



Christ in the Old Testament

PERTAINING TO HIS FIRST COMING

Planned from the Beginning

- ▶ Genesis 3:15 [God speaking to the serpent]
 - ▶ “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”
- ▶ Genesis 12:3 [God speaking to Abram]
 - ▶ “I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”
 - ▶ Referenced by Peter (Acts) and Paul (Galatians)
 - ▶ Acts 3:25 – “And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, ‘Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.’”
 - ▶ Galatians 3:8 – “The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ‘All nations will be blessed through you.’”
- ▶ The line of the God’s covenant with Abraham’s descendants is continually molded through the OT (Isaac, Jacob, ... Rahab, Ruth/Boaz, ... David/Bathsheba, ...)
 - ▶ When Jesus’ genealogy is described in the gospels, He fulfills all of that as well

Example #1: The Sacrificed Son

- ▶ Genesis 22:1-14
- ▶ Where do you see Christ in this passage?
 - ▶ Abraham was asked to sacrifice the son God promised him
 - ▶ Jesus was sacrificed as the Son of the promise, God's only Son
 - ▶ Isaac carried the wood up the mountain
 - ▶ John 19:17 – “Carrying his own cross, [Jesus] went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).”
 - ▶ Seemingly obedient son, even to death
 - ▶ Jesus willingly surrendered himself in Gethsemane and continued to be obedient to death
 - ▶ Philippians 2:8 – “And being found in appearance as a man, [Jesus] humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!”
 - ▶ “God Himself will provide the lamb”
 - ▶ Jesus is the ultimate sacrificial lamb that took the place of each of us
 - ▶ Ram caught by his horns in a thicket
 - ▶ Possibly an image of Christ's crown of thorns

Example #2: A Cry for an Arbiter

- ▶ Job 9:32-35
- ▶ How does Christ fulfill Job's request?
 - ▶ Someone to "lay His hand" on both man and God
 - ▶ He is both fully God and fully human
 - ▶ Arbiter: "a person or agency whose judgment or opinion is considered authoritative"
 - ▶ Jesus is the only One with the authority to "remove God's rod" from us
 - ▶ 35 – "Then I would speak up without fear of him, but as it now stands with me, I cannot."

Example #3: A Messianic Psalm

- ▶ Psalm 22:1-18
- ▶ Where do you see Christ in this passage?
 - ▶ Psalm 22:1a – “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
 - ▶ Matt 27:46 – “About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?’ – which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’”
 - ▶ Psalm 22:6-8 – “... All who see me mock me ...”
 - ▶ Matt 27:39,41-44 – “Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads ... In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. ‘He saved others,’ they said, ‘but he can’t save himself! He’s the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” In the same way, the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.”
 - ▶ Psalm 22:16b – “... they have pierced my hands and my feet.”
 - ▶ This was written by David roughly 1000 years BC, or about 500 years before crucifixion even existed
 - ▶ Psalm 22:18 – “They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing”
 - ▶ Matt 27:35 – “When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots.”

Direct Prophecies

▶ Psalms

- ▶ 16:10 – “... nor will you let your Holy One see decay.”
 - ▶ Acts 13:35-37 – “So it is stated elsewhere: ‘You will not let your Holy One see decay.’ For when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; ... But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.”
- ▶ 34:20 – “he protects his bones, not one of them will be broken.”
 - ▶ John 19:33, 36 – “But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ... These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: ‘Not one of his bones will be broken.’”
- ▶ 41:9 – “Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.”
 - ▶ Matt 26:23 – “Jesus replied, ‘The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.’”

Direct Prophecies, cont.

▶ Isaiah

- ▶ 7:14 – “... The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”
- ▶ 9:6 – “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given ...”
- ▶ 40:3 – “A voice of one calling: ‘In the desert prepare the way for the Lord; ...’ ”
- ▶ 42:1-7 – “Here is my servant, whom I uphold ... to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison ...”
- ▶ 50:6 – “I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.”
- ▶ 53 – The “Suffering Servant”
 - ▶ 3a – “He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.”
 - ▶ 5 – “But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.”
 - ▶ 7 – “He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.”
 - ▶ 11a, 12b – “After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied ... For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors

Direct Prophecies, cont.

▶ Zechariah

- ▶ 9:9 – “Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”
 - ▶ Matthew 21:1-11 – Jesus’ “triumphal entry” into Jerusalem
- ▶ 11:12-13 – “... So they paid me thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said to me, ‘Throw it to the potter’ – the handsome price at which they priced me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord to the potter.”
 - ▶ Matthew 26:14-15 – Judas accepts 30 pieces of silver to turn Jesus over to the chief priests
 - ▶ Matthew 27:5-7 – Judas returns the money to the chief priests in the house of the Lord and hangs himself due to guilt, they then use that money to buy a potter’s field for a burial ground

The Point

- ▶ Thousands of years, numerous “authors”, multiple languages ... but still consistent
- ▶ Jesus Christ must be the person all those prophecies were about
- ▶ Therefore, we can rest assured that he has paid the penalty for our sins, freed us from our bondage, and stepped in as our High Priest and Arbiter
- ▶ We can also take all of God’s other promises through scripture as truth