

Proof At Last!

WHO JESUS REALLY IS!

Prophecy Fulfilled

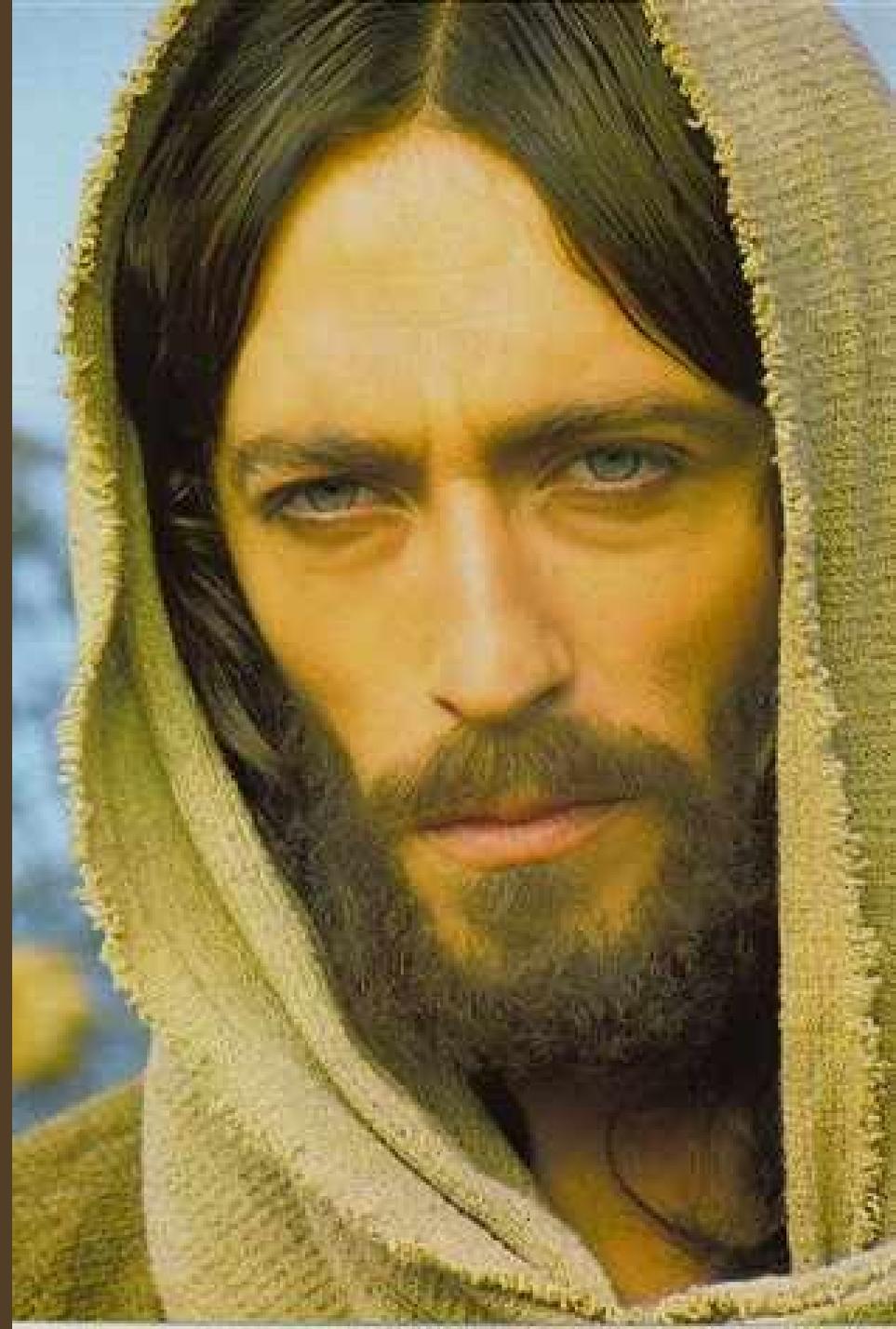
WHO IS JESUS?

WHAT MAKES HIM DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER GREAT RELIGIOUS TEACHERS, PROPHETS OR PHILOSOPHERS?

If any adjective were to describe Jesus, it would be "UNIQUE"!

--His message was unique. The claims He made regarding Himself were unique. His miracles were unique. And the influence He has had on the World is unsurpassed by any other.

Jesus was no ordinary man, nor was He merely a great teacher, rabbi, guru, or even a prophet. In a way, He was all of these, but much more. For unlike the other great religious teachers who came before or after Him, Jesus not only spoke about love and God, but He was love and He was the Son of God!



One very outstanding and undeniably unique aspect of Jesus' life is that it fulfilled literally hundreds of predictions and prophecies written in the Bible. Made by ancient prophets and seers--many of them centuries before He was born--these prophecies gave specific details regarding His birth, life, and death that no mere mortal could possibly have fulfilled.

In the first books of the Bible, over 300 such predictions about the "Messiah" or "Savior" can be found. Twentieth-century archaeological discoveries of hundreds of ancient Old Testament manuscripts have proven without a doubt that these prophecies were indeed written centuries before Jesus was born.

The following are only a few of them:

BORN TO A VIRGIN

In 750 B.C., the prophet Isaiah made the following prediction:

"The Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son"

(Isaiah 7:14).

Seven and a half centuries later, a young virgin in Israel named Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel, who announced to her that she would bear a Son. The Gospel of Luke tells us that Mary asked the angel how this could be, seeing she had not had intercourse with any man.

And the angel answered her, *"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God."*

Luke 1:26-35

BIRTHPLACE

A full 700 years before Jesus' birth, the prophet Micah foretold the exact town where the Messiah would be born:

"You, Bethlehem, 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"

(Micah 5:2).



Though Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth, in northern Israel, they were forced to travel to Bethlehem at the time Mary was about to give birth, in order to take part in a nationwide census. It was during their time in Bethlehem that Jesus was born.

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

The Prophet Zechariah commanded the people by the spirit of the Lord to: *“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; Shout, O daughter of JERUSALEM: behold, Thy King cometh unto thee: He is just, and having salvation: lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.”* (Zech.9:9 --450 B.C.)

FIVE DAYS BEFORE HIS CRUCIFIXION, JESUS RETURNED TO JERUSALEM and told His disciples, *“Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto Me.*



*... And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, **AND BROUGHT THE ASS AND THE COLT, ... AND THEY SAT HIM THEREON ... AND THE MULTITUDES THAT WENT BEFORE, AND THAT FOLLOWED, CRIED, SAYING, HOSANNA to the Son of David: BLESSED is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.”***

(Mt.21:2-10)

BETRAYAL

In 487 B.C., the prophet Zechariah wrote:

"Then I said to them, 'If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain.' So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver."

Zechariah 11:12.

On the night that Jesus was arrested by His enemies, the New Testament tells us that Judas Iscariot went to the chief priests and said, *'What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?' And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver.*

Matthew 26:14-15.

Imagine!--Five hundred years before the event took place, God's prophet, Zechariah, predicted the exact price that Jesus' enemies would pay to His traitorous disciple, Judas!

HIS TRIAL

PROPHECY:

"He was TAKEN from PRISON and from JUDGMENT: and who shall declare His generation? For He was CUT OFF out of the land of the living: FOR THE TRANSGRESSION OF MY PEOPLE was He stricken."

(Isaiah53:8)



In the course of Jesus' trial, Pilate asked the Jews, *"Will ye therefore that I **RELEASE** unto You [from prison] the King of the Jews? Then cried they all again, saying, Not this Man, but Barabbas."* (John.18:39)

So Jesus should have **STAYED** in prison. Pilate, after questioning Jesus, went before the Jews three times proclaiming. ***"I FIND NO FAULT IN HIM."*** His judgment, **THEREFORE, WAS THAT HE WAS INNOCENT** of the charges laid against Him. (John.18:38 ; 19:4,6)

CRUCIFIXION

Another outstanding prophecy regarding the Messiah was made by Israel's King David around the year 1000 B.C. In his prophecy, David gave details of a cruel and agonizing death which he himself never suffered:



"I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it has melted within me... Dogs have surrounded me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet... They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots."

(Psalm 22:14-18).

King David died a peaceful, natural death, so we know he was not talking about himself in this passage of Scripture. But also being a prophet, David predicted with uncanny accuracy the circumstances surrounding the cruel death on the cross of the Messiah, the Christ that was to come:

"I am poured out like water... my heart is melted within me." Jesus not only poured out His life for us spiritually, but the New Testament tells us that shortly after He died, while He was still hanging on the cross, one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water flowed out. (See John 19:34.)

"All my bones are out of joint." This describes one of the horrors of death by crucifixion: The weight of the victim's body literally pulls his arms out of their sockets.

"Dogs have surrounded me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed me." The New Testament tells us that Jesus' wicked and vengeful religious enemies, the Scribes and the Pharisees, gathered around Him as He was nailed on the cross, mocking and reviling Him. (See Matthew 27:39-44.)

"They pierced my hands and my feet." This is probably the most astounding prediction within this prophecy. Crucifixion was not practiced by the Jews of David's time. Their religious laws demanded that criminals condemned to die be stoned to death. But God showed His prophet, David, how the Messiah would die 10 centuries later, executed at the hands of an empire that did not even exist in David's day--Rome--whose principal means of executing criminals was crucifixion.

"They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." In the Gospels we find the fulfillment of this prophecy: *"Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. They said therefore among themselves, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be'"* (John 19:23-24).



SHUTTING OF EAST GATE AFTER HIS COMING

PROPHECY: *"Then he brought me back to the outer GATE of the SANCTUARY, the one facing toward the EAST; and it was SHUT. Then the Lord said 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, HAS ENTERED IN BY IT, therefore it shall be SHUT."*--Ezekiel 44:1,2. (Prophecy given 572 B.C.)

FULFILMENT: When Jesus ("the Lord, the God of Israel") made His TRIUMPHAL ENTRY into Jerusalem on the back of the colt of an ass, He came from the Mt. of Olives and entered into Jerusalem's EAST Gate (Matthew 21:9-12), the gate which led into the TEMPLE COURTS, as it says here, "the OUTER gate of the SANCTUARY which faces toward the EAST."



In 70 A.D., the city of Jerusalem was utterly destroyed and it remained in ruins for centuries after. But in 542, the Moslem Sultan Suleiman rebuilt the walls of the city. Because the Jews who had rejected Jesus believed their Messiah was STILL to come and was YET to make His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Suleiman (who wanted to avoid the Jews rallying around a "Messiah" and rebelling) WALLED the "East Gate" completely SHUT, and thus unwittingly fulfilled the ancient prophecy of Ezekiel, "It shall be shut...because the Lord (Jesus), the God of Israel, HAS ENTERED in by it." **And the East Gate REMAINS sealed shut until this very day!**

DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM AFTER HIS CRUCIFIXION!

PROPHECY: *"At the end of 62 sevens shall the Messiah be cut off, but not for Himself: AND the people of the RULER that SHALL COME shall DESTROY the CITY (of Jerusalem) and the SANCTUARY (the Jewish Temple)."*--Daniel 9:26. In other words, according to this prophecy, AFTER the Messiah's death, the city of Jerusalem AND the Jewish Temple would be DESTROYED! Were they? YES! Only 40 years later!

FULFILMENT: After Jesus was cut off (crucified in 30 A.D.), "not for Himself", but for the sins of the WORLD, do you know what happened to Jerusalem and to the Jewish Temple? In 70 A.D., the Roman legions of the Emperor Vespasian ("the people of the ruler"), under his son, General Titus, marched in and burned Jerusalem to the ground and so utterly destroyed their Sanctuary that not one stone was left upon another!



Jesus Himself, in a set of amazingly detailed prophecies given 40 years before these catastrophic events, predicted EXACTLY what would happen!

(See Matthew 24:1-2; Luke 19:42-44;21:20-24.)

HIS BURIAL

PROPHECY:

"And He made His GRAVE with the WICKED, and with the RICH in His DEATH."

(Isa.53:9)



FULFILMENT: JESUS DIED AS A WICKED MAN IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD, as there were "two THIEVES CRUCIFIED WITH HIM." (Mt.27:38) And after His DEATH "A RICH MAN ... named Joseph ... went to Pilate, and begged the BODY OF JESUS. ... And when Joseph had taken the body, he ... LAID IT IN HIS OWN NEW TOMB"-- (Mt.27:57-60)

HIS RESURRECTION

*"For thou with not LEAVE My soul in HELL; neither with thou suffer thine HOLY ONE to see CORRUPTION"
(Psalm 16:10)*



THE WORD "HELL" HERE IS FROM THE HEBREW WORD "SHEOL," which is sometimes translated "hell" and other times "grave." It means both. King David, who gave the prophecy, died and was buried and his flesh saw corruption, but Jesus was raised from the grave and hell three days after His death, and "His soul was not LEFT in hell [or the grave], neither [did] His flesh see corruption."

(Acts 2:27-31)

As the angel said to the mourners who came to Jesus' tomb,
*"He is not here, but is risen. ... Why seek ye the living
among the dead?"* (Luke 24:6,5)

But a mere MENTAL,
intellectual acceptance of these
facts is not enough.

For you to be absolutely CERTAIN that
Jesus is Who He claimed to be, the Son
of God, you simply need to personally
TRY Him!



Ask Him to come into your heart, forgive you for all the wrong you've
done, and fill your life with His Love, peace and joy.--And He WILL!

**You don't have to try to figure Him out,
just let Him in with this prayer!**

“Dear Jesus, I need Your love to cleanse me from my mistakes
and wrongdoings. I need your light to drive away all darkness. I
need your peace to fill and satisfy my heart. I now open the door
of my heart and ask You to please come into my life and give me
your gift of eternal life. Amen”



“This Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar and Napoleon. Without science and learning He shed more light on things human and things divine than all philosophers and scholars combined. Without the eloquence of schools, He spoke such Words of Life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet. Without writing a single line, He set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.”

--Phillip Schaff, noted historian.

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