# **Old Testament Prophecies About Jesus Christ**

Ken E Murray May 20, 2024

Some scholars believe there are about 333 prophecies about Jesus in the Old Testament.

70 of them were fulfilled in the last week of Christ's human life.

These prophecies are specific enough that the mathematical probability of Jesus fulfilling even a handful of them, let alone all of them, is staggeringly improbable—if not impossible.

**Peter Stoner**, Chairman of the Departments of Mathematics and Astronomy at Pasadena College, was passionate about biblical prophecies.

With **600 students** from the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Stoner looked at eight (8) specific prophecies about Jesus. They came up with extremely conservative probabilities for each one being fulfilled, and then considered the likelihood of Jesus fulfilling all eight of those prophecies.

The conclusion to his research was staggering.

The prospect that anyone would satisfy those eight (8) prophecies was just 1 in 10<sup>17</sup> ...that's 10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power. In Science Speaks, he described it like this:

"Let us try to visualize this chance. If you mark one of ten tickets, and place all of the tickets in a hat, and thoroughly stir them, and then ask a blindfolded man to draw one, his chance of getting the right ticket is one in ten.

Suppose that we take  $10^{17}$  power in silver dollars and lay them on the face of Texas. They will cover all of the state two feet deep (600mm deep).

Now mark one of these silver dollars and stir the whole mass thoroughly, all over the state.

"Blindfold a man and tell him that he can travel as far as he wishes, but he must pick up one silver dollar and say that this is the right one.

## What chance would he have of getting the right one?

Just the same chance that the prophets would have had of writing these eight prophecies and having them all come true in any one man, from their day to the present time, providing they wrote using their own wisdom.

55 Old Testament prophecies about Jesus

Today, we're putting together just a small number of those 333 prophecies covering four specific areas:

Jesus' birth

Jesus' ministry

Jesus' death and resurrection

Jesus' role in the church and coming Kingdom of God

It's my hope that your faith is strengthened as you pursue these prophecies about Jesus.

# Prophecies of Jesus' birth

Not only was Christ's miraculous birth prophetically revealed, but God planned his lineage from the very beginning.

Here are THIRTY (30) prophecies predicting elements of Jesus' birth childhood, and ministry

# 1. The nations will be blessed through Abraham's lineage

Prophecy:

"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you" (Genesis 12:3).

### **Fulfillment:**

"And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.' When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways" (Acts 3:25–26).

# 2. The sceptre will come through Judah

Prophecy:

"The sceptre will not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until he to whom it belongs shall come
and the obedience of the nations shall be his" (Genesis 49:10).

# **Fulfillment:**

Judah is part of Jesus' genealogy.

"the son of Amminadab, the son of Ram,

the son of Hezron, the son of Perez,

the son of Judah" (Luke 3:33)

# 3. A virgin will give birth, and he will be called Immanuel (God with us)

Prophecy:

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

#### **Fulfillment:**

"The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35).

#### 4. The Christ will be born in Bethlehem

Prophecy:

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." (Micah 5:2).

## **Fulfillment:**

"When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written:

"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." (Matthew 2:4–6).

## 5. The Messiah will end up in Egypt, the land of Sin and make Exodus.

### Prophecy:

"When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son" (Hosea 11:1).

### **Fulfillment:**

"So he [Joseph] got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'Out of Egypt I called my son'" (Matthew 2:14–15).

# 6. Jesus would teach in parables

# Prophecy:

"My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old" (**Psalm 78:1–2**)

#### **Fulfillment:**

"Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

'I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world'" (**Matthew** 13:34–35).

# 7. Christ's ministry would begin in Galilee

## Prophecy:

"Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honour Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness light has dawned" (**Isaiah 9:1–2**).

#### **Fulfillment:**

"When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali—to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

'Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people living in darkness of death a light has dawned.'

"From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 4:12–17).

# 8. Jesus would have a miraculous ministry

# Prophecy:

"Then will the eyes of the blind be opened—and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert" (Isaiah 35:5–6).

# **Fulfillment:**

"When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?'

"Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me" (Matthew 11:2–6).

# 9. The Messiah would be preceded by a forerunner

### Prophecy:

"A voice of one calling: 'In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain" (Isaiah 40:3–4).

### **Fulfillment:**

"John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, 'I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Make straight the way for the Lord" (John 1:23).

## 10. Jesus would be despised and rejected

# Prophecy:

"He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem" (Isaiah 53:3).

#### **Fulfillment:**

"All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff" (Luke 4:28–29).

# 11. Jesus will set us as "the captives" free

# Prophecy:

"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners" (Isaiah 61:1)

### **Fulfillment:**

"He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

"Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing'" (Luke 4:16–21).

# 12. Jerusalem will rejoice as the Messiah comes to her upon a donkey

# Prophecy:

"Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you,

righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (**Zechariah** 9:9).

# **Fulfillment:**

"A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!' 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!' 'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

"When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, 'Who is this?" (Matthew 21:8–10)

## 13. He will be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver

# Prophecy:

"I told them, 'If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.' So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.

"And the Lord said to me, 'Throw it to the potter'—the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the Lord" (**Zechariah 11:12–13**).

#### **Fulfillment:**

"The chief priests picked up the coins and said, 'It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money.' So they decided to use the money to buy the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners.

That is why it has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: 'They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on him by the people of Israel, and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me'" (Matthew 27:6–10).

# 14. Like the Passover Lamb, none of the Christ's bones will be broken

# Prophecy:

"It must be eaten inside the house; take none of the meat outside the house. Do not break any of the bones" (Exodus 12:46).

### **Fulfillment:**

"Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down.

The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe.

These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: 'Not one of his bones will be broken'" (**John 19:31–36**)

# 15. The Messiah's blood will be spilled for atonement

### Prophecy:

"For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life" (Leviticus 17:11).

### **Fulfillment:**

"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28).

## 16. Jesus will be lifted up, and everyone who looks to Him in faithfulness will live

### Prophecy:

"So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived" (Numbers 21:9).

# **Fulfillment:**

"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.'

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son" (John 3:14–18).

### 17. The Messiah would be forsaken

Prophecy:

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?" (Psalm 22:1)

### **Fulfillment:**

"About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' (which means 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?')" (Matthew 27:46).

#### 18. The Messiah would be scorned

Prophecy:

"He trusts in the Lord,' they say, 'let the Lord rescue him.

Let him deliver him, since he delights in him" (Psalm 22:8).

#### **Fulfillment:**

"He saved others,' they said, 'but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, "I am the Son of God"" (Matthew 27:42–43).

# 19. The Messiah's suffering would include thirst

Prophecy:

"My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death" (**Psalm 22:15**).

#### **Fulfillment:**

"Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, 'I am thirsty'" (John 19:28).

## 20. They would pierce Christ's hands and feet

Prophecy:

"Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet" (Psalm 22:16).

### **Fulfillment:**

"These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: 'Not one of his bones will be broken,' and, as another scripture says, 'They will look on the one they have pierced'" (John 19:36–37).

# 21. They would cast lots for Jesus' clothing

Prophecy:

"They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment" (**Psalm 22:18**).

### **Fulfillment:**

"When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

'Let's not tear it,' they said to one another. 'Let's decide by lot who will get it.'

"This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, 'They divided my clothes among them cast lots for my garment.' "So this is what the soldiers did" (John 19:23–24).

# 22. The Messiah will cry, "Into your hands I commit my Spirit"

Prophecy:

"Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, Lord, my faithful God" (Psalm 31:5).

### **Fulfillment:**

"Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last" (Luke 23:46).

## 23. Everyone will abandon the Messiah

Prophecy:

"Because of all my enemies, I am the utter contempt of my neighbours and an object of dread to my closest friends— those who see me on the street flee from me" (Psalm 31:11).

### **Fulfillment:**

"Then everyone deserted him and fled" (Mark 14:50).

## 24. They will plot to kill God's anointed

Prophecy:

"For I hear many whispering, 'Terror on every side!' They conspire against me and plot to take my life" (Psalm 31:13).

#### **Fulfillment:**

"Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed" (Matthew 27:1).

## 25. The Messiah will be quiet before his accusers

Prophecy:

"Those who want to kill me set their traps, those who would harm me talk of my ruin; all day long they scheme and lie. I am like the deaf, who cannot hear, like the mute, who cannot speak" (Psalm 38:12–13)

## **Fulfillment:**

"When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate asked him, 'Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?' But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor" (Matthew 27:12–14).

## 26. God's anointed will not see decay

### Prophecy:

"Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand" (**Psalm 16:9–11**).

### **Fulfillment:**

"Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay" (Acts 2:31).

## 27. The Messiah would be abandoned by those closest to him

# Prophecy:

"Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned against me" (**Psalm 41:9**).

## **Fulfillment:**

"I am not referring to all of you; I know those I have chosen. But this is to fulfill this passage of Scripture: 'He who shared my bread has turned against me'" (John 13:18).

# 28. The Christ's thirst will be quenched with vinegar and gall

# Prophecy:

"They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst" (**Psalm 69:21**).

# **Fulfillment:**

"There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it" (Matthew 27:34).

## 29. Jesus will have a sinless, blemish-free life and ministry

# Prophecy:

"The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats" (Exodus 12:5).

### **Fulfillment:**

"How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!" (Hebrews 9:14)

#### 30. The Messiah will usher in a new covenant

### Prophecy:

"The days are coming,' declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah" (Jeremiah 31:31).

### **Fulfillment:**

"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28).

# Just a Sample of 30 Amazing Prophecies about Jesus First Coming

As these prophecies reveal, God planned our redemption all the way back in time, even before the creation of the angels and the universe.

**2Tim\_1:9** who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

Titus 1:2 in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

Jesus' death and resurrection were the most important events in history, paving the way for us to be able to be forgiven the death penalty for our sins, by Christ's life and shed blood.

Jesus' story reveals God's incredible love for us.

Throughout the Old Testament, we discover how incredibly thorough his plan for rescuing us is.

Now, we can all be reconciled to Him through the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

# Many Prophecies Yet to be Fulfilled by Jesus Christ at His Second Coming

**Isa 9:6** For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isa 9:7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Matt 24:27 For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Mat 24:30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Mat 24:31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

**Rev 1:7** Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

Rev 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

**Jude 1:14** Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,

Jud 1:15 to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

Dan 7:18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

Dan 7:27 Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'

Exodus 15:18 "The LORD shall reign forever and ever."

Psalm\_146:10 The LORD shall reign forever—Your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

**Revelation\_11:15** Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

We pray that God will speed the day of Jesus Christ's return and that God will help us make ourselves to be ready for then, when we will be part of the royal priesthood...