

PROPHECY

AMAZING FAITH 5

Not all Prophecies are created equal.

- Some are hoaxes
- Some are coincidence
- Some are ambiguous

Fulfilled Prophecies Don't Prove a Message Is from God.

Deuteronomy 13:1-4

Unfulfilled Prophecies Prove a Message Is Not from God.

Deuteronomy 18:20-22

Cyrus

Prophecy: Isaiah 44:24-28

Fulfillment: Ezra 1:1

Josiah

Prophecy: 1 Kings 13:1-2

Fulfillment: 2 Kings 23:16

Tyre

Ezekiel 26:3-14 Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against you, O Tyre, and I will bring many nations against you, like the sea casting up its waves. ⁴They will destroy the walls of Tyre and pull down her towers; I will scrape away her rubble and make her a bare rock. ⁵Out in the sea she will become a place to spread fishnets...

⁷“For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: From the north I am going to bring against Tyre Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon... ⁸He will ravage your settlements on the mainland with the sword; he will set up siege works against you, build a ramp up to your walls and raise his shields against you... ¹⁴I will make you a bare rock... NIV

Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar

Daniel 2:39-41 “After you [Babylon], another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours [Medo-Persia]. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth [Greece (Alexander the Great)]. ⁴⁰Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron — for iron breaks and smashes everything — and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others [Rome]”... NIV

Daniel and Others

Daniel 11:2-4 “Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings [after Cyrus] will appear in Persia [Cambyes, Smerdis, Darius], and then a fourth [Xerxes, son of Darius], who will be far richer than all the others [Justin says, “He had so great an abundance of riches in his kingdom, that although rivers were dried up by his numerous armies, yet his wealth remained unexhausted.” (Clarke commentary)]. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece. ³Then a mighty king will appear [Alexander the Great], who will rule with great power and do as he pleases. ⁴After he has appeared, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven. [It was torn apart by civil war and given to the Diadochi (successors), who were his generals] It will not go to his descendants [all were killed], nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others. NIV

Prophecies of Christ (*Messianic Prophecies*)

Prophecy

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. (ESV)

Birthplace in Bethlehem

Micah 5:2 As for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, seemingly insignificant among the clans of Judah –from you a king will emerge who will rule over Israel on my behalf, one whose origins are in the distant past.

Time of birth

Daniel 9:25 So know and understand: From the issuing of the command ⁶⁴ to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until an anointed one, a prince arrives, there will be a period of seven weeks and sixty-two weeks. It will again be built, with plaza and moat, but in distressful times.

Slaughter of infants

Jeremiah 31:15 31:15 The Lord says, “A sound is heard in Ramah, a sound of crying in bitter grief. It is the sound of Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because her children are gone.”

Escape to Egypt

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a young man, I loved him like a son, and I summoned my son out of Egypt.

Messenger sent (John the Baptist)

Isa. 40:3 A voice cries out, “In the wilderness clear a way for the Lord; construct in the desert a road for our God.

Mal. 3:1 “I am about to send my messenger, who will clear the way before me. Indeed, the Lord you are seeking will suddenly come to his temple, and the messenger of the covenant, whom you long for, is certainly coming,” says the Lord who rules over all.

Ministry in Galilee

Isaiah 9:1-2 The gloom will be dispelled for those who were anxious. In earlier times he humiliated the land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphtali; but now he brings honor to the way of the sea, the region beyond the Jordan, and Galilee of the nations. ²The people walking in darkness see a bright light; light shines on those who live in a land of deep darkness.

Prophecy Fulfilled

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. (ESV)

Matthew 2:5-6 “In Bethlehem of Judea,” they said, “for it is written this way by the prophet: ⁶‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are in no way least among the rulers of Judah, for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

Luke 2:1-2 Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus to register all the empire for taxes. ²This was the first registration, taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

Matthew 2:16-18 ...[Herod] sent men to kill all the children in Bethlehem and throughout the surrounding region from the age of two and under, according to the time he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: ¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud wailing, Rachel weeping for her children, and she did not want to be comforted, because they were gone.”

Matthew 2:14-15 Then he got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and went to Egypt. ¹⁵He stayed there until Herod died. In this way what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet was fulfilled: “I called my Son out of Egypt.”

Matthew 3:1-2 In those days John the Baptist came into the wilderness of Judea proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” ³For he is the one about whom Isaiah the prophet had spoken: “The voice of one shouting in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

Matthew 4:12-16 Now when Jesus heard that John had been imprisoned, he went into Galilee. ¹³While in Galilee, he moved from Nazareth to make his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by Isaiah the prophet would be fulfilled: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way by the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles –

¹⁶the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, and on those who sit in the region and shadow of death a light has dawned.”

Into Jerusalem on a donkey

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, daughter of Zion! Shout, daughter of Jerusalem! Look! Your king is coming to you: he is legitimate and victorious, humble and riding on a donkey— on a young donkey, the foal of a female donkey.

Betrayed by friend

Psalms 41:9 Even my close friend whom I trusted, he who shared meals with me, has turned against me.

Betrayed for 30 silver pieces

Zechariah 11:12 Then I said to them, “If it seems good to you, pay me my wages, but if not, forget it.” So they weighed out my payment – thirty pieces of silver.

Silent toward accusers

Isaiah 53:7 He was treated harshly and afflicted, but he did not even open his mouth. Like a lamb led to the slaughtering block, like a sheep silent before her shearers, he did not even open his mouth.

Struck and spit on

Isaiah 50:6 I offered my back to those who attacked, my jaws to those who tore out my beard; I did not hide my face from insults and spitting.

Mocked and insulted

Psalms 22:6-8 But I am a worm, not a man; people insult me and despise me. ⁷All who see me taunt me; they mock me and shake their heads. ⁸They say, “Commit yourself to the Lord! Let the Lord rescue him! Let the Lord deliver him, for he delights in him.”

Killed with sinners

Isaiah 53:12 So I will assign him a portion with the multitudes, he will divide the spoils of victory with the powerful, because he willingly submitted to death and was numbered with the rebels, when he lifted up the sin of many and intervened on behalf of the rebels.”

Hands and feet pierced

Psalms 22:16 Yes, wild dogs surround me – a gang of evil men crowd around me; like a lion they pin my hands and feet.

Zec. 12:10 “I will pour out on the kingship of David and the population of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication so that they will look to me, the one they have pierced...”

Given gall and vinegar

Psalms 69:21 They put bitter poison into my food, and to quench my thirst they give me vinegar to drink.

“Let God rescue Him.”

Psalms 22:8 They say, “Commit yourself to the Lord! Let the Lord rescue him! Let the Lord deliver him, for he delights in him.”

John 12:13-14 So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him. They began to shout, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!” ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, ¹⁵“Do not be afraid, people of Zion; look, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt!”

Mark 14:10 Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus into their hands.

Matthew 26:15 And [Judas] said, “What will you give me to betray him into your hands?” So they set out thirty silver coins for him.

Matthew 27:13-14 Then Pilate said to him, “Don’t you hear how many charges they are bringing against you?” ¹⁴But he did not answer even one accusation, so that the governor was quite amazed.

Mark 14:65 Then some began to spit on him, and to blindfold him, and to strike him with their fists, saying, “Prophecy!” The guards also took him and beat him.

Matthew 27:39-40 Those who passed by defamed him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰and saying, “You who can destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are God’s Son, come down from the cross!”

Matthew 27:38 Then two outlaws were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

John 20:27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and examine my hands. Extend your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue in your unbelief, but believe.”

John 19:29 A jar full of sour wine was there, so they put a sponge soaked in sour wine on a branch of hyssop and lifted it to his mouth.

Matthew 27:43 He trusts in God – let God, if he wants to, deliver him now because he said, ‘I am God’s Son!’”

Side pierced

Zechariah 12:10 “I will pour out on the kingship of David and the population of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication so that they will look to me, the one they have pierced. They will lament for him as one laments for an only son, and there will be a bitter cry for him like the bitter cry for a firstborn.

John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and blood and water flowed out immediately.

Lots cast for clothing

Psalms 22:18 They are dividing up my clothes among themselves; they are rolling dice for my garments.

Mark 15:24 Then they crucified him and divided his clothes, throwing dice for them, to decide what each would take.

No bones broken

Psalms 34:20 He protects all his bones; not one of them is broken.

John 19:33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

Burial in rich man's tomb

Isaiah 53:9 They intended to bury him with criminals, but he ended up in a rich man's tomb, because he had committed no violent deeds, nor had he spoken deceitfully.

Matthew 27:57-59 Now when it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered that it be given to him. ⁵⁹Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut in the rock.

Would rise from the dead

Psalms 16:10 You will not abandon me to Sheol [or *the grave*]; you will not allow your faithful follower to see the Pit.

Acts 2:29-31 “Brothers, I can speak confidently to you about our forefather David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰So then, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹David by foreseeing this spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was neither abandoned to Hades, nor did his body experience decay.

Ascension

Psalms 68:18 You ascend on high, you have taken many captives. You receive tribute from men, including even sinful rebels. Indeed the Lord God lives there!

Luke 24:50-51 Then Jesus led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹Now during the blessing he departed and was taken up into heaven.

Seated at right hand of God

Psalms 110:1 Here is the Lord's proclamation to my lord: “Sit down at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool!”

Acts 1:9 After he had said this, while they were watching, he was lifted up and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Hebrews 1:13 But to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?

Israel Restored

Isaiah 11:11-12 In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the sea. ¹²He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth. NIV

What does this have to do with us?

Revelation 22:12 “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.” NIV