

CHRIST FORETOLD

PROPHECIES SPEAKING OF CHRIST

*“As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets,
which have been since the world began”*

~ Luke 1:70

1. The Importance of Prophecy

- a. God spoke to the world through prophets since the world began - Heb 1:1, Luke 1:70
- b. Prophecies are a foretelling, not a prediction, calculation, etc – Isa 42:9; Isa 46:9-10
- c. Estimated 2500 prophecies ~ hundreds about Jesus ~ est. 500 yet future
 - i. This is unique in all human history, and among other religious books
- d. Bible prophecies verify 1) Jesus as God, and the 2) Bible as God’s words
- e. These prophecies cannot be calculated, controlled, self-fulfilling, or occur by chance

2. The Content of Prophecy

- a. Prophecy spoke of a Messiah to bring salvation through Israel to the world - Ro 1:1-4
- b. Messiah is Hebrew for Christ which means ‘anointed’ – John 1:41
- c. Jesus said “search the scriptures”; they speak of Him – John 5:39; Lu 24:27; Mat 5:17
- d. If Jesus did not fulfill prophecy, then God’s word is questioned, and He is not the Lord
- e. Prophecy of Christ tells us who He is, the mystery of Christ tells us who we are
- f. Matt-John are inspired for this purpose of prophecy. Did Messiah come?

3. Messianic Prophecies

- a. Kinds of prophecies – direct, near-far, types (figure/shadow), unwritten
- b. “as it is written”, “so that it would be fulfilled”, “as [the prophet] *said*”
- c. Prophecies surrounding his birth – lineage, place, time, circumstances, of a virgin
- d. Prophecies about his identity – Prophet, Son of God, Lord, Holy One, Saviour, Servant
- e. Prophecies about his life – forerunner, miracles, character, denial, obedience, mission
- f. Prophecies about his death – betrayal, means, events surrounding, thoughts, timing
- g. Prophecies about after his death – burial, resurrection, ascension, Holy Spirit, Matthias
- h. Prophecies in figure – Adam, Isaac, Joseph, Moses, David, Jonah, Temple, holidays

4. What Does it Mean?

- a. All of these prophecies are part of the history of the world, what do we say about this history? Who was Jesus? What of the Hebrew scriptures?
- b. If someone had described your birth, life, death as accurately 1000 yrs prior, what would you think? How did they know? What power told them? Time machine?
- c. Further, the content, clarity, and weight of these prophecies make them of utmost importance – Christ is God, Christ brings life, Christ the creator, the Saviour, the Truth
- d. Christ was foretold; prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus; Jesus is Christ, Lord, and God.
- e. This Christ sent Paul – John 13:20; Acts 9:15; Acts 22:21; Rom 1:5-7; 16:25