

“That It Might Be Fulfilled”

Old Testament Prophecies Fulfilled by the Savior's Birth

Introduction: Every prophecy ever given by God, up to this point in history, has been fulfilled. The prophecies concerning the birth of Jesus are no exception. Every thing prophesied came to pass. That, in itself, ought to make most skeptics believe, but they don't.

There are 10 (at least) prophecies that were fulfilled by the birth of Jesus. In this message we'll look at all ten, and what their significance was, and is.

I. JESUS WOULD BE BORN OF A VIRGIN

A. The prophecy

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

B. The fulfillment

Mat 1:22-23 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, **(23)** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

C. The significance is that without the virgin birth we would have no salvation.

II. JESUS WOULD BE GIVEN THE THRONE OF DAVID

A. The prophecy

2Sa 7:11-12 And as since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house. (12) And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

Psa 132:11 The LORD hath sworn *in* truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

Isa 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (7) Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Isa 16:5 And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.

Jer 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

B. The fulfillment

Luk 1:31-32 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. (32) He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his

father David:

C. The significance of this fulfillment is to show to the world that God is merciful, and although His people (the Jew) didn't deserve a kingdom, God promised to give them a perfect one, with Jesus as ruler.

III. THE THRONE JUST MENTIONED WILL BE AN ETERNAL THRONE

A. The prophecy

Dan 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Dan 7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

Mic 4:7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

B. The fulfillment

Luk 1:33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

C. The significance is the same as the last one. As the verse in Micah 4:7 says, it was given to a people that God knew

would not, nor could not deserve it. It is typical of salvation - we can't earn it, but by God's grace and mercy we can receive it.

D. The principle of a throne "forever" did not mean "in perpetuity" – or, that it would not cease to be, at times. What it meant then, and what it means now, is that, inevitably, the Throne of David will be reestablished again on earth. That was the promise.

IV. JESUS WOULD BE CALLED EMMANUEL

A. The prophecy

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

B. The fulfillment

Mat 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

C. The significance is to show to the world that "God became flesh and dwelt among us." He came as a babe, to live as a human without sin in order to redeem us back to Himself.

D. His given name was to be "Jesus," but one of His descriptions, one of His "names," if you would, would be "Emmanuel." As it is said in Isaiah 9:6 that He would be called "Counsellor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace," so is He called "Emmanuel."

V. JESUS WOULD HAVE A FORERUNNER

A. The prophecy

Isa 40:3-5 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (4) Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: (5) And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

Mal 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

B. The fulfillment

Luk 1:67-80 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, (68) Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, (69) And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; (70) As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: (71) That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; (72) To perform the mercy *promised* to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; (73) The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, (74) That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out

of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, (75) In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life. (76) And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; (77) To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, (78) Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, (79) To give light to them that sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. (80) And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

C. The significance is given in the verses in Luke. It was so that the people would be prepared for the Messiah - the Saviour, and His message.

VI. JESUS WOULD BE BORN IN BETHLEHEM

A. The prophecy

Mic 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, *though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of thee shall he come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth *have been* from of old, from everlasting.

B. The fulfillment

Luk 2:4-6 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) (5) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. (6) And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

C. The significance is to show the lowly birth of Jesus. The town of Bethlehem wasn't much, but it housed a King.

VII. JESUS WOULD BE WORSHIPPED BY WISE MEN, AND PRESENTED WITH GIFTS

A. The prophecy

Psa 72:10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

Isa 60:3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Isa 60:6 The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.

Isa 60:9 Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

B. The fulfillment

Mat 2:11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

C. The significance is seen in the fact that there were those who believed the prophecy, and came to seek Him. The

gifts are symbolic to show His humanity and unblemished deity.

VIII. JESUS WOULD BE IN EGYPT FOR A SEASON

A. The prophecy

Num 24:8 God brought him forth out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn: he shall eat up the nations his enemies, and shall break their bones, and pierce *them* through with his arrows.

Hos 11:1 When Israel *was* a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

B. The fulfillment

Mat 2:15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

C. The significance is to show that He came out of the world - humanity, without sin.

IX. HIS BIRTHPLACE WOULD SUFFER A MASSACRE OF INFANTS

A. The prophecy

Jer 31:15 Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, *and* bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they *were* not.

B. The fulfillment

Mat 2:17-18 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, **(18)** In

Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping *for* her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

C. The significance is to show that Satan will do anything he can to stop God's plan.

X. JESUS WOULD BE CALLED A NAZARENE

A. The prophecy

Isa 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

B. The fulfillment

Mat 2:23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

C. The significance here is a little cloudy. It doesn't actually use those words in any of the prophetic books, but a careful study of the prophecies gives us the answer.

1. The reference of a Nazarene here is referring to the word "rod" in Isaiah, which means "twig, or sucker."
2. The same word is translated "Nazarene" in Matthew
3. What is in reference here is the insignificance of Nazareth. It was hated

by the Jews because of its Gentile population, and yet it is where our Lord grew up. Again, pointing to His humble, lowly birth.

Conclusion: Simple - if God prophesied it it will come to pass.