



Sermon Series Notes

“Christmas Prophecies”

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Isa.7:17, word for virgin used about six times, always referring to a virgin; Matthew 1:18-23.

Gen.3:15; 12:1-3, 7. Verse 7 is a singular Hebrew word meaning “seed.” See Gal.3:16. From Abraham God made a great nation (Israel), and from that nation came Jesus the Christ. See Matthew 1:1.

Genesis 49:10 says, "The scepter...that is the scepter that identifies the ruler, a scepter was the mark of a ruler, a monarch...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." Shiloh is a kind of cryptic title for the Messiah. Shiloh if you translate it, it means the one whose right it is. So the one who is the rightful ruler, the one who is the rightful heir, the one who is God's anointed, none other than the Messiah, will come from the tribe of Judah. See Luke 3:33.

II Sam.7:12-16, this prophecy has dual fulfillment, some of it referring to Solomon and some referring to Christ. See Jer.33:14-16; Matt.1:1

Micah 5:2, Micah the prophet spells it out, "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah..." Ephrathah is simply a secondary distinguishing title because there was also a Bethlehem in the north in Galilee, in a completely different location.

Hosea 11:1 --- Matthew 2:13-15

Isa.40:3-5 ---- Matthew 3:1-3

Jer.31:15, another prophecy that has dual fulfillment, historically referring to the slaughter of children in the Babylonian invasion, yet also speaking of the dark side of the Christmas story --- see Matthew 2:16.

It is affirmed in the New Testament that our Lord has a priesthood that transcends all others; Psalm 110:1, 4; Gen.14:18-20; Heb.5:6; 7:14-28.

Isa.61:1-2a ---- Luke 4:16-21

Isa.9:1-2 ---- Matt.4:13-16

Isa.8:14; Rom.9:33; I Peter 2:6-8; Psalm 118:22

Zech 9:9 --- Matthew 21:1-5

Psalm 41:9; 55:12-14; John 13:18-19 (Ps.41:9)

Zechariah chapter 11 verses 12 and 13, "I said to them," and to give you a little bit of background. Here the Messiah is seen speaking, the pre-incarnate Lord is seen speaking and He's asking what He will be worth to the people He comes to shepherd. "And I said to them, 'If it is good in your sight, give Me My wages. But if not, never mind.'" What am I worth? "So they weighed out 30 shekels of silver as My wages. Then the Lord said to me, 'Throw it to the potter, that magnificent price at which I was valued by them.' So I took the 30 shekels of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the Lord." Thirty shekels of silver, according to Exodus 21:32 was the price you paid for a slave who had been gored by an ox. So they valued Him at the price of a slave...30 pieces of silver. Matthew 26 tells us that's exactly what they paid for Jesus. One of the Twelve named Judas Iscariot went to the chief priests and said, "What are you willing to give me to deliver Him up to you?" And they weighed out to him 30 pieces of silver. And from then on he began looking for a good opportunity to betray Him. Matthew 27:5-10. 'It's not lawful to put them into the temple treasury since it is the price of blood.' And they counseled together and with the money bought the potter's field as a burial place for strangers. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day." That's exactly what Zechariah 11:12 and 13 said, throw it to the potter. Then the text of Matthew 27 says this, "Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah, the prophet, was fulfilled saying, 'And they took the 30 pieces of silver, the price of one whose price has been set by the sons of Israel and they gave them for the potter's field as the Lord directed me.'" Matthew tells us it was spoken through Jeremiah. How can he make that kind of mistake? The Old Testament, the Hebrew Old Testament divided into three sections, the Law, the Writings, and the Prophets. The Law as the writing of Moses, the five books of the Pentateuch, the Writings are all the other historical and poetic writings, the Writings that are not the Law and are not the Prophets, the major prophets and the minor prophets, the seventeen books of the prophets in the Hebrew canon, however, begin with the book of Jeremiah. The first book in the order of the Hebrew canon is Jeremiah. So Jeremiah then became a familiar title for all the prophetic books. It was a very Jewish way to refer to the prophets...to refer to them as Jeremiah.

Isaiah 53:7, "He was oppressed, He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth, like a lamb that is led to slaughter, like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth," Matthew tells us, "while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He made no answer. Pilate said to Him, 'Do you not hear how many things they testify against You?' He did not answer him with regard to even a single charge."

The Old Testament says that His hands and feet would be pierced, Psalm 22:16. "Dogs have surrounded Me, abandoned evil doers...has encompassed Me...this is a picture of the cross. They pierced My hands and feet." Zechariah 12:10, again says that the Jews one day will look on Him whom they have pierced.

Psalm 34:20 tells us, "No bone of His body would be broken in His crucifixion." That was very, very unusual. They eventually shattered the femurs to slump the body and speed up asphyxiation. But John 19:36 says, "For these things came to pass, they did not break His bones to fulfill the Scripture, Not a bone of Him shall be broken." It said that He would die with transgressors. Isaiah 53 tells us that He would die with the transgressors. Matthew 27:38 says at the time two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right, one on the left. The Old Testament said He would be buried by a rich man. Isaiah 53:9, His grave was assigned with wicked men yet He was with a rich man in His death. That rich man, according to Matthew 27:57 to 60 was Joseph of Arimathea,

Psalm 16:10; Isa.9:6-7