

Stories of Christmas

Jesus Fulfills Old Testament Prophecies

Matthew

Opening

Gathering: How often do predictions you make come true?

Today's Focus: In His love for His people, God gave prophecies that pointed to the Messiah He would send to save the world, and then He ensured that this Messiah – Jesus Christ – fulfilled all of these prophecies to the finest detail.

Key Verses: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Matthew 16:16

These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name. John 20:31

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Messiah (*Daniel 9:25-26*)

What name did the Jews use for the Savior that God promised to send?

Daniel 9:25-26

Notes: The seven sevens (49 years) are taken to be the restoration during Ezra and Nehemiah
The sixty-two sevens (434 years) then bring us to the time of Jesus' ministry
Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD

Was this title still used in Jesus' time?

John 1:41, 45

Was this title unique to the Jews or did others know it also?

John 4:7, 25-26

The Anointed One

Was the title *Anointed One* used only for the promised Savior?

Psalms 105:15

Was *Anointed One* used for anyone else?

Leviticus 6:22

What other servant of God was considered to be an *anointed one*?

1 Samuel 24:6-7

Prophet, Priest and King (*Hebrews*)

How did the view of prophets as anointed ones point to The Anointed One?

Luke 7:16-17

How did the view of priests as anointed ones point to The Anointed One?

Hebrews 8:1, 6

How did the view of kings as anointed ones point to The Anointed One?

Revelation 17:14; 19:16

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The Greater Messiah

How did David point out that the Messiah would be greater than all other messiahs?

Psalm 45:7

How would the Messiah be anointed in a greater manner than all other messiahs?

Isaiah 42:1

How was Jesus anointed?

Luke 3:21-22

Did Jesus do anything to make sure that people recognized this fulfillment of prophecy?

Luke 4:17-21 (Isaiah 61:1-2)

Messianic Prophecies

Few scholars agree on the number of Messianic Prophecies in the Old Testament

Edersheim found 456 passages that were considered messianic in ancient Jewish literature

Payne listed 127 predictions of the Messiah in 3348 verses

Smith described 73 clear Messianic prophecies that were fulfilled by Jesus

Charles: *Prophecy is a declaration, a forthtelling, of the will of God – not a foretelling.*

Is prediction an important component of prophecy?

Deuteronomy 18:21-22

Principles for Identifying Messianic Prophecies *

Context

Psalm 2:2, 4

Jewish

Numbers 24:17

Analogy

Isaiah 33:17

Transcendence

Psalm 110:1, 4

Event

Luke 24:25-27

Authority

Mark 14:27

The Purpose of Messianic Prophecy *

Prepare the Way

John 12:14-16

Prepare Israel for Inclusion of Gentiles

Genesis 12:2-3

Hope in Time of Crisis

Jeremiah 33:12, 14-16 (1-26)

Promote True Devotion to God

Malachi 3:1-2

Testify to God's Wisdom and Sovereignty

Daniel 7:13-14

Support the Scriptures to be the Word of God

John 5:37-40

* adapted from "What the Bible Teaches About the Promised Messiah" by Dr. James Smith

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Matthew (*Matthew 1:1-17*)

Who was Matthew?

Matthew 9:9-13

Jewish tax collectors were despised as traitors for working for the Romans & rampant corruption

How does Matthew show, from the very beginning, his purpose in writing his gospel?

Matthew 1:1, 17

What was the purpose of Matthew's gospel?

Matthew 16:13-17

How did Matthew emphasize that Jesus was the promised Messiah?

Matthew 26:56

What did Matthew do to help people make the connection?

Matthew 4:13-16

Did Matthew feel that Jesus could only be recognized as the Messiah by looking at the prophecies?

Matthew 27:54

The Messiah is Born (*Matthew 1-2*)

Besides the opening genealogy, how does Matthew first show Jesus as the promised Messiah?

Matthew 1:22-23 (Isaiah 7:14)

How does Matthew's next fulfilled prophecy highlight the universal calling of the Messiah?

Matthew 2:1-6 (Micah 5:2)

How does Matthew's next fulfilled prophecy fit the Event Principle?

Matthew 2:13-15 (Hosea 11:1)

What other Event Principle example does Matthew offer in this story?

Matthew 2:16-18 (Jeremiah 31:15)

What prophecy does Matthew next give that we have trouble locating in the Old Testament?

Matthew 2:23

Note: Some feel *Nazarene* refers to Branch (Hebrew *neser*) in Isaiah 11:1

Prepare the Way (*Matthew 3*)

How was John the Baptist's ministry the fulfillment of a Messianic prophecy?

Matthew 3:1-3 (Isaiah 40:3)

How did Luke shed more light on this fulfillment?

Luke 1:13, 17 (Malachi 4:6)

What did Zechariah say that showed his recognition of the prophecy of John?

Luke 1:76 (Malachi 3:1)

What other prophecy did Zechariah see being fulfilled in John?

Luke 1:79 (Isaiah 9:1-2)

Jesus' Ministry (*Matthew 11:2-6*)

How did Matthew show Jesus' healing ministry as proof of His Messiahship?

Matthew 8:16-17 (Isaiah 53:4)

How did Matthew expand on this in respect to the quiet compassion that Jesus had for those in need?

Matthew 12:14-21 (Isaiah 42:1-4)

Did Jesus make any connections between His ministry and Messianic prophecies?

Matthew 11:2-6 (Isaiah 35:5-6; 61:1)

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Jesus' Teachings (*Matthew 13*)

How did Jesus' use of parables fulfill Messianic prophecy?

Matthew 13:34-35 (Psalm 78:2)

Did the inability of many Jews to understand His parables challenge His claim to be the Messiah?

Matthew 13:11-17 (Isaiah 6:9-10)

What other prophecy did Jesus say was being fulfilled by those who opposed Him?

Matthew 15:1-3, 7-9 (Isaiah 29:13)

How was their rejection of God's Promised Messiah a fulfillment of prophecy?

Matthew 21:42-45 (Psalm 118:22-23)

Jesus' Last Week (*Matthew 21*)

What prophecies were fulfilled by Jesus on Palm Sunday?

Matthew 21:4-5, 9, 16 (Zech 9:9; Psalm 118:25-26; 8:2)

How did Judas' betrayal of Jesus fulfill a Messianic prophecy?

John 13:10, 18-19 (Psalm 41:9)

How did Judas' response to his betrayal fulfill even more prophecies?

Matthew 27:3-10 (Zech 11:12-13; Jeremiah 19:1-13; 32:6-9)

Jesus' Crucifixion (*Matthew 27*)

What Messianic prophecies were fulfilled while Jesus was on the cross?

Matthew 27:34, 48 (Psalm 69:21)

Matthew 27:35; John 19:23-24 (Psalm 22:18)

Matthew 27:38; Luke 22:37 (Isaiah 53:12)

Matthew 27:39-44 (Psalm 22:6-8)

Matthew 27:46 (Psalm 22:1)

John 19:31-36 (Exodus 12:46; Numbers 9:12; Psalm 34:20)

John 19:37 (Zechariah 12:10)

Matthew 27:57-60 (Isaiah 53:9)

What is one of the main reasons that God went to the trouble to give us prophecies that Jesus fulfilled?

John 20:31

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. xxx

x

2. xxx

x

3. xxx

x

4. xxx

x

5. xxx

x

Next Week - *In the Fullness of Time* (Galatians 4:4-5)