



#6 The Design: Prophecies that Reveal Christ's Work

Redemption was planned before time began. Prophecies are God's consistent way to seeding promises and hope into His people's mind by notifying them of His plans. Many religious books in the world may have many good things to say, but the Bible is the only one that has fulfilled prophecies and with more fulfillments to come. God's word has never been wrong in the past and it won't be wrong in the future. There are literally hundreds of prophecies in the Bible. The inspiration comes from God (2 Tim 3:16) and that God is the creator of all things (Isaiah 44:24). He is in charge of what happened in the past, what is happening now in the present, and what will happen in the future.

The fulfilled prophecies in the Bible are strong evidences that God is the author. When you look at the mathematical odds of prophecies being fulfilled, you will quickly see a design, a purpose, and a guiding hand. If just one prophecy failed, then God cannot be trusted because how can the creator of all things, which includes time, be wrong about predicting the future?

Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please' *Isaiah 46:9-10*

God's Choice to Chose Us in Christ Even Before the World Began

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to Sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. *Ephesians 1:3-7*

* Prophecies Regarding Jesus' Birth

<i>Prophecy</i>	<i>OT Reference</i>	<i>NT Fulfillment</i>
Jesus will come from the line of Abraham; descendant of King David	Genesis 12:3, Jeremiah 23:5 (about 1000 years before JC was born)	Matthew 1:1
Jesus' mother will be a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:18-23
Jesus will be born in the town of Bethlehem	Micah 5:2 (about 700 years before fulfillment)	Luke 2:1-7
Jesus will be called out of Egypt	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:13-15
Jesus' birth will be accompanied with great suffering and sorrow	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:16

* Prophecies Regarding Jesus' Death

<i>Prophecy</i>	<i>OT Reference</i>	<i>NT Fulfillment</i>
Jesus will be despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering	Isaiah 53:3	John 1:10-11
Oppressed and afflicted, yet did not open his mouth, led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, he did not open	Isaiah 53:7	Mark 15:5

his mouth		
The cruel death of Jesus	Psalms 22:1-2	Matthew 27:46
Hurl insults, mockers	Psalms 22:7-8	Matthew 27:41-44
Humiliated on the cross, people cast lots for his clothes	Psalms 22:17-18	John 19:23

* Prophecies Regarding Jesus Resurrection

<i>Prophecy</i>	<i>OT Reference</i>	<i>NT Fulfillment</i>
Overcoming death	Psalms 16:10	Acts 13:30-35
Resurrection after 3 days	Jonah 1:17	Matthew 12:40
Ascended to the heavens	Psalms 68:18	Luke 24:6-8

* Prophecies About Jesus' Rule

*[Isaiah 2:1-4](#)— Isaiah says that "in the last days" the Messiah will reign from Mount Zion in Jerusalem and the entire world will experience peace.

*[Isaiah 9:6-7](#)— The Messiah will rule from the throne of David, giving the world a government of peace, justice, and righteousness.

*[Isaiah 11:3-9](#)— The Messiah will bring "righteousness and fairness" to the earth when He returns to "slay the wicked." At that time, the curse will be lifted and the plant and animal kingdoms will be restored to their original perfection.

*[Isaiah 24:21-23](#)— When the Messiah returns, He will punish Satan and his demonic hordes in the heavens and then will punish "the kings of the earth, on earth." He will then "reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem" for the purpose of manifesting His glory.

***Some scientists have done some studies to show that coincidence is ruled out by the science of probability. Studies show that using modern science of probability in reference to just 8 prophecies, any person to fulfill all eight prophecies is 1 in 10^{17} (100,000,000,000,000,000).

* Conclusion

Fulfilled prophecies bring us hope and comfort as we rest in the reality of God's perseverance and goodness as he planned for and accomplished our redemption. His complete faithfulness shown in the fulfilled prophecies give us assurance that he will complete the rest of his promises for you, for his people, and for the world.

* Reflection Questions

- 1) Why is Bible prophecy important? What do you think are God's reasons for wanting us to understand the prophecies?
- 2) Are fulfilled prophecies a proof of God and the Bible?