

Introduction

"We understand from the written Word of God that there is one supreme purpose which actuates God in all He has done, or will do, from the beginning of creation to the farthest reaches of eternity, whether it is in Heaven or on earth. For this one purpose angels were created; so also the material universe and man, and though hidden behind an inscrutable mystery, we know that even sin was permitted and redemption was provided with a view to the realization of this supreme purpose. This supreme purpose is the Glory of God.

Since the Bible is God's message to man, its supreme purpose is His supreme purpose; which is that He may be glorified."

- Lewis Sperry Chafer

1 Scientific Evidence

The Bible is a supernatural book. When we take the time to examine the evidence, we will discover that the Bible is the Word of God! There is no other book in the world that can compare to the Bible in terms of accuracy and credibility.

Evidence from science indicates that the whole earth was originally covered by water. As the mountain ranges were raised, and the ocean beds were deepened, dry land appeared in the form of islands and continents surrounded by seas and oceans. The Bible made this clear thousands of years before science did.

“Then God said, ‘Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear,’ and it was so.” (Gen 1:9)

The Bible states that as soon as the dry land appeared, plants, grasses, shrubs, and trees also began to appear:

Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them"; and it was so. (Gen 1:11)

These plants, grasses, shrubs, and trees still reproduce themselves faithfully according to their species or after their own kind.

Thousands of years before telescopes were invented, and before the study of astronomy, the Bible states the purpose of the sun, the moon, and the stars.

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and

years; and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth," and it was so. And God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also. (Gen 1:14-16)

The moon is the lesser light that governs the night as it reflects the sun's light to us. The greater light that rules the day is the sun, which is set at the center of the solar gravitational field. The visible stars and planets are set in their courses within the gravitational field of the whole galaxy, called the Milky Way. All of these enable us to tell the time of day, night, and the seasons of the year. These things, too, have been substantiated by science.

The Bible states that the sea would be filled with fish, and the air would be filled with birds that were called into being.

Then God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens." (Gen 1:20)

The seas today are still full of fish that God created according to their species, and the air is still filled with the birds that He created according to their species. On the same note, the Bible states that the land would be inhabited by the different species of animals which God created such as, reptiles, mammals, domestic animals, etc.:

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind," and it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good. (Gen 1:24-25)

The Bible states that God created humans, male and female, and that they would multiply to the point where they would populate the whole earth and exercise dominion over all the other living creatures upon it:

God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Gen 1:27-28)

Humans are still here today, male and female, just as God created them. They have multiplied to the point where they populate the whole earth and exercise dominion over all the other living creatures upon it. The Bible tells us this was revealed to Moses back in the 15th century B.C.

The Bible asserts that man's body is made out of the "dust," or the elements found in the dirt of the ground.

Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. (Gen 2:7)

When reduced to its basic elements, man's body is found to be composed of the following sixteen elements: carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, fluorine, sodium, magnesium, silicon, sulfur, phosphorus, chlorine, potassium, calcium, manganese, iron, and iodine, all which are found in the dust of the ground! Man's life depends upon the heartbeat, the pulse, and the brain waves in order to function. The brain is nourished by the blood, which is put in motion by the oxygen inhaled from breathing, so man still needs the breath of life to live.

The Bible also tells us of a curse put upon the woman: the curse of child bearing.

To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you." (Gen 3:16)

In spite of all the advances that have been made in the medical field, the curse of pain in child bearing is still with us today.

Just as the woman was cursed, the man was cursed as well.

"By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return." (Gen 3:19)

Another promise of the Bible was made by God to Abraham when God told Abraham that his seed would be without number, just as are the stars.

And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." (Gen 15:5)

In the third century B.C., Eratosthenes counted 675 stars, and his count was accepted as a scientific fact. As science grew, so did the number of stars. Ptolemy in the year A.D. 200, counted 1,028; John Flamsteed in the eighteenth century cataloged 3,000; and in 1862, with the aid of telescopes, science stated that there were 300,000 stars. Today, science tells us that there are over 200 billion stars in our galaxy alone. Therefore, Abraham's seed are without number, to the human mind, just as are the stars.

God revealed that the earth is round through the prophet Isaiah who said, **"It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers" (Isa 40:22)**. At the time, most people believed the earth to be flat, and it was not until 1519-1521 that a Portuguese navigator named Ferdinand Magellan became the first person to circle the earth. The book of Job describes the earth as being suspended in space. **"He stretches out the north over empty space, and hangs the earth on nothing" (Job**

26:7). Ancient science taught that the earth was supported on the backs of elephants, turtles, or serpents. It was not until modern times that the earth was indeed proven to be suspended in empty space. How foolish it is to explain away the tremendous intricate organization of our galaxy to some imaginary unorganized “Big Bang!”

The Lord Jesus Christ claimed that at His return one out of two who are sleeping will be taken at night, while at the same moment one out of two who are working in the field during the day would be taken. To the men of that time, this would have been a complete mystery! However, we know now while it is day on one side of the earth, it is night on the other side.

"I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left. There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken and the other will be left. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left. (Luk 17:34-36)

Another fact of nature found in the Bible is God’s claim that the vulture is guided by his sight. Job spoke of this when he said, **"The path no bird of prey knows, nor has the vulture’s eye caught sight of it" (Job 28:7).** Until recently it was believed that the vulture could scent from afar, but now modern science has proven that it is by keenness of sight that the vulture is guided.

Time after time, science confirms what the Bible stated long ago. Even more evidence of this is seen in the atmosphere. In **Job 28:25, “When He [God] imparted weight to the wind, and meted out the waters by measure.”** The fact that air has weight was demonstrated when Pascal proved it in 1648.

God even tells us about the laws of meteorology (the study of weather and climate). For instance, **Ecc 1:6** describes the pattern in which the wind flows, **“Blowing toward the south, then turning toward the north, the wind continues swirling along; and on its circular courses the wind returns.”** Psa 135:7 and Job 36:7 illustrate the process of water evaporation and rainfall:

He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; who makes lightnings for the rain; who brings forth the wind from His treasures. (Psa 135:7)

For he draws up the drops of water, they distill rain from the mist. (Job 36:27)

Outside of the Bible, man did not know these facts until the basic laws of aerodynamics, thermodynamics, and hydrodynamics were formulated and proven by scientists in the late 1800s.

Another scientific fact from God’s word is the phenomenon that regions of the sea’s surface are frozen. This is stated by Job, **“water becomes hard like stone, and the surface of the deep is imprisoned” (Job 38:30).** Most of the world did not know that the surface of the deep could be frozen until the seventeenth century, when Henry Hudson explored the arctic regions of the north. In fact, Psa 147:15-17 tells of God’s

claim that at one time He quick-froze the earth. Since 1806, the carcasses of mammoths and other prehistoric animals have been found quick-frozen in the Siberian wastes. In many cases their meat was still fresh enough to eat, or their food was still in their mouth:

He sends forth His command to the earth; His words run very swiftly. He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes. He casts forth His ice as fragments; who can stand before His cold? (Psa 147:15-17)

Not surprisingly, human science has never been able to explain this phenomenon. However, the scientific accuracy of the Bible, which was written thousands of years before many of man's scientific discoveries, is unquestionable.

2 Prophecy

The evidence found in prophecy is yet another reason for us to trust in the Bible. A few examples of this can be seen in the areas of travel and knowledge, both of which God predicted thousands of years before they became a reality. For example, in **Dan 12:4**, God claims that during the end times **“many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.”** Modern times are characterized by advanced travel and science. Today, man’s technical knowledge enables him to reach the moon, and to travel across the country in hours. While mankind marvels at innovations such as the airplane, God is not surprised, because he foretold the role of the airplane in the return of the Jews in the book of Isaiah:

Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary. (Isa 40:31)

Who are these who fly like a cloud, and like the doves to their lattices? (Isa 60:8)

Isa 40:31 was actually a verse used by the Jews to persuade other Jews in Arabia to return to their homeland of Israel by airplane. Additionally, God foreshadowed fast transportation, possibly the automobile, when in the book of Nahum he refers to the Assyrian war chariots that **“race madly in the streets, they rush wildly in the squares, their appearance is like torches, they dash to and fro like lightning flashes” (Nah 2:4)**. What a picture this is of the traffic along the streets and highways of our modern cities!

Another area of travel that was prophesied concerns underwater habitation is taught in Amo 9:3: **“And though they conceal themselves from My sight on the floor of the sea, from there I will command the serpent and it will bite them.”** The Word of God claimed thousands of years ago that men would be hiding themselves at the bottom of the sea, and today a crew can live under water thousands of feet deep for months at a time! Once again the Bible is proven true.

In addition to progress in travel and technology, Gen 11:1-9 records the explanation concerning the many languages. Mankind built a tower, representing his efforts to reach heaven by his own good works, and God confounded the languages at Babel, a name which means confusion:

Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. And it came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly." And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach

into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name; lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city. Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth. (Gen 11:1-9)

Today we know that there are hundreds of languages and dialects spoken throughout the world; hence, another prophecy is validated. With such an abundance of evidence, there should be little doubt about the inerrancy of the Bible.

3

For the Jews

The most vividly portrayed prophesy in the Bible is that of the birth, life, and death of the Messiah. Time and again, these prophecies of the Old Testament were fulfilled, yet the Jewish people didn't recognize, or didn't accept them when they occurred. Consider the odds of the Lord Jesus Christ fulfilling the prophecy of the Cross in the Jewish Bible, and yet the Jewish people did not believe in Him. Just to clarify the evidence they had before them, let's look at some of the Old Testament prophecies.

In the "roll of the book," that is, the Old Testament Scriptures, it is written:

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise Him on the heel." (Gen 3:15)

We know that God the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, became a man because we're told in **Gal 4:4** that **"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law."**

Another prophecy given to the Jews was that of the brazen serpent being lifted up:

"And Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on the standard; and it came about, that if a serpent bit any man, when he looked to the bronze serpent, he lived." (Num 21:9)

It is understood that the bronze serpent represented the Lord Jesus Christ because we read:

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up." (Joh 3:14)

"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself." (Joh 12:32)

The Jews in the Old Testament were told to look upon the serpent, and they would be healed. Our Lord referred to His sacrificial death as a lifting up, because the Jews were looking for a Messiah who should be lifted up. The fiery serpent paralleled Christ being lifted up on the cross in order that He might save, through the look of faith, those who were dying from sin. What needs to be answered is why a serpent? The serpent was an appropriate figure of the deadly and destructive power of sin. In Gen 3:15, the serpent's seed is said to be unregenerate sinners and therefore, the serpent represented the sinner. It may seem totally unfitting to describe the Lord Jesus Christ like Satan is described, as a serpent; however on the cross **2Co 5:21** says, **"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."**

Our Lord Jesus Christ was made a curse for us so that the curse might be removed from us, and nothing could symbolize this more appropriately than a serpent. It was made of brass to bring out the perfect accuracy of the type, because in the Scriptures, brass symbolizes divine judgment. The brazen altar illustrates this truth, for on it the sacrificial animals were slain. Upon the brazen altar descended the consuming fire from heaven. In Rev Chapter 1 where Christ is seen as judge inspecting the seven churches, we are told that His feet were like fine brass. So the serpent spoke of the curse which sin produced, and the brass spoke of God's judgment falling on the One made to be sin for us all. Brass is also harder than iron, silver, or gold, so it tells of Christ's mighty strength. He was able to endure the awful judgments which fell upon Him.

Another prophecy concerning the Messiah was that of the Passover as a foreshadowing of the cross of Christ. We find this in Exo Chapter 12 where the Jews received divine instruction to slay a lamb:

"Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats." (Exo 12:5)

"Moreover, they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it." (Exo 12:7)

"For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments--I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt." (Exo 12:12-13)

The angel of death swept through the land, and executed judgment just as it was told. However, the Jews, who had put the lamb's blood on the doorposts and lintel, were spared the wrath of God. This became known as the Passover, because God passed over them. The sacrifice of the unblemished lamb is paralleled to Jesus Christ of whom John the Baptist said, **"Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (Joh 1:29).**

What is the future of the God-Man?

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (Isa 9:6)

We also know that the Messiah was prophesied to come from the tribe of Judah, one of the twelve tribes descended from Jacob.

"The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes, And to him shall be the obedience of the peoples. (Gen 49:10)

This was fulfilled, **For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests (Heb 7:14).**

We are also told that the Savior would grow up in Nazareth:

"Then say to him, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, Behold, a man whose name is Branch, for He will branch out from where He is; and He will build the temple of the Lord.'" (Zec 6:12)

Nazareth means branch; in **Mat 2:23** we're told that Jesus lived in a city called Nazareth. **This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets: "He shall be called a Nazarene."**

In the book of Micah, it is written that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem:

"But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity." (Mic 5:2)

This was fulfilled:

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him." (Mat 2:1-2)

The point is that the "roll of the book," the Old Testament Scriptures, were written about the Lord Jesus Christ! There are many more Scriptures that prove this, and it is the epitome of arrogance and ignorance for anyone to refuse to give the Bible a hearing.

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel. (Isa 7:14)

We know that Jesus was born of a virgin:

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which translated means, "God with us." And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the

angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife, but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus. (Mat 1:18-25)

For a child [the humanity of Christ] will be born to us, a Son [the deity of Christ] will be given to us [the hypostatic union, the God-Man] And the government will rest upon His shoulders and His name will be called Wonderful Councilor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace (Isa 9:6).

Jehovah prophesied through Hosea that **"when Israel was a youth, I loved Him, and out of Egypt I called My Son" (Hos 11:1)**. Again, we see this fulfilled in Matthew, where Jesus Christ was called out of Egypt: **Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him" (Mat 2:13).**

He remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "out of Egypt I called My Son." (Mat 2:15)

In addition, Isaiah wrote:

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, and freedom to prisoners; to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn. (Isa 61:1-2)

We need look no further than the New Testament to find that Jesus proclaimed that He had fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy:

And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed, To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord." And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." (Luk 4:16-21)

It is written that the King of Israel would come to them mounted on a donkey:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey. (Zec 9:9)

Sure enough, the book of Matthew documents Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on a donkey:

When they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me. "If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold your King is coming to you, Gentle, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.' " The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them, and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their coats on them; and He sat on the coats. Most of the crowd spread their coats in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in the road. The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!" When He had entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee." (Mat 21:1-11)

There was also the prophecy of the false witnesses, **"Malicious witnesses rise up; They ask me of things that I do not know" (Psa 35:11)**. This too was fulfilled: **Some stood up and began to give false testimony against Him, saying, "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands'" (Mar 14:57-58)**.

Let's not overlook the Old Testament prophecy of the betrayal of Judas Iscariot, **"Even My close friend, in whom I trusted, who ate My bread, has lifted up his heel against Me" (Psa 41:9)**. As one of the most well-known stories of the Bible, we know that this was fulfilled as well:

While He was still speaking, behold, a multitude came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was preceding them; and he approached Jesus to kiss Him. But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" (Luk 22:47-48)

We're also told through the prophecy of Isaiah that He would be silent as He approached the Cross: **"He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth" (Isa 53:7)**. Of course, this, too, was fulfilled. Then Pilate was questioning Him again, saying, **"Do You not answer? See how many charges they bring against You!" But Jesus made no further answer; so that Pilate was amazed (Mar 15:4-5)**.

Then there was the physical abuse and humiliation that Jesus would suffer that was

prophesied, **"I gave My back to those who strike Me, and My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting." (Isa 50:6).** This was fulfilled, **"then they spat in His face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped Him"** (Mat 26:67).

We also have the prophecy of His hands and feet being pierced, **"For dogs have surrounded Me; a band of evildoers has encompassed Me; they pierced My hands and My feet"** (Psa 22:16). This, too, was fulfilled as documented throughout the gospels when His enemies nailed His hands and feet to the cross:

And after they had mocked Him, they took His robe off and put His garments on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him. (Mat 27:31)

And they crucified Him, and divided up His garments among themselves, casting lots for them to decide what each should take. (Mar 15:24)

The prophecy of the piercing Jesus in His side is given in the Old Testament. **"I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn." (Zec 12:10).**

The fulfillment of this is given in the gospel of John. **"But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. " (Joh 19:34).** This will be completely fulfilled in Rev 1:7 **Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him.**

History records for us the prophecy of certain events that took place around the Cross. In fact, Psalm 22:6-8 illustrates how Jesus Christ was mocked by the people:

"But I am a worm, and not a man, a reproach of men, and despised by the people. All who see Me sneer at Me; they separate with the lip, they wag the head, saying, 'Commit yourself to the Lord; let Him deliver Him; let Him rescue Him, because He delights in Him.'" (Psa 22:6-8)

This ill-treatment was fulfilled according to Luke who described the unfolding of events. **"And the people stood by, looking on. And even the rulers were sneering at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if this is the Christ of God, His Chosen One" (Luk 23:35).**

The prophecy of His crucifixion is given: **"Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors" Isa 53:12).** This was fulfilled in the gospel of Luke:

And when they came to the place called the skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots, dividing up His garments among themselves. (Luk 23:33-34)

Further still is the prophecy of our Lord's enemies offering Him gall and vinegar: **"They also gave Me gall for My food, and for My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink" (Psa 69:21)**. At the time of the crucifixion, when Jesus was hanging on the cross, that is exactly what happened. **They gave Him wine to drink mingled with gall; and after tasting it, He was unwilling to drink (Mat 27:34)**.

Another prophecy stated: **"He keeps all His bones; not one of them is broken" (Psa 34:20)**. According to the accounts of John, not one of His bones was broken:

But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe. For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, "Not a bone of Him shall be broken." (Joh 19:34-36)

There is the prophecy of the nailing of Jesus' hands and feet: **"And one will say to Him, 'What are these wounds between Your arms?' Then He will say, 'Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends.'" (Zec 13:6)**. This too was fulfilled. **Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side; and be not unbelieving, but believing" (Joh 20:27)**.

Isaiah also wrote the prophecy stating that He would come to die for our sins in order to save us: **"But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed" (Isa 53:5)**. This was fulfilled throughout the entire New Testament, **"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom 5:8)**.

All the Old Testament prophecies, which were hundreds or even thousands of years old at the time of Christ, were verified in the accounts of the apostles, and even secular historians, such as Josephus. Therefore, there is so much undeniable proof written in the "roll of the book" to validate that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, as well as the supreme inerrancy of the Bible as the Word of God.

5

The Conclusion

One of the strongest evidences of the divine inspiration of Scripture is the phenomenon of fulfilled prophecy. It is impossible to consistently prophesy specific future events with any type of real accuracy unless you are God. Anyone who attempts to prophesy specific events will be confronted by the staggering odds against success created by the inescapable “laws of mathematical probability.”

God declares boldly in His Word that these prophecies, and their fulfillments are His signature upon the Bible, and His verification that the Bible is truly the inspired (God-breathed) Word of God. The precision of fulfilled prophecy becomes not only an irrefutable proof of God’s foreknowledge and sovereignty, but it also proves conclusively that the Bible is the revelation of God’s truth. After seeing all the facts, there can be no rational reason for anyone of sound mind not to accept the divine inspiration of the Bible:

But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, For no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. (2Pe 1:20-21)

It could not have come in any other way. The problem is:

In whose case the god of this world [that is, the devil] has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2Co 4:4)

This glorious gospel of salvation can however, shine into the hearts and minds of all who will simply open them up to Christ by a simple act of the will.

Of course, we can come to Him only by His grace, through personal faith in His saving work and power. However, as we have seen in this study, that faith is a reasonable faith based on solid evidence, and it is my prayer that the readers will choose to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and they will be saved!

It is that simple. You can tell God the Father that you realize that you are a sinner, and that you need a Savior. You can tell God the Father right now that you are willing to believe in His Son Jesus Christ for eternal life.

“They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” (Act 16:31)