

REASONS TO BELIEVE

PART VI: Fulfilled Prophecy

(No. 1065 – 6/11/14 - NLC)

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Fulfilled prophecy is one of the strongest evidences of divine inspiration of the Scriptures
- B. God Himself repeatedly appeals to fulfilled prophecy as proof that He is the one true God – He alone can predict future events with pinpoint accuracy
1. **Isa. 41:21-23:** ²¹**“Present your case,” says the LORD.** *“Set forth your arguments,” says Jacob's King.* ²²**“Bring in your idols to tell us what is going to happen. Tell us what the former things were, so that we may consider them and know their final outcome. Or declare to us the things to come,** ²³**tell us what the future holds, so we may know that you are gods. Do something, whether good or bad, so that we will be dismayed and filled with fear.”**
 2. **Isa. 44:6-8:** ⁶*This is what the LORD says— Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from Me there is no God.* ⁷**Who then is like Me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and lay out before Me what has happened since I established My ancient people, and what is yet to come— yes, let him foretell what will come.** ⁸*Do not tremble, do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago? You are My witnesses. Is there any God besides Me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.*
 3. **Isa. 46:9-11:** ⁹*Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me.* ¹⁰**I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.** ¹¹*From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill My purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.*
 4. **Isa. 48:3-6:** ³**I foretold the former things long ago, My mouth announced them and I made them known; then suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.** ⁴*For I knew how*

*stubborn you were; the sinews of your neck were iron, your forehead was bronze. ⁵Therefore **I told you these things long ago; before they happened I announced them to you so that you could not say, “My idols did them; my wooden image and metal god ordained them.”** ⁶You have heard these things; look at them all. Will you not admit them?*

II. PROPHECIES CONCERNING NATIONS & EMPIRES

A. Nations come and go, and their rise and fall are controlled by God

1. **Jer. 18:7-10:** ⁷*If at any time **I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed,** ⁸and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. ⁹And if at another time **I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted,** ¹⁰and if it does evil in My sight and does not obey Me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.*
2. **Isa. 40:15-17:** ¹⁵*Surely **the nations are like a drop in a bucket;** they are regarded as dust on the scales; He weighs the islands as though they were fine dust. ¹⁶Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings. ¹⁷Before Him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by Him as worthless and less than nothing.*

B. The miracle of Israel

1. God promised Abraham that he would become a “great nation” (**Gen. 12:1-3**): ¹*The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. ²**I will make you into a great nation** and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³**I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse;** and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”*
2. God predicted Israel’s enslavement for 400 years in a foreign country (Egypt) more than 200 years before it actually took place; He also foretold their deliverance and return to the land of Canaan:
 - a) **Gen. 15:13-16:** ¹³*Then the LORD said to him [Abram], “Know for certain that **your descendants will be***

strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. ¹⁴*But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.* ¹⁵*You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age.* ¹⁶*In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”*

- b) **Ex. 12:40-41:** ⁴⁰*Now the length of time the Israelite people lived in Egypt was 430 years.* ⁴¹***At the end of the 430 years, to the very day, all the LORD's divisions left Egypt.***
3. As God had predicted to Abram, Israel eventually became an exceedingly great and powerful nation under David and Solomon.
 4. Nations like the U.S., England, France and others that in the past have been Israel's friend and ally have been blessed; nations like Egypt, Babylon, Assyria, Rome, Nazi Germany & many Arab/Muslim nations in the Middle East that have hated and persecuted the Jews have suffered great defeat and humiliation: God's decree of blessing and cursing in Genesis 12:3 still stands today!
 5. In numerous prophecies (too many to list here), God promised Israel great prosperity and peace in the Promised Land if they remained faithful to Him; He also promised great judgment, suffering and worldwide dispersion when they forsook Him
 6. The prophet Jeremiah predicted the fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, the exile of the Jews to Babylon, and he even predicted the exact length of time they would be in captivity
- a) **Jer. 29:10-11:** ¹⁰*This is what the LORD says: “When **seventy years** are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill My gracious promise to bring you back to this place.* ¹¹*For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*
- b) **2 Chron. 36:20-23:** ²⁰*He [Nebuchadnezzar] carried into exile to Babylon the remnant, who escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and his*

sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. ²¹The land enjoyed its sabbath rests; all the time of its desolation it rested, **until the seventy years were completed in fulfillment of the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah.** ²²In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, **in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah,** the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and to put it in writing: ²³“This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: ‘The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and He has appointed me to build a temple for Him at Jerusalem in Judah. Anyone of His people among you— may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.’”

7. The prophet Isaiah predicted that Cyrus would order the rebuilding of Jerusalem more than 200 years before he was even born!
 - a) **Isa. 44:24-28:** ²⁴“This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the LORD, who has made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by Myself, ²⁵**who foils the signs of false prophets and makes fools of diviners,** who overthrows the learning of the wise and turns it into nonsense, ²⁶**who carries out the words of His servants and fulfills the predictions of His messengers,** who says of Jerusalem, ‘It shall be inhabited,’ of the towns of Judah, ‘They shall be built,’ and of their ruins, ‘I will restore them,’ ²⁷who says to the watery deep, ‘Be dry, and I will dry up your streams,’ ²⁸**who says of Cyrus, ‘He is My shepherd and will accomplish all that I please; he will say of Jerusalem, “Let it be rebuilt,” and of the temple, “Let its foundations be laid.”**”
 - b) **Isa. 45:1-6:** ¹**This is what the LORD says to His anointed, to Cyrus,** whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut: ²“I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. ³I will give you the treasures of

*darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that **I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.** ⁴For the sake of Jacob My servant, of Israel My chosen, **I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge Me.** ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from Me there is no God. **I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged Me, ⁶so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other.**”*

- c) NOTE: As with all fulfilled prophecy, this amazing prediction came to pass so that all mankind would know that there is no other god besides the Lord God Almighty!
8. Shortly before His crucifixion, Jesus predicted the destruction of Jerusalem
- a) **Mat. 23:37-39; 24:1-2:** ³⁷***O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. ³⁸Look, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹For I tell you, you will not see Me again until you say, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”¹ Jesus left the temple and was walking away when His disciples came up to Him to call His attention to its buildings. ²“Do you see all these things?” He asked. “I tell you the truth, **not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.**”***
 - b) At the time Jesus spoke this, nothing was more improbable – the temple was gloriously splendid and the nation of Israel was at peace
 - c) Yet the prophecy was fulfilled in A.D. 70, just 40 years later, when Titus and the Roman armies invaded and demolished the entire city of Jerusalem
9. From that time on, the “wandering Jews” were literally scattered to the four corners of the earth for almost 2,000 years; miraculously, not only did they retain their identity during that time, but in fulfillment of prophecy, they

eventually returned to their land and became a nation once again in 1948

- a) **Isa. 11:11-12:** *¹¹In that day the Lord will reach out His hand a **second time** [the first time was when God brought them back from Babylonian captivity] to reclaim the remnant that is left of His people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the sea. ¹²He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; **He will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth.***
- b) **Isa. 66:8:** *Who has ever heard of such a thing? Who has ever seen such things? **Can a country be born in a day or a nation be brought forth in a moment?** Yet no sooner is Zion in labor than she gives birth to her children.*

10. It is beyond the scope of this study to look at a wealth of prophecy concerning Israel that is yet to be fulfilled in the future (Romans 9-11, etc.)

C. Gentile nations

1. Extensive and detailed prophecies are recorded in the Scriptures regarding a number of Gentile nations including Egypt, Babylon, Edom, Philistia, Assyria, Tyre & Sidon, and Moab; without exception, each prediction came to pass with pinpoint accuracy – we will look briefly at a few of these
2. Egypt – together with Babylon, was one the two greatest nations of antiquity; Memphis was the capital of Lower Egypt, and Thebes the capital of all Egypt, yet Jeremiah and Ezekiel both prophesied their destruction centuries before it occurred [see Jer. 46:13-24; Ezek. 30:10-19]
3. Babylon – Jeremiah and Daniel both predicted the collapse of this first world empire [see Jer. 51 and *Sequence of Empires* below]
4. Edom & Philistia were both powerful nations, but their demise was foretold in a number of Biblical prophecies
5. Assyria (capital Nineveh), Tyre & Sidon (Phoenicia), Moab and many other once powerful nations were

destroyed in fulfillment of exact predictions made by a number of the prophets of Israel

D. Sequence of Empires

1. God gave an amazing foreview of world history through a dream He gave to King Nebuchadnezzar which was interpreted by the prophet Daniel; in the dream, there was a statue representing four successive empires decreasing in value and increasing in strength (**Dan. 2:31-45**): ³¹“*You looked, O king, and there before you stood a **large statue**—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance.* ³²*The **head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze,*** ³³*its **legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay.*** ³⁴*While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them.* ³⁵*Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.* ³⁶“*This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king.* ³⁷*You, O king, are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory;* ³⁸*in your hands He has placed mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. Wherever they live, He has made you ruler over them all. **You are that head of gold.*** ³⁹“*After you, another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth.* ⁴⁰*Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron—for iron breaks and smashes everything—and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others.* ⁴¹*Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay.* ⁴²*As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle.* ⁴³*And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay.* ⁴⁴“*In the time of those kings, the God*

of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. ⁴⁵*This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands—a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. “**The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy.**”*

2. Summary of the dream
 - a) Head of gold = Babylonian Empire
 - b) Chest & arms of silver = Medo-Persian Empire
 - c) Belly & thighs of bronze = Greek Empire (Alexander the Great)
 - d) Legs of iron = Roman Empire
 - e) Feet of iron & clay = antichrist’s global dictatorship yet to be set up some time in the future
 - f) Rock that smashes the statue = Christ & the Eternal Kingdom of God!

III. MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

The Old Testament contains several hundred prophecies concerning the coming Messiah (all of which were fulfilled in Jesus Christ); over 90 of these prophecies are specifically quoted by New Testament writers in reference to Christ! We have listed about 60 of them in the following pages...

A. Prophecies concerning Christ’s birth & lineage

1. Born of the seed of woman

- a) **Gen. 3:15** (NKJV): *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and **her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.***
- b) **Gal. 4:4**: *But when the time had fully come, **God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law.***

2. Born of a virgin

- a) **Isa. 7:14:** *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The **virgin will be with Child** and will give birth to a Son, and will call Him Immanuel.*
- b) **Mat. 1:18-23:** ¹⁸*This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother **Mary** was pledged to be married to Joseph, but **before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.*** ¹⁹*Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.* ²⁰*But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.* ²¹*She will give birth to a son, and you are to **give Him the name Jesus,** because He will save His people from their sins.* ²²***All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:*** ²³***The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel—which means, God with us.***

(1) NOTE: Verse 22 is the first of 15 instances where Matthew shows how Old Testament prophecy was being fulfilled in Jesus Christ

(2) See Mat. 2:15, 17, 23; 3:15; 4:14; 5:17; 8:17; 12:17; 13:14, 35; 21:4; 26:56; 27:9, 35;

3. Son of God

- a) **Ps. 2:7:** *I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, “**You are My Son, today I have begotten You.**”*
- (1) NOTE: A number of Psalms are generally and widely accepted as being “Messianic,” i.e. they contain prophecy concerning the Person and work of Messiah
- (2) Here is a list of some of the main ones, many of which we will be looking at in this study: Psalm 2, 8, 16, 22, 40, 41, 45, 69, 97, 110, 118
- b) **Mat. 3:16-17:** ¹⁶*As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him.* ¹⁷*And a voice from heaven*

said, “**This is My Son**, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.”

4. Seed of Abraham

- a) **Gen. 22:18** (NKJV): ***In your** [Abraham] **Seed** all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.*
- b) **Mat. 1:1**: *A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the **son of Abraham**:*
- c) **Gal. 3:16** (NKJV): *Now to **Abraham and his Seed** were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “**AND TO YOUR SEED,**” who is Christ.*

5. Son of Isaac

- a) **Gen. 21:12** (NKJV): *But God said to Abraham, “Do not let it be displeasing in your sight because of the lad or because of your bondwoman. Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice; for **in Isaac your seed shall be called.**”*
- b) **Luke 3:34**: [Jesus] ... *the son of Jacob, the **son of Isaac**, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor...*

6. Son of Jacob (Israel)

- a) **Num. 24:17**: *I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near. **A Star will come out of Jacob; a Scepter will rise out of Israel.** He will crush the foreheads of Moab, the skulls of all the sons of Sheth.*
- b) **Luke 3:34**: [Jesus] ... *the **son of Jacob**, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor...*

7. Tribe of Judah

- a) **Gen. 49:10**: *The **Scepter will not depart from Judah**, nor the ruler's staff from between His feet, until He [Shiloh (Heb.) = “Messiah”] comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is His.*
- b) **Mic. 5:2** (NKJV): *But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are **little among the thousands of Judah**, yet **out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be***

***Ruler in Israel**, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.*

- c) **Heb. 7:14:** *For it is clear that **our Lord descended from Judah**, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.*
- d) **Rev. 5:5:** *Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the **Lion of the tribe of Judah**, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”*

8. Family line of Jesse

- a) **Isa. 11:1, 10:** *¹A Shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from His roots a Branch will bear fruit... ¹⁰In that day the **Root of Jesse** will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His place of rest will be glorious.*
- b) **Luke 3:32:** *[Jesus] ... the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon...*

9. House of David

- a) **Jer. 23:5:** *“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when **I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King** who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.”*
- b) **Mat. 1:1:** *A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham:*
- c) **Mat. 22:41-45:** *⁴¹While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴²“**What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?**” “**The son of David,**” they replied. ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls Him ‘Lord’? For he says, ⁴⁴“The Lord said to my Lord: “**Sit at My right hand until I put Your enemies under Your feet.**”’” ⁴⁵If then David calls Him ‘Lord,’ how can He be his son?”*
- d) See also Mat. 9:27, 12:23, 15:22, 20:30-31, 21:9, where many referred to Jesus as “Son of David”

10. Born in Bethlehem

- a) **Mic. 5:2** (NKJV): *But you, **Bethlehem Ephrathah**, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet **out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel**, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.*
- b) **Mat. 2:1-6**: ¹*After **Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea**, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, “Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.” ³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, **he asked them where the Christ was to be born.** ⁵“**In Bethlehem in Judea,**” they replied, “**for this is what the prophet has written:** ⁶‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a Ruler who will be the Shepherd of My people Israel.’”*
- c) **John 7:42**: *Does not the Scripture say that the **Christ will come from David's family and from Bethlehem**, the town where David lived?*

11. Presented with gifts

- a) **Ps. 72:10-11**: ¹⁰*The **kings of Tarshish and of distant shores will bring tribute to Him** [the King]; the kings of Sheba and Seba will present **Him gifts.** ¹¹**All kings will bow down to Him and all nations will serve Him.***
- b) **Mat. 2:11**: *On coming to the house, they [Magi] saw the Child with His mother Mary, and **they bowed down and worshiped Him.** Then they opened their treasures and **presented Him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.***

12. Jesus would escape to Egypt

- a) **Hos. 11:1**: *When Israel was a child, I loved him, and **out of Egypt I called My Son.***
- b) **Mat. 2:13-15**: ¹³*When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt.*

Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt,¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called My son.”

13. Herod kills the children

- a) **Jer. 31:15:** *This is what the LORD says: “A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because her children are no more.”*
- b) **Mat. 2:16-18:** ¹⁶*When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:¹⁸ “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”*

B. Prophecies concerning Christ’s nature

1. Eternal & Pre-existent

- a) **Mic. 5:2 (NKJV):** *But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet **the One** out of you shall come forth to Me to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, FROM EVERLASTING.*
- b) **Isa. 9:6-7:** ⁶*For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over His kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.*
- c) **John 1:1-2:** ¹*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning.*

- d) **John 8:56-58:** ⁵⁶“Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing My day; he saw it and was glad.”
⁵⁷“You are not yet fifty years old,” the Jews said to Him, “and You have seen Abraham!”⁵⁸“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “**before Abraham was born, I am!**”
- e) **Col. 1:17** (AMP): *And He Himself existed before all things, and in Him all things consist (cohere, are held together).*

2. Lord

- a) **Ps. 110:1:** *The LORD says to My Lord: “Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”*
- b) **Mat. 22:41-45:** ⁴¹While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴²“**What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?**” “**The son of David,**” they replied. ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, **calls Him ‘Lord’?** For he says, ⁴⁴“The Lord said to my Lord: “**Sit at My right hand until I put Your enemies under Your feet.**”⁴⁵**If then David calls Him ‘Lord,’ how can He be his son?”**
- c) **Luke 2:10-11:** ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; **He is Christ the Lord.**”

3. Immanuel

- a) **Isa. 7:14:** *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel.*
- b) **Mat. 1:21-23:** ²¹She will give birth to a Son, and you are to **give Him the name Jesus,** because He will save His people from their sins. ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³The virgin will be with Child and will give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Immanuel—which means, **God with us.**

4. Prophet

- a) **Deut. 18:15-19:** ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to Him... ¹⁷The LORD said to me: “What they say is good. ¹⁸**I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brothers; I will put My words in His mouth, and He will tell them everything I command Him.** ¹⁹If anyone does not listen to My words that the Prophet speaks in My name, I Myself will call him to account.
- b) **Mat. 21:10-11:** ¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds answered, “**This is Jesus, the Prophet** from Nazareth in Galilee.”
- c) **John 6:13-14:** ¹³So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, “**Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.**”
- d) **John 7:40:** On hearing His words, some of the people said, “**Surely this man is the Prophet.**”

5. Priest

- a) **Ps. 110:4:** The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind: “**You are a Priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.**”
- b) **Heb. 5:5-6:** ⁵So Christ also did not take upon Himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to Him, “You are My Son; today I have become Your Father.” ⁶And He says in another place, “**You are a Priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.**”

6. Judge

- a) **Isa. 11:1-4:** ¹A Shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from His roots a Branch will bear fruit. ²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him— the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—³and He will delight in the fear of the LORD. **He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, or**

decide by what He hears with His ears; ⁴but with righteousness He will judge the needy, with justice He will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth; with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

- b) **John 5:22-30:** ²²Moreover, **the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son...** ²⁷And He has given Him authority to judge because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear His voice ²⁹and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. ³⁰By Myself I can do nothing; **I judge only as I hear, and My judgment is just, for I seek not to please Myself but Him who sent Me.**

7. King

- a) **Ps. 2:6-7:** ⁶“**I have installed My King on Zion, My holy hill.**” ⁷I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, “**You are My Son; today I have become Your Father.**”
- b) **Mat. 27:37:** Above His head they placed the written charge against Him: **THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS.**
- c) **John 18:33-37:** ³³Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked Him, “**Are You the King of the Jews?**” ³⁴“Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about Me?” ³⁵“Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “It was Your people and Your chief priests who handed You over to me. What is it You have done?” ³⁶Jesus said, “**My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, My servants would fight to prevent My arrest by the Jews. But now My kingdom is from another place.**” ³⁷“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “**You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to Me.**”

8. Anointed One

- a) **Isa. 61:1-2:** ¹The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on Me, because **the LORD has anointed Me to preach**

good news to the poor. He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn.

- b) **Luke 4:16-21:** ¹⁶*He went to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day He went into the synagogue, as was His custom. And He stood up to read. ¹⁷The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. Unrolling it, He found the place where it is written: ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because **He has anointed Me** to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” ²⁰Then He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on Him, ²¹and He began by saying to them, “**Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.**”*

9. Would be called a Nazarene

- a) **Mat. 2:19-23:** ¹⁹*After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead.” ²¹So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. **So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: “He will be called a Nazarene.”***
- b) Christ is frequently referred to as “Jesus of Nazareth” throughout the New Testament – it is uncertain what Old Testament prophecy Matthew is quoting here

10. His zeal for God

- a) **Ps. 69:9:** *For zeal for Your house consumes Me, and the insults of those who insult You fall on Me.*
- b) **John 2:15-17:** ¹⁵*So **He made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle;***

He scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶To those who sold doves He said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn My Father's house into a market!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for Your house will consume Me."

C. Prophecies concerning Christ's ministry

1. Preceded by a messenger

- a) **Isa. 40:3-5:** ³A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
- b) **Luke 3:3-6:** ³He [John the Baptist] went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him. ⁵Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. ⁶And all mankind will see God's salvation.'"
- c) **John 1:19-23:** ¹⁹Now this was John's testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. ²⁰He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Christ." ²¹They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the desert, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"
- d) See also Mat. 11:7-11

2. Ministry to begin in Galilee

- a) **Isa. 9:1-2:** ¹Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past He humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future He will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan—²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.
- b) **Mat. 4:12-17:** ¹²When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, **He returned to Galilee.** ¹³Leaving Nazareth, He went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—¹⁴**to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:** ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, along the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—¹⁶the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

3. Miracles & healings

- a) **Isa. 35:5-6:** ⁵Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. ⁶Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.
- b) **Isa. 53:4-5:** ⁴Surely **He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows**, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. ⁵But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and **by His wounds we are healed.**
- c) **Mat. 8:16-17:** ¹⁶When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to Him, and He drove out the spirits with a word and **healed all the sick.** ¹⁷**This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.”**
- d) **1 Pet. 2:24:** **He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.**

- e) **Mat. 11:2-6:** ²When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples ³to ask Him, “Are You the One who was to come, or should we expect someone else?” ⁴Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The **blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.** ⁶Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of Me.”

4. Chosen Servant to bring forth justice

- a) **Isa. 42:1-4:** ¹“**Here is My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen one in whom I delight; I will put My Spirit on Him and He will bring justice to the nations.** ²He will not shout or cry out, or raise His voice in the streets. ³A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out. In faithfulness He will bring forth justice; ⁴He will not falter or be discouraged till He establishes justice on earth. In His law the islands will put their hope.”
- b) **Mat. 12:15-21:** ¹⁵Aware of this, Jesus withdrew from that place. Many followed Him, and He healed all their sick, ¹⁶warning them not to tell who He was. ¹⁷**This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:** ¹⁸“**Here is My servant** whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put My Spirit on Him, and **He will proclaim justice to the nations.** ¹⁹He will not quarrel or cry out; no one will hear His voice in the streets. ²⁰A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out, till He leads justice to victory. ²¹In His name the nations will put their hope.”

5. Would teach in parables

- a) **Ps. 78:2:** *I will open My mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old.*
- b) **Mat. 13:10-15, 34-35:** ¹⁰The disciples came to Him and asked, “**Why do You speak to the people in parables?**” ¹¹He replied, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹²Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what

he has will be taken from him. ¹³This is why I speak to them in parables: “Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. ¹⁴**In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:** ‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. ¹⁵For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them...’ ³⁴**Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; He did not say anything to them without using a parable. ³⁵So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: “I will open My mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.”**

6. **Would enter Jerusalem on a donkey**

- a) **Zech. 9:9:** *Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and **riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.***
- b) **Mat. 21:1-7:** ¹*As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will **find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her.** Untie them and bring them to Me. ³If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.” ⁴**This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:** ⁵“Say to the Daughter of Zion, ‘See, your King comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’” ⁶*The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them.**

7. **Stone of stumbling rejected by the Jews**

- a) **Ps. 118:22-23:** ²²*The Stone the builders rejected has become the Capstone;* ²³*the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.*
- b) **Isa. 8:14-15:** ¹⁴*And He will be a sanctuary; but for both houses of Israel He will be a **Stone that causes men to***

stumble and a Rock that makes them fall. And for the people of Jerusalem He will be a trap and a snare.
¹⁵*Many of them will stumble; they will fall and be broken, they will be snared and captured.”*

- c) **Isa. 28:16:** ¹⁶*So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: “See, I lay a Stone in Zion, a tested Stone, a precious Cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.*
- d) **Mat. 21:42-44:** ⁴²*Jesus said to them, “**Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The Stone the builders rejected has become the Capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?**” ⁴³*Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.* ⁴⁴*He who falls on this Stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed.”**
- e) **Acts 4:10-11:** ¹⁰*Then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of **Jesus Christ** of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.* ¹¹***He is “the Stone you builders rejected, which has become the Capstone.”***
- f) **1 Pet. 2:4-8:** ⁴*As you come to Him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him—⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.* ⁶***For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a Stone in Zion, a chosen and precious Cornerstone, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.”*** ⁷*Now to you who believe, this Stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, **“The Stone the builders rejected has become the Capstone,”*** ⁸*and, **“A Stone that causes men to stumble and a Rock that makes them fall.”*** *They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.*

8. A light for the Gentiles

- a) **Isa. 49:5-6:** ⁵*And now the LORD says— **He who formed Me in the womb to be His servant to bring Jacob back to Him and gather Israel to Himself, for I***

*am honored in the eyes of the LORD and My God has been My strength—⁶He says: “It is too small a thing for You to be My servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. **I will also make You a light for the Gentiles, that You may bring My salvation to the ends of the earth.**”*

- b) **Luke 2:30-32** (when Simeon took baby Jesus in his arms): ³⁰**For my eyes have seen Your salvation,** ³¹*which You have prepared in the sight of all people,* ³²**a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel.**
- c) **Acts 13:47:** *For this is what the Lord has commanded us: “**I have made You a light for the Gentiles, that You may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.**”*

D. Prophecies concerning Christ’s betrayal and death

There are at least 27 different prophecies about Messiah’s betrayal and crucifixion from the Old Testament that span a period of more than 500 years, *YET* all of them were fulfilled in Jesus in one 24-hour period!!! What are the chances???

1. Betrayed by a friend

- a) **Ps. 41:9:** *Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.*
- b) **John 13:18-26:** ¹⁸*“I am not referring to all of you; I know those I have chosen. But **this is to fulfill the Scripture: ‘He who shares My bread has lifted up his heel against Me.’**”* ¹⁹*“I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that I am He...”* ²¹*After He had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, “I tell you the truth, **one of you is going to betray Me.**”* ²²*His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them He meant.* ²³*One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to Him.* ²⁴*Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, “Ask Him which one He means.”* ²⁵*Leaning back against Jesus, he asked Him, “Lord, who is it?”* ²⁶*Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” Then, **dipping the piece of bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon.***

2. Sold for 30 pieces of silver

- a) **Zech. 11:12:** *I told them, “If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.” So they paid me **thirty pieces of silver**.*
- b) **Mat. 26:14-15:** ¹⁴*Then one of the Twelve—the one called **Judas Iscariot**—went to the chief priests ¹⁵and asked, “What are you willing to give me if I hand Him over to you?” So **they counted out for him thirty silver coins**.*

3. Money thrown into the temple & used to purchase the potter’s field

- a) **Zech. 11:13:** *And the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the handsome price at which they priced Me! So **I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD to the potter**.*
- b) **Mat. 27:3-10:** ³*When **Judas**, who had betrayed Him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and **returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders**. ⁴“I have sinned,” he said, “for I have betrayed innocent blood.” “What is that to us?” they replied. “That’s your responsibility.” ⁵So **Judas threw the money into the temple** and left. Then he went away and hanged himself. ⁶The chief priests picked up the coins and said, “It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money.” ⁷So they **decided to use the money to buy the potter’s field** as a burial place for foreigners. ⁸That is why it has been called the *Field of Blood* to this day. ⁹Then what was spoken by Jeremiah [Zechariah?] the prophet was fulfilled: “They took the thirty silver coins, the price set on Him by the people of Israel, ¹⁰and they used them to buy the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.”*

4. Forsaken by His disciples

- a) **Zech. 13:7:** *“Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, against the man who is close to Me!” declares the LORD Almighty. “Strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered, and I will turn My hand against the little ones.”*

- b) **Mat. 26:31, 55-56:** ³¹Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of Me, for it is written: “**I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered...**” ⁵⁵At that time Jesus said to the crowd, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture Me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest Me. ⁵⁶**But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled.**” Then all the disciples deserted Him and fled.

5. Accused by false witnesses

- a) **Ps. 35:11:** Ruthless witnesses come forward; they question me on things I know nothing about.
- b) **Ps. 27:12:** Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for **false witnesses rise up against me**, breathing out violence.
- c) **Mat. 26:59-60:** ⁵⁹The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put Him to death. ⁶⁰But they did not find any, though **many false witnesses came forward.**

6. Dumb before His accusers

- a) **Isa. 53:7:** He was oppressed and afflicted, yet **He did not open His mouth**; He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a **sheep before her shearers is silent**, so **He did not open His mouth.**
- b) **Mat. 27:12-14:** ¹²When He was accused by the chief priests and the elders, **He gave no answer.** ¹³Then Pilate asked Him, “Don't You hear the testimony they are bringing against You?” ¹⁴But **Jesus made no reply**, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor.
- c) **1 Pet. 2:22-23:** ²²“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in His mouth.” ²³When they hurled their insults at Him, **He did not retaliate**; when He suffered, **He made no threats.** Instead, He entrusted Himself to Him who judges justly.
- d) **Acts 8:32-35:** ³²The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a **lamb before the shearer is silent**, so **He did**

not open His mouth. ³³In His humiliation He was deprived of justice. Who can speak of His descendants? For His life was taken from the earth.” ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, **who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?**” ³⁵Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and **told him the good news about Jesus.**

7. Wounded, bruised and flogged

- a) **Isa. 53:5** (NKJV): *But He was **wounded** for our transgressions, He was **bruised** for our iniquities; the **chastisement** for our peace was upon Him, and by His **stripes** we are healed.*
- b) **Mat. 27:26**: *Then he [Pilate] released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed Him over to be crucified.*

8. Smitten and spit upon

- a) **Isa. 50:6**: *I offered My back to those who **beat Me**, My cheeks to those who pulled out My beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and **spitting**.*
- b) **Mat. 26:30, 67**: ³⁰*They **spit on Him**, and took the staff and **struck Him on the head again and again...*** ⁶⁷*Then they **spit in His face** and **struck Him with their fists**. Others **slapped Him**.*
- c) **Luke 22:63**: *The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and **beating Him**.*

9. Mocked and insulted

- a) **Ps. 22:7**: *All who see me mock me; they **hurl insults**, shaking their heads:*
- b) **Mat. 27:31-44**: ³¹*After they had **mocked Him**, they took off the robe and put His own clothes on Him. Then they led Him away to crucify Him...* ³⁹*Those who passed by **hurled insults at Him, shaking their heads*** ⁴⁰*and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! Come down from the cross, if You are the Son of God!”* ⁴¹*In the same way the **chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked Him**.* ⁴²*“He saved others,” they said, “but He can't save Himself! He's the King of Israel! Let Him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in*

Him. ⁴³ *He trusts in God. Let God rescue Him now if He wants Him, for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'*” ⁴⁴ *In the same way the **robbers who were crucified with Him also heaped insults on Him.***

10. Hands and feet pierced

- a) **Ps. 22:16:** *Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, **they have pierced my hands and my feet.***
- b) **Luke 23:32-33:** ³² *Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed.* ³³ *When they came to the place called the Skull, there **they crucified Him, along with the criminals—one on His right, the other on His left.***
- c) **John 20:24-25:** ²⁴ *Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.* ²⁵ *So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “**Unless I see the nail marks in His hands** and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe it.”*
- d) **Luke 24:39-40:** ³⁹ *“**Look at My hands and My feet. It is I Myself! Touch Me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.**”* ⁴⁰ *When He had said this, **He showed them His hands and feet.***

11. Crucified with thieves

- a) **Isa. 53:12:** *Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death, and **was numbered with the transgressors.** For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.*
- b) **Mark 15:27-28:** ²⁷ *They crucified two robbers with Him, one on His right and one on His left,* ²⁸ *[and **the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “He was counted with the lawless ones.”**]*

12. Interceded for transgressors

- a) **Isa. 53:12:** *He was numbered with the transgressors. For **He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.***

- b) **Luke 23:33-34:** ³³When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him, along with the criminals—one on His right, the other on His left. ³⁴Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.**”

13. Despised and rejected by His own people

- a) **Isa. 53:3:** *He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.*
- b) **Ps. 69:8:** *I am a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons;*
- c) **John 1:10-11:** ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. ¹¹He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him.
- d) **John 7:3-5:** ³Jesus' brothers said to Him, “You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that Your disciples may see the miracles You do. ⁴No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since You are doing these things, show Yourself to the world.” ⁵For even His own brothers did not believe in Him.
- e) **Mat. 21:42:** *Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “**The Stone the builders rejected has become the Capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.’**”*

14. Hated without a cause

- a) **Ps. 69:4:** *Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me.*
- b) **John 15:23-25:** ²³He who hates Me hates My Father as well. ²⁴If I had not done among them what no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both Me and My Father. ²⁵**But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: ‘They hated Me without reason.’**

15. Friends stood afar off

- a) **Ps. 38:11** (NKJV): *My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, and my relatives stand afar off.*
- b) **Luke 23:48-49:** ⁴⁸*And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned. ⁴⁹But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.*
- c) **Luke 22:54:** *Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. **But Peter followed at a distance.***
- d) **Mark 14:50:** *Then they all forsook Him and fled.*

16. People shook their heads

- a) **Ps. 22:7:** *All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads:*
- b) **Ps. 109:25:** *I am an object of scorn to my accusers; when they see me, **they shake their heads.***
- c) **Mat. 27:39:** *Those who passed by hurled insults at Him, shaking their heads.*

17. Stared upon

- a) **Ps. 22:17:** *I can count all my bones; **people stare and gloat over me.***
- b) **Luke 23:35:** ***The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at Him.** They said, “He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.”*

18. Garments parted and lots cast

- a) **Ps. 22:18:** *They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.*
- b) **John 19:23-24:** ²³*When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. ²⁴“Let's not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let's decide by lot who will get it.” **This happened that the Scripture might be fulfilled which said, “They divided My garments among them and***

cast lots for My clothing.” So this is what the soldiers did.

19. Suffered thirst

- a) **Ps. 69:21:** *They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.*
- b) **Ps. 22:15:** *My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; You lay me in the dust of death.*
- c) **John 19:28:** *Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”*

20. Offered gall and vinegar

- a) **Ps. 69:21:** *They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.*
- b) **John 19:28-30:** ²⁸*Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”* ²⁹*A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.* ³⁰*When He had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.*
- c) **Mat. 27:34:** *There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, He refused to drink it.*

21. His forsaken cry

- a) **Ps. 22:1:** *My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?*
- b) **Mat. 27:46:** *About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”—which means, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”*

22. Committed His spirit to God

- a) **Ps. 31:5:** *Into Your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.*

- b) **Luke 23:46:** *Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.” When He had said this, He breathed His last.*

23. Bones not broken

- a) **Ps. 34:20:** *He protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.*
- b) **Ex. 12:46:** *It [the Passover lamb] must be eaten inside one house; take none of the meat outside the house. Do not break any of the bones.*
- c) **1 Cor. 5:7:** *Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For **Christ, our Passover Lamb**, has been sacrificed.*
- d) **John 19:32-36:** ³²*The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other.* ³³*But when they came to Jesus and found that He was already dead, **they did not break His legs.*** ³⁴*Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.* ³⁵*The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe.* ³⁶***These things happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled: “Not one of His bones will be broken.”***

24. Heart poured out like water

- a) **Ps. 22:14:** *I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.*
- b) **John 19:34:** ³⁴*Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden **flow of blood and water.***
- c) NOTE: The flow of blood and water is evidence that Jesus' heart had literally burst!

25. Side pierced

- a) **Zech. 12:10:** *And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. **They will look on Me, the One they have pierced**, and they will mourn for Him as one mourns for*

an only child, and grieve bitterly for Him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

- b) **John 19:34-37:** ³⁴*Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.* ³⁶*These things happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of His bones will be broken,"* ³⁷*and, as another Scripture says, "They will look on the One they have pierced."*

26. Darkness over the land

- a) **Amos 8:9:** *"In that day," declares the Sovereign LORD, "I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight."*
- b) **Mat. 27:45:** *From the sixth hour [noon!] until the ninth hour [3 pm] darkness came over all the land.*
- c) **Luke 23:44-45:** ⁴⁴*It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour,* ⁴⁵*for the sun stopped shining.*

27. Buried in a rich man's tomb

- a) **Isa. 53:9:** *He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death, though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.*
- b) **Mat. 27:57-60:** ⁵⁷*As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus.* ⁵⁸*Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him.* ⁵⁹*Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,* ⁶⁰*and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.*

E. Prophecies concerning Christ's resurrection and ascension

1. Resurrection

- a) **Ps. 16:8-11:** ⁸*I have set the LORD always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.* ⁹*Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure,* ¹⁰*because You will not abandon me to the grave, nor will You let Your Holy One see decay.* ¹¹*You have made known to me the path*

of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand.

- b) **Acts 2:25-32:** ²⁵*David said about Him: “I saw the Lord always before Me. Because He is at My right hand, I will not be shaken. ²⁶Therefore My heart is glad and My tongue rejoices; My body also will live in hope, ²⁷because You will not abandon Me to the grave, nor will You let Your Holy One see decay. ²⁸You have made known to Me the paths of life; You will fill Me with joy in Your presence.” ²⁹“Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that He would place one of his descendants on His throne. ³¹Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was not abandoned to the grave, nor did His body see decay. ³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact*
- c) **John 20:9:** *(They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.).*

2. Ascension

- a) **Ps. 68:17-18:** ¹⁷*The chariots of God are tens of thousands and thousands of thousands; the Lord has come from Sinai into His sanctuary. ¹⁸When You ascended on high, You led captives in Your train; You received gifts from men, even from the rebellious— that You, O LORD God, might dwell there.*
- b) **Eph. 4:7-11:** ⁷*But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸This is why it says: “When He ascended on high, He led captives in His train and gave gifts to men.” ⁹(What does “He ascended” mean except that He also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) ¹¹It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers...*

3. Seated at the right hand of God

- a) **Ps. 110:1:** *The LORD says to My Lord: “**Sit at My right hand** until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”*
- b) **Mat. 26:64:** *“Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied. “But I say to all of you: In the future you will see **the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One** and coming on the clouds of heaven.”*
- c) **Mark 16:19:** *After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was taken up into heaven and **He sat at the right hand of God.***

F. Daniel's 70th Week

1. **Dan. 9:24-27:** ²⁴“Seventy ‘sevens’ are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy. ²⁵“Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven ‘sevens,’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’ It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. ²⁶After the sixty-two ‘sevens,’ the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. ²⁷He will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’ In the middle of the ‘seven’ he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.”
2. **Daniel 9:24** – The “sevens” here are actually weeks or periods of seven years [see Lev. 25:3-4, 8]. Thus “seventy ‘sevens’” represents 490 years. This prophecy is specifically for “your people,” i.e., for Israel and the “holy city” Jerusalem; this is particularly important in understanding the final or 70th week.
3. **Daniel 9:25** – This predicted the rebuilding of Jerusalem after Artaxerxes’ decree was issued [see Neh. 2:1-8; 2 Chron. 36:15-20]. His reign began in 465 B.C.; the decree came in the 20th year of his reign (Neh. 2:1) or 445 B.C.,

the 1st of Nisan or March 14. The rebuilding would take “seven sevens” or 49 years [NOTE: The Jewish month is 30 days, thus one year is 360 days].

4. **Daniel 9:26** – There would be “sixty-two sevens,” or 434 years from the time of rebuilding Jerusalem to the cutting off of the Anointed One at the Cross. If we calculate the 69 weeks of years (483 years) from the 1st of Nisan (March 14, 445 B.C.) and multiply 483 years by 360 (days in a year), the result is 173,880 days. This places the day that Christ made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem shortly before being crucified at April 6, A.D. 32! Notice how Jesus rebuked the Jews in Jerusalem at that time for failing to recognize the time of God’s coming to them, i.e., the fulfillment of Daniel’s and Zechariah’s prophecies:
 - a) **Luke 19:41-44:** ⁴¹*As He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it* ⁴²*and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.* ⁴³*The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side.* ⁴⁴*They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because **YOU DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE TIME OF GOD’S COMING TO YOU.**”*
 - b) Here Jesus confirmed the destruction of Jerusalem foretold by Daniel (“ruler who will destroy the city and the sanctuary”) which was literally fulfilled in A.D. 70. Soon after, Jesus the Messiah was cut off exactly as Daniel had predicted. So 69 of Daniel’s 70 weeks were fulfilled when Jesus was crucified at Calvary. But what happened to the 70th week? Actually, there has been a long pause or parenthesis between the 69th and the 70th weeks—that is precisely where we are living today! The 70th week refers to the future seven-year Tribulation, as described in the next verse...
5. **Daniel 9:27** – This 70th week (Tribulation Period), is a time when God’s special focus is back on the Israelites (verse 24: “decreed for your people”) as a people distinct from the Gentiles and the Church. This does not seem to be a time when the Church, with its distinct calling and

purpose, could be present—if the Church were present, there would be no distinction between Jew and Gentile. The antichrist is unveiled immediately after the Restrainer is removed (Rapture); he makes a 7-year treaty with the Jews (probably promising to help rebuild temple and restore temple sacrifices).

- a) According to Daniel 9:26, the antichrist will be of the people who destroyed Jerusalem in A.D. 70, i.e., the Romans. Many believe there will be a revived Roman Empire in the last days, consisting of an alliance of ten nations. Israel must rebuild the temple at the beginning of this 7-year period, because sacrifice and offerings will be resumed. After 3½ years (“in the middle of the ‘seven’”), the antichrist will betray Israel and break his treaty with them. The antichrist then sets up the “abomination that causes desolation” (Mat. 24:15-22), desecrating the temple and erecting a statue of himself, proclaiming himself to be God (2 Thess. 2:3-4; Rev. 13:5-15 – note for “42 months”).
- b) Jesus was very specific that these events will take place in Israel (**Mat. 24:15-16**): ¹⁵“*So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand—¹⁶then let those who are IN JUDEA flee to the mountains.*”

IV. SUMMARY

- A. Modern forecasters of weather, political elections and sporting events often speak of the “odds” or chances of certain predictions coming to pass – we are told there is a 60% chance of rain, the odds of a sports team winning are 5-to-1, etc.
- B. Using simple mathematical probability, one can look at the “odds” of 300 predictions concerning Christ being “lucky guesses” – let us examine just 3 of those prophecies...
 1. Jacob had a 1-in-12 chance of predicting that Messiah would come through his son Judah (Gen. 49:10) 600 years before David was crowned king
 2. Micah had a 1-in-200 chance of guessing Bethlehem to be the birthplace of Messiah (Mic. 5:2) 700 years before Christ was born, assuming that it would be one of the 200

towns in the land of Israel – it could have been anywhere in the world, however!

3. Daniel predicted the time of Messiah's coming 5 centuries ahead of time (Dan. 9:24-26); from our present vantage point, the world had at least 25 more centuries from the time Daniel lived, so he had a 1-in-25 chance of picking the correct century; however, Daniel predicted Christ's triumphal entry to the exact day, so multiplying 2,500 years by 360 days per year, he would have a 1-in-900,000 chance of guessing the exact date!
4. To calculate the probability of all three of these prophecies coming to pass, we have to multiply the three probabilities together: 1-in-12 x 1-in-200 x 1-in-25 = 1-in-60,000 chance (just for Daniel to guess the right century) or 1-in-2,160,000,000 chance (for Daniel to predict the exact date of Christ's entry)! And that is just for three prophecies! If similar calculations could be carried out for all 300 prophecies, the numbers are mind-boggling – there is practically *ZERO CHANCE* apart from some supernatural, divine intervention!

C. Fulfilled prophecy is a powerful testimony to the inspiration and infallibility of the Scriptures; coupled with the more than 500 eyewitnesses who saw Jesus Christ crucified, buried and resurrected on the third day (1 Cor. 15:3-8), His 100% fulfillment of *EVERY* Messianic prophecy in Scripture leaves humanity without any excuse: **“TRULY THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD!”** (Mat. 27:54).

Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do... I foretold the former things long ago, My mouth announced them and I made them known; then suddenly I acted, and they came to pass... Therefore I told you these things long ago; before they happened I announced them to you so that you could not say, “My idols did them...” You have heard these things; look at them all. Will you not admit them?

– Isa. 46:9-11; 48:3-6 –