

DISCIPLESHIP. SUPPLEMENT 15

[CHRIST]

THE PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

A. THE NATURE OF PROPHECIES

(1) The Bible is unique and no book can be compared to it!

The prophets in the Old Testament spoke many prophecies (that is, predictions by God) about the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ, hundreds of years before they went into fulfilment! In this study we refer to more than 60 prophecies in the Old and the New Testament that point forward to the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ and have been fulfilled! Maybe one or two such prophecies could also be fulfilled in another person, but not so many and not all of them! There is only one chance in a hundred thousand billion (100 000 000 000 000 000) that 8 of these prophecies would be fulfilled in one person in world history! The fact that all these prophecies have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ, is absolutely unique in world history! It proves that there is an Intelligence (God Himself) who stands behind the Bible, the prophecies and their fulfilment in the history of the world! The prophecies in the Bible and their fulfilment are unique among all the religious books in the world and prove that no book can be compared to it!

(2) The prophecies must go into fulfilment.

Jesus said, “Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets (the books of the prophets) and the Psalms” (Luke 24:44).

(3) The fulfilment of prophecies takes place in five ways:

Some prophecies in the Old Testament had a *provisional literal fulfilment* during the Old Testament period as well as a *later, less literal fulfilment* during the New Testament period. This becomes clear in the New Testament. The Old Testament prophecies are sometimes interpreted in a literal way and sometimes in a non-literal way in the New Testament. Prophecies in the Old Testament are *fulfilled in following ways in the New Testament*:

- Literal (L)
- Typological (T)
- Analogical (A)
- according to Meaning (M)
- or Christological (C)

1. The literal fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies in the New Testament.

Example: Micah 5:1 (Matthew 2:5-6). The Messiah was literally born in Bethlehem.

Other Old Testament prophecies that are fulfilled literally in the New Testament: Isaiah 42:1-4 (Matthew 12:18-21), Zechariah 9:9 (Matthew 21:4-5), Psalm 110:1 (Matthew 22:43-45), Daniel 7:13-14, Zechariah 12:10-14 (Matthew 24:30). (Psalm 2:7 (Hebrews 1:5). Psalm 110:4 (Hebrews 5:6).

2. The typological fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies in the New Testament.

Example: In the Old Testament Hosea 11:1b refers to the exodus of Israel out of Egypt as “a type” of the exodus of Israel out of Babylon. In the New Testament Matthew 2:15 refers to the exodus of Israel out of Egypt as “a type” of the exodus of the Messiah out of Egypt. God had determined that the Servant of the Lord (Jesus Christ) would be the fulfilment of everything God had intended his people Israel to be. Israel is thus a type of the Messiah (cf. Isaiah 49:3,6)!

Other Old Testament prophecies that are fulfilled typologically in the New Testament: Psalm 2:7 (Matthew 3:17); Isaiah 61:1 (Matthew 11:5b), Psalm 78:2 (Matthew 13:35), Psalm 62:12 (Matthew 16:27), Psalm 118:26-27 (Matthew 21:9), Ps 118:22 (Matthew 21:42), Zechariah 13:7 (Matthew 26:31), Psalm 69:21 (Matthew 27:34), Psalm 22:18 (Matthew 27:35), Psalm 22:7 (Matthew 27:39), Psalm 22:7-8 (Matthew 27:41-43); Psalm 22:1 (Matthew 27:46), Psalm 41:9 (John 13:18); Psalm 69:4,9 (John 15:25; 2:17); Psalm 22:16 (John 20:25); Psalm 45:6-7 (Hebrews 1:8-9), Psalm 8:4-6 (Hebrews 2:5-8), Psalm 22:22 (Hebrews 2:12), Psalm 40:6-8 (Hebrews 10:5-6).

3. The analogical fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies in the New Testament.

Example. In the Old Testament (Jeremiah 31:15) Rachel, the mother of Joseph (the representative of the northern kingdom of Israel) and of Benjamin (the representative of the southern kingdom of Judah) mourned and wept because her children (descendants) were taken into exile from Rama in Israel (on the border between the two kingdoms) to Assyria (721 B.C.) and Babylon (586 B.C.) respectively. In the New Testament (Matthew 2:17-18) the mothers of Bethlehem wept and mourned because their children were murdered by Herod. The second event is analogical to (looks like) the first event.

Other Old Testament prophecies that are fulfilled analogically in the New Testament: Isaiah 7:14 (Matthew 1:23), Deuteronomy 8:1-3 (Matthew 4:1-4), Micah 7:6 (Matthew 10:35-36), Isaiah 35:5-6 (Matthew 11:5a), Isaiah 8:17-18 (Hebrews 2:13).

4. The fulfilment of the sense of an Old Testament prophecy in the New Testament.

Example: Matthew 2:23 (as Old Testament prophets saw it). A “Nazarene” was someone coming from the town of Nazareth. While Bethlehem was the famous city of David, Nazareth was an insignificant small town with insignificant people. Although Matthew 2:23 is not a specific prophecy in the Old Testament, it nevertheless conveys the meaning of the Old Testament prophecies. The words “what was said by the prophets (plural)” points to what the prophets understood about the Messiah. He would be insignificant: he would be despised and rejected by people (cf. Psalm 22:6-8; 69:8,20,21; Isaiah 11:1; Isaiah 9:7; Isaiah 53:2,3,8; Daniel 9:26).

5. The Christological fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies in the New Testament.

Example. What is ascribed to GOD in the Old Testament (Ezekiel 34:11-16a; Isaiah 40:11), is ascribed to CHRIST in the New Testament (John 10:11-14).

Other Old Testament prophecies that are fulfilled Christologically in the New Testament: Zechariah 11:12-13; Jeremiah 18:2 (Matthew 27:9-10), Isaiah 45:23 (Philippians 2:10); Deuteronomy 32:43 in the Dead Sea Scrolls (Hebrews 1:6), Psalm 102:25-27 (Hebrews 1:10-12).

B. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE DIVINE NATURE AND ETERNITY OF JESUS CHRIST

1. Jesus is “the Beginning” and exists from all eternity.

- (1) Prophecy. Proverbs 8:22-25 (971 – 685 B.C.)
- (2) Fulfilment. John 1:1 (70-98 A.D.); Revelation 21:6 (95-96 A.D.) (A)

2. Jesus is “God the Creator” from the creation to the renewal of all things.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 102:25-27 (1000-400 B.C.)
- (2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 1:10-12 (before 64 A.D.) (C)

3. Jesus is “the only Son of God” who is God himself.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 2:7; (Isaiah 9:6).
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 11:25-27 (63-66 A.D.); Luke 1:32 (60-61 A.D.); Mark 1:11 (44-46 A.D.); John 1:1,14,18; Acts 13:33 (61 A.D.); Hebrews 1:5 (T). Cf. manual supplement 8.
- (3) Explanation. God’s Anointed quotes what God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father. I will be his Father and he will be my Son” (Hebrews 1:5). God never directed these words to an angel. The angels may collectively be called “sons of God” (in the sense of “servants of God”, Hebrews 1:14) (Job 1:6; Job 38:7), but none of them is ever called “the Son of God” – an expression that applies only to God’s Anointed and gives him a unique status! The divine decree (Psalm 2:7b-9) preserves the text of the liturgy used during the crowning of a king in the dynasty of David. These words were widely used in the enthronement ceremonies in the ancient Middle East. These words would be completely fulfilled in the coming Messiah (which means: Anointed) from the lineage of king David.

The expression: “Son of God” with regard to Jesus Christ is never used in biological or physical sense! It is not used in a spiritual, symbolical or typological sense, but only in an ontological, metaphysical and trinitarian sense. It expresses the fact that Jesus Christ is forever the Divine Being, always possesses the divine nature, and refers to the second of the three ways of existence and ways of revelation of the one Divine Being.¹

While Jesus Christ received only his human nature from the virgin Mary through the work of God the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:26-37), he possesses the divine nature from all eternity. God himself says in the Old Testament that Jesus Christ is “the Son of God” (Psalm 2:6-7). God Himself also says in the New Testament that Jesus is “the Son of God” (Matthew 3:16-17). Jesus Christ himself says that he is “the Son of God” (Matthew 26:63-64; Matthew 27:43). And the apostle Paul says that Jesus Christ is “the Son of God” (Romans 1:3-4).

Every person that denies that Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah), is a liar! Every religion that denies that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, is the Antichrist (1 John 2:18). And everyone who denies the Son of God, also does not have God the Father (the only God that exists) (1 John 2:22-23)! Every person or religion that rejects Jesus Christ, also rejects the God who sent him (Luke 10:16)!

Without laying down his divine nature, Jesus Christ took on the human nature as well and entered his creation and human history through the virgin Mary (Philippians 2:6-7; Colossians 1:15; Colossians 2:9). Thus, through his incarnation (taking on the human nature) Jesus Christ became “God with us” (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23) who came to dwell among us and made God known to people (John 1:1,14,18).

The expression “today” refers to the exaltation of Jesus Christ: his resurrection, ascension and enthronement as King in heaven. Then he was clothed with royal splendour as the Son of God (Romans 1:3-4). Then he was “declared

¹ Even Surah 4:171 in the Quran (after 722 A.D.) makes mention of the three ways of existence and revelation of the Divine Being: (1) Isa Masih (the Messiah Jesus), (2) “the Word of Allah (God)” (cf. John 1:1,14) (97 A.D.) and (3) “the Spirit of Allah” (cf. Romans 8:9-10) (57 A.D.)!

(acclaimed, applauded)” to be the Priest forever and the King of righteousness² (Psalm 110:4). Jesus Christ is from all eternity the Son of God, proves his perfect obedience through his suffering on earth and with his resurrection, ascension and enthronement in heaven begins the exercise of his sovereign rights (prerogatives) as the Son of God (Matthew 28:18).

The expression “the only-begotten Son of God” (John 1:18) has no connection to anything biological or physical! All other types of sonship imply “a beginning in time”, but because this expression is used of God, the Son of God has no beginning! He is eternal! The expression “Son of God” refers to the second way of existence and revelation of the Divine Being and the close relationship between God the Father and God the Son. God is Spirit (John 4:24) and dwells in an unapproachable light (1 Timothy 6:16). The only One who reveals the invisible God (his Being, Nature) visibly and explains God with his words, life and works, is Jesus Christ (John 1:1,18; Matthew 11:25-30). This is innumerable more than any “prophet” pointing to the existence of “a god” only by words! All prophets remain “human beings”, but Jesus Christ is “the true God” (1 John 5:20; Romans 9:5; Colossians 2:9)!

Psalm 2:8-9 refers to the divine and sovereign power of Jesus Christ. God the Father made God the Son to be the Conqueror of all nations and all people by saving people (verse 8) and judging the rest (verse 9). Every person stands or falls with respect to Jesus Christ (Luke 2:34)!

C. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

4. Jesus is God who took on the human nature (4/5 B.C.).

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 7:14 (740-680 B.C.).

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 1:18-23 (63-66 A.D.)(T)

(3) Explanation. Who were this woman and this child? Isaiah prophesied in beginning of 734 B.C. that a young woman would become the mother of a boy and call him “Immanuel” (which means: God-with-us). The names of the father and mother are not mentioned. This prophecy first has a *literal fulfilment* during the Old Testament period. The child in Isaiah 7:14 was an ordinary child that lived during the period of king Ahaz (734-726 B.C.). “Before this child could distinguish between right and wrong” (Isaiah 7:15-17) king Tiglath-Pileser of Assyria conquered the northern kingdom of Israel with Samaria as capital in 734 B.C. (2 Kings 15:29) and Syria (Aram) with Damascus as capital in 732 B.C. (2 Kings 16:9).

But according to the New Testament revelation this prophecy has a second fulfilment which was *not a literal fulfilment* (Matthew 1:22-23). In his unfathomable wisdom God saw to it that the Virgin Mary became the mother of the real Immanuel without a human father. The child in Isaiah 7:14 was thus also *a sign, symbol or type of the coming Messiah child!* The Son of God (the Divine Nature) took on the human nature and was born as a human child (Luke 1:26-37; John 1:1-14; Philippians 2:5-7). His name “Immanuel” indicates who he is: “God who dwelt as a human being among us” (Matthew 1:23; John 1:14; 1 John 1:1-3).

God the Father and God the Son are one Divine Being (John 10:30). From the beginning the Son reveals the Father (John 1:18; John 14:9; Colossians 1:15; cf. Isaiah 9:5), speaks the same words as the Father (John 12:50), does the same works as the Father (John 10:37-38), does the same miracles as the Father (raises the dead), gives eternal life to believers and will judge the unbelievers (John 5:17-29,36-40; John 10:28-38; John 12:44-50; John 14:9-10). In his Divine Nature Jesus Christ is equal to God (John 1:1; John 5:18; John 10:33; Philippians 2:6), but in his Human Nature, he is like man with the exception that he has no human father and is without sin (John 1:14; John 14:28; Philippians 2:7; 2 Corinthians 5:21). That is why he is the only possible Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5)!

5. Jesus was born in Bethlehem (4/5 B.C.).

(1) Prophecy. Micah 5:2 (737-680 B.C.).

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 2:1-6 (L)

6. Jesus was born as a male child.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 9:6-7.

(2) Fulfilment. Luke 2:6-7 (60-61 A.D.); Revelation 12:5 (95-96 A.D.) (L)

7. King Herod tried to murder Jesus.

(1) Prophecy. Jeremiah 31:15-17 (627-586 B.C.).

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 2:17-18 (A).

8. Jesus remained in Egypt until the death of king Herod.

(1) Prophecy. Hosea 11:1 (754-714 B.C.).

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 2:14-15 (T).

² Melchizedek means “my King is righteous”.

9. Jesus was in Nazareth an insignificant person.

- (1) Prophecy in general Old Testament sense.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 2:23 (M)
- (3) Explanation. A “Nazarene” is a person from the town of Nazareth. While Bethlehem was the famous city of David in Judea, Nazareth was an insignificant town in Galilee. Although Matthew 2:23 is not a specific prophecy in Old Testament sense, the words “So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets (plural)” an indication what the Old Testament prophets understood the Messiah to be, namely, an insignificant and despised person (for example, Psalm 22:7-9; Psalm 69:8-10,20-21; Isaiah 9:1; Isaiah 11:1; Isaiah 53:2-4,9).

D. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE LIFE AND TASK OF JESUS CHRIST

10. Jesus is “the LORD” (Hebrew: JaHWeH) and John the Baptist prepared his way (26 n.C.).

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 40:1-5; Malachi 3:1-3, 4:5-6 (432-420 B.C.).
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 3:1-3 (A), Matthew 11:7-14, Matthew 17:10-13 (L).

11. Jesus grew up in Galilee and began his ministry there.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 9:1-2.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 3:13 (L), Matthew 4:12-17 (L), Matthew 9:35; Luke 4:14-21 (L).

12. The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus (A.D. 26).

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 11:1-2.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 3:16-17; John 1:32-33 (L)(70-98 A.D.)

13. Jesus is God’s chosen Beloved.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 42:1.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 3:16-17 (T).

14. Jesus conquered the temptations of the devil.

- (1) Prophecy. Deuteronomy 8:3b.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 4:4 (A)

15. Jesus listened to God before he taught others.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 50:4-5.
- (2) Fulfilment. Mark 1:35 (L) (44-46 A.D.)

16. A job description of Jesus:

He gives hope to bruised people and does not argue with his enemies.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 42:1-4.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 12:18-21 (L)

(3) Explanation. *What was the task of the Messiah?* “He will bring justice to the nations” (Isaiah 42:1). Isaiah prophecies that the Servant of the LORD would establish justice (whatever is right in God’s eyes) on earth until this justice has become the generally acknowledged authority on earth (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:24-28). What was ascribed to the LORD in Isaiah 2:2-4 and Isaiah 51:4, is ascribed to the Mediator, Jesus Christ! The Servant of the LORD is especially described as the Prophet and Lawgiver – “a second Moses”.

The prophecy predicts the literal blindness and exile, but also the spiritual blindness and slavery to sin of Israel and the other nations (cf. Isaiah 42:18,20; Isaiah 43:8). The miracles of Jesus would restore sight and set people free.

To whom is the Messiah a Servant? Isaiah prophesies in verse 1 and 4b that the Messiah would proclaim justice to the nations and that even the most outlying places would look forward to the teachings of the Messiah. His work of salvation is therefore intended for all the nations on earth!

How does the Messiah fulfil his task? Isaiah prophesies in verse 2 that the Messiah does not shout, cry out or raise his voice in the street. He does not force forward with weapons and does not conduct holy wars. But with inward spiritual power he impels nations to listen to him. He moves forward quietly and unassumingly, unnoticed by the superficial spectator. He even forbids people to make him known. He treats the weak and the sick with mercy.

The Messiah will fulfil his task. Isaiah prophecies that the Messiah would continue his work without faltering or discouragement, until he has completed it (verse 4; John 17:4). He would be beaten and “crushed” (Isaiah 49:7; Isaiah 50:6; Isaiah 53:5) (a reference to his suffering), but he will attain his goal!

In Matthew 12 we see the prophecy going into fulfilment. During his first coming, Jesus forbade people to make him publicly known and worked without deliberately drawing attention to himself. He focussed on the weak and sick people. He restored the sight of literal and spiritual blind people (John 9:39-41) and set slaves of sin free from what enslaved them (John 8:30-36). After his death and resurrection Jesus gave the great commission to his disciples to

proclaim the good news not only to the people of Israel (Matthew 10:5-7) but also to the other nations in the world (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:18-20). Jesus continued the work he began through his apostles and Church in the whole world (compare Luke 1:1-4 with Acts 1:1-8).

17. A second job description of Jesus:

He fulfilled God's promises and introduced the new covenant.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 42:6b; Isaiah 49:8.

(2) Fulfilment. Luke 22:20; Hebrews 8:6-13 (L)

(3) Explanation. "I will make you a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles" (Isaiah 42:6b). Jesus would introduce the new covenant. He would not just Mediate the covenant, but personalise the covenant, because in him all God's promises would be fulfilled (2 Corinthians 1:20)! The shedding of his blood on the cross ratified the covenant (Luke 22:20).

18. A third job description of Jesus:

He proclaimed the gospel of deliverance.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 42:6c-7; Isaiah 49:9.

(2) Fulfilment. Acts 13:46-47 (L)

(3) Explanation. Jesus would proclaim the gospel in order to open the eyes of the spiritual blind people (Isaiah 42:18,20; Isaiah 43:8; cf. John 8:12; John 9:39-41), to rescue people from the slavery of their sins (John 8:30-36) and set people free from the darkness and despair in which they are caught.

19. A fourth job description of Jesus:

He proclaimed a year of the LORD'S (JaHWeH) favour.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 61:1-2a.

(2) Fulfilment. Luke 4:18-19 (L+T)

E. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE SUFFERING AND DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

20. Jesus received a human body in order to be the sacrifice of atonement for the sins of people.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 40:6-8 (Greek Old Testament)(verse 6: "But a body you have prepared for me")

(2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 10:5-7 (T)

21. Jesus was perfectly sinless.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:9 ("He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth")

(2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21 ("He was without sin").

22. Jesus was viewed as an enemy by his own family members.

(1) Prophecy. Micah 7:6.

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 10:35-36 (A); cf. Mark 6:4; John 7:5.

23. Jesus was rejected by the religious leaders of Israel.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 118:22.

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 21:42 (T)

24. Jesus was despised by the people as someone from Galilee (= a foreigner).

(1) Prophecy. **Isaiah** 49:7, Isaiah 53:2-3.

(2) Fulfilment. John 1:45-46; John 7:41-42 (L)

25. Jesus was insulted by the world without reason.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 69:9.

(2) Fulfilment. Romans 15:3; John 8:48 (Samaritan = someone of mixed descent); John 9:24 (sinner = someone missing God's goal); John 10:20 (someone possessed by a demon).

26. Jesus was hated by the world without reason.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 69:4.

(2) Fulfilment. John 15:25 (T)

27. Jesus was betrayed by his friend (30 A.D.).

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 41:9; Psalm 55:12-14.

(2) Fulfilment. John 13:18; Matthew 26:20-25 (T)

28. Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver

and with this money the potter's field was bought.

- (1) Prophecy. Zachariah 11:12-13; Jeremiah 19:1-15.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 26:14-16 (C); and Matthew 27:3-10, cf. Jeremiah 32:6-9 (A)

29. Jesus was deserted by his own disciples and arrested by his enemies.

- (1) Prophecy. Zachariah 13:7-9.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 26:31,50,56 (T)

30. Jesus was spit upon and beaten by people and flogged by soldiers.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 50:6.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 26:67-68; John 19:1 (T)

31. Jesus was crucified. His hands and feet were pierced (30 A.D.).

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:5; Psalm 22:16.
- (2) Fulfilment. John 19:18; John 20:25,27 (L)

32. Jesus was given wine mixed with gall to drink.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 69:21.
- (2) Fulfilment. Mark 15:23,36 (T)

33. Jesus was crucified naked and his clothes were divided.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 22:17-18.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 27:35 (T)

34. Jesus was mocked by the people.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 22:6-8.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 27:39-44 (T)

35. Jesus was forsaken by God.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 22:1.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 27:46 (T)

36. Jesus did not resist and he did not retaliate or make threats.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:7a.
- (2) Fulfilment. 1 Peter 2:23 (L)

37. Jesus was as a sheep led to the slaughter.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:7b.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 27:31; John 1:29 (L)

38. Jesus really died.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:8 ("He was taken away" from the land of the living)
- (2) Fulfilment. Luke 23:46 (L)

39. People would look on the one they have pierced.

- (1) Prophecy. Zechariah 12:10.
- (2) Fulfilment. John 19:33-37 (with his spear); John 20:25,27 (with nails) (L)

40. Jesus was buried in a tomb of a rich man.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:9.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 27:57-60 (L)

41. Jesus died as a substitution sacrifice of atonement for the sins of people.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:5-6,10-12.
- (2) Fulfilment. Romans 4:25; Hebrews 9:28; Ephesians 2:13-18 (60-61 A.D.); 1 Peter 2:24-25; 1 Peter 3:18 (L)

42. Jesus died completely sinless.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:9 (“He had done no violence. No deceit was in his mouth”).

(2) Fulfilment. “Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? (John 8:46; 2 Corinthians 4:15; Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22), - [“But bore our sins in his body on the tree” (1 Petrus 2:24)] (L)

43. Jesus died as a part of God’s eternal plan.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:10 (“It was the LORD’s will to crush him.”)

(2) Fulfilment. (His sacrificial death was a divine “must”). Luke 24:44; Acts 2:23; Acts 4:28 (L)

F. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

44. Jesus was raised from the dead.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 16:10 (with regard to David).

(2) Fulfilment. Acts 2:23-32; Acts 13:30-37; cf. Isaiah 55:3 and Habakuk 1:5 (T).

45. Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day.

(1) Prophecy. Jonah 1:17; Matthew 12:39-40; Mark 8:31, Mark 9:31, Mark 10:32-34.

(2) Fulfilment. Mark 16:1-7 (L)

(3) Explanation. The prophecy about the resurrection “on the third day” in Luke 24:46 (60-61 A.D.) reflects what is written in the Old Testament in Jonah 1:17 (783-743 B.C.) and Hosea 6:2 (754-714 B.C.), but is based on the literal predictions of Jesus Christ Himself in Matthew 16:21, Matthew 17:23 and Matthew 20:19 (63-66 A.D.) (Mark parallels. 20 years earlier).

G. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE ASCENSION AND ENTHRONEMENT OF JESUS CHRIST

46. Jesus ascended via the clouds into heaven.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 52:13; Daniel 7:13-14.

(2) Fulfilment. Acts 2:9-11 (L)

47. Jesus ascended the throne as “LORD” and began to conquer all his enemies.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 110:1; Psalm 8:5-7. “He will be raised, lifted up and highly exalted’ (Isaiah 52:13), “Before him every knee will bow; by him every tongue will swear” (Isaiah 45:23).

(2) Fulfilment. Revelation 5:1-14; Acts 2:33-36; Matthew 22:44-46, Matthew 26:63-64; 1 Corinthians 15:24-27; Ephesians 1:20-22; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:13; Hebrews 2:5-10 (L)

(3) Explanation. Psalm 110:1 says: “The LORD (Hebrew: JaHWeH) says to my Lord (Hebrew: <Adonai)”. Acts 2:34-36 says, “The Lord (Greek: kurios) said to my Lord (Greek: kurios): Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet. Therefore let the whole house of Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus whom you crucified, both Lord (Greek: kurios) and Christ (Greek; Christos).” Jesus Christ is the second way of existence and revelation of the one Divine Being.

48. Jesus, the Anointed and eternal King, is addressed as “God”.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 45:6-7; Isaiah 9:6; cf. Isaiah 10:20-21 (740-680 v.C.)

(2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 1:8-9 (T)

(3) Explanation. Psalm 45 celebrates a royal wedding (possibly of Jehoshaphat, 870-846 B.C.). The poet first addresses the groom, God’s anointed king (verse 1-10) and then the bride (verse 11-18). The king is addressed in exaggerated words, characteristic for a Middle Eastern court. He is regarded as the most excellent of men, forever blessed by God and a warrior with nations falling beneath his feet. In Psalm 2:7 the anointed king is addressed as “the Son of the LORD”: “The LORD (Hebrew: JaHWeH) said to me: You are my Son, today I have begotten Thee (I have become your Father)” (Hebrew: beni, attah ani hajom jildtika). But in Psalm 45:6-7 he is addressed as “God”: “Your throne, O God (Hebrew: elohim), will last for ever and ever therefore, o God (Hebrew: elohim), your God (Hebrew: elohika) has anointed you with the oil of joy above your companions”. He reigns with perfect justice and his throne will last forever. He belongs to the dynasty to whom God made special promises. This king in Israel is a type of the coming Messiah-King. Hebrews 1:8-9 confirms this. Only the Messiah-King is really “the Son of God” (Hebrews 1:5), yes, “God” (Hebrews 1:8-9). Only he reigns with perfect justice and only his throne will last forever. Jesus Christ is not only a Man, born as a descendent of David (Romans 1:3), but also God, “the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being” (Hebrews 1:3). Righteousness and justice are the foundation of God’s throne” (Psalm 89:14), but also of the throne of the Messiah (Hebrews 1:8-9). The throne of the Messiah is the throne of God (Revelation 22:3) and his kingdom is an eternal kingdom (2 Peter 1:11)!

H. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE WORK OF SALVATION OF JESUS CHRIST

PROPHET

49. Jesus is the Greatest and the Final Prophet (A.D. 26-30).

(1) Prophecy. Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (1407 B.C.).

(2) Fulfilment. Acts 3:22-23 (61 A.D.); Hebrews 1:1-2 (before 64 A.D.) (L)

(3) Explanation. Moses (1527-1407 B.C.) prophesied: “The LORD said to me: ... ‘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. If anyone does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account.’” (Deuteronomy 18:15-19). “Anyone who does not listen to Jesus will be cut off from among his people” (Acts 3:22-23).

The New Testament reveals Jesus as the greatest and final Prophet on earth! The prophets during the Old Testament period ends with John the Baptist (Matthew 11:13). Jesus Christ closed the series of prophets by being the Eternal Great Prophet through whom God spoke his definitive and final Word to people (Hebrews 1:1-2). Grace, truth and revelation of God came through Jesus Christ (John 1:14-18). He speaks with authority and demands obedience (Matthew 7:24-29). Whoever does not listen to the words of Jesus, also does not listen to the words of God (John 5:34-36; John 14:23-24). Whoever does not honour Jesus, also does not honour God (John 5:23). Whoever does not know Jesus, also does not know God (John 8:19,24). Whoever does not believe in Jesus, also does not believe in God (John 12:44). Whoever does not receive (accept) Jesus, also rejects God (Luke 10:16; John 13:20).

Religions that claim that this prophecy in the Bible points to their prophet, err, because:

- they forget that this Greatest Prophet is not an Arab, American or Korean, but a Jew,
- they ignore all the other prophecies about the Messiah in the Bible
- and they close their eyes to the fulfilment of all these prophecies in the Bible
- especially the fulfilment of this specific prophecy in Acts 3:14-23!

People, who contend that the Bible has been altered by Christians and nevertheless use the Bible to make a claim for their own prophet, are inconsistent and even false prophets!

50. As Prophet, Jesus declares God's Name to his brothers in the congregation.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 22:22.

(2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 2:12 (T)

51. As Prophet Jesus proclaimed the message of salvation in parables.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 6:9-10; Psalm 78:2 (960 B.C.) (“I will open my mouth in parables, utter hidden things from of old”).

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 13:10-17,34-35 (T)

52. As Prophet, Jesus brings justice and salvation to all the nations in the world.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 42:1-7; Isaiah 49:6 (740-680 v.C.); Haggai 2:6-7 (520 B.C.)

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 12:15-21 (L).

(3) Explanation. *What was the task of the Messiah?* Isaiah prophesied that the Servant of the LORD would bring justice to the nations. He would open the eyes of the blind, free captives from prison, and release those who sit in darkness. The Servant of the LORD is especially described as Prophet and Lawgiver – “a second Moses”. The final purpose of his ministry is to establish justice on the whole earth (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; cf. Ephesians 1:10)! The context also speaks of the spiritual blindness of Israel and the Gentile nations (Isaiah 42:18,20; Isaiah 43:8; Isaiah 49:6) and their spiritual captivity in sin.

Who would the Messiah serve? Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would bring justice to all the nations and that the furthest countries would look out for him with expectation (Isaiah 42:1,4). His work of salvation is therefore intended for all the nations on earth.

How would the Messiah fulfil his task? Isaiah prophesies that the Messiah would not shout or raise his voice in the streets (Isaiah 42:2). He would not force people to listen to him by any means of power. He would not argue with his opponents. He would carry out his task in quietness and humility, unnoticed by the superficial spectators. He would act with gentleness and mercy.

Would he fulfil his task? Isaiah prophesies that the Messiah would carry out his task without weakening and without stopping (Isaiah 42:4; John 17:4). He would encounter opposition, but this would finally be broken (Isaiah 49:7; 50:6; 53:5) and he would attain his final goal!

The prophecy goes into fulfilment during the New Testament (Matthew 12:15-21). During his first coming Jesus Christ forbade people to make him known and unobtrusively carried out his task. He concentrated on the weak and the sick. He healed the physical blind (John 9:39-41) and those enslaved by sin (John 8:30-36). After his death and resurrection he gave his disciples the great commission to proclaim the gospel, not only to Israel (Matthew 10:5-7), but also to all

the nations in the world (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:18-20). Jesus continued his work of salvation through his apostles and does so presently through his Church in the world (compare Luke 1:1-4 with Acts 1:1-8).

53. As Prophet Jesus announced the year of the LORD's favour.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 61:1-2.
 - (2) Fulfilment. Luke 4:18-21 (L)
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PRIEST

54. Jesus Christ is the highest and eternal Priest.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 110:4.
- (2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 5:6; Hebrews 7:15-28 (L).
- (3) Explanation. David (1011-971 B.C.) prophesied: "The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek'." The New Testament reveals that Jesus Christ is the highest Priest. In contrast to all other priests Jesus is sinless, holy, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens" (Hebrews 7:26-28). In contrast to all other priests, who daily bring unwilling sacrifices for their own sins and the sins of others, Jesus Christ brought Himself completely willingly (John 10:17-18) as a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of all who believe in him – once and for all time (Hebrews 9:6-14,25-26). In contrast to all other priests in the Old Testament, who died and had to be succeeded by other priests, Jesus became High Priest forever. After he was resurrected from the dead he lives forever and has a permanent priesthood (Hebrews 7:15-25). In contrast to all other priests, Jesus serves us, not in any earthly temple, but in heaven in the presence of God (Hebrews 9:24). And in contrast to other priests, Jesus sympathises with our weaknesses, because in all other things he has been tempted like us, yet without sinning (Hebrews 2:17-18; Hebrews 4:14-16).

55. As Priest, Jesus is concerned with the destiny of his people.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 8:17-18. (His people = "the children God has given me")
- (2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 2:13 (A)

56. As Priest, Jesus first cleared God's house (the temple).

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 69:9 (David 1011-971 v.C.).
- (2) Fulfilment. John 2:13-17 (L+T)

57. As Priest, Jesus blesses all nations on earth.

- (1) Prophecy. Genesis 22:18 (Abraham 2167-1992 v.C.)
- (2) Fulfilment. Galatians 3:8,16 (50 n.C.) (L)

58. As Priest, Jesus helps the oppressed and the sick in the world.

- (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 53:4.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 8:14-17 (L)

59. As Priest, Jesus is the Good Shepherd of his flock.

- (1) Prophecy. Micah 2:12-13; Ezekiel 34:11-16; Ezekiel 34:23; Ezekiel 36:25-28; Ezekiel 37:23-24 (593-571 B.C.).
- (2) Fulfilment. John 10:11-18 (C + L)

60. As Priest, Jesus is the Advocate (Intercessor) of Christians with God the Father.

- (1) Prophecy. Job 16:19 (Job 1900-500 B.C.).
 - (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 8:14-17 (57 A.D.) Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1 (L).
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KING

61. Jesus is the Greatest and Highest King. All power (authority) belongs to him.

- (1) Prophecy. Psalm 89:27-29 (971-931 B.C.); Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 7:13-14.
- (2) Fulfilment. Matthew 28:18; John 3:35; John 12:34; John 13:3; Revelation 1:5; Revelation 17:14; Revelation 19:16 (L)

62. As King, Jesus is the culmination of God's covenant with Abraham and David and the theocracy of Israel. The kingdom of Christ will never end!

(1) Prophecy. 2 Samuel 7:11-16 (before 910 B.C.); 1 Chronicles 17:11-14 (about 400 B.C.); (Isaiah 9:7; Daniel 7:13-14; Daniel 2:44; Luke 1:33).

(2) Fulfilment. Luke 1:32-33; cf. Hebrews 1:5; 1 Peter 2:9-10 (62-63 A.D.) (A+L)

(3) Explanation. The theocracy under the Messiah King would be *the culmination* of God's covenant with Abraham and David. God's promises to David in 1 Chronicles 17 are viewed as a covenant which God made with David. David would never fail to have a man sit on the throne of Israel (2 Chronicles 6:16). And God's covenant with David is viewed as a continuation of God's covenant with the patriarchs (Genesis 15:12-21).

God's promise to David in 2 Samuel 7 viewed *the continuation* of God's covenant in his direct son, Solomon, and the kingdom of Judah. But his promise to David in 1 Chronicles 17:10-14 viewed *the culmination of God's covenant in the coming of the Messiah-King and his worldwide and eternal kingdom.*

- Instead of the words: "your offspring, to succeed you, who will come from your own body" (that is, Solomon) (2 Samuel 7:12) the inspired writer of the book of Chronicles says: "your offspring to succeed you, *one* of your own sons (descendants) (that is, the Messiah)" (1 Chronicles 17:11).
- Instead of the words: "Your (David's) house and your kingship will endure (stand) forever before your eyes; your (David's) throne will forever be established" (2 Samuel 7:16) the inspired writer of the book of Chronicles says: "I (the LORD) will cause him (the Messiah-King) to be established (stand)(Hebrew: 'amad, Hi) in my (God's) house and in my (God's) kingdom/kingship forever; his (the Messiah-King's) throne will be firm (fixed, stable)(Hebrew: nakon) forever" (1 Chronicles 17:14).

Thus, he changed the references to king Solomon in the book of Samuel to be references to the coming Messiah King in the book of Chronicles! Thus, the inspired writer of the books of Chronicles revealed that the Old Testament covenant and theocracy would be fulfilled in the coming Messiah-King, Jesus Christ, and his kingdom. That is why the prophet Isaiah says, "I will make *an everlasting covenant* with you, my faithful love promised to David" (Isaiah 55:3). Both the prophet Isaiah and the writer of the book of Chronicles expected the future fulfilment of God's promise to king David in the Messiah!

"The throne of David" is nothing less than "the throne of God" (1 Chronicles 28:5; 2 Chronicles 9:8; 2 Chronicles 13:8). That is why the kings in the line of David are the all-important personalities in the theocracy. That is why they have the responsibility to be aware of their high calling, just as David was. But while the kings in the line of David failed to realise the theocracy, the coming Messiah King, Jesus Christ, would not fail to establish the eternal kingdom of God on the whole earth (Isaiah 9:7; Ezekiel 21:25-27; Daniel 2:44). Jesus Christ will reign forever. His kingdom will never end" (Luke 1:33)!

63. As King, Jesus established his kingdom at his first coming.

(1) Prophecy. Daniel 2:44; Daniel 7:14 (605–537 + 2nd century B.C.)

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 12:28 (L).

(3) Explanation. Daniel revealed the replacement of the kingdoms of the world by the kingdom of the Messiah. The kingdom of God (Christ) was established at the first coming of Christ and reaches its final perfect phase at the second coming of Christ.

64. As King, Jesus curtailed (bound) Satan and curbed (limited) his power.

(1) Prophecy. Genesis 3:15 (at the creation).

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 12:28-29; Luke 10:2-3,9,16-20; John 12:31-32; Colossians 2:14-15; Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 3:8; Revelation 12:1-12 (L).

(3) Explanation. Satan is "bound" (curtailed, curbed) at the first coming of Christ.

65. As King, Jesus establishes his kingdom through justice and righteousness.

(1) Prophecy. Isaiah 9:7; Isaiah 11:4-5; Isaiah 16:4-5; Isaiah 32:1-4; Isaiah 32:15-18; Isaiah 33:5-6; Isaiah 42:1-9; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Jeremiah 33:14-17; cf. Psalm 72:1-2.

(2) Fulfilment. Hebrews 1:8-9; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Peter 3:13 (64 A.D.) (L)

(3) Explanation. The prophet Isaiah revealed the establishment of the throne of king Hezekiah (727-685 B.C.) as a type of the coming kingdom of justice and righteousness of the Messiah (Isaiah 16:4-5). He establishes his kingdom with justice and righteousness (Isaiah 9:7). The prophet Ezekiel reveals that the worldly kingdom of Judah with its unholy, godless king Zedekiah will, despite all the lying predictions, be destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, until he (the Messiah) comes to whom it rightfully belongs. To him (Jesus Christ) will God give the kingdom" (Ezekiel 21:25-27)!

66. As King, Jesus is the Prince of Peace.

(1) Prophecy. Micah 5:2-5; Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 55:4-5.

(2) Fulfilment. Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14.

(3) Explanation. Jesus Christ is “a Leader and Commander of people” (Isaiah 55:4-5). But unlike the other leaders in the world who “lord it over people and exercise their authority” (Matthew 20:25), Jesus Christ is the peaceful ruler (Micah 5:2-5), the Prince of peace (Isaiah 9:6). He fights no wars, even holy wars (jihads). He does not use worldly (carnal) weapons (2 Corinthians 10:4-5). He causes people in every nation to make peace with the God of the Bible (Romans 5:1) and peace with one another (Ephesians 2:14)!

67. As King, Jesus is the Cornerstone (of a building) or Headstone (of a gate) of the kingdom of God.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 28:16.

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 21:42-44; Acts 4:11; 1 Peter 2:7; Hebrews 12:28 (a kingdom that cannot be shaken)

(C)

68. As King, Jesus was welcomed by many in Jerusalem (30 A.D.)

(1) Prophecy. Zechariah 9:9-10 (520-518 B.C.); Psalm 118:26.

(2) Fulfilment. Matthew 21:4-5,9; Matthew 23:39 (L)

69. As King, Jesus will subject many nations to himself.

(1) Prophecy. Genesis 49:10 (Jacob, 2007-1860 B.C.); Isaiah 45:21-23; 1 Corinthians 15:24-27.

(2) Fulfilment. Philippians 2:9-11 (end 61 A.D.) (C)

I. PROPHECIES ABOUT THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

70. The great tribulation will erupt before the second coming.

(1) Prophecy. Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21-29a; Revelation 11:7-10.

(2) Fulfilment. (L)

71. The abomination that causes desolation will be erected before the second coming.

(1) Prophecy. Daniel 9:27; Daniel 11:31; Daniel 12:11.

(2) Fulfilment. Is being fulfilled three times in history:

- The first time this prophecy was fulfilled in 167 B.C. when Antiochus IV Epiphanes of Syria erected an idol of the Greek god Zeus in the temple (1 Maccabees 1:29-64)(100 B.C.) (L).
- The second time this prophecy was fulfilled in 70 A.D. when the Roman general Titus and his soldiers carried Roman standards (banners) with idols on top into the temple (Matthew 24:15; Luke 21:20-24) (L)
- The final fulfilment will happen at the great tribulation shortly before the second coming of Jesus Christ when the final antichrist will claim all worship for himself (2 Thessalonians 2:1-4; Revelation 13:14-15). (T)

72. The second coming of Jesus Christ will be sudden and unexpected.

(1) Prophecy. Matthew 24:43-44.

(2) Fulfilment. 1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 3:3, Revelation 16:15 (L)

73. Jesus will appear visibly for everyone on the clouds at his second coming.

(1) Prophecy. Daniel 7:13; Matthew 24:30, Matthew 26:64.

(2) Fulfilment. (L)

74. Jesus will shatter the godless and wicked nations.

(1) Prophecy. Psalm 2:9; Revelation 12:5.

(2) Fulfilment. (L)

75. Jesus will suddenly end the Final War against Christians.

(1) Prophecy. Revelation 11:7; Revelation 13:7; Revelation 16:12-16; Revelation 19:11-21; Revelation 20:7-10.

(2) Fulfilment. (L).

76. Jesus will resurrect the bodies of all the dead.

(1) Prophecy. Job 19:25-27; John 5:28-29.

(2) Fulfilment. (L)

77. All Christians will be caught up into the air to welcome and admire Jesus.
 (1) Prophecy. Matthew 24:40-41; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:10.
 (2) Fulfilment. (L)
78. All people will see Jesus who was pierced with nails and spear.
 (1) Prophecy. Zechariah 12:10; Revelation 1:7 (at his second coming)
 (2) Fulfilment. (T + L), cf. John 19:18,33-37; John 20:25,27 (fulfilled at his first coming).
79. Every knee will bow before Jesus and every tongue will confess that Jesus is the LORD (the God of the Bible and the King of the universe).
 (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 45:23; Philippians 2:10-11.
 (2) Fulfilment. (C)
80. All angels will rejoice and worship Jesus.
 (1) Prophecy. Cf. Deuteronomy 32:43 (Dead Sea scrolls: "Let all God's angels worship him"); cf. Psalm 97:1-7 (a Psalm oriented towards eschatology: "the LORD is exalted above all gods"); Hebrews 1:6.
 (2) Fulfilment. (C)
81. Jesus will reward each person according to what he has done.
 (1) Prophecy. Psalm 62:12; Matthew 16:27; Romans 2:6.
 (2) Fulfilment. (C)
82. Jesus will judge people with righteousness and execute sentences fairly.
 (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 11:3-5; Luke 12:47-48; John 7:24; Revelation 15:3-4.
 (2) Fulfilment. (L)
83. The heavenly bodies (the created universe) will be shaken at the second coming of Jesus.
 (1) Prophecy. Isaiah 13:10; Isaiah 34:4; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Joel 2:31 (500-400 B.C.); Matthew 24:29; Hebrews 12:26-27; Revelation 6:12-13, Revelation 8:12; Revelation 16:17-21; Revelation 20:11.
 (2) Fulfilment. (L)
84. Jesus will cause this creation to wear out and change, but will himself remain the same forever.
 (1) Prophecy. Psalm 102:25-27; Isaiah 65:17; Matthew 24:35; Hebrews 1:10-12; 2 Peter 3:10-13.
 (2) Fulfilment. (C+L)
85. Jesus together with his bride (the new Jerusalem, his Church) will descend from heaven (the sky) on to the new earth.
 (1) Prophecy. Revelation 21:1-4.
 (2) Fulfilment. (L)
86. Jesus will be the face of God which the righteous will continuously see.
 (1) Prophecy. Revelation 22:3-4; (cf. John 14:9-10).
 (2) Fulfilment. (L)
87. Jesus together with his servants will reign for ever over the new earth.
 (1) Prophecy. Revelation 3:21; Revelation 22:5; (cf. Matthew 24:47; Matthew 25:21; Luke 19:17).
 (2) Fulfilment. (L)