

FORESHADOWINGS 5 – Messiah & Prophecy

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS (Luke 24:13-35)

Jesus showed the two travellers how the whole of the PENTATEUCH & the writings of the PROPHETS pointed STRAIGHT AT the events they'd just witnessed (Matt 11:13, Luke 24:44-45).

→ *Why do you think the travellers took so long to get it / work out who Jesus was? What are the factors, preconceptions or 'blindnesses' that stop us recognising God at work? How might prophecy help that?*

Why should we have CONFIDENCE in Old Testament PROPHECY?

- * Prophecy is INSPIRED utterance, God-BREATHED, divinely REVEALED (2 Pet 1:20-21).
- * God is the AUTHOR; the prophet is the PEN.

In essence, NT prophecy is FORTHTELLING; in OT it was FORETELLING, which might include:

- a) WARNING of FUTURE CONSEQUENCES
- b) PREDICTING of FUTURE events
- c) MESSIANIC prophecy

→ *What are the main differences between Old Testament & New Testament prophecy? What is the difference between foretelling & forthtelling? What is the Holy Spirit's role in prophecy & how does that differ between the two testaments?*

A. BIRTH Prophecies

- i) Born in BETHLEHEM (Mic 5:2)
- ii) VIRGIN birth (Isa 7:14)
- iii) From the tribe of JUDAH (Zech 10:4, Rev 5:5)
- iv) From King DAVID'S line (Isa 9:6,7)

→ *Why are these prophesied details so important? Why did the religious people of Jesus' day miss it?*

B. LIFE & MINISTRY Prophecies (Isa 11:15, 35:4-6)

- i) Preceded by a MESSENGER (man of the wilderness) who will prepare way for Him (Isa 40:3-5; Mal 3:1, Matt 3:1-3)
- ii) ANOINTED by THE HOLY SPIRIT (Isa 11:2, 61, Lk 4:18-21)
- iii) Preach GOOD NEWS (Isa 61:1, Luke 2:10, 8:1)
- iv) Perform many MIRACLES (Isa 35:5-6, Matt 9:35)
- v) Open BLIND EYES (Isa. 29:18, Matt 9:27-31; Mark 8:22-26; Luke 11:14; 18:42)
- vi) Speak in PARABLES (Ps 78:2, Matt 13:34)

- vii) Enter Jerusalem riding a DONKEY (Zech 9:9, Matt. 21:5)
 - viii) Cleanse the TEMPLE (Mal 3:1-4, Ps 69:9, Matt 21:12-13)
 - ix) GENTILES would believe in Him, while own people would REJECT Him (Isa 8:14; 49:6; 50:6; 60:3; Ps 22:7-8; 118:22, see 1 Pet 2:7, etc.)
 - x) SINLESS & SPOTLESS (Lev 9:2, Num 6:14, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Pet 1:19)
- *Take some time to look up these verses & marvel at the accuracy of the detail & the significance of the overview of Christ that these predictions provide.*

C. DEATH & RESURRECTION Prophecies (Psalm 22, Isaiah 53)

→ *What is 'double reference' and how does it apply in Psalm 22?*

- i) BETRAYED by a FRIEND for 30 pieces of silver (Ps 41:9, Zech 11:12-13, Matt 27:3-10)
- ii) He would not OPEN HIS MOUTH to defend himself (Isa 53:7, Matt 27:12)
- iii) He would be MOCKED & SPAT upon (Isa 50:6, Matt 26:67; 27:26-30)
- iv) He'd be 'NUMBERED AMONG THE TRANSGRESSORS' (Isa 53:9,12)
... crucified as a criminal between 2 thieves (Matt 27:38)
- v) His HANDS & FEET would be PIERCED (Zech 12:10, Ps 22:16, John 19:34)
- vi) Given VINEGAR to drink (Ps 69:21, Matt 27:34, 48)
- vii) None of His BONES would be BROKEN (Ex 12, Ps 34:20, John 19:33)
- viii) He will be buried with the RICH (Isa 53:9, Matt 27:57-60, Joseph of Arimathea's tomb)

→ *Which of these prophecies are the most remarkable? What do you think the odds would be of someone correctly fulfilling them all? To what extent did Jesus have influence of each of these & which ones were 'out of His control?'*

RAISED from the dead (Ps 16:8-11, Mt 12:40, Mark 16:6, Acts 2:31)

ASCENDED into heaven (Ps 68:18, Acts 1:9)

Be SEATED at right hand of God (Ps 110:1, Heb 1:3)

Usher in a NEW COVENANT (Jer 31:31, Matt 26:28, Heb 8:6-13)

D. SECOND COMING Prophecies

A TASTER: Matt 24:30-31, Acts 1:11, 1 Thess 4:16-17, Rev 22:1-13

→ *Why are the Second Coming prophecies so significant? How significant is it that it is predicted by so many biblical people & sources? How long until He comes back, do you think?*

WRAP-UP

That level of 'COINCIDENCE' is IMPOSSIBLE. None of the details are ACCIDENTAL, but the outworking of a masterful divine PLAN

→ *What have been your main takeaways from this series & how has it helped your understanding?*