

Appendix #1: Prophetic Predictions and Foreshadowings of Jesus, the Messiah

Introduction: Some of these Old Testament Scriptures are straightforward prophetic predictions about Jesus. Some of them are predictions which have a double fulfillment, both in the life of Israel and then more fully in Jesus. And some give us a picture of Jesus from the lives of various Israelites - especially King David. They speak of the individual, but also look forward to their true fulfillment in Jesus. So, for instance, what happened to David becomes a prophetic picture of Jesus' life. And what David said becomes prophetic pronouncements about or from Jesus. This is called 'typology'. What happened before foreshadows what happens in Jesus - who is the true fulfillment of all of God's plans and purposes. This is not a complete list.

1. He was born of a virgin: Isaiah 7:14 - "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (God with us). Just as Hezekiah was born to a young woman as a sign that God remembered his promise to David for a son to rule; that God was with them. So with Jesus. Jesus was born of the virgin Mary as a sign of God coming to save - Luke 1:26-35; Matthew 1:18-23.

2. He was born in Bethlehem: Micah 5:2 - "But you, O Bethlehem . . . from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days." Jesus was born in Bethlehem - Matthew 2:1/6. Verse 6 notes this as the fulfillment of this prophetic prediction.

3. He was a descendent of David: Isaiah 11:1 - "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit." This was seen as a Messianic text. The Messiah was to be a descendent of David (Jesse's son) who would sit on his throne. Jesus was a descendent of David - Luke 3:31-32; Matthew 1:6; Acts 13:23.

4. He was born to rule: Isaiah 9:6-7 - "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called wonderful counselor, Mighty God, everlasting Father, prince of peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time forth and forevermore." Jesus was born to rule. Matthew 2:1-12 tells the story of the wise men who came to honor the king of the Jews. And indeed he rules right now, sitting at the right hand of God, and will rule the earth fully when he returns in glory.

5. His ministry was preceded by a forerunner: Malachi 3:1 - "Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me." John the Baptist came before Jesus to prepare the way - Matthew 11:10. Jesus saw this as the fulfillment of this verse.

6. He lived in Galilee: Isaiah 9:1-2 - "In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." This text comes just before the Messianic scripture, "to us a child is born." Jesus lived and ministered in Galilee - Mark 1:14. Matthew 4:15 notes this as a fulfillment of Isaiah.

7. He was full of the Spirit: Isaiah 11:2 - "And the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and the Spirit of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord." This comes from a broader Messianic passage of scripture. Jesus was full of the Spirit - Matthew 3:16; Luke 4:14. The Spirit came upon him at his baptism. He was known as one who did works of power by the Spirit, and for his understanding and wisdom.

8. He proclaimed the Kingdom of God: Isaiah 52:7 - "How beautiful upon the mountains are the

feet of him who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'" This passage is connected to the Messianic servant that Isaiah speaks about. Jesus preached the good news of the Kingdom of God – Mark 1:15; Luke 4:43.

9. He ministered to the outcasts and the hurting: Isaiah 61:1-2 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Jesus ministered to the needy and lowly - tax collectors, sinners and prostitutes - Luke 15:1. In Luke 4:21 Jesus says that his ministry is a fulfillment of this text.

10. He took away people's suffering: Isaiah 53:4 - "Surely he has borne our grief and carried our sorrows." Jesus healed people and cast out demons – Matthew 8:14-17. V. 17 notes this as a fulfillment of Isaiah 53:4.

11. He was Moses' successor as prophetic teacher: Deuteronomy 18:18 - "I will raise up for Israel a prophet like Moses from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him." Jesus was a teacher greater than Moses. In Acts 3:22-23 Peter applies this verse from Deuteronomy to Jesus. And Jesus himself said, "you have one teacher, the Messiah" Matthew 23:8.

12. He was gentle and righteous: Isaiah 42:1-3 - "Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice." Jesus was gentle and righteous. Matthew 12:15-21 sees this as a fulfillment of this passage.

13. He spoke in parables: Psalm 78:2 - "I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter dark sayings from of old." Jesus was famous for speaking in parables. Matthew 13:35 notes this as a fulfillment of Psalm 78.

14. His message was rejected: Isaiah 53:1 - "Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" This is from a Messianic section of Isaiah. Jesus' message was rejected – John 12:37-38. This last verse cites this as a fulfillment of Isaiah 53:1.

15. He was presented to Israel riding on a donkey: Zechariah 9:9 - "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." Zechariah has several Messianic allusions in it. As this verse pictures, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Matthew 21:4-5 notes this as a fulfillment of this text.

16. He was zealous for the temple: Psalm 69:9 - "For zeal for your house has consumed me." Jesus cleansed the temple – John 2:13-17; Matthew 21:12-13. John 2:17 looks to this as a fulfillment of this text.

17. He was betrayed by one who ate bread with him: Psalm 41:9 - "Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me." This is a Davidic psalm. Just as David was betrayed, so Judas, one of the twelve, betrayed Jesus after eating bread with him at the Last supper – John 13:8. Jesus said in this verse, "But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.'"

18. He was betrayed for 30 pieces of silver: Zechariah 11:12 - "And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver." Jesus was betrayed for 30 pieces of silver – Matthew 27:3/9.

19. He was among the "lawless": Isaiah 53:12 - "He was numbered with the transgressors." Jesus was arrested with his disciples as they acted as criminals with their swords – Luke 22:35-38; 47-53. This is noted as a fulfillment of this text.

20. He was deserted by his followers: Zechariah 13:7 - "Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered." The key word here is "Shepherd" which means ruler, and prophetically points to the Messiah, the

ruler of Israel. When Jesus was arrested, his disciples deserted him – Mark 14:50-52. Jesus predicted this, based on this passage ahead of time, before the arrest, when he said, "You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'" - Mark 14:27.

21. He was silent before his accusers: Isaiah 53:7 - "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth." Jesus did not defend himself at his trial – Matthew 26:63.

22. He was mocked at his trial: Psalm 109:25 – "I am an object of scorn to my accusers; when they see me, they wag their heads." Jesus was spit on, mocked and beaten at his trial - Mark 14:65.

23. Nations plotted against him: Psalm 2:1-2 - "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his anointed." The key word is "anointed," which means Messiah. Both the Jewish and Gentile authorities acted against Jesus – Mark 14:53-65; 15:1-15. This Scripture is applied to Jesus in Acts 4:25-27.

24. He was despised and rejected: Isaiah 53:3 - "He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not." Jesus was despised and rejected – Matthew 22:66-23:25.

25. He gave himself up as an offering: Psalm 40:6-8- "Sacrifice and offering you have not desired, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.'" Hebrews 10:5-9 refers these words to Jesus as he went to die.

26. They pierced his hands and feet: Psalm 22:16 - "They have pierced my hands and feet." This is a Davidic psalm which tells the whole story of Jesus' death and resurrection. This speaks to his crucifixion. Jesus' hands and feet were pierced as they were nailed to the cross – Luke 23:33.

27. He was mocked on the cross: Psalm 22:7-8 - "All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads. He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him." Jesus was mocked on the cross – Mark 15:29-32 relates to Psalm 22:7. Matthew 27:43 relates to Psalm 22:8.

28. They cast lots for his garments: Psalm 22:18 - "They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." The soldiers divided Jesus' clothes by casting lots – Matthew 27:35; and John 19:23-24, notes this as a fulfillment of this Scripture.

29. Jesus was thirsty: Psalm 22:15 – "My mouth sticks to my jaw." Jesus said, "I thirst" in accordance with this Scripture - John 19:28.

30. He was given sour wine: Psalm 69:21 - "For my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink." This is a Davidic psalm. Jesus was also given sour wine on the cross – John 19:28-30.

31. He said, "into your hand I commit my spirit": Psalm 31:5 – "Into your hands I commit my spirit." This is a Davidic psalm. On the cross Jesus said these words - Luke 23:46.

32. He bore our sins: Isaiah 53:5-6 - "He was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all." Jesus bore our sins on the cross – Matthew 26:27-28; Mark 10:45; I Corinthians 15:3; I John 2:1-2.

33. He died: Isaiah 53:8 - "By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people." Jesus died on the cross – John 19:30.

34. He was pierced: Zechariah 12:10 - "they will look on him whom they have pierced." Jesus was pierced in the side by a spear on the cross – John 19:33-37. The last verse notes this is a fulfillment of Zechariah 12:10.

35. He was connected to the rich in death: Isaiah 53:9 - "He was with a rich man in death." Joseph of Arimethia, a well to do man, put Jesus in his tomb – John 19:38-42; Luke 23:50-53.

36. He was not abandoned to death (Sheol): Psalm 16:10 – "For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption." This is a Davidic psalm. Jesus did not stay dead, as we know from the resurrection accounts. Both Peter and Paul see Psalm 16:10 as David speaking prophetically of Jesus being freed from death - Acts 2:24-31; Acts 13:35-37.

37. He was raised from the dead: Psalm 2:7 – "The Lord said to me, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you.'" This was considered to be a Messianic psalm. It speaks of God's "anointed" or Messiah. Jesus was raised from the dead. Paul refers this Psalm to Jesus' resurrection in Acts 13:32-33. Begotten here means resurrection.

38. He was exalted to sit at God's right hand: Psalm 110:1 – "The Lord said to my lord: Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool." This was also considered to be a Messianic psalm. Here David speaks of God and then of his "lord" – a reference to the coming Messiah, that he would sit by God's side. Jesus was exalted to the right hand of God. This text is seen as a clear fulfillment of this by numerous New Testament texts. As one example, Peter refers to it in Acts 2:34-35.

Conclusion: The Old Testament Scriptures predict and foreshadow the coming of Jesus – his birth, life, death, resurrection and glory.

- Jesus said to the Jewish leaders - "You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf." - John 5:39.
- Jesus said to the dismayed disciples after his death – "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures." - Luke 24:25-27.
- He also said to these disciples – "These things are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem.'" - Luke 24:44-47.
- The apostle Peter writes, "Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours made careful search and inquiry, inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when it testified in advance to the sufferings destined for Christ and the subsequent glory." - I Peter 1:10-11.