

CHRIST FORETOLD & FULFILLED: Evidence for the Skeptic

Who? What? Where? When? Why? How? These are the classic questions any honest seeker should ask to establish evidence-based answers which remove all reasonable doubt. No other body of literature apart from Biblical prophecy offers such detailed prophetic descriptions which saw their exact fulfillment in the case of Jesus Christ's Coming into this world to reconcile us with God. Consider the following examples of this evidence among the more than 350 prophecies that foretold the Coming of Christ:

Q: Who is He? A: The Mighty God (Date written: approximately 700 B.C.)

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. - Isaiah 9:6

Q: What would He do? A: Justify Sinners (Date written: approximately 700 B.C.)

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. - Isaiah 53:11

Q: Where would He be born? A: Bethlehem (Date written: approximately 700 B.C.)

But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, 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. - Micah 5:2

Q: When would He come to die? A: After April 6, 33 A.D. (Date written: approx. 530 B.C.)

Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. - Daniel 9:25-26

**The word "weeks" (שבועות shābua') is literally "sevens" of years. Accordingly, 483 years (69 x 7) is the time frame elapsed from the decree of Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem on March 13, 444 B.C. to the entry of Christ into Jerusalem on April 6, 33 A.D.*

Q: Why would He suffer for us? A: To Heal Us (Date written: approximately 700 B.C.)

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. - Isaiah 53:5

Q: How Would He die for us? A: By Crucifixion (Date written: approximately 1000 B.C.)

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

Objective Evidence:

The Dead Sea Scrolls which include the Book of Isaiah and Psalm 22 are confirmed to have been written before the time of Christ (150 B.C. to 125 B.C.). The Septuagint (Greek Translation of the Old Testament) also contains Isaiah and Psalm 22. It dates to approximately 200 B.C.