



## Prophecy: The Proof of Jesus

The ancient Christmas prophecies are predictions written centuries earlier about who the Jewish Messiah would be.

Scripture	Timing	Given By	Fulfilled
Genesis 12:3	1450BC	Moses	
Messiah to be a descendent of Abraham			Luke 3:23-27
Gen. 22:18	1450BC	Moses	
Messiah to be a descendent of Isaac			Luke 3:23-27
Gen. 28:14	1450BC	Moses	
Messiah to be a descendent of Jacob			Luke 3:23-27
Gen. 49:10-12	1450BC	Moses	
Messiah to be from the Tribe of Judah			Luke 3:23-27
Isaiah 11:1,2	700BC	Isaiah	
Messiah to come from King David's family			Matthew 1: 1,2
Micah 5:1-4	700BC	Micah	
Christ would come from Bethlehem			Matthew 2:1-6
Isaiah 7:14-16	700BC	Isaiah	
The virgin birth anticipated			Matthew 1:20-22
Isaiah 40:1-5	681BC	Isaiah	
John the Baptist will be a forerunner			Matthew 3:1-3
Isaiah 35:4-6	700BC	Isaiah	
Christ to perform miracles: blind see, deaf hear			Matthew 15:30
Zechariah.9:9-17	480BC	Zechariah	
Israel will welcome king riding on a donkey			Matthew 21:4,5
Psalms 22	1000BC	David	
Many details of suffering upon cross, casting lots			Matthew 27

It's plausible that Daniel's prophecy had the Magi ready when his star appeared in the sky to travel to meet the Anointed One.

The NT records that Jesus public ministry began in the 15<sup>th</sup> year of Tiberius Caesar (Luke 3:1) Tiberius reign began in 14 A.D.

That puts us at 29 A.D. You add in the time Jesus ministered publicly before his death most likely that bumps you to 32 AD.

Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday  
All predicted over 500 years earlier.

Who has believed our message? To whom will the Lord reveal his saving power?  
... All of us have strayed away like sheep. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the guilt and sins of us all. ...But who among the people realized that he was dying for their sins—that he was suffering their punishment? *Isaiah 53 (Written 700 years before Christ came)*

### Community Group Questions:

1. Have you ever considered the weight of prophetic evidence in your own faith journey, if so, what prophecies inspired you the most?
2. The odds associated with one man fulfilling these prophecies are beyond astronomical, yet skeptical people easily dismiss this evidence. What do you think is the best ways to use this evidence to help others?
3. It's one thing to weigh prophetic fulfillment's impact on our faith but it's quite another thing to see why Jesus came at all and what He gave up for us because of his love.

How can you best celebrate His coming and His sacrifice in your lives?  
How can you make Jesus truly Lord over your life more complete?

<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Given By</b>	<b>Fulfilled</b>
Zechariah.12:10 Christ will be pierced	480BC	Zechariah	John 19:34-37
Zechariah.11:12,13 Christ betrayed for thirty pieces of silver	480BC	Zechariah	Matt. 26:14,15; 27:9
Amos 8:9 At Christ's death darkness came over the land	760BC	Amos	Luke 23:44
Isaiah 53:9 Buried in a rich man's tomb.	681:BC	Isaiah	Matthew 27:57

### In the book, "Science Speaks"

#### Peter Stoner, a mathematician,

Figured what the odds for these prophecies coming true in the life of one man by using compound probability.

*Stoner took just eight prophecies and figured out the odds they'd come true at random—1 in 10 to the 17th power! That's one in a hundred million billion.*

*Stoner took 48 of these 60 prophecies and calculated the odds It came out to 1 in ten to the 157 power!*

Author Lee Strobel, calculated these odds after consulting with scientists on the compounded probability of Jesus fulfilling all 48 prophecies would be the same as trying to find one specific, predetermined atom (*millions of atoms to the width of one human hair*) in a universe of uncountable amount of atoms and to find that one atom in one guess.

But **1 in ten to the 157<sup>th</sup>** power would mean you'd look for that one atom not in one universe but among a trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, billion universes the size of our universe!

That's one in ten to the 157<sup>th</sup> power.

The prophecies really are the teeth of the truth of scripture. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of scripture ever came from the prophets themselves or because they wanted to prophesy. It was the Holy Spirit who moved the prophets to speak from God. 2 Peter 1:20,21

### Daniel predicts when the Messiah will come to Jerusalem.

The wise men, (Magi) weren't kings at all. They were priests of Zoroastrianism, and they were from Medo-Persia, modern day Iran and Iraq.

The "Magi" were their countries *mathematicians, scientists*.

### So how did these powerful *scientist-priests* hear about a poor baby in Bethlehem?

In 535 BC, in Babylon, under King Nebuchadnezzar, a young exiled Jewish man, Daniel, was made chief of all the Magi.

*Then the king placed Daniel in a high position and lavished many gifts on him. He made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon and placed him in charge of all its Wise Men. (Magi)* Daniel 2:48

*Daniel given a prophecy while praying from the Angel Gabriel*

*Now listen and understand! Seven sets of seven plus sixty-two sets of seven will pass from the time the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One comes.* Daniel 9:25

Daniel's prophecy taught that 483 years after the decree to rebuild Jerusalem had been issued, (One possibility- King Artaxerxes as March 14, 445 BC.) Messiah would be here on earth. And to make it more interesting in verse 26 Daniel says; After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be put to death and will have nothing. Daniel 9:26