

PROPHECY FULFILLED BY A BABY IN BETHLEHEM



Administrative Bishop Daniel Hampton

Have you ever taken the time to consider prophecies in the Old Testament that were fulfilled with the birth of Jesus Christ? As you study the events which took place for those prophecies to become a reality it is impossible to deny the fact that God orchestrated everything. Look at just a few of those prophecies which foretold the birth of our Redeemer. Those prophecies are so specific that there is no doubt Jesus fulfilled them when he was born. Time will not allow me to elaborate on all of them but I have chosen just a few to prove the fact that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promised Redeemer.

Eighteen centuries before Jesus was born, God told Abram, the father of the Jewish nation, "All peoples on earth will be blessed through you". (Genesis 12:3) Jesus fulfilled this promise as shown in Matthew 1:1. Matthew detailed the genealogy of Christ from Abraham, to Joseph, the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Jeremiah 23:5-6 states that the Messiah would come from the house of David and take his throne. Read carefully those verses and then compare them to Luke 1:31-33 where the angel Gabriel told Mary, "You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord will give Him the throne of his father David, and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever, His kingdom will never end." (Read also Psalms 89:3-4)

Around 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah the prophet, wrote in Isaiah 7:14 this 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." Read Matthew 1:18-23 "This is how Jesus, the Messiah, was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph; but before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man and did not want to disgrace her publically, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save his people from their sins." All this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "Look, the virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and they will call Him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

Micah, an Old Testament prophet, foretold in Micah 5:2 – "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." Before Jesus was born, Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census be taken which required every citizen to register in the town of their family origin, thus Joseph was required to go to Bethlehem. This was not a coincidence but a divine fulfillment of prophecy. With all that Rome did to advance the society of that day with roads, required registration taxation and the census they were nothing more than a pawn in the Hand of God to fulfill the prophecies given hundreds of years earlier.

Hosea declared in chapter 11 and verse 1 of his book these prophetic words: "When Israel was a child I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son." King Herod who ruled Palestine when Jesus was born felt threatened when he heard about this child and planned to kill him; but God is always on time and never late. An angel of the Lord warned Joseph in a dream to take Mary and Jesus into Egypt where they lived until Herod died and then they returned to Nazareth thus fulfilling the prophecy of Hosea. Read Matthew 2:1-15 then look at verses 19 & 20, which states, "When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. "Get up," the angel said. "Take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead." We talk a lot about Mary, and rightfully so, but we must also remember the obedience of Joseph and his following the instructions given to him by the angels of the Lord. He is to be commended for his faithful obedience.

I could go on and on with this article giving one prophecy after another about the birth of Messiah and how Jesus' coming fulfilled every one of them with 100 percent accuracy. Make no mistake about it Jesus is the Son of God and apart from Him there is no other. There are many voices and attempts are constantly being made to diminish the truth of the Bible but in just the few examples I have given, there is no doubt but that Jesus is the fulfillment of the promise of God.

I want to encourage you during this Christmas season to set aside time to reassure yourself, your family, your loved ones, your close friends and acquaintances of the truth about Jesus Christ. It is more than just a story we read about, it is the hope for all humanity and the only way to the Heavenly Father. My prayer for each of you who read this article, is that this Christmas will be a time of reflection and restoration of Faith, Hope and Joy in the Holy Spirit.

Included with this article are 44 Prophecies Jesus Christ fulfilled. I trust this will be a blessing to you as you and your family gather to celebrate the greatest birth the world has ever experienced.

Congratulations

ORDAINED MINISTER
ISAAC VAN BLARICOM

Sincere Condolences TO THE FAMILIES OF:

RUDELL BLOOMFIELD
RETIRED MINISTER
OCTOBER 31, 2021

JUANITA MCALPINE
WIDOW OF RETIRED MINISTER
BARNEY MCALPINE
NOVEMBER 6, 2021

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT AN
UPCOMING EVENT?

NEED AN APPLICATION, OR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION?

YOU CAN CONTACT US OR RECEIVE
INFORMATION IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS.

PHONE: 304-252-0622 FAX: 304-252-0665

WEB: WWW.WVCOG.COM

FACEBOOK: WEST VIRGINIA CHURCH OF GOD
STATE OFFICE (CLEVELAND, TN)

EMAIL: YOUTHSEC@WVCOG.COM

MAIL: PO BOX 2374 BECKLEY, WV 25801

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 28-30 PREMIER WINTERFEST OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

FEBRUARY 4-6 SMOKY MOUNTAIN WINTERFEST

PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE

FEBRUARY 20-22 PRAYER CONFERENCE FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER

MARCH 3-5 INTL. CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

MARCH 11-12 KIDS ADVENTURE DAY/JR TALENT NEW RIVER RANCH

APRIL 8-9 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER

APRIL 29-MAY 1 SMOKY MOUNTAIN KIDFEST

APRIL 22-24 MASON, OHIO KIDFEST



M&M Christmas Story

As you hold these candies in your hand and turn them, you will see....

The M becomes a W, an E, and then a 3.
They tell the Christmas story it's one I'm
sure you know.
It took place in a stable a long, long time ago.

E The E is for the East where the star
shone oh so bright.

m The M is for the Manger where the
baby Jesus slept that night.

3 The 3 is for the Wisemen bearing gifts,
they say they came.

w W is for Worship, Hallelujah
Praise to His name.

So as you eat these candies or share them
with a friend, remember the Spirit of
Christmas and never let it end!

Merry Christmas

The Church of God State Office Staff is praying for each Pastor, Pastor's Wife, Minister and Lay member, and attender of our churches, that God will provide and keep you and your families safe during this time.

Mountaineer Ministries Prayer Requests:

(these requests come from the white envelope enclosed)

Our country; Our President and State Leaders; Military; Health Care Professionals; Health and Wellness; Finances; Jobs; Marriages; Family; The Church; A miracle healing for Joshua; Healing from complications of Covid; Husband who is lost; Drug Addiction; My grandchildren; A church member with cancer; God to save my daughter; Our home; God's direction; Children and Teachers; God's spirit to saturate our city.

Mountaineer Ministries Praise Reports:

(these reports come from the white envelope enclosed)

My pastor and wife; God's healing touch;
My home; A country we are free to worship in; God moving in our church;
Seeing souls saved and restored;
People returning to church; Protecting my children;
Husband being saved; Our Church; New job A healing touch from God;
My Pastor and First Lady;

Mark Your Calendar

November 23 - 26, 2021 - State Office Closed for Thanksgiving

December 3, 2021 - Ministers, Spouses and Widows Christmas Banquet (pre registration required)

December 18, 2021 to December 30, 2021 - State Office Closed (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year)

State Office will reopen Monday, January 3, 2022