

Jesus is the Messiah

I. The purpose of Messianic prophecy.

- For validation
- To create a statistical certainty
- When Jesus went public, Luke 4:16-21, Isaiah 61:1-2, Luke 24:13-32

Prophecy validates. Anyone could claim to be the Messiah unless there are some criteria that they must meet. Prophecy provides that verification. As Jesus met with the travelers on the Road to Damascus, he questioned them as to their perception of the recent happenings in Jerusalem. They obviously were misinformed as to the person and purpose of the Messiah. Jesus demonstrated the use of prophecy to validate His Messiah-ship. If He used “all” the Scripture concerning Himself, He would have discussed well over 100 prophecies as they traveled to Damascus. The fault of their misunderstanding could be explained by following their religion. How dangerous it is to ONLY listen to the ministers! We all are responsible for knowing the Scripture.

II. Who?

- Seed of woman Gen 3:15
- Not the seed of man Isaiah 7:14
- God entering the world Isaiah 9:6
- An unfathomable mystery I Tim. 3:16

He most certainly would have discussed the Old Testament Scriptures mentioned above. They certainly explain “who” He was. The mystery is completely explained in I Tim. 3:16. What a story! God in the flesh!

III. Where?

- Through the tribe of Judah Gen. 49:10
- Born in Bethlehem Micah 5:

Anyone interested, could have known that the Messiah would have been born in Bethlehem and have come through the tribe of Judah. Knowing Scripture would have given them a clue.

IV. When?

- Daniel 9:25, right on time
- Gal. 4:4, the time was engineered by God
- Accompanied by a fore-runner Isa. 40:3, Mal. 3:1, Matt. 3:1-3

Even though the calculation in Daniel is difficult to understand, it at least would have been a detail of interest for those who were actually seeking the Messiah. It is possible that the Kings from the East who traveled to meet Him during His childhood may have

known of the prophecy of Daniel. It was given while he was in Babylon, east of Israel. This timing was certainly a clue.

V. Why?

- * To redeem others from their sins, Isa. 53:8-11
- * To satisfy the law; the righteousness of God, Matt. 5:17-18

One significant problem for the Jews at the coming of Jesus was the expectation that He might set up a kingdom. In fact, He will set up a kingdom but the primary purpose of His FIRST coming was to satisfy the sin debt of mankind. Any other expectation would have been confusing. His death on the cross was a part of the fulfillment of the ceremonial law that had been demonstrated for 14 centuries prior to His coming.

VI. How?

- By suffering unimaginable grief, Psalms 22
- By being humiliated, rejected, Isaiah 53:2-7, John 1:11

Only suffering, bloodshed and death would have satisfied the righteous demand of God. The travelers to Damascus obviously missed THAT in Scripture. Jesus called them “fools.”

VII. To what end?

- That the entire world could know God, Gen. 12:1-3.
- Jew and Gentile alike, Psm. 67:1-2, Mal. 1:11, Psm. 72:11

It has always been God’s desire and plan that the entire world would know Him. This is not just for Jews. God used them to demonstrate His interest in man.

VIII. Irrefutable detail.

- Zech. 9:9 (colt), 11:12 (30 pieces of silver), 11:13 (potters field), 12:10 (side pierced), 13:6 (hand wounds)

What are the odds of all of the prophecies being fulfilled by one person, Jesus? There were over 365 prophecies concerning Jesus during His first coming.

IX. The Voice of the Martyrs.

Stephen – stoned, James – beheaded, Philip – scourged crucified, James the less – brains beaten out with a fullers club, Matthew – stoned beheaded, Andrew – crucified, Mark – dragged to pieces, Peter – crucified upside down, Paul – beheaded, Jude – crucified, Thomas – thrust through with a spear, Luke – hung, John – boiled in oil exiled

How does Watergate of the 1970’s relate to the resurrection of Jesus? Watch the video.

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- Jesus showed partial fulfillment, Luke 4:16, Isaiah 61:1-2

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