

The Wednesday Word, December 27, 2017: Ten Prophecies Fulfilled

It is said there are more than 300 prophecies about Jesus in the Old Testament. Fulfilled prophecies are one of the great proofs that the Bible is God's word. Here are but ten of them.

1. Betrayed by a friend. About 1000 years before it transpired, Psalm 41:9 prophesied the betrayal of Christ, "My own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who did eat of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me." This prophecy was fulfilled in Mark 14:10 -11 when Judas betrayed the Master.

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

2. Sold for thirty pieces of silver. About 500 years before it happened, Zechariah prophesied that Jesus would be sold for thirty pieces of silver (Zec 11:12). "Matthew 26:15 confirms that Judas was paid thirty pieces of silver, the price of a slave (Exodus 21:32), to betray Jesus.

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

3. Silent when accused. About 700 years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah the prophet wrote of Him that "He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, as a sheep before its shearers is dumb, so he opened his mouth." (Isaiah 53:7). Instead of trying to plead innocent, the prophet tells us Jesus remained silent when He was given a chance to defend Himself (Matthew 26:63).

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

4. Slapped and spit upon. Isaiah again gives, as it were, an eyewitness account of the brutal treatment of Christ. "I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. Isaiah 50:6.

Mark 14:65 confirms that the Roman soldiers began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to buffet him, and to say unto him, Prophecy: and the servants struck him with the palms of their hands. What Isaiah wrote 700 years earlier had come true!

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

5. Hands and feet pierced. 1000 years before the crucifixion and 600 years before it (crucifixion) was invented, David prophetically declares the scene at the cross. He writes, "For dogs (Gentiles) have surrounded me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet (Psalm 22:16).

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

6. Mocked and insulted. "All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him (Psalm 22:6-8).

And this is exactly what happened 1000 years or so later. Matthew 27: 39-40 informs us that the people watching the crucifixion yelled insults at Jesus. They mockingly demanded that if He was really the Son of God to call on His Father to rescue Him.

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

7. Soldiers cast lots for his garment. “They part my garments among them and cast lots upon my vesture” Psalm 22:18. According to Mark 15:24, this is precisely what transpired.

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

8. Not a bone is broken. About 1000 years before Jesus, David prophesied of Christ saying, “He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken” Psalm 34:20.

John 19:33 records that the Roman soldiers broke the legs of the two thieves on either side, but when they came to Jesus, He was already dead, so they didn’t break His legs. This also points us to the Passover Lamb. Numbers 9:12 insists that as our Passover Lamb, none of Jesus’ bones were to be broken.

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

9. Buried in a rich man’s grave. 700 years before it happened, it was prophesied that Jesus was to be buried in a rich man’s grave (Isaiah 53:9). It is, therefore, of no surprise that a wealthy man, Joseph of Arimathea, buried Jesus in his own, newly carved tomb (Matthew 27:57-60).

Coincidence or fulfilled prophecy?

10. His resurrection! Again, 1000 years before it happened Christ resurrection was prophesied. We read of this event when it says, “For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell (the grave); neither will You allow your Holy One to see corruption (Psalm 16:10).

Jesus died and was buried, but, as prophesied, He wasn’t abandoned to the grave, and His body didn’t decay. According to Matthew 28:9, He came out of the grave, and He is alive forevermore!

These are but a few proofs that Jesus is who He says He is. He is the Lord God from Heaven come to seek and to save. Trust Him as your sin-bearer and Saviour and you will never perish.

And that’s the Gospel Truth!