

Fulfilled Prophecies

In the Bible, God clearly displays his ability to foretell the future with 100% accuracy. This remains an important testimony of his unique power, setting himself apart from all other beings. Isaiah boldly challenges the idols of his day: *“Present your case,” says the LORD. “Set forth your arguments,” says Jacob's King. “Bring in your idols to tell us what is going to happen. Tell us what the former things were, so that we may consider them and know their final outcome. Or declare to us the things to come, tell us what the future holds, so we may know that you are gods. Do something, whether good or bad, so that we will be dismayed and filled with fear”* (Isaiah 41:21-23).

Perhaps the clearest example of God's power to foretell the future accurately is seen in the writings concerning our Lord Jesus Christ. In the Old Testament (which had been written in its entirety by about 400 B.C. and was then translated from Hebrew into Greek in 250 B.C.), many things are said about an “anointed one” who was to come. All of these prophecies were accurately fulfilled in the life of Jesus of Nazareth hundreds of years later. The mathematical possibility of this having happened on a merely chance basis is so minute that a publishing company in Denver has been ready to give a \$1,000 reward to anyone who is able to find someone, other than Jesus of Nazareth, who can fulfill only **half** of those prophecies.

Below some of the more well-known prophecies of the Messiah to come are listed, with their Old Testament reference and their New Testament fulfillment. According to the Scripture, Jesus Christ was to be:

	<u>O.T. Prophecy</u>	<u>N.T. Fulfillment</u>
1. born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:18, 24-25
2. born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1
3. the Son of God	Psalms 2:7	Matthew 3:17
4. descended from Judah	Genesis 49:10	Hebrews 7:14
5. descended from David	Jeremiah 23:5	Matthew 1:1
6. a prophet	Deuteronomy 18:18	Matthew 21:11
7. a priest	Psalms 110:4	Hebrews 3:1, 5:5-6
8. a king	Psalms 2:6	Revelation 19:16
9. preceded by a messenger	Isaiah 40:3	Matthew 3:1-3, 11:10
10. rejected by his own people	Psalms 118:22	John 1:11
11. entering Jerusalem on a donkey	Zechariah 9:9	Luke 19:35-37
12. betrayed by a friend...	Psalms 41:9	Matthew 26:49-50
13. ...for 30 pieces of silver	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 26:15
14. ...to be thrown into God's house	Zechariah 11:13	Matthew 27:5
15. ...and used to buy a potter's field	Zechariah 11:13	Matthew 27:7
16. accused by false witnesses	Psalms 35:11	Matthew 26:59-60
17. silent before his accusers	Isaiah 53:7	Matthew 27:12
18. mocked	Psalms 22:7-8	Matthew 27:31
19. crucified...	Psalms 22:16	Luke 23:33
20. ...with lots cast for his clothing	Psalms 22:18	John 19:23-24
21. pierced in the side	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34
22. resurrected	Psalms 16:10	Acts 2:31
23. seated at God's right hand	Psalms 110:1	Hebrews 1:3