

INTRO: In this Lenten season we're studying statements of Jesus concerning His own suffering and death. Last week He applied an O.T. event to Himself. Tonight He references things written about Him in 'the prophets'.

I. JESUS' CAREER FULFILLS ALL OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

A. Such as...

1. the place of His birth, Bethlehem Ephrathah (Micah 5:2)
2. His virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14)
3. David's Psalm 22 concerning His passion
 - a. My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me
 - b. they laugh me to scorn
 - c. My bones are out of joint
 - d. they parted my garments...for my vesture they cast lots
4. Isaiah 53 is very specific, also
 - a. despised and rejected by men
 - b. esteemed Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted
 - c. like a sheep before shearers silent, He opened not His mouth
 - d. cut off from the land of the living (breathed His last, gave up....)
 - e. Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all

B. So many O.T. prophecies fit Jesus! He **is** the promised Messiah

1. many looked for great earthly leader, not a suffering servant
2. He **is** Abraham's descendent, promised Seed
3. heir of David's kingdom, albeit 'not of this world' (to Pilate)
4. fulfilled vague 'serpent' prophesy; and every other one

II. JESUS' PASSION PROPHECIES PROVES HIS OWN VERACITY

- A. v.31 - Going up to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51...set His face...)
- B. v.32 - Be delivered to the Gentiles (Roman authorities)
- C. v.32 - Be mocked and insulted and spit upon (uncalled for!)
- D. v.33 - Scourge Him (Pilate's attempt to elicit sympathy for Him)
- E. v.33 - Put Him to death (It is finished...breathed His last)
- F. v.33 - The third day He will rise again

III. JESUS IS ALSO SPEAKING TO US

- A. All of this is historically accurate, but more important than trivia
 1. it means that God cares enough to give His Son, His life

(continued)

2. it means that Jesus truly is the omniscient God
 3. it means that the sins of the **world** are redeemed
 4. it means that Jesus' words can be trusted (with your life!)
- B. All of this occurred because of our sins, also
1. mocking and insulting others; as if done to Jesus
 2. so we admit our sins, not hide in the crowds
 3. even one sin condemns; and we have plenty of them
 4. so we confess cruel words which have hurt another
 5. yes, every one of us deserves God's condemnation
- C. But Jesus has spoken to us words of forgiveness, also
1. words convey the forgiveness Jesus earned (judge's verdict)
 2. every believing penitent is forgiven every sin
 3. the only solution for guilt is in Jesus' words
 4. absolute truth and certainty is found in Jesus (not presidential candidates or supreme court nominees re: what's a woman)
 5. hence He is the source of joy and gratitude and assurance

IV. JESUS HAS SHOWN ALL OF GOD'S WORD TO BE RELIABLE

- A. Faith in Jesus is also faith in Jesus' words (*logos*)
1. chicken/egg; Word/Jesus (John 1:1)
 2. Scripture word shows us Jesus, creates the faith in Him (*hearing*)
 3. to believe in Jesus is to believe in His every word
 4. including "all things written by the prophets" (v..31)
- B. Like the sun on stained glass windows
1. dull and meaningless in the dark, without sunlight
 2. many Bible passages need sun/Son shining behind them
 3. God's Son is found in His Spirit-filled word
 4. word is even more reliable than the sun! (*pass away*)

CONCLUSION: Having said that, I nevertheless have to confess to you that I have a problem with this week's passion prophesy of Jesus. "All things written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man?" All things? Have I missed any? We're going to have to study that word for the rest of our lives! But that would sure please God, wouldn't it. So we'll be back at it Sunday and next Wednesday, until we see the Son of God in glory. Amen.