophecy recorded in the Bible. This prophecy indicates that God Himself will instill enmity—an intense hatred—between the woman and the serpent, as well as between their respective offspring.

(Genesis 3:15) Specifically, it foretells that the seed of the woman will crush the serpent's head, while the serpent will strike the heel of that same seed. This significant prophecy found in Genesis chapter 3 hints at both the conception and the death of Jesus. Notably, Mary is unique in that she is the only woman to bear a seed without the involvement of a man, underscoring the miraculous nature of the virgin birth of Jesus Christ. Jeremiah 31:22 shows this unique and new phenomenon.

When it comes to Jesus' death, historical records detail the brutal methods employed by the Romans, particularly the practice of crucifixion, which was exceedingly gruesome. One question is “how”? How was this method completed without breaking a bone. In burial excavations of victims of the crucifixion, archeological evidence shows when nails were driven into a victim's hands and feet. A nail was placed in the victim's wrists, which would have been considered part of the hand, and allowing for penetration without

breaking a bone. Also pertaining to the feet, the victims legs would have been turned sideways, resulting in intense pain and suffering. A single nail was often found to have been driven through both of the heels, illustrating the profound physical torment Jesus endured. This imagery resonates with the prophecy that the seed of the woman—Jesus—would be deeply bruised in the heel, highlighting the fulfillment of God's words in the context of His ultimate sacrifice.

Another question that comes to mind is “how”? How could a female virgin produce a seed without the help of a male. The answer is found in scripture. She was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Even the angel of the Lord appeared unto Joseph and explained this phenomenon. She did not seek comfort with a man, nor did she cheat on her espoused husband, Joseph. This impossible thing became possible by the Power of the Holy Ghost. The virgin birth was not only a sign of the Messiah’s entry into the world, but the virgin birth was a sign that God himself would come in the flesh. According to Matthew 1:21-23, Immanuel was one of the names given to Jesus. This name expresses his divinity in a human form. This is called the ‘Mystery of Godliness’ in 1 Timothy 3:16. This is literally what it means for God to be manifested in the flesh. This was revealed to men as a mystery, something that would be impossible but, this

mystery is called the “Mystery of Godliness.” The name Immanuel (Emmanuel) means "God with us," a prophecy echoed in Isaiah 8, where it is foretold that the Messiah would be called Immanuel. Also, in this scripture the Messiah's earthly ministry would begin in Judah and become so renowned that it would extend just outside of the borders. Isaiah 8:8 says "...out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land." As we will see, Jesus completely fulfilled this prophecy.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 1:18-20 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise:

When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

- Matthew 1:21-23 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring

forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

- 1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Chapter 2: King David's Lineage

PROPHECY:

* The Messiah / Christ will be born from the lineage of King David

* King David was personally told the Messiah / Christ will be of
David's Seed

* Jesus was born in Bethlehem

* The angel Gabriel told Mary that Jesus would be the Messiah's
name

- *Jeremiah 23:5-6 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, The Lord Our Righteousness.*

- *Jeremiah 33:14-15 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.*

- *Ezekiel 34:23-24 And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the Lord have spoken it.*

- Ezekiel 37:24-25 And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince forever.

- 2 Samuel 7:12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

- 1 Chronicles 17:11 And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom.

- Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

IN DEPTH: Let us dive into the lineage of Jesus. There are three layers that we must uncover.

Layer #1 Bloodline of David and Jesse.

Layer #2 Son of Joseph, but not his bloodline.

Layer #3 Bloodline of Mary, let's clear up any confusion.

Let's deal with the prophecy of the bloodline of David in Layer #1: In

Matthew chapter 1, it is stated that Jesus is a descendant of King David, which plays a crucial role in the events leading up to His birth. This lineage connection explains why Joseph, who was from the royal line of David, was required to travel to Bethlehem to fulfill a decree issued by the Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus. This is a 109.44-kilometer trip (68 miles) by foot and animal from Nazareth to Bethlehem (Luke 2:4-5). Caesar's command was for all individuals to return to their ancestral hometowns to register for a census, which was primarily intended to collect taxes and to have all people pledge allegiance in the region. Bethlehem, as the birthplace of King David in the house of Jesse. Bethlehem was the designated location for Joseph and Mary's registration. Both genetically are from the royal bloodline of King David. This census event took place during a time when the Roman Empire ruled over Israel. Interestingly, more than

a century later, in 135 AD, Roman Emperor Hadrian would rename the region from Israel to Palestine, marking the significant shift in the area's identity under Roman control just 65 years after the siege of Jerusalem. In Luke chapter 2, the narrative expands on the journey taken by Mary and Joseph. While Mary was still pregnant with Jesus, they traveled from their home in Nazareth to Bethlehem in order to participate in the census, ensuring their official registration in the town of David's birth. This journey not only fulfilled the Roman decree but also confirmed the fulfillment of the prophecy regarding the Messiah's lineage, reinforcing Jesus' identity as a descendant of David. Through this connection, the story of Jesus' birth further highlights His royal lineage and divine purpose.

Let's understand how Jesus is the non-biological son of Joseph in

Layer #2: Mary conceived and gave birth to Jesus while remaining a virgin, a miraculous event that signifies the uniqueness of Jesus' birth. According to John 3:16, Jesus is described as the "only begotten Son" of the Father, emphasizing His unparalleled nature and divine origin. This phrase indicates that Jesus is the only individual who was born directly of God in the way that humans experience natural childbirth, but without any biological connection to Joseph. Jesus, as the Son of God, was not conceived in the normal,

human sense through Joseph, highlighting His divine nature. The term "begotten" used in John 3:16 is the Greek word *monogenes* (G3439), which means "the only one of its kind" or "unique," particularly in reference to a son or daughter born through natural childbirth. It emphasizes that Jesus' birth was extraordinary, unlike that of any other child, even though He was born in a human way. In contrast, other terms for "begotten," such as *yalad* (H3205) in Hebrew and *prototokos* (G4416) in Greek, refer to "bearing" or "being born" in a more general sense, without the specific connotation of uniqueness found in *monogenes*. These terms are more commonly associated with regular human conception and birth, as seen in genealogies like those in Matthew chapter 1. In Matthew 1, the genealogy clearly traces the bloodline of Joseph. However, the Bible makes an important distinction in how it refers to Jesus' birth. In Matthew 1:16, it states, "And Jacob begat Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ." This passage does not say that Jesus was begotten by Joseph; rather, it underscores that Jesus was born to Mary alone, without Joseph's involvement in His conception. This is significant because, in the genealogical record of Joseph's family line, Jesus is the only one who is not described as being "begotten", further highlighting His divine origin and confirming that He was uniquely born of Mary, through

the power of the Holy Spirit. Also note the bloodline of Joseph is as follows. Jesus – son of Mary whom was born Jesus, husband Joseph – begot by Jacob – begot by Matthan – begot by Eliazar – begot by Eliud – begot by Achim. This bloodline is completely different from the blood line listed in Luke chapter 3. The book of Matthew has the bloodline of Joseph. The book of Luke has the bloodline of Mary. Let's peel back the next layer and clear up any confusion.

In Layer #3 let's clear up any confusion pertaining to the bloodline of Mary. In Hebrew culture, marriage goes beyond the union of two individuals; it also involves the merging of two families. When a couple marries, the relationship between the families changes. A father-in-law becomes a father, and a son-in-law is regarded as a son. This cultural understanding shifts the way family roles are perceived, and it is important to note that in the Hebrew scriptures, the term "in-law" is used, however, the term "in-law" is never used in genealogies, as these records focus on direct bloodlines, not on legal or marital relationships. In the New Testament, we find two genealogies for Jesus, one in the Gospel of Matthew and the other in the Gospel of Luke. Both genealogies trace Jesus' lineage, but they do so in diverse ways. As mentioned earlier, Matthew's genealogy outlines a bloodline that is "begotten" through Joseph. This presents

Joseph's natural bloodline, but it does not imply that Jesus was biologically begotten by Joseph. The genealogy highlights Joseph's connection to David. In contrast, Luke's account uses different terminology. In Luke's genealogy, the term used for Jesus' relationship to Joseph is "son of" (Greek: *huios*). This term has a broader meaning than simply referring to a biological offspring. It can also signify a close, non-biological relationship, such as a pupil, adopted son, or son-in-law.

Luke's genealogy reads as follows: "Jesus, the supposed son of Joseph, the son of Heli, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Simeon..." and so on.

The important distinction here is that the phrase "supposed son of Joseph" suggests that, while Joseph is recognized as Jesus' legal father, Jesus is not biologically his child. The phrase also implies that Joseph, as the son-in-law of Heli, Mary's father, would be legally adopted into Mary's family line. Heli is, therefore, understood to be Mary's biological father, and his bloodline would be traced through this genealogy. This is significant for two main reasons:

Firstly, in the book of Matthew, the genealogy in chapter 1 clearly identifies Joseph's biological father and grandfathers as Jacob,

Matthan, and Eliazar, confirming that Joseph's parental line is different than the genealogy found in Luke chapter 3. Secondly, genealogies in Jewish tradition almost exclusively focus on a man's descendants, rarely ever is a woman even mentioned. Which is why in the book of Luke the genealogy, which includes Mary's lineage, does not name Mary but her husband instead. This second blood line in Luke chapter 3 is distinct and different in its structure from the blood line in Matthew chapter 1. In Jewish tradition, the son-in-law is often considered "adopted" into the family and treated as a "son of" that family, rather than a biological child. Thus, Joseph would be regarded as "a son of" Mary's father Heli, and through this relationship, would also be linked to Mary's grandparents, Matthat and Levi. Both Mary and Joseph's bloodlines were descendants of King David, affirming Jesus' royal lineage through both His mother and legal father. This understanding of adoption and familial integration highlights the cultural and theological significance of the genealogies, with both Mary and Joseph playing vital roles in fulfilling the prophecy of the Messiah's descent from David.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 1:1-2, 16 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; (verse :16) And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

- Matthew 9:27 And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou son of David, have mercy on us

- Luke 1:31-33 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

- Luke 2:1-5 And it happened in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

- Luke 3:23-24, 31 And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli, Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi, ..., which was the son of Joseph,

- John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- Romans 1:3-4 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead: So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of King David.

Chapter 3: Stem From Jesse

PROPHECY:

*** The Messiah / Christ born through Isaac, Judah, and Jesse, David's father**

*- Psalm 110:1 The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand,
until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*

*- Isaiah 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse,
and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:*

IN DEPTH: Let us take a closer look at the prophecy found in Isaiah 11:1, which speaks of a significant figure who will emerge from the line of Jesse. The "stem of Jesse" refers specifically to Jesse's son, David, who was the renowned king of Israel. In this passage, the prophecy states that a "rod" would come forth from this stem. In Hebrew culture, the term "rod" carries a deep symbolic meaning—it represents authority and leadership. Therefore, this prophecy is indicating that authority and rulership will arise from David's lineage, specifically from his descendant. This figure of authority, as Christians believe, is Jesus Christ, who is acknowledged as the King of kings and the ultimate ruler.

The prophecy goes on to call this figure not just a rod, but a "Branch." This Branch is described as one that will sprout from the roots of David. The word for "Branch" in Hebrew is *Netser (H5341)*, which translates to "offshoot" or "descendant," signifying that this individual will be a direct descendant of David, one who will grow from the very lineage of Jesse. This connection is key, as the prophecy declares that the Messiah, or the "Anointed One," will come from the house of David, affirming that he will possess divine authority.

Furthermore, the Lord, speaking through David in Psalm 110:1, declares that the Messiah will sit at His right hand until the Lord makes His enemies a footstool under His feet. This declaration is a powerful prophecy concerning the role of the Messiah, who will be exalted and will ultimately defeat all of God's enemies. Jesus Himself references this prophecy in Matthew 22, where He confronts the Pharisees. In this exchange, He points out that David, though a great king, also refers to the Messiah as his Lord. Jesus highlights this to demonstrate that the Messiah is not only David's descendant (the Branch), but also his Lord, affirming both the divine and human aspects of the Messiah. This rich and multi-layered prophecy in Isaiah 11:1 serves not only to confirm the identity of the Messiah as

coming from David's line, but also to establish His divine authority as the ruler and King who will reign overall.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 22:42-45 ...He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?

- Luke 3:23-24, 38 And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli, Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi, which was the son of Melchi, which was the son of Janna, which was the son of Joseph, (38) Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.

Chapter 4: Simeon and Anna

PROPHECY:

- * The Messiah / Christ upon his circumcision seen by Simeon**
- * The Messiah, Jesus Christ seen by the Anna, the prophetess**
- * The Messiah / Christ identified as the Redeemer from an infant**

- *Leviticus 12:3 On the eighth day the boy is to be circumcised.*

- *Leviticus 12:7-8 He shall offer them before the LORD to make atonement for her, and then she will be ceremonially clean from her flow of blood. “These are the regulations for the woman who gives birth to a boy or a girl. But if she cannot afford a lamb, she is to bring two doves or two young pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering. In this way the priest will make atonement for her, and she will be clean.”*

- *Isaiah 59:20 And the Redeemer shall come to Zion...*

IN DEPTH: Zion, also known as Jerusalem, was the city that housed the temple for the Hebrew people and the location where significant events in the life of Jesus took place. It was here that Jesus underwent the ritual of circumcision on the eighth day of his life and the offering of two turtle doves and two pigeons were sacrificed according to Leviticus chapter 12. This journey that Mary and

Joseph made covered a distance of 5.5 miles (8.9 km). When they arrived at the temple two people prophesied over the baby, Simeon and Anna.

Simeon was a devout man whom the Holy Spirit rested upon even before the birth of Jesus, he was deeply attuned to the voice of the Holy Spirit. In Luke chapter 2, The Holy Spirit revealed to him that he would not experience death before personally seeing the long-awaited Messiah, the Christ. This divine promise filled Simeon with hope and anticipation, knowing that his life would not end until he had laid eyes on the Savior.

As the time for the fulfillment of this prophecy approached, the Holy Spirit continued to guide Simeon. In a remarkable moment of divine timing, the same Holy Spirit led Simeon into the temple on the very day that Joseph and Mary brought the infant Jesus to be presented and circumcised, in accordance with Jewish law. At that moment, Simeon encountered the baby Jesus, and recognizing Him as the Messiah, he took the child in his arms. Overcome with joy and reverence, Simeon blessed God, giving thanks for the fulfillment of God's promise to him.

Simeon then prophesied over the baby, declaring that Jesus was destined to be a figure who would cause both the fall and rise for many in Israel. His words were not only prophetic of Jesus' death and rising again on the 3rd day, but it was a powerful foretelling of the profound impact Jesus would have on the world—some would reject Him, while others would embrace Him, leading to the spiritual rise of many. Simeon's prophecy not only confirmed the identity of Jesus as the Messiah but also pointed to the challenging yet transformative journey He would lead, which would ultimately bring both division and salvation to the people of Israel.

The prophetess Anna also witnessed the dedication of Jesus in the temple. She praised God and prophesied that He would be the Redeemer for all of Jerusalem. Her words confirmed the prophecy in Isaiah 59:20, declaring the Redeemer's arrival in Jerusalem. Estimating Anna's age at the time, if she married at 15, was widowed after seven years, and served in the temple for 84 years, she would have been approximately 106 years old when she prophesied over the baby Jesus, an extraordinary age for such a devout servant of God. Anna's age is estimated between 103 and 110 years old. She fasted day and night, never leaving the temple. She advertised and

promoted the birth of the Jesus to anyone looking for redemption in Jerusalem.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Luke 2:23-30 (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

- Luke 2:34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

- Luke 2:36-39 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

Chapter 5: Star of Bethlehem

PROPHECY:

***The Messiah / Christ will come when the Star is presented as a sign**

*** Messiah will come out of Egypt**

*** Children will be killed near Bethlehem in the Ramah region**

- Genesis 35:19-20 And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem. And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave: that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day.

- Numbers 22:5 He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam the son of Beor to Pethor, which is by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me:

- Numbers 22:35 And the angel of the Lord said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak...

- Numbers 23:20 Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it.

- Numbers 24:7-8 ... and his seed shall be in many waters, and his king shall be higher than Agag, and his kingdom shall be exalted. God

brought him forth out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn: he shall eat up the nations his enemies...

- Numbers 24:16-17 He (Balaam) hath said, which heard the words of God, and knew the knowledge of the most High, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open: I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

- Daniel 9:2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

- Jeremiah 31:15 ...A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel (Rachel) weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

- Nehemiah 7:30 The men of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred twenty and one.

- Ezra 2:26 The children of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred twenty and one.

IN DEPTH: Balaam is a fascinating character in the Old Testament, and his story holds great significance for both the Israelites and the surrounding nations. Balaam was a non-Israelite prophet and diviner who lived during the time of Moses. He was hired by King Balak of Moab to curse the Israelites as they journeyed through the wilderness. The Israelites were growing in number and strength, and King Balak feared them. However, there was a major issue with Balaam's mission: God Himself told Balaam not to go and curse the Israelites (Numbers 22:12). Despite this command, Balaam chose to go anyway, and this decision led to a series of dramatic events.

On his journey to meet King Balak, Balaam's donkey, who was traveling with him, suddenly stopped in its tracks and refused to move. At first, Balaam was frustrated and struck the donkey, but then something extraordinary happened: God opened the mouth of the donkey. The donkey asked Balaam why he had beaten her three times, and Balaam responded as if it was perfectly normal to argue with an animal (Numbers 22:28). At that moment, Balaam's eyes were opened, and he saw an angel standing in the road, holding a flaming sword. The angel warned Balaam that he was on a dangerous path and would have been destroyed if the donkey had not stopped him. The angel then gave Balaam a crucial message: he was

only to speak what God told him to speak, no matter what King Balak asked (Numbers 22:35). When Balaam arrived before King Balak, Balak eagerly expected him to curse the Israelites. However, Balaam declared, "I cannot curse what God has blessed" (Numbers 23:8). Instead of cursing the Israelites, Balaam spoke words of blessing and prophecy, including a famous Messianic prophecy.

In Numbers 24:17, Balaam spoke of a future ruler (Scepter) who would arise from Israel: "...a Star shall come out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel." The "Star" mentioned here is a symbol of a future king, the Messiah, who would come from Israel. The "Scepter" refers to a king's rod and rule, indicating the Messiah would be a powerful king who would bring correction. This prophecy about the "Star of Jacob" is significant because it was later recognized as the "Star of Bethlehem" to the wise men who found the newborn Jesus in Bethlehem.

It's important to note that the book of Numbers, where this prophecy is recorded, was written by Moses as part of the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible, also known as the Torah. Balaam's prophecy was considered so important that Moses ensured it was written down in scripture for future generations.

Balaam's story begins in Numbers 22:5, where we learn he came from a place called Pethor, which was located in the region of modern-day northern Iraq and southern Syria. Pethor, a city near the Euphrates River, was an ancient city where Balaam practiced his divination. This location is significant because, about 840 years later, the same region became known as part of Babylonian, where the Prophet Daniel resided.

Around 600 BC, about 800 years after Moses' time, the prophet Daniel was living in Babylon. Daniel was an important figure in the royal court of King Nebuchadnezzar and was a leader among the Magi (wise men). The Magi were a group of learned men who were skilled in astrology, dream interpretation, and divination—much like Balaam had been. The word "Magi" comes from the Greek term *magos* (G3097), which refers to astrologers, diviners, and seers. These men were trained to study the stars and interpret signs, and they were familiar with ancient prophecies, including Balaam's about the "Star of Jacob."

Daniel, who was deeply faithful to God and often quoted the Hebrew scriptures, may have passed down knowledge of the prophecy of the Star of Jacob to the Magi during his time in Babylon. According to Daniel 9:2, he was remarkably familiar with the Hebrew scriptures

and various prophecies. Daniel was a leader within the group of wisemen in Babylon. Though we do not have a direct record of Daniel teaching the Magi, it's likely that he shared the Hebrew scriptures with them, especially the prophecy from Numbers 24:17, which spoke of a Star rising from Jacob. This would have helped the Magi recognize the Star of Bethlehem when it appeared centuries later. The Star of Bethlehem, the same "Star of Jacob," guided the Magi from the East to find the boy Jesus in the house in Matthew 2:10-11.

When the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, they inquired about the birth of the "King of the Jews" and followed the star to Bethlehem. King Herod, fearing the arrival of a rival king, asked the Magi to report back to him after they found the child. However, being warned by God in a dream, the Magi refused to return to King Herod. Please note: When the Magi found the boy Messiah in Bethlehem, Jesus was not a baby and was not in a manger with shepherds watching. The Scripture states the Magi found Jesus in a house as a child, no longer a baby. And the scripture never says that there were 3 Magi or 3 kings, a number is never specified. To number the Magi is a common mistake because, there were 3 gifts given does not mean there were 3 Magi. Herod became enraged and ordered the massacre of all male

children under the age of two in the Ramah region surrounding of Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16). This tragic event fulfilled the prophecy spoken in Jeremiah 31:15, which stated, “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”

Ramah, the place mentioned in this prophecy, was near Bethlehem. Rachel, the beloved wife of Jacob and mother of Benjamin and Joseph, was buried in the region of Ramah (Genesis 35:19). The mourning of Rachel's children was a prophecy of the literal grief of the mothers who lost their children in Herod's massacre.

Additionally, the tribe of Benjamin, Rachel's son, had settled in the Ramah region when many of the Israelites returned from Babylonian captivity (Ezra 2:26; Nehemiah 7:30). The descendants of Benjamin, including the people of the region of Ramah, suffered greatly under Herod's cruel orders, fulfilling the prophecy of Rachel's weeping for her children. The toddler Jesus was spared, as Joseph was warned in a dream to go to Egypt. Balaam prophesied this in Numbers 24:7-8 stating the Messiah would be called out of Egypt.

This entire chain of events, beginning with Balaam's prophecy of the Star of Jacob and continuing through the actions of the Magi, King Herod, and the fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy, points to the

significant role that these ancient prophecies played in the life of Jesus. Even though these prophecies were spoken hundreds of years before the birth of Jesus, they were precisely fulfilled, showing that God had a plan for the arrival of the Messiah all along.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 2:10-11 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

- Matthew 2:16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

Chapter 6: Healing Ministry

PROPHECY:

*The Messiah / Christ is the only priest that fulfilled making the lepers clean

* The messenger (John the Baptist) will prepare the way before the Messiah's ministry

*The Messiah / Christ's ministry will begin in the regions surrounding Galilee

* The Hem of Messiah's Garment

- *Leviticus 14:11 And the priest that maketh him clean shall present the man that is to be made clean, and those things, before the Lord, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:*

- *Isaiah 9:1-2 Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.*

- *Malachi 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.*

- Malachi 4:2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings: and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

IN DEPTH: The writings of the prophets are not the only scriptures that foretold the coming of the Messiah, Jesus. In fact, the Law of Moses itself is filled with foreshadowing of Jesus' earthly ministry, offering powerful glimpses into the nature of the Messiah and the work He would accomplish. One of the most striking examples of this is found in Leviticus 14:11, where the law regarding leprosy is laid out. According to the law, when a person was stricken with leprosy, they were required to be separated from the congregation for their own safety and for the safety of others. Only a priest had the authority to declare the leper clean, once the disease had been healed. However, the law did not provide for the healing of leprosy itself. No priest had the power to cure a person of this dreadful affliction, except one.

Yet, in the fullness of time, a High Priest would come who possessed the power not only to declare a person clean but also to heal them. In Luke 5, we see a vivid fulfillment of this foreshadowing when a man with leprosy approached Jesus, falling to His feet, and asking, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." The leper's words echo

the terminology found in Leviticus, where the priest was the one who could "make him clean." Jesus, the true High Priest, reached out and touched the man, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed," and instantly the leper was healed. This powerful act revealed that Jesus held the authority not only to cleanse but to heal, a power that only the Messiah could possess. However, Jesus still humbly yielded himself to the Law of Moses by demanding that any cleansed leper report to the priest for confirmation of the healing.

Furthermore, in the book of Acts, when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to fill His disciples, He granted them the authority to heal the sick and cleanse the lepers. This delegation of power is further demonstrated in Matthew 10:8, where Jesus instructs His disciples to "heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons." It is through the Holy Spirit that Jesus imparts this divine power to His followers, enabling them to continue the work He began. Only the Messiah had the power to delegate such authority, empowering His disciples to conduct His healing ministry on earth.

In addition to these examples of fulfillment, the Law of Moses also foreshadowed specific aspects of Jesus' ministry, such as the prophecy found in Isaiah 9:1-2. This passage foretold that the Messiah's ministry would begin in the regions of Zebulun and

Naphtali, beyond the Jordan, and in Galilee. As soon as Jesus emerged from His 40 days in the wilderness, He began His ministry in these very areas. As the prophecy states in Malachi 3:1, God will “send his messenger to prepare the way” before him, John the Baptist’s ministry was approaching its final days as Jesus was beginning His earthly ministry. As Matthew 4:12-17 confirmed, John was cast into prison (just before his death) as Jesus departed into Galilee fulfilling beginning His work of bringing light to the regions of darkness.

In Jesus' healing ministry, a woman with a 12-year blood issue was healed instantly when she touched the hem of His garment (Matthew 9:19-21). This wasn't unique; many others knew healing could be found by touching the hem of His garment. In Matthew 14:35-36, a whole crowd sought to touch it. But how did people from various regions know this? The answer lies in Malachi 4:2, which prophesies that the "Sun of Righteousness" would rise with healing in His wings. Priests wore a garment draped over both shoulders called a tallit. The two sides of the garment or tallit resembled “wings.” These wings had fringed corners with knots called the tzitzits. The 1st century Jewish community would have been familiar with the messianic prophecy written in Malachi 4:2. People believed that

touching these fringes, or wings would bring healing, as foretold in the prophecy. The faith of the woman and the crowd was rooted in this Messianic promise from Malachi 4:2.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 4:12-17 Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: ¹⁴ That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

- Matthew 9:19-21 And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples. And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.

- Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils...

- Matthew 14:35-36 ...they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.

- Luke 5:12-14; And it came to pass, when he was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on his face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And he put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him. And he charged him to tell no man: but go, and shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

Chapter 7: Jesus in the Temple

PROPHECY:

***The Messiah / Christ will appear in the temple of the Lord**

***The Messiah / Christ will be zealous to deal with reproaches in the Lord's house**

***The Messiah / Christ will receive praise from children**

- Psalm 8:2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightiest still the enemy and the avenger.

- Psalm 69:9 For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.

- Psalm 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old

- Psalm 118:26 Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord: we have blessed you out of the house of the Lord.

IN DEPTH: In Jesus' earthly ministry, He always spoke to the multitudes in parables according to Matthew 13:34. However did you know this itself is fulfillment of prophecy written by Asaph the singer and priest. David's chief Levite singer Asaph wrote Psalm 78. In verse 2 he prophesied that the Messiah would open His mouth with parables and dark sayings. Another powerful prophecy is found in

Malachi 3:1, which speaks of the Messiah suddenly entering the temple. This was fulfilled when Jesus entered the temple in Jerusalem and drove out those who were turning God's house into a marketplace, using unbalanced scales for profit rather than for prayer. Jesus' zeal and righteous indignation led him to create a whip out of small cords, and overturned the money tables. This act of righteous anger was foretold in Psalm 69:9, where the Messiah's zeal for the house of God would be evident. As Jesus casted out the money changers and cleansed the temple, He fulfilled these prophecies, demonstrating His authority and His commitment to restoring the temple to its rightful purpose as a house of prayer.

During this moment, Jesus also healed all the sick who had come to the temple. As He departed from the temple, children began to cry out, "Hosanna to the Son of David," and praised Him, fulfilling the prophecy in Psalm 8:2 that perfected praise would come from the mouths of children. Furthermore, Psalm 118:26 prophesied that the Messiah would be physically blessed out of the house of the Lord. The children, in their innocent and pure worship, they put the hypocrite priest to shame and recognized Jesus as the Messiah, even as the religious leaders wanted to silence them.

As these events unfolded in John 2, the disciples witnessed the fulfillment of these prophecies and remembered what had been written by the prophet. Their eyes were opened to the deep significance of Jesus' actions, as they recognized that He was indeed the fulfillment of the ancient prophecies. Through His words and deeds, Jesus revealed Himself as the promised Messiah, fulfilling the law, the prophecies, and the long-awaited hope of Israel.

I have chosen to focus on only a few key examples of Jesus' earthly ministry in fulfilling prophecy, as a means to demonstrate that He did not merely come to fulfill the Law of Moses, but came to fulfill every prophecy, proving that He is truly Emmanuel, God with us. The sheer number of prophecies Jesus fulfilled is so vast and comprehensive, to list and explain them all would undoubtedly result in a work spanning over 2,000 pages. By highlighting just a handful of these fulfilled prophecies, I aim to emphasize the profound and undeniable truth that Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection were the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises throughout scripture.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 13:34 All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them:

- Matthew 21:15-16 And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased, And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

- John 2:15-17 And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!"

- Acts 6:7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

***Hebrew Names Prophetically**

There is a prophetic message hidden within each biblical name in the first 10 generations of men in the bible. Each Hebrew name has a specific meaning that is unique to that name. This is true even from the first 6 chapters of the book of Genesis. Below are the names of the first 10 generations beginning with Adam and ending with Noah.

<u>Hebrew Names</u>		<u>English</u>
Adam	→	Man
Seth	→	Appointed
Enosh	→	Mortal
Kenan	→	Sorrow;
Mahalalel	→	The blessed God
Jared	→	Shall come down
Enoch	→	Teaching
Methuselah	→	His death shall bring
Lamech	→	→ The despairing
Noah	→	Rest, or comfort.

Let's put their names together: *"Man¹ appointed² mortal³ sorrow⁴.
The Blessed God⁵ shall come down⁶ teaching⁷. His death shall bring⁸,
the despairing⁹ rest, or comfort¹⁰."*

Hidden within the first 6 chapters of the book of Genesis we see a unique prophecy revealed within the names of the ancient patriarchs. This is none other than a prophecy about the Messiah. Jesus was foretold in the names of biblical patriarch about 3,000 to 4,000 years before the birth of Christ.

Chapter 8: Old Testament Theophanies

Theophanies vs. Christophanies

Understanding the difference between a Theophany and a Christophany helps deepen our understanding of how God revealed Himself throughout Scripture. A *Theophany* is a visible manifestation of God, where His divine presence is made visible in a tangible form, often appearing as fire, smoke, or in the form of a man. This is not an angel. Theophanies can occur in various ways throughout Scripture, revealing God's glory and purpose. On the other hand this is not to be mistaken for the false claims of a *Christophany*.

A Theophany refers specifically to appearances of Christ in the Old Testament before His incarnation, often as a divine figure who is distinctly identified with the Son of God. However, Christophanies are never in the physical form, they are just visions, which makes many of them false. Some might mistakenly claim that Christ appeared only as a vision or in spirit, but a true *Theophany* involves the tangible presence of Christ Himself in a pre-incarnate form that can be touched, handled and is just as real as when Jesus walked the earth in the 1st century. Let's explore authentic Theophanies in the bible of the pre-incarnate Christ in the physical form.

Theophanies with the Pre-Incarnate Messiah

The encounter between Abraham, Sarah, and the Messiah

Most Christians are familiar with the Bible story of the two angels who were sent to confront the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. However, just a few chapters earlier, these same two angels had an intriguing encounter with Abraham, but this time, there was a third, divine visitor. This third visitor was none other than the Lord Himself, revealed through a remarkable Theophany. In this extraordinary encounter, Scripture tells us that this heavenly figure was not just any messenger but the Lord Almighty, who carried with Him profound attributes that pointed toward the Messiah. One such attribute was His ability to know the future.

During this meeting, the Lord revealed to Abraham that his wife, Sarah, would bear a son, even though she was far past the age of childbearing. When Sarah overheard this divine proclamation, she laughed in disbelief. The Lord, however, confronted her, rebuking her not only for laughing but for doing so secretly within the confines of her own heart. This moment of divine revelation and correction led to the naming of their son, Isaac, which means "laughter," a name that would forever remind them of this miraculous promise (Genesis 18:10 and 21:5-6).

What stands out in this powerful encounter is the Lord's deep knowledge of the human heart. He knew not only the secret thoughts and doubts within Sarah's heart but also the exact details of her future pregnancy, revealing to her that she would give birth within the year. This characteristic of divine omniscience is one that foreshadows the ministry of Jesus Christ, who, like the Lord in this moment, could discern the hidden thoughts of men and openly reveal to them what they were thinking or doing in secret. Just as Jesus knew the hearts of those around Him, so did the Lord in this remarkable visitation to Abraham and Sarah.

The encounter between Jacob and the Messiah

In Genesis 32, after reconciling with his estranged brother Esau, Jacob had an extraordinary encounter with a mysterious figure. Many interpret this figure to be an angel, but the identity of this being was far more profound. As Jacob wrestled with this heavenly person, he later declared that the place where this event took place would be called Peniel, meaning "I have seen the face of God." The Scripture does not say he saw the face of an angel; it clearly states that Jacob encountered the very face of God Himself. This divine

manifestation took the form of a man, capable of physically wrestling with Jacob through the night.

The battle was fierce, but it ended when the Messiah, in His divine power, touched Jacob's hip, instantly dislocating it. The fight, however, was not about physical strength but about the blessing that Jacob sought. This confrontation was not simply a struggle; it was a sacred moment where the Lord Himself would bestow upon Jacob the blessing he so desperately desired. It was in this intimate, holy wrestling match that God changed Jacob's name to Israel, symbolizing his new identity as the father of a nation destined to receive the favor promised to Abraham and now to Jacob.

This encounter reveals that blessings do not come through mere angels but through an intervention of the Lord. Jacob, understanding this profound truth, chose to wrestle with this divine figure because he knew that only the Lord Himself could grant him the blessing that would change the course of his life. It was not an angel but God in the form of a man, and through this powerful Theophany, Jacob's life and legacy were forever transformed.

The encounter between Moses and the Messiah

In Exodus chapter 3, Moses, having spent forty years living in the wilderness with his wife and father-in-law, Jethro, experienced a life-altering encounter that would not only change his own destiny but also the future of the entire Hebrew people. While tending to the flock of sheep in the quiet of the evening, Moses saw a remarkable sight: a bush engulfed in flames, yet the leaves and branches of the bush remained untouched by the fire. As Moses approached this strange phenomenon, the bush spoke to him, calling him and commissioning him for a divine task—to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. This encounter marked the beginning of Moses' divine calling.

This was no ordinary vision. It was a profound Theophany, a direct manifestation of God's presence. The Voice emanating from the burning bush imparted to Moses a powerful spiritual ordination. God demonstrated His divine authority to Moses, first by transforming his staff into a serpent, and then by revealing to him the miraculous power to heal leprosy. Through these signs, Moses was shown how to wield spiritual power and perform divine miracles in God's name.

When Moses, awestruck by the majesty of this encounter, asked the Voice of the Lord, speaking to him from the bush, the reply was unequivocal: "I AM that I AM," the sacred and eternal name of God Himself. This declaration—"I AM"—was not only a revelation of God's identity but also an assertion of His eternal, unchanging nature. Centuries later, in the New Testament, Jesus would confront the scribes and Pharisees in John chapter 8. Jesus declared, "Before Abraham was, I AM." (John 8:58) The religious leaders immediately sought to stone Him, for this statement was a clear claim to divinity, an identification with the same "I AM" that spoke to Moses from the burning bush. Jesus, in this moment, was declaring Himself to be the same eternal God who had appeared to Moses, the same Messiah who would later be crucified for the sins of the world.

After this divine revelation at the burning bush, Moses was forever transformed. He went on to perform miraculous signs and wonders, empowered by the Lord, as he led the Hebrew people out of Egypt and toward their promised freedom. Through Moses' obedience, the Israelites witnessed the might and glory of God as He fulfilled His promises and delivered them from bondage.

The same God who met Moses in the wilderness would continue to work through His chosen servant, and His presence would ultimately be fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, centuries later.

The encounter between Daniel and the Messiah

The prophet Daniel, during his time in Babylon and Persia, experienced numerous encounters with angels, but one event stands out as the most profound. After completing a 21-day fast, Daniel encountered a presence that was unlike any angelic visitation he had known. This was not an angel, but a divine figure referred to in the Bible as "a man." However, the description of this figure makes it clear that this was no ordinary man. His appearance was striking and heavenly: His face shone like lightning, His eyes blazed like fiery lamps, His arms and feet glowed with the brilliance of polished brass, and His voice thundered like the sound of a great multitude. This figure emanated an awe-inspiring, overwhelming power, and His presence filled Daniel with reverence and fear.

After this remarkable encounter, much was revealed to Daniel, not only concerning the future of kingdoms such as Greece, but also regarding the spiritual principalities that would govern these nations. Additionally, God shared His divine plan for the angel Michael, the

protector of Israel. The appearance of this heavenly figure in Daniel 10 bears a striking resemblance to the vision of Jesus Christ described in the Book of Revelation. In Revelation 1:13-15, Jesus is depicted as the "Son of Man," a title that echoes His divine and eternal nature. He is clothed in a robe with a golden sash, His hair white as wool, as white as snow, and His eyes are flames of fire. His feet are like fine brass, glowing as though refined in a furnace, and His voice sounds like the roar of many waters. This vivid description in Revelation mirrors the one Daniel gave of the divine figure he encountered—both share the same radiant power, fiery eyes, and presence that commands awe and reverence.

The similarity between these two descriptions is unmistakable, revealing that the figure Daniel encountered in his vision was none other than the pre-incarnate Jesus Christ. Before His earthly birth, Jesus, as the eternal Son of God, manifested Himself in this powerful Theophany to reveal divine truths to Daniel about future kingdoms and the spiritual forces at work in the world.

While Theophanies represent God's power and glory in various forms, they also point specifically to the pre-incarnate Christ in the physical form. These encounters of Christ before his virgin birth are profound and undeniable. This is a great revelation that

demonstrates God's active presence in human history, guiding and preparing the way for the coming of the Messiah.

Joshua's encounter with the Captain of the Angels

The day Joshua and the Hebrew children came out of the wilderness into the promised land they ate their first annual Passover meal in the promised land. They camped in an area known as Gilgal. Gilgal was located between the Jordan River and the ancient city of Jericho. Then something miraculous takes place. Joshua lifts up his eyes and encounters “a Man” with a sword drawn. When inquired if this man was with them, He identified himself as, “The Captain of the Hosts (of angels)” (Joshua 5:12-15).

Joshua promptly fell on his face to worship the Captain of the Hosts. The Man allows Joshua to worship him, ordering Joshua to take off his shoes because that place was considered holy. Joshua obeyed and in the next section Joshua and the Israelites were enroute to fight at Jericho, accompanied by the angelic hosts and Jesus, the Captain of Hosts.

Chapter 9: God with Us

PROPHECY:

*** The Messiah / Christ would be born God and Savior**

*** A virgin with child, and His name was Emmanuel meaning, “God with us”**

*** Jesus was conceived of the Holy Ghost unto the virgin Mary**

- Psalm 22:9-10 But thou art he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope when I was upon my mother's breasts. I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly.

- Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

IN DEPTH: The prophet Isaiah delivers a profound and extraordinary prophecy about a "Son" in Isaiah chapter 9, a prophecy that points to something far beyond an ordinary child. This Son, according to Isaiah, is not just a remarkable figure but is to be called *The Mighty God* and *The Everlasting Father*. The term "Everlasting" here refers to a nature that has no beginning and no ending eternal, unchanging existence. In other words, this child is not bound by time, but exists outside its limitations. There is only one

way for a Son to be called *The Everlasting Father*: He must be one and the same as the Father. In fact, He must also be *Mighty God* Himself. This is a radical and divine statement, asserting that the Son is not just a figure of human significance but is inherently divine—fully equal to the Father and fully God. The only individual who fits this description in the Bible is Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

What makes this passage in Isaiah unique is that it explicitly claims that the Son, the one promised to come, will bear titles that are reserved for God Himself. He is not merely a representative of God, nor a servant, but rather He is God—*The Mighty God* and *The Everlasting Father*. This clearly affirms the theological understanding that Jesus, the Son, is both distinct from the Father yet fully equal to Him. The prophecy in Isaiah foreshadows not only the birth of Jesus but also the deep, unshakeable truth that the Son shares in the very existence as God.

Jesus is fully God and fully man. This is known theologically as the hypostatic union. John chapter 1 speaks to the nature of Jesus. Verse 1 says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Verse 14 says, “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...” Meaning before Jesus was flesh he was the Word and the Word was God. This theme of Jesus’ divinity is

echoed and further clarified throughout the New Testament. For instance, in Matthew chapter 2, we see the fulfillment of this prophecy as wise men come from distant lands to worship the newborn child. They recognize the child's divine nature and offer Him gifts fit for royalty. This act of worship is a testament to the fact that this child is no ordinary infant, but the promised Messiah and God incarnate.

Furthermore, Psalm 22, another prophetic text, reinforces the idea that this child is divine from His very birth. Written by King David over a thousand years before Jesus' birth, Psalm 22 contains a powerful prophetic vision of Christ's suffering, death, and divine identity. Verses 9 and 10 of the Psalm are especially telling, as they describe Christ even in the womb, emphasizing that from the very beginning, this child would be regarded as God. David, speaking prophetically, declares, "You are my God" in reference to the child, even while he is still in Mary's womb. This was not just a poetic statement; it was a prophetic declaration about the nature of Jesus—He was, is, and always will be *God*.

In Matthew chapter 1, we see further confirmation of Jesus' divine identity. In a dream, an angel speaks to Joseph, assuring him that Mary's conception is through the Holy Spirit. The child to be born

will be called Jesus, but He will also be called Emmanuel, meaning "God with us." This declaration is a powerful confirmation from the Lord Himself that the Son, Jesus, is indeed God dwelling among humanity. The angel's words highlight that Jesus is not only the Savior but also the very presence of God in the flesh, fulfilling the promise of God's closeness to His people.

Psalm 22, written around 1,000 BC, beautifully complements these prophecies by affirming that from His birth, Jesus would be acknowledged as God. It prophetically describes the future Messiah in the most intimate of terms, even noting that the mother, Mary, would recognize the divine nature of her Son. "You are my God," she declares, signifying that Jesus was both her child and her God from the very moment of His birth. In sum, these prophecies across both the Old and New Testaments converge to declare a profound truth: Jesus, the Son of God, is not only the Messiah and the Savior of the world, but He is also God Himself, eternally united with the Father. The prophecies of Isaiah, Matthew, and Psalm 22 together lay the foundation for understanding the unique, divine identity of Jesus, the one who was both fully human and fully divine.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 1:20-22 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

- Matthew 2:1-2 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

- Luke 1:31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

- John 1:1, 14 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (verse :14) And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Chapter 10: Offended with Jesus

PROPHECY:

* Many would see the power of God but would not comprehend

* Many will be offended due to the Messiah's ministry

- *Psalm 69:8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.*

- *Isaiah 6:9-10 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.*

- *Isaiah 8:14 And he shall be for a sanctuary, but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.*

- *Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.*

IN DEPTH: In Isaiah chapter 6, the prophet foretold that while some would believe in Christ, others would be blinded to His identity and deaf to His words. Many would hear His teachings but fail to understand their profound meaning. This prophecy found its fulfillment in Acts 28:25-28, when Paul spoke to a crowd of listeners, explaining that the words of the prophet Isaiah had come to pass in their very presence. Despite witnessing miracles and the undeniable power of God at work, many remained unable to comprehend the significance of what was happening before them.

Many were also offended. Even though Jesus was compassionate, kind, and full of love, His message and ministry became a stumbling block to many. As 1 Peter 2:8 echoes the prophecy of Isaiah 8:14, they declare that Jesus would become "a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense" to Israel. Having an understanding heart comes from honestly searching for the truth. Many who were offended with Jesus did not search for the truth. Most Pharisees heard one accusation about Jesus and were offended. They didn't take the time to truly seek the Lord for the truth.

Jeremiah 29:13 says, *"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."* One Pharisee by the name of Nicodemus actually sought Jesus with his whole heart, thus founding

the truth. He later supported Jesus' ministry and was the only Pharisee present to help Jesus down from the cross and prepare his body for a temporary burial.

Throughout His ministry, Jesus faced offense from various quarters. The religious leaders were scandalized by His healing miracles on the Sabbath and by allowing His disciples to pluck corn on that sacred day. This was not against the law of Moses however, since the priests at that time added many unnecessary rules to the Hebrew Law, it seemed as if Jesus was a law breaker. The priest became offended at Jesus to the point of seeking his death. King Herod was offended by the news of Jesus' birth, feeling threatened by the thought of another king rising in his territory, so Herod had all the baby boys killed in the region around of Bethlehem. Judas, one of Jesus' own disciples, was offended when a woman poured expensive oil over Jesus' head as an act of devotion.

Even Jesus' own family struggled to accept Him; when He returned to His hometown, they were too familiar with Him and regarded Jesus as a stranger, fulfilling Psalm 69:8. Even his biological siblings they were offended. None of them followed Jesus during His earthly ministry. John 1:11 poignantly states, "His own did not receive Him," revealing the deep rejection He faced from His closest kin.

John 7:5 further emphasizes this rejection, noting plainly that His brothers did not believe in Him. It was only after Jesus' resurrection that two of His brothers, Jude, and James, became devoted followers and apostles, fully embracing Jesus' mission and the divine truth of who He was.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- John 1:11; He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

- John 7:5 For neither did his brethren believe in him.

- Acts 28:25-28 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not. And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers, Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

- John 19:39-40 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.

Chapter 11: Branch Nazarene

PROPHECY:

* The Messiah shall be called a Branch or Nazarene (Netzer)

- *Numbers 6:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When either man or woman shall separate themselves to vow a vow of a Nazarite, to separate themselves unto the Lord:*

- *Numbers 6:8 All the days of his separation he is holy unto the Lord.*

- *Numbers 6:18-19 And the Nazarite shall shave the head of his separation at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall take the hair of the head of his separation, and put it in the fire which is under the sacrifice of the peace offerings. ... after the hair of his separation is shaven:*

- *Judges 13:5 You will become pregnant and have a son whose head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines."*

- *Isaiah 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch (Netzer) shall grow out of his roots:*

IN DEPTH: In Isaiah 11, the prophet predicted that the coming Messiah would be called a Nazarene. The word "Branch" in this scripture had two important meanings. First, it was a special name for the Messiah, referring to Jesus. Secondly, it also referred to a Hebrew word, *netser* (H5341), which is where the terms "Nazarene" and "Nazarite" comes from. In Hebrew culture, this word had two meanings: it could refer to a city in Israel, and it was also linked to a special kind of priestly vow, called the Nazarite vow.

Jesus grew up in a town called Nazareth, as we read in Matthew 2:23. Nazareth was in the region of Galilee, and it's where Jesus spent much of His life. But there's more to this than just the town.

The Nazarite vow, explained in Numbers 6, was a special kind of fast that priests took to show their devotion to God. A person who made a Nazarite vow would promise not to cut their hair, not to touch dead things, and not to eat or drink anything made from grapes or corn, whether it was alcohol or not. The vow was a way of showing complete devotion to God. When the vow was finished, the person would shave their head and return to normal life.

In Acts 18:18, we see the Apostle Paul took this vow, which shows how important this tradition was. Paul is chronicled to have shaved his hair because of the vow's completion. A famous example of a

Nazarite was Samson, from the book of Judges, who was set apart from birth to follow this vow. Although Samson broke his vow several times, leading to bad consequences, his story also shows the power of being dedicated to God. Jesus was not only from the town of Nazareth, but He was also set apart for God's work for His whole life. For over 33 years, Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life (Hebrews 4:15), fully devoted to His Father's mission. Jesus was a true Nazarene in every way – both by where He lived and by how He lived His life in total dedication to God.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 2:23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

- Acts 18:18 And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren and sailed thence into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila, having shorn his head at Cenchrea, for he had made a vow.

- Hebrews 4:15 ...but (Jesus) was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Chapter 12: Betrayal

PROPHECY:

*** The Last Supper foreshadowed with Melchizedek and the Passover**

*** Prophecy of betrayal by a friend, with a kiss**

*** Messiah sold for 30 pieces of silver to buy the potter's field**

- Genesis 14:18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

- Psalm 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

- Psalm 55:12-14 For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.

- Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

- Zechariah 11:12-13 And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was priced at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver,

and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast.

IN DEPTH: On the night that Jesus was betrayed, He shared a deeply solemn meal with His disciples, which would become known as the Last Supper. This moment is recorded in Matthew 26:26-29, where Jesus broke bread and shared wine with His disciples, symbolizing His body and blood, introducing a new covenant. Two key meals from the Old Testament served as a prophetic foreshadowing of this event: the Passover meal and the exchange between Melchizedek and Abraham. In the Old Testament, after Abraham's victory over a group of kings and their armies, he met Melchizedek, the king of Salem, who brought out bread and wine and blessed Abraham (Genesis 14:18-20). Also, later during the Passover, Moses instructed the Israelites to eat unleavened bread and lamb, and to mark their doorposts with the blood of the lamb so that the spirit of death would "pass over" their homes, sparing their firstborns from death (Exodus 12:7-13). While the Last Supper fulfilled the significance of both these meals, our focus shifts to a betrayal by Judas that occurs at the end of the meal.

At the conclusion of the meal, Judas reached into the bread dish at the same time as Jesus, and this moment fulfilled a prophecy from Psalm 41:9, which says, "Even my close friend, whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me." In Matthew 26:23-28, Jesus specifically pointed out that the one who dipped His hand in the bowl with Him would be the one to betray Him. As John 13:27 recounts, it was at this moment that Satan entered Judas, marking the official act of betrayal by a close companion, someone who had walked with Jesus and shared in the fellowship in God's house according to the prophecy in Psalm chapter 55.

The next prophecy continues with remarkable precision in Psalm 27 and Zechariah 11. Psalm speaks of the betrayer that brings a kiss to the one he deceived. Zechariah's prophecy speaks that the Messiah would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, with the silver ultimately being cast into "the potter" in the house of the Lord. These details unfold exactly as prophesied.

First, in Matthew 26:47-49, Judas and a group of armed men came to the Garden of Gethsemane to arrest Jesus, and Judas identified Jesus with a kiss, as had been arranged. This kiss was the sign that led to Jesus' capture.

Secondly, in Matthew 26:14-15, Judas, motivated by greed, went to the chief priests and offered to betray Jesus to them for thirty pieces of silver. Zechariah had prophesied this exact price 500 years earlier. After Jesus was arrested, Judas regretted his actions and tried to return the silver, but the priests refused to accept it. In a desperate act, Judas threw the silver coins into the temple (Matthew 27:3-5).

The priests then used the money to buy “the potter’s” field, turning it into a burial place for foreigners, just as Zechariah had predicted (Zechariah 11:13). All these events perfectly aligned with the prophetic words spoken over 500 years before, showcasing the incredible accuracy and divine orchestration of Scripture.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 26:14-15 ...Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

- Matthew 26:23 He said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.

- Matthew 26:26-28 ...Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

- Matthew 27:7 ...they decided to use the money to buy the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners.

- John 13:27 ...Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

Chapter 13: The Sacrificial Lamb

PROPHECY:

*** The Messiah shall be a sacrifice (Lamb) without blemish**

*** Another shall be released as a scapegoat**

*** False witnesses will raise up against Jesus to ensure his unjust punishment**

- Exodus 12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

- Leviticus 16:14-15 And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.

But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before the Lord, to make an atonement with him, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.

- Leviticus 16:21-22 And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

- Numbers 28:3-4 And thou shalt say unto them, This is the offering made by fire which ye shall offer unto the Lord; two lambs of the first year without spot day by day, for a continual burnt offering. The one lamb shalt thou offer in the morning, and the other lamb shalt thou offer at even;

- Psalm 22:1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

- Psalm 35:11 False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge things that I knew not.

IN DEPTH: As previously mentioned, the Law of Moses contains numerous prophetic guidelines and references that point directly to the coming of the Messiah. One significant rule for priests when offering sacrifices was that the sacrificial lamb must be "without blemish," as outlined in Exodus 12:5. Only a spotless, flawless, firstborn lamb could be presented as a sacrifice to God. Jesus perfectly fulfilled this prophetic requirement by offering Himself as the ultimate, sinless sacrifice to God, as described in Hebrews 9:14. This is why Jesus is often referred to as the "Lamb of God" (John

1:29), signifying His purity and His role as the sacrificial lamb for humanity's sins.

In addition to the sacrificial lamb, the Law of Moses also included the ritual of the "scapegoat." This animal, unlike the sacrificial lamb, symbolically carried the sins of the people and was sent into the wilderness to remove the guilt of the nation. This is detailed in Leviticus 16:15 and Leviticus 16:21-22. In the story of Jesus' crucifixion, there must also be a "scapegoat" figure to fulfill this part of the prophetic symbolism. During the Passover festival, it was customary for the crowd to be given a choice between releasing one prisoner or the other. Pilate, the Roman governor, offered the people a choice: release Jesus, the innocent, spotless Messiah, or release Barabbas, a notorious murderer and insurrectionist. The crowd, tragically, chose to free Barabbas, thus making him the scapegoat while condemning the sinless Jesus to the cross, where He would be sacrificed for the sins of the world.

Additionally, Psalm 31:11 prophesied that false witnesses would rise up against the Messiah, accusing Him with fraudulent charges.

Indeed, during Jesus' trial, false witnesses came forward to testify against Him. In Matthew 26:59, it is recorded that the chief priests, elders, and the entire council spoke false testimonies to have Jesus

convicted and ultimately executed. These false accusations and the injustice of His trial are clear fulfillments of prophecy.

The Law of Moses also instructed that the blood of the sacrificial animal be sprinkled on the east side of the altar, particularly on the "mercy seat" of the Ark of the Covenant. The mercy seat symbolized the place where God's mercy was extended to sinners through the blood of the spotless sacrifice (Leviticus 16:14). In fulfillment of this, 1 Peter 1:19 speaks of the precious blood of Christ, which was not only sinless but also divine in nature. Unlike any human, Jesus' blood was uniquely holy because He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, not by a man.

In Matthew 27:46, Jesus gave up the ghost after the 9th hour according to the Law in Exodus 28:3-4. This is the time a spotless lamb was sacrificed in the evening sacrifices. Jesus' final words spoken on the cross was a fulfillment of Psalm 22:1, "My God, why have you forsaken me?" Jesus also said, "It is finished", to show He fulfilled the whole Law of Moses at the 9th hour or 6pm. His holy nature, sinless life and sacrificial death fulfilled the prophetic symbolism of God's mercy and forgiveness to all who believe in Him. Next chapter let's discuss the crucifixion in detail.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 26:59 Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death;

- Matthew 27:46, :50 And about the ninth hour (6pm) Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? (verse :50) Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

- Luke 17:17-21 For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast. And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas: Who for a certain sedition made in the city, and for murder, was cast into prison. Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them. But they cried, saying, Crucify him..

- John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

- Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God...

- John 19:30 ... he (Jesus) said, It is finished: and he bowed his head...

- 1 Peter 1:19 ...the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

Chapter 14: Crucifixion

PROPHECY:

* The Messiah will be embarrassed and abandoned

* The Messiah will be pierced and tortured

- *Psalm 69:21 ...and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.*

- *Psalm 22:8 He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.*

- *Psalm 22:15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death.*

- *Psalm 22:16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.*

- *Psalm 22:17-18 I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me. They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.*

- *Psalm 38:11 His friends stood afar off My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.*

- *Psalm 88:8 Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: I am shut up, and I cannot come forth.*

- Psalm 102:10-11 Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down. My days are like a shadow that declineth; and I am withered like grass.

- Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

IN DEPTH: In Psalm 102:10-11, we not only see the foretelling of the intense suffering and reproach that Jesus would endure at Calvary, but we also witness the prophecy of Jesus receiving the full, righteous wrath of God—wrath that humanity justly deserved. This foretelling aligns with the powerful prophecy found in Zechariah 12:10. There are several key prophets who foresaw how the Messiah's body would be pierced, among them Zechariah and King David. This prophecy is especially striking because the method of crucifixion, which would later become a method of execution, was not even invented until about 650 years after King David's birth, and nearly 400 years after Zechariah's. Only through divine revelation could these men have known how the Messiah would suffer such piercing.

When we examine David's prophecy in Psalm 22:16, which speaks of the piercing of the Messiah's body, we notice the term "dogs" used to describe the men surrounding Him. The term "dogs" was often used to refer to Gentiles, non-Jewish foreigners, and David, in this prophetic utterance, predicts that it will be these foreigners who will be responsible for the piercing of the Messiah's hands and feet. Indeed, Jesus was pierced in His hands and feet, and His side was also pierced after He gave up His spirit, as described in John 19:34.

Psalm 22:15 paints a vivid picture of the Messiah's agony, stating that He would thirst so intensely that His tongue would cling to the roof of His mouth. Knowing this would come to pass, Jesus, in John 19:28, cried out, "I thirst." Additionally, Psalm 69:21 foretold that the Messiah would be offered sour vinegar, mixed with gall, when He was in dire need of relief. This was fulfilled in Matthew 27:34, right before Jesus was nailed to the cross.

Psalm 22:17-18 describes the brutal humiliation and suffering that Jesus would face, not only in the form of excruciating pain but also in being stripped of His clothes in front of the mocking crowd, with His garments being gambled away by His executioners. This was fulfilled in Luke 23, where onlookers jeered at Him, taunted Him, and watched Him in His nakedness.

Psalm 22:8 prophesied about people mocking Jesus in saying that Jesus should rescue Himself from the cross. This was fulfilled in Luke chapter 23. There were three groups of people that mocked Jesus; the rulers, the soldiers and the criminal on the cross next to Jesus. The rulers said, “let Him save Himself” (verse :35). The soldiers repeated, “let Him save Himself” (verse :37). And a man hanging on a cross next to Him told Jesus, “save thyself and us” (verse :39).

Finally, Psalm 38:11 prophesied that the Messiah’s closest companions would witness His suffering from a distance, unable to come near. This prophecy was fulfilled in Luke 23:49, where His acquaintances, including His disciples were full of fear, and abandoned Jesus from afar.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 27:34 They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

- Luke 23:34-35 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him,

saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

- Luke 23:37, 39 And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself. (Verse :39) And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

- Luke 23:49 ...his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off...

- John 19:28 ...After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.

- John 19:34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

Chapter 15: Curse on the Tree

PROPHECY:

*** Curse on the tree, curse in the land**

*** Scattered to the nations**

*** Nation formed in one day**

- Deuteronomy 21:22-23 And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree: His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

- Deuteronomy 28:64 Moreover, the Lord will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth; and there you shall serve other gods, wood and stone, which you or your fathers have not known.

- Isaiah 66:8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

IN DEPTH: There is a very strange declaration made in the law concerning a curse on a tree. In Deuteronomy chapter 21 it is established that any man that hangs on a tree is cursed. However, if the body of that man remains all night upon the tree from dusk until dawn, the curse will be connected to the land and the “*land of the inheritance*” will be defiled. Israel is the land of inheritance, even during the time of the Roman occupation up until the early 1st century AD, the Jews were able to live freely on the land of inheritance.

When Jesus died on the cross something bizarre happens in Luke 23:44. It says at 12 noon, supernaturally, the sun goes completely dark. It remains dark for 3 full hours, from the 6th to the 9th hour, according to Matthew 27:45. This is the longest solar eclipse recorded in earth’s history. God himself decides to plunge Israel and the earth into overnight conditions in the middle of the day.

Galatians 3:13 reveals that Christ took on the curse for us by being hung on a tree. As a result, it is possible for the Gentiles to receive the blessing that was forfeited by the Jew who reject Jesus. The crowd that condemned Jesus to death declared in Matthew 27:25, “...His blood be on us, and on our children!” This curse extended to the “*land of inheritance*” as well, in accordance with the law, since

Jesus, along with the two criminals, remained on the tree throughout the night under conditions ordained by God the Father. Three decades later in 70 AD, fulfillment of the curse occurred when the Romans besieged the city, slaughtering every man, woman, and child, and demolishing the Holy Temple, just as Jesus prophesied in Matthew 24—that every stone of the temple would be cast down.

In 70 AD, following over 35 years of severe Christian persecution and mass murder of Jesus' followers in Jerusalem, the Roman army sieged the city and destroyed the temple. The Jewish people became scattered across the globe, not to return to the promised land of Israel until May 14, 1948. This is when the nation of Israel was born in one day, according to another prophecy in Isaiah 66:8 *“Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Shall a nation be born at once?”*

Upon the return to Israel in 1948, the Jewish people finally begin to allow the church of Jesus Christ to be recognized in Jerusalem without killing them. Unlike in the first century, now tourists, converts and traveling Christians worship freely in Jerusalem. The return of the Jews to their inherited homeland of Israel would appear to be a lifting of a centuries old curse. And now finally, Jews

are coming to faith in Jesus in record numbers through the
Messianic Jewish movement.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

*- Matthew 24:2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things?
(temple buildings) verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one
stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.*

*- Matthew 27:25 Then answered all the people and said, "His blood be
on us, and on our children!"*

*- Mathew 27:45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all
the land unto the ninth hour.*

*- Luke 23:44 And it was about the sixth hour (12noon), and there was a
darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour (3pm).*

*- Galatians 3:13-14 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law,
being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that
hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the
Gentiles through Jesus Christ...*

***Signs in the Heavens**

PROPHECY:

*** Mankind will be receive signs in the heavens**

*** Messiah will come from 12 stars or the 12 tribes**

- Genesis 1:14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

- Genesis 37:9 And he (Joseph) dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

- Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

IN DEPTH: If the sun went dark for three hours during the crucifixion, wouldn't this event have been recorded by other historical sources? Yes, it was. In 31 AD, during the Eastern Han Dynasty, a strange eclipse occurred. The chronicles of Emperor Guang Wu in China mentions this darkening of the sun for a prolonged period. The records describe it as: "Yin and yang have mistakenly switched, and the sun and moon were eclipsed. The sins

of all the people were on one man. Pardon was proclaimed to all under heaven." This aligns with Romans chapter 5, where it speaks of sin being placed upon one man. This event is one of the signs in the heavens.

Another sign in the heavens is found deep within scripture. Psalm 19:1 tells us that the Lord created the heavens to declare His glory. The word "heavens" is plural, and the term "firmament" is often used. The Hebrew word for firmament is *raqiya* (H7549), which has three meanings: a solid expanse, the visible arch of the sky, and a heaven spread out like a hemisphere above the earth, where the stars are placed. Also the Hebrews believed that this firmament was where a heavenly ocean existed, often referred to as the "living waters" where God's throne is located. Essentially, there are three "heavens" or firmaments: 1) The sky where birds fly, 2) Outer space where the stars and moon are found, and 3) the place where God's throne and heavenly beings dwell.

Let's focus on the second heaven, or the second firmament, which is outer space. In Genesis 1:14, God explains the purpose of the stars and lights in the sky: not only to mark the seasons, days, and years but also as signs for mankind. These celestial bodies can also be used as guides for navigation, both on land and at sea. God placed

different constellations in the sky, not for astrology or fortune telling, but for signs to help us. One such constellation is mentioned in a dream Joseph had in Genesis 37:9, where he dreams of the sun, moon, and 11 stars, with himself as the 12th star. The 11 stars represent his brothers, and together they form the 12 tribes of Israel. Interestingly, there is a constellation with 12 primary stars, which visually forms the shape of a woman. This constellation is called Virgo, the Virgin.

We see a similar vision in Revelation 12, where the Apostle John describes a woman in the heavens with 12 stars, giving birth to a boy who will become a King and ascend to heaven to sit on the throne. This woman represents Virgo, the Virgin Mary, and the child is Jesus, the Messiah, born from the 12 tribes of Israel, symbolized by the 12 stars.

The prophetic connections in John's vision and Joseph's dream also align with NASA's studies of the stars. NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, tracks the movements of stars, planets, and much more. They have studied planetary movements and constellations going back thousands of years and discovered something remarkable from the year 3 BC. Researchers at NASA calculated that around September 11th, 3 BC, Jupiter and

several stars within the Virgo constellation were perfectly aligned. This alignment would have created a bright "superstar" visible in the Middle East, including Persia and Israel. If NASA's calculations are correct, this "superstar" may have been the Star of Bethlehem that guided the wise men to Bethlehem and the child Jesus—an extraordinary sign in the heavens of the Holy Child born from the 12 tribes of Israel.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Romans 5:12, 17 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (verse 17) For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

- Revelation 12:1-2 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

Chapter 16: Resurrection

PROPHECY:

- * Jesus proved the resurrection to his disciples with scripture
 - * The sign from heaven is the sign of Jonah, which is 3 days before resurrection
 - * Repentance is the mercies of David
-
- *Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*
 - *Jonah 1:17 Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.*
 - *Hosea 13:14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.*
 - *Isaiah 55:3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.*
 - *Isaiah 59:16 And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.*

IN DEPTH: The resurrection of Jesus Christ stands as the most powerful event in human history. Jesus rose on the 1st day of the week, what we call Sunday morning. It was on Sunday evening, after rising from the dead, He took the time to sit with His disciples, explaining to them in details in the prophecies that had pointed to His death and resurrection. He did this in a way that would allow them to understand that He was, indeed, the long-awaited Messiah. This moment, in which He revealed the scriptures concerning Himself, is foundational to the Christian faith. Jesus demonstrated how the Old Testament writings about the coming Savior were fulfilled in His life, death, and resurrection, and it is our role as a follower of Christ to continue this mission, helping others to understand how the scriptures testify to Jesus' resurrection.

As He sat with His disciples, He ate with them, but He also rebuked their disbelief and hard-heartedness. Despite witnessing the miraculous event of His resurrection, they still struggled to believe. The crucifixion had been so terrible that it seemed almost too impossible to accept that Jesus was alive. Even though they had witnessed the risen Lord standing before them. In Luke 24:45-46 and Mark 16:14, we see that Jesus unbraided their unbelief, or opened

their minds to understand the scriptures, showing them that the resurrection had been foretold for centuries.

In the Old Testament, the prophet Hosea spoke of God's promise to redeem humanity from the grip of death (Hosea 13:14). This divine redemption would come through a plan that would provide salvation from both physical death and spiritual separation from God—ultimately saving humanity from eternal destruction in hell. As the prophet Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 59:16, this plan of salvation would require an intercessor—someone who would stand between God and humanity. This intercessor would be a righteous man without sin. The only one capable of providing the salvation that humanity so desperately needed. Jesus Christ is that intercessor. Through His resurrection, He defeated death and broke its power over humanity. The resurrection marks the moment when the sting of death was forever nullified, and all who are in Christ share in His victory.

As Paul writes in Romans 6:9, Jesus' death was a one-time sacrifice that accomplished what no other sacrifice could—eternal redemption for those who believe. This sacrifice is enough for all who trust in Him, and the resurrection serves as proof that death has been conquered. When we place our faith in Jesus Christ and His

resurrection, we are promised eternal life. Moreover, God extends to us the same mercies He gave to David, the ancient king of Israel according to Acts 13:34. We will return to explore the mercies of David shortly. This promise of eternal life is not just a future hope, but a present reality for those who believe in Jesus and the power of His resurrection. Jesus assures us in John 6:40 that all who believe in Him and trust in His resurrection will be raised up on the last day. Even death itself cannot separate us from the love and promises of God, for Jesus promises to raise His followers from the dead to everlasting life.

The key to eternal life, as Jesus made clear, is belief in Him and in the power of His resurrection. When the religious leaders—specifically the Pharisees and Sadducees—demanded a sign from Jesus to prove His authority, He gave them an unexpected answer. He told them that the only sign they would receive would be the "sign of Jonah" (Matthew 16:4). In Matthew 12:40, He explained that just as Jonah spent three days and three nights in the belly of a great fish, so would the Son of Man spend three days in the heart of the earth before rising again. This "sign of Jonah" pointed directly to His death, burial, and resurrection.

The story of Jonah, who was sent to the wicked inhabitants of Nineveh to preach repentance, serves as a powerful parallel to Jesus' own message. Jonah's message was one of repentance, and when the people of Nineveh repented, God showed them mercy and spared their city from destruction. Likewise, Jesus' message was one of repentance. This theme is evident throughout His ministry. For instance, when the Pharisees and Sadducees came to the baptisms, John the Baptist called on the Pharisees and Sadducees to repent, making it clear that repentance was essential for salvation. Even when the crowds who had been complicit in Jesus' crucifixion came to Peter, asking what they must do to be saved, Peter's answer was simple: "Repent and be baptized" (Acts 2:38).

The resurrection of Jesus brings with it the power of salvation for all who believe and repent. Repentance is not merely an optional extra; it is a vital part of the process of salvation. The power of the resurrection is unlocked in our lives when we both believe in Jesus and choose to turn away from sin, repenting and seeking forgiveness. This is the essence of receiving the mercies of David.

David, the great king of Israel, understood the importance of repentance. Throughout his life, he made mistakes, but he always returned to God with a broken and contrite heart, asking for mercy.

In Psalm 32 and Psalm 51, David poured out his heart before God, crying out for a clean heart and a renewed spirit. It is in these Psalms that we find the foundation of repentance, with words like, "Create in me a clean heart, O Lord." David experienced the forgiveness and mercy of God because he was willing to repent sincerely and humbly. As we receive the mercies of God through repentance, we too experience the cleansing and restoration that David sought.

The resurrection of Jesus, His victory over death, and His offer of salvation are available to everyone. But it requires a response: to believe in Him, recognize we were sinners, and to repent. The mercies of God are abundant and freely given to all who repent and believe. Through the power of the resurrection, we find hope, eternal life, and the assurance that death is not the end, but a doorway to eternal life with God. As Jesus stated in Mark 1:15, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel."

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 3:7-8 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

- Matthew 12:40; For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

- Matthew 16:4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

- Mark 1:15 And (Jesus) saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

- Mark 16:14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

- Luke 24:45-46 Then (Jesus) opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures..., Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day

- John 6:40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

- Acts 13:34 And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.

- Acts 2:37-38 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

- Romans 6:9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

- 1 Corinthians 15:55-57 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin;... But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Chapter 17: Ascension to Heaven

PROPHECY:

*** The Messiah will ascend into heaven and sit on the Father's right hand**

- Genesis 5:24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.

- 2 Kings 2:11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

- Psalm 30:3 O Lord, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

- Psalm 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

- Psalm 110:1-3 The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The Lord shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: Rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, In the beauties of

holiness from the womb of the morning: Thou hast the dew of thy youth.

IN DEPTH: Psalm 30:3 provides a powerful prophetic glimpse into the resurrection of the Messiah, with King David speaking in the first person. In this passage, David prophetically declares that his soul was lifted from the grave, foreshadowing the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is a profound proclamation of the hope and victory that would come through Christ's death and resurrection. The language of being "brought up from the grave" is not just a personal statement from David, but a divine prophecy. Acts 2:32 directly affirms this prophecy by emphasizing the fulfillment of this event, stating that many witnesses testified to Jesus' miraculous resurrection, solidifying its truth and significance for all to witness. But what occurs next is no less miraculous.

After His resurrection, Jesus spent forty days on earth, appearing to His disciples and many others, walking among them, and teaching them, offering undeniable proof of His victory over death. During this time, He was seen by over 500 witnesses, as recorded in 1 Corinthians 15:6. His appearances were not fleeting or secretive but were clear and public, providing tangible evidence of His physical

resurrection. The resurrected Jesus gave the remaining disciples clear instructions in Mark 16:15-18. Commanding them to preach the gospel, baptize and make disciples, cast out devils in Jesus name, speak in new tongues, lay hands on the sick so they may recover. Then Jesus prepares to ascend into heaven.

In Acts 1:9, Jesus ascended into heaven before the eyes of His disciples, leaving behind a powerful and visible sign of His divine authority and majesty. This moment marked the conclusion of His earthly ministry and the beginning of a new era for His followers. As He ascended, He was preparing to return to the Father, but He also left His disciples with a significant mission. The Prophet Daniel had foretold this moment in Daniel 7:13-14, where he saw the Messiah ascend to the Father, receiving power, authority, and dominion that would never end. This divine ascension was not an isolated event; it was foreshadowed in the Old Testament by the ascensions of Enoch (Genesis 5:24) and Elijah (2 Kings 2:11), who were both taken up by God. These early glimpses pointed toward the moment when Jesus, the Son of God, would return to heaven in glory.

Jesus' ascension was not only a miraculous event but also an act of preparation for the next phase of God's plan. In Ephesians 4:7-8, the Apostle Paul reveals that, as part of His ascension, Jesus gave gifts to

mankind. These gifts, detailed in verses 11 and 12, are Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers. These roles were not arbitrary; they were divinely appointed to serve three important purposes: 1) to perfect the saints, helping believers grow in faith and maturity, 2) to equip them for the work of ministry, empowering them to serve others and share the Gospel, and 3) to strengthen the body of Christ, ensuring that the church remains united, firm in faith, and effective in its mission. These 5 gifts of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, and Teacher were not temporary or for a short time period. Verse 13 states exactly how long these gifted offices were to remain in operation. *“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:”* This statement in Ephesians chapter 4 will not be fulfilled until the return of Christ or the 2nd coming. Apostles and Prophets were not meant to stop their function at the end of some Apostolic Age. These positions are meant to guide and build the church for generations to come, enabling Christians to continue the work that Jesus began. We will also explore how the Apostles, in obedience to Jesus' command, focused on replacing Judas in the Upper Room in Jerusalem, marking the next crucial step in the establishment of the early church.

Additionally, the ascension of Jesus and His ultimate position at the right hand of the Father also fulfills prophecy. In Psalm 110:1, David speaks of the Messiah's ascension and His exalted position at God's right hand. This prophecy is fulfilled in Mark 16:19, where Jesus, having completed His earthly mission, is received into heaven, seated at the right hand of God the Father, signifying His supreme authority and divine power. This powerful image of Jesus at the Father's side is not only a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy but also affirms His role as the eternal King, ruling over all creation. This divine seating at the right hand of God is a profound symbol of Jesus' reign and His ongoing work as both King and Priest. The imagery reinforces His ultimate authority over the heavens and the earth, and the establishment of His eternal Kingdom.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Acts 1:9-11 ... he (Jesus) was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

- Acts 2:32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

- Mark 16:15-19 Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

- Luke 24:51 ...while he (Jesus) blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

- 1 Corinthians 15:6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

- Ephesians 4:7-8 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

- Ephesians 4:11-12 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors, and teachers; For the

perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

- Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Chapter 18: New Apostles

PROPHECY:

*** A new Apostle was selected to replace “the wicked” man’s office**

- *Psalm 109:6-9 Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand. When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin. Let his days be few; and let another take his office.*

IN DEPTH: The miraculous event of the ascension marked the end of Jesus earthly ministry and the beginning of the apostles' mission to spread the message of His resurrection and the hope of eternal life. As Jesus ascended into the heavens He disappeared as the clouds received Him. The crowd of witnesses returned to the upper room as Peter addresses the group about another prophecy. This time concerning the betrayal and replacement that appears in Psalm 109:6-9. David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, foretells the treachery of a wicked man who would betray the Messiah. Not only would this man meet a tragic and just fate for his betrayal, but his office, a position of Apostleship, would be given to another.

This prophecy is precisely fulfilled in the life of Judas Iscariot, who was one of Jesus' twelve apostles. Judas, whom Jesus personally chose in Luke 6:13-16, became the embodiment of this wicked man. His betrayal of Jesus with a kiss led to the ultimate tragedy of the crucifixion, and his own life ended in despair, fulfilling the darker side of the prophecy. Peter addresses the critical issue of filling the void left by Judas, in alignment with David's prophecy (Acts 1:15-26). The need to replace Judas is highlighted as part of the divine plan to restore the twelve-fold ministry that Jesus had initiated. The disciples, in faith and unity, prayed for God's guidance in choosing a suitable replacement, and by casting lots, Matthias was selected to fill the vacant apostolic office. Matthias' appointment as the 13th apostle was the fulfillment of the prophecy in Psalm 109:6-9. An Apostle in the Greek is *Apostolos* G652, meaning a delegate; specially, an ambassador of the Gospel; officially a commissioner of Christ, with miraculous powers; or he that is sent. This is a pastor of pastors and launches multiple ministries.

Originally this word "Apostle" derived from a special type of high-ranking Roman military general that leads soldiers to invade a new region, to subdue the region and establish a kingdom into a new region.

Please note: Matthias would not be the last Apostle selected. There would be many more Apostles like Paul, James, and Jude (the brothers of Jesus), and the list continues. 1 Corinthians chapter 12 explains that all parts of the body of Christ (the church) are important, and none should be removed. When you read this scripture in context it goes on to explain that the parts of the body that have a hierarchy of importance. 1 Corinthians 12:28 states “God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues...” If 1 Corinthians chapter 12 explains that all these parts of the church are important then who are we to remove any part from the body of Christ. The first two listed was established by God Himself, these are the offices of Apostles and Prophets.

When you hear denominations establish rules like, there are no Apostles and Prophets in the modern church age, please know that you are hearing false doctrine that goes against the teachings of Paul in 1 Corinthians 12:13-27. A common complaint against these offices are because of the number of false prophets and false apostles, especially the ones listed in the book of Revelation. We must learn to separate the real from the fraudulent instead of deciding to

completely ignore the scriptures and deny the offices that God himself set up for the church. There are many false teachers and false pastors in the body of Christ, but that does not negate the offices of Pastor and Teacher. The offices of Apostle and Prophet will remain in place until the 2nd coming of Christ or the Millennial Reign.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 22:44-45 The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?

- Luke 24:51 ...while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

- Acts 1:8 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

- Acts 1:15-26 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. Now

this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood. For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven other apostles.

- 1 Corinthians 12:27-28 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Chapter 19: Millennial Reign

PROPHECY:

*** The Messiah will sit and reign on the throne of David**

***The Messiah will enter the Eastern Gate and set foot on the Mount of Olives**

***The Messiah will come from the bloodline of David**

- 2 Samuel 7:16 And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established forever.

- 2 Samuel 7:13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom forever.

- 1 Chronicles 17:12-13 He shall build me an house, and I will stablish his throne forever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him...

- Psalm 24:7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in

- Psalm 89:27 Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.

- Isaiah 2:3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and

he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

- Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

- Isaiah 55:4 Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.

- Ezekiel 43:4 And the glory of the Lord came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east.

- Ezekiel 44:1-3 Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh toward the east; and it was shut. Then said the Lord unto me; This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the Lord, the God of Israel, hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut. It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the Lord; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same.

- Zechariah 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west,

- Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

IN DEPTH: The prophecy about David's house promises that his royal lineage will be established forever, meaning that the throne of David will never be extinguished. This eternal kingdom will be governed by the Messiah, Jesus, who is described as the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end. Jesus, existing before all creation, is not bound by time and will establish a throne that endures forever. In His divine plan, Jesus chose to be born through the lineage of David, specifically in Jerusalem, fulfilling a prophecy that would place Him as the eternal King of Israel. This is clearly emphasized in Luke 1:32-33, where the angel tells Mary that her son will inherit the throne of David, and His reign will have no end. Jesus' kingdom is not temporary but everlasting, and it will be established in the fulfillment of God's promises to David.

Throughout history, many rulers such as Alexander the Great, Adolf Hitler, and Attila the Hun have attempted to conquer and control the entire world, but none of them succeeded. When Jesus returns, however, He will not only claim authority over a single nation but will rule over all people on Earth. This global reign is not achieved by military force but by Jesus' triumph over death and sin. Through His victory at the cross and resurrection, He has earned the right to reign as King of all. Those who believe in Him—His sons and daughters—will receive glorified bodies, joining Him in His eternal kingdom. The everlasting nature of this kingdom is reinforced in 2 Peter 1:11, where Peter speaks of the Messiah's eternal reign. Jesus' Kingdom will be marked by peace, justice, and righteousness, unlike any earthly kingdom that has ever existed.

Moreover, Jesus' kingdom will be a real, physical reign with a defined geographical location. This is emphasized in John 4:25, where it is revealed that the Messiah will return to a specific place. The Mount of Olives, also known as the Mountain of the Lord, is the place where Jesus will return, fulfilling the prophecy of His return to the exact location from which He ascended, as described in Acts 1. The Mount Olive prophecy in Zechariah 14:4 prophesies the Messiah will stand on the mountain towards the east. When He returns, Jesus

will sit on the throne of David, ruling and teaching all nations. As Emmanuel, meaning “God with us,” Jesus will be exalted above all earthly kings, and His reign will be characterized by divine authority and mercy.

The prophecy regarding Jesus' kingship narrows down the qualifications for the eternal King, emphasizing two key elements: He must be born in Bethlehem and come from the tribe of Judah. These details are significant because they directly point to Jesus as the fulfillment of the prophecy, as confirmed in Luke 1:33, where the angel declares that Jesus will be given the throne of His father David. This prophecy is also validated by other scriptures such as Micah 5:2, which specifically identifies Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Messiah, and Genesis 49:10, which foretells that the Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah, David's tribe. These fulfillments demonstrate that Jesus meets the precise criteria outlined in the prophecy.

However, there are other crucial aspects to this prophecy that must be understood. During His earthly ministry, God temporarily withdrew His mercy from Jesus when He took on the sins of the world at the cross, as described in Matthew 27:46. Jesus, in His humanity, cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken

me?" This moment represents the temporary withdrawal of God's mercy, as Jesus bore the weight of humanity's sin. Yet, when Jesus returns for His millennial reign, God will no longer withhold mercy from Him. Instead, Jesus will reign with full divine authority, bringing an everlasting peace and blessing to all who follow Him, as prophesied in Isaiah 9:6-7.

On the Sunday before Jesus' crucifixion, also known as Palm Sunday, Jesus would have entered Jerusalem through the Eastern Gate, near the Mount of Olives, as described in Matthew 21:1. This event fulfills the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9, which foretold the Messiah's humble entry into Jerusalem. Additionally, Ezekiel 43:4 prophesies that the Messiah will return through this same, Eastern Gate, when Messiah comes again to establish His millennial reign. A prophecy in Ezekiel 44:1-3 details the future event of the sealing of the Eastern Gate. The Eastern Gate prophecy remains significant today because it has been sealed three times throughout history.

1) The first sealing of the Eastern Gate occurred in 810 AD by Muslim invaders, who sought to prevent a Jewish Messiah's return. However, it was reopened by the Crusaders in 1102 AD.

2) Later in 1187 AD, after Sultan Saladin's conquest of Jerusalem, the gate was sealed once again.

3) The final renovation and sealing of the gate took place in 1541 AD by Ottoman Sultan Suleiman, when it became known as the Golden Gate due to its golden colored walls.

When Jesus returns, He will enter Jerusalem through the Eastern Gate, fulfilling the prophecy of Ezekiel 43:4. He will then begin to judge on the Mount of Olives, the very place where He ascended into heaven, as described in Acts 1:9-12. Psalm 24:7 is when David prophesied directly to the Eastern Gates, telling them to open or, lift up their heads to allow the King of Glory to come in. His return will initiate His millennial reign, a period of 1,000 years during which He will rule with justice and peace, as described in Revelation 20:4. This reign will mark the culmination of God's promises to His people, fulfilling the prophecies of a Messiah who will establish His kingdom on Earth. After the thousand years, Satan will be defeated, and Jesus will continue to reign forever with His saints and holy angels in a new heaven and new earth, as revealed in Revelation 22:5. The millennial reign will signify the fulfillment of God's promises and the establishment of Jesus' eternal kingdom on Earth, a kingdom of peace, righteousness, and justice.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Matthew 21:1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples...

- Luke 1:32-33 ...and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

- John 4:25 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths...

- Hebrew 2:10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

- 2 Peter 1:11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Chapter 20: King and High Priest

PROPHECY:

*** Jesus shall be an anointed King over all the earth**

*** Messiah shall be a king and a priest like Melchizedek**

- Genesis 14:18-20 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

- Zechariah 6:12-13 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The Branch; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord: Even he shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

- Psalm 2:6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

- Psalm 9:7-10 But the Lord shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he

shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness. The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

- Psalm 22:27-28 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the Lord: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the Lord's: and he is the governor among the nations.

- Psalm 89:35-37 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

- Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

- Isaiah 11:4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

- Daniel 7:13-14 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

- Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

IN DEPTH: In Zechariah 6:12-13, the Messiah is referred to as "The Branch," a title that signifies both His divine origin and His role as the future world ruler. This Branch is destined to build the temple and sit upon a throne as both a king and a priest, a unique dual authority that blends the sacred and the sovereign. In Hebrews 8:1, this image is expanded as it reveals that although Jesus now reigns as a High Priest in heaven, He will one day also serve as High Priest on earth, bridging the heavenly and earthly realms. The Scriptures portray Him as the eternal heir of David's lineage, confirming this in

Psalm 89:35-37, where the seed of David—Jesus—will be established forever. His kingship is firmly established in Psalm 2:6, where He is given the title of King, a title that was mockingly used against Him by Roman soldiers at His crucifixion in Matthew 26:2. Yet, Psalm 22:27-28 speaks of the Messiah's ultimate rule, not just over Israel, but over all nations, reinforcing that His reign will extend from Jerusalem to the entire world.

Jesus' reign is not a fleeting rule; it is eternal. In Daniel 7:13-14, He is described as the "Ancient of Days" whose dominion will never be destroyed, a reign that will endure for all time. Psalm 9:7-10 and Acts 17 further emphasize that His kingdom will be a kingdom of righteousness, where justice and peace reign. Jesus Himself affirms His eternal nature and authority in John 8:58, stating, "Before Abraham was, I am," linking His eternal existence with His coming reign. This theme of eternal kingship is further echoed in Micah 5:2, where it is foretold that the Messiah's birth in Bethlehem will mark the beginning of a kingdom that will last forever. Isaiah 2:4 paints a picture of the Messiah's rule bringing peace to the earth, as He will judge among the nations, putting an end to all wars, a prophecy also highlighted in John 5:22. The apostle Paul writes in Colossians 1:16

**that Jesus is the Creator of all things in heaven and on earth,
establishing His sovereignty over all creation.**

Isaiah 9:7 speaks of the Lord God ensuring the fulfillment of this prophecy, and in Luke 1:32-33, this promise is affirmed as the angel tells Mary that her son will inherit the throne of David, His kingdom having no end. Jesus Himself claims all power and authority in Matthew 28:18, reinforcing His role as the ultimate ruler of the world. His priesthood is also unique and eternal, modeled after Melchizedek, a priest-king mentioned in Genesis 14:18-20, a figure whose priestly order is echoed in Psalm 110:4. God swears that the Messiah will be a High Priest forever, a role that Jesus fulfills as described in Hebrews 6:20. In 1 Samuel 2:10, it is prophesied that Jesus, as the anointed King, will break His enemies to pieces and judge all the nations of the earth, ensuring that justice will prevail. Revelation 2 and 12 speak of a “man child” who, after being caught up to God’s throne, will rule the nations with a rod of iron. Revelation 19 describes how this child, who is none other than Jesus, will wield a sharp sword from His mouth to destroy His enemies, fulfilling the prophecy in Isaiah 11:4.

In this glorious vision of Jesus as the future world ruler, we see not just a king but the Savior who will bring peace, righteousness, and

justice to the earth. His reign will be established in Jerusalem, the city of David, and from there, His authority will extend to every corner of the world. The world will finally experience true peace under the rule of the King of Kings, who will rule with both divine wisdom and sovereign power, fulfilling the long-awaited prophecies of the coming Messiah.

PROPHECY FULFILLMENT:

- Hebrews 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;

- Matthew 2:2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

- Matthew 28:18; And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

- John 5:22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

- Luke 1:32-33 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father

David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

- Acts 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

- Colossians 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

- Jude 1:14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

- Revelation 2:27; And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

- Revelation 12:5; And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

- Revelation 19:15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them...

Chapter 21: Those Who Prophesied

Let's briefly examine the many people who were either foretold about Jesus or prophesied about Jesus in the scripture.

Adam and Eve **The first humans created by God's hands and breath. Adam was placed in the Garden of Eden to live in harmony with nature. After their disobedience in eating from the forbidden tree, they fell into sin. In Genesis 3:15, God speaks the first prophecy, revealing the coming of the Messiah, being the Seed of a woman, who would ultimately defeat evil. The virgin Mary is the only woman in world history who had a seed without a man's help. Mary was the prophesied, woman with seed.**

- Adam was created on the sixth day of creation, and also Eve, later the same day, in approximately 4004 BC.

Enoch

The grandson of Adam and grandfather of Noah, is notable for never experiencing death. After living for 365 years, he "walked with God" and was taken directly to Him. The Ethiopian version of the Book of Enoch is quoted in Jude 1:14, where it speaks of the second coming of Christ where tens of thousands of saints will return to rule and reign with Jesus, fulfilled in Revelation chapters 19 and 20.

- Born in approximately 3,842 BC, the seventh generation from Adam.

Abraham

Father of many nations, also the father of Isaac and grandfather of Jacob, who becomes a great-great-grandfather of Jesse and David and eventually Jesus. In Genesis 12:3, God promised through Abraham's seed, all the families of the earth will be blessed. In Genesis 22:8, Abraham prophetically tells Isaac how God will provide Himself a lamb, referring to

the Father providing Jesus as the Lamb of God.

- According to Jewish tradition, Abraham was born in the year 1948 from creation. Ironically, Israel became a nation in 1948 AD

Jacob

In Genesis 28:14, God tells Jacob that through him, the families of the earth will be blessed, continuing Abraham's blessing. Before his death, Jacob (Israel) prophesied over his 12 sons. In Genesis 49:10, he told Judah that the Scepter, representing Messiah's leadership, would never depart from him. About 1,450 years later, Jesus of Nazareth was born in Bethlehem into the tribe of Judah.

- He was born in approximately 1640 BC. Abraham was 160 years old when Jacob was born. Jacob would have known him for 15 years before Abraham's death at 175.

Job

He endured immense persecution, losing his children, wealth, and his wife's support. Amid his suffering, he prophesied with hope, declaring in Job 19:25 that he knew his Redeemer lives and will stand on the earth.

- Born around 2100 BC. A friend of Elihu, a descendent of Buz (Genesis 22:20–21). Buz was a nephew of Abraham.

Moses

Moses received the Law of God, many aspects of which are fulfilled in Jesus' life. In Exodus 12:46, Moses instructs the Hebrews not to break the bones of the Passover Lamb, a prophecy pointing to the Messiah. Jesus' bones were never broken; even when the thieves' legs were broken, His legs were spared, fulfilling this prophecy. This is just one of many Messianic prophecies hidden within the many laws written by the Prophet Moses.

- He was born in approximately 1593 BC. Making him 80 years old when the Exodus

began. He lived to be 120 years old, when he saw the promised land from Mount Nebo, but never entered.

Balaam

An evil prophet with a flawed character, was at times able to hear from God. When hired by King Balak of Moab to curse the Israelites, God intervened, compelling Balaam to bless Moses and the Israelites instead. In Numbers 24:16-17, Balaam prophesies about the Messiah, referring to the Scepter and the Star of Jacob, which later becomes known as the Star of Bethlehem.

- He lived in Pethor, (modern day Iraq/Syria, or a pre-Babylonian region) during Moses and the Israelite' exodus into the wilderness.

Hannah

She had been barren for years, was so grateful to the Lord for the birth of her son Samuel that she rejoiced and prophesied in 1 Samuel 2. In verse 10, she prophesied that the Lord would judge the "ends of the earth" and that the king

would be exalted, a reference to the 2nd Coming and Millennial Reign of King Jesus.

- Born near 1120 BC, her prayer groanings that could not be comprehended was a foreshadow of tongues. Hannah is considered a prophetess in the rabbinical tradition.

Samuel

Hannah's son, Samuel was the last judge of Israel. He was a righteous priest and the prophet of Israel since he was 8 years old. His prophecies were so accurate that 1 Samuel 3:19 says none of his words failed or fell to the ground. Led by the Holy Spirit, Samuel anointed 17-year-old David as king, 13 years before his coronation. Jesus later came from the bloodline of King David, son of Jesse from the tribe of Judah.

- Born approximately 1100 to 1070 BC.

David

A king and a prophet who wrote many Psalms, including Psalm 22. Amid his persecution and abandonment, he cried out to God, prophesying the scourging, crucifixion, and even the words of Jesus before his death. His prophecies were spoken over 1,000 years before the birth of Christ.

- Born approximately in 1,040 BC, the 2nd king of Israel around 1010 BC.

Nathan

He was a personal prophet to King David during his rulership. He was considered a possible student of the Prophet Samuel. David, often humbled by the correction of Nathan, yielded to his instruction. In 2 Sam 7:12-13 Nathan prophesied the Messiah's throne and kingdom would reign forever.

- Prophet in Jerusalem between 1010 BC and 931 BC (approximately) and outlived David to serve in King Solomon's temple.

Asaph

As a chief musician and priest during King David's reign, Asaph wrote twelve Psalms, including Psalm 50 and Psalms 73–83. His most notable Messianic prophecies are in Psalm 78, where he predicted the Messiah would teach mankind with parables using both wisdom and authority.

- Asaph, from the original Levite Asaphites, (temple singers) transcribed for King David himself and wrote 12 of the Psalms. He is also credited with performing at the dedication of Solomon's temple in 2 Chronicles 5:12.

Isaiah

He is responsible for at least 100 of the over 320 prophecies about Jesus. Many events in Jesus' earthly ministry were foretold by Isaiah, including His second coming and millennial reign, as mentioned in Isaiah chapter 9.

- Born in Jerusalem around 760 B.C. A prophet in Judah for about 60 years.

Jeremiah

Known as the weeping prophet; he grieved over the sins of Jerusalem. Despite warning the leaders of Judah and the city's destruction, they refused to listen. Jeremiah also prophesied Jesus' virgin birth in Jeremiah 31:22 and the coming of a new covenant in the Book of Jeremiah 31:31-32.

- Was born around 650 BC, he was later martyred in Egypt after his fellow countrymen were exiled into Babylon.

Ezekiel

He was called by God to warn the people of their sins. He frequently saw heavenly angels in a flying wheel within a wheel, which some today mistake for UFOs, though they were spiritual chariots of fire. He prophesied about the Millennial Reign or second coming of Christ in Ezekiel 37:24-28.

- Was born around 623 BC in Jerusalem during the reign of King Josiah.

Daniel

Daniel, who faced death twice—once from Nebuchadnezzar's threats and once in a lion's den—always experienced God's powerful deliverance. Through his life of prayer and fasting, Daniel gained the attention of God and His angels, who frequently visited him. During one of these visitations, he was given the exact time frame the Messiah would live in Israel 600 years before Jesus' birth (Daniel 9:24-26).

- Born between 625 and 620 B.C. and likely taken as a teenager to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar II.

Jonah

He is the only Old Testament prophet to bring redemption to a whole city of Gentiles. After spending three days and nights in a fish, Jonah's spirit descended to the center of the earth, as described in Jonah 2:5-10. Jesus references this event in Matthew 12:39-41, saying that just as Jonah was in the fish for three days, Christ will be in the earth for three days before rising again, comparing Jonah

within the whale's belly to Jesus own death and resurrection in 3 days.

- Prophet of the northern Kingdom of Israel after the Assyrian siege, he was born around 785 BC.

Hosea

This prophet, Hosea, has a profound revelation of the events that took place between Jesus' death and resurrection. In Hosea 13:14, he prophesies that Jesus will ransom many from the power of the grave, redeeming them from death. This points to Christ's victory over death itself, as He conquers the grave and offers redemption to the saints held captive in the earth (hades), dying before the cross.

- He lived around 755 to 715 BC during the reign of King Jeroboam II. God ordered him to marry a prostitute to compare their relationship between God and Israel, who have continually committed adultery with other gods.

Joel

This prophet, Joel, foresees several key events of the end times, including the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on both men and women, the transformation of the heavens before the final judgment, and many people will prophetically call upon the name of Jesus for salvation, as prophesied in Joel 2:32.

- It is uncertain when the prophet Joel may have lived because Joel's writings never mentions dominant world powers like Assyria, Babylon, and Persia. It is estimated that he either prophesied around 835 BC or 450 BC due to the literary structure of his book.

Micah

This prophet foretold the arrival of a prophet who would prepare the way for the Lord, a prophecy fulfilled by John the Baptist, who prepared the people for Christ's earthly ministry. Micah also prophesied that the Messiah would physically enter Jerusalem's temple in Micah 3:1-3. He wrote during King

Hezekiah's reign and predicted the birthplace of Jesus in Micah 5:2, identifying Bethlehem.

- Born in approximately 540 BC.

Zechariah

In Zechariah 9:9, this prophet details aspects of Jesus' ministry, including His role in bringing salvation. He specifically foretells that Jesus will enter Jerusalem riding on two donkeys, a prophecy fulfilled in Matthew 21:6-7 when the disciples brought both a donkey and a young colt for Jesus to ride during the Messiah's triumphant entry from Mount Olive into the city of Jerusalem.

- Born in the Babylon captivity around 520 BC.

Malachi

Thee last prophet of the Old Testament writings. He prophesied about the healing ministry of Jesus. Priests often wore a prayer shawl called a Tallit, which had fringes on each side known as the tzitzit or the "Wings of the Tallit." These fringes were also referred to as

the "hem of His garment" during Jesus' time. In Malachi 4:2, it is foretold that the "Sun of Righteousness" (the Messiah) would bring healing in His wings. This prophecy was fulfilled multiple times in Jesus' ministry, as people were healed by touching the hem of his garment or Messiah's prayer shawl in faith.

- He lived around 460 BC, during time of Ezra and Nehemiah.

Simeon

Simeon was promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before seeing the Messiah. Simeon saw and embraced the child Jesus in the temple. He also prophesied about His death and resurrection affecting many others in Luke 2:34.

- Was an elderly man between 7 BC and 3 BC and present at Jesus' baby dedication and circumcision.

Anna

She was only married for 7 years and fasted and prayed in the temple while she was

widowed for 84 years. She was more than 100 years old when she encountered baby Jesus. Anna would market the Messiah to everyone who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. This marketing would cause anticipation according to Luke 2:36-39.

- Born between 115 BC and 106 BC. Described in scripture as a prophetess.

John the Baptist

In Matthew 11:11, Jesus described John as greater than anyone born of women, but said that in the Kingdom of Heaven, he is the least. John spent years baptizing people, preaching repentance, and preparing Israel for Jesus' ministry. He also prophesied in Luke 3:16 that, while John the Baptist baptized with water, Jesus would come to baptize us believers with the Holy Spirit and fire.

- Born between 7 BC and 1 AC. Six months older than Jesus.

Jesus the Christ

King of kings and Lord of lords. God with us.

His testimony is the spirit of prophecy. He prophesied about his 3 days of burial and resurrection, comparing it to Jonah's 3 days in the belly of the whale. In John 3:14 he prophesied that he would be lifted up on the cross just like the bronze serpent that Moses lifted up in the wilderness that brought healing (Numbers 21:8-9). Jesus is the author of all creation. He will return after the rapture and the 7th trumpet in the Millennial Reign.

- Born between 6 BC and 1 AD.

Conclusion: Jesus Last Words

In conclusion, the life of Jesus Christ not only fulfills the Old Testament prophecies but establishes Him as the central figure of God's plan for salvation. His divine nature and the prophetic implications of His actions shape the future hope of believers, culminating in His glorious second coming and millennial reign. Through Jesus' testimony and the testimonies of those who prophesied about the Messiah, we gain a deeper understanding of Christ's profound role in both history and eternity, offering assurance of His everlasting kingdom and reign.

The testimony of Jesus reflects the lasting power of genuine prophecy throughout history. Despite the promise of Christ's Second Coming, more than 1,000 years of prophecy still await fulfillment.

Furthermore, in Revelation 19, an angel reveals to the Apostle John a vision of heaven, where saints are worshiping the Lord at the Heavenly throne and the marriage supper of the Lamb. In Revelation 19:10, the angel's radiant glory causes John to mistakenly worship him. The angel immediately corrects him, instructing him to worship God alone, and adds, "...For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." As shown throughout this book, nearly every part of Jesus' testimony is grounded in prophecy.

The final prophecy in the Bible is delivered by Jesus Himself. In Revelation 22:20, Jesus declares His prophetic plan and timeline, saying, "Surely I come quickly."

- Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

The Final Prophecy:

- Revelation 22:20 He which testifieth these things saith, "Surely I come quickly." Amen...

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