

Challenging the Cults



Why Jesus?

Why should anybody choose to be a Christian? Is Christianity just a choice one makes when choosing a religion, akin to choosing a car or a house? How can somebody just choose a religion?

There are many religions, why should anybody have to choose to become part of a religion? Why can't somebody be just a good ethical person, doing good, but not having any religion? For example, somebody could believe based on science, God does not exist, can't that person just be good, helping others, what's wrong in not choosing a religion? Why does somebody need to put a label on him or herself saying Buddhist, Muslim, Mormon, Christian, etc?

The Purpose of Religion and Science

Ultimately, the purpose of religion is an attempt to answer the questions of life. Who am I? Where did I come from? Is there something beyond this life? Does God exist? Who is God, if God exists? Where did matter come from? Who or what caused the universe? Am I required to do anything? Religion addresses these questions and more, instructing the follower what must and must not be done. The word religion comes from the word, *religare*, meaning *to restrain, tie back*. Religion is not alone in this quest for meaning and truth.

Science also is searching for answers to many of these very same questions. How did the universe come into existence? How did life form? Is there anything beyond life? If the scientist feels there is no intelligence designer (God) who made the universe, what's purpose in joining a religion?

Science and religion both attempt to find answers to the same questions, with a different basis. Science explores the questions of life from a *natural* backdrop, religion from a *super-natural* basis. These questions, science and religion attempt to answer can be summed up as follows.

- Who are we?
- Where did we come from?
- Where are we going?

The Search for Truth

Science and religion both claim to be on the quest for "Truth". Truth means what is real, what is actual as opposed to what is not real or factual. Logic dictates the need for truth. For example, the existence of human and animal life is a fact. How did this life come into existence? Both religion and science attempt to answer this explaining the "Truth" of life.

Take for example, the evolutionist, he believes life came into existence through a series of random mutations without the help of supernatural intelligence (God). Christianity believes life was created by God both views cannot be true, since both views contradict each other. This is a principle of logic, contradictory positions cannot both be true¹. God cannot exist and not exist, since one view negates the other.

The Buddhist believes Buddha was enlightened, he believes Buddha received information which was "True" or real. The Muslim believes Mohammed received "Truth" from God and this revelation was written down in the Quran. The Christian believes Jesus was the Son of God, who died for the sins of mankind. The Atheist believes there is no God, matter and life came into existence apart from God. Each one of these groups feel they have "Truth". Since many of the beliefs contradict each other, they cannot all be true.

Since everybody cannot be right, is there a way to find out who has the "Truth"? Can we examine the facts and determine, what is truth?

¹ This is known as the law of non-contradiction.

Is Truth important?

Is there life after death? Does God exist? Does this life matter? These are important questions, and based on what we believe the answers (Truth) are, we make choices.

For example, if someone believes the truth is, "No God exists" and "This life is all there is" she might invest her life in what this world can offer, and not worry about what happens after death. The Christian missionary who believes this life is temporary and eternity in heaven, follows death might forsake his life in a hostile country, to tell people about Jesus because he believes his life is in heaven. We all act on our belief, what we think is true.

If someone does not believe, knowing whether what happens following death is important; they don't pursue the issue. Here lies the problem, How can we know if it is important or not? We need to examine the evidence for "Truth" If the evidence shows, what happens after death is not important then why worry about death? However, if the evidence shows there is life beyond death, and the events in our present life determine our eternity, then we should pursue the truth, so we can know what to do.

The person who thinks death is unimportant might think "If you are not going anywhere, then why worry about where you are going?" However, if you are going somewhere (Heaven or Hell), then you might worry about death, and what follows. You might look for a map, because the map tells you what choices you must make along the road, so you can arrive at your destination. The map in many ways is like Truth, if you have truth, you can know the way. So if Heaven or Hell is a real place, it would be important to know how to go Heaven and not go to Hell. The question is "Should we worry about what happens after death?" Jesus said you should, Jesus makes the following comment regarding the importance of the souls final destination.

He says value of the soul to each individual is greater then gaining the whole world.

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? Matthew 16:26

Is the statement by Jesus Christ true? If Christianity is false, then the words of Jesus should not be heeded, but Jesus is right, and Hell is real then nothing is more important then finding the truth.

Jesus claims to the only way for salvation.

Christianity² claims to be the Truth, In fact, Jesus claims to be the "Exclusive Truth" meaning the only way to God is through Him. Secondly, Jesus said those who believe on him will not perish but have eternal life, be saved. These are strong, clear-cut statements, but are they True? Is there evidence behind the claims of Jesus being truth?

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

15 "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

17 "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved John 3:15-17

What do you need to do to be saved?

Saved, saved from what? Someone might ask. According to the Bible, man created in the image of God, is eternal like God. Those created will never cease to exist. The question is where will they exist? God is without sin, and sin must be paid for, the only way for someone to pay for sin is with their own life.

² Christianity referred to here is Biblical Christianity, as opposed to Christianity which combines traditions of church leaders as essentials, such as Catholicism and Orthodoxy. Biblical Christianity uses the Bible as its sole source of its authority and inspiration, *sola scriptura*, scripture alone.

Those who die in their sins will be separated from God. God understanding the hopeless condition of man sent Jesus Christ, His Son, from Heaven, to pay for our sins on the cross. When someone accepts God's gift of salvation, his or her sins are paid for by the work of Christ.



16 He saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him.

17 For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak. Isaiah 59:16-17 (710 B.C.)

Seven hundred years before Jesus was born the prophet Isaiah wrote about Jesus, and how his death would pay for the sins of all humanity. Scripture refers to Jesus as the "Arm of the Lord" both in Isaiah 53:1 and 59:16. God, through the person of Jesus interceded on our behalf because our situation was hopeless. God entered our world in the body of man, to die for our sins, so we could be made righteous with God.

The Lord has made bare His holy arm In the eyes of all the nations; And all the ends of the earth shall see The salvation of our God. Isaiah 52:10

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? Isaiah 53:1

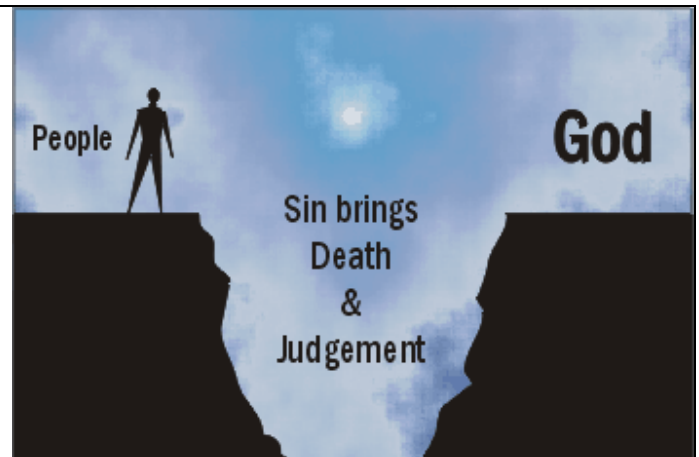
<p>1. We are separated from God.</p> <p>"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:9</p> <p>Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the Lord; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord. Jeremiah 23:24</p>	
<p>2. Our sins separate us from God</p> <p>But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear. Isaiah 59:2</p> <p>"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one... For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" Romans 3:10,23.</p>	

3. Our sin brings Judgment and Death

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned
Romans 5:12

"Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die. Ezekiel 18:4

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23

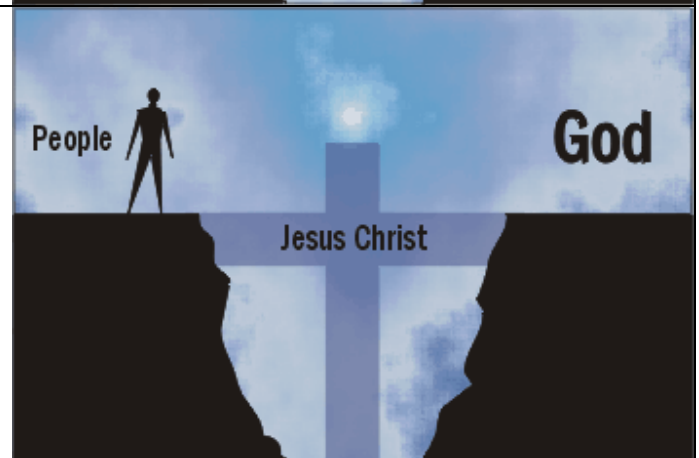


4. Jesus Christ came to pay for our sins

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
John 3:16

5. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

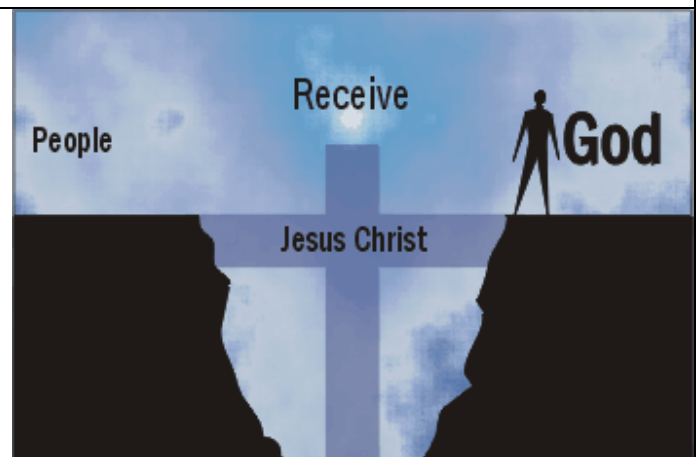
6. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.
Isaiah 53:5-6



5. Those who receive Jesus are forgiven of sin

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word (Jesus) and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.
John 5:24



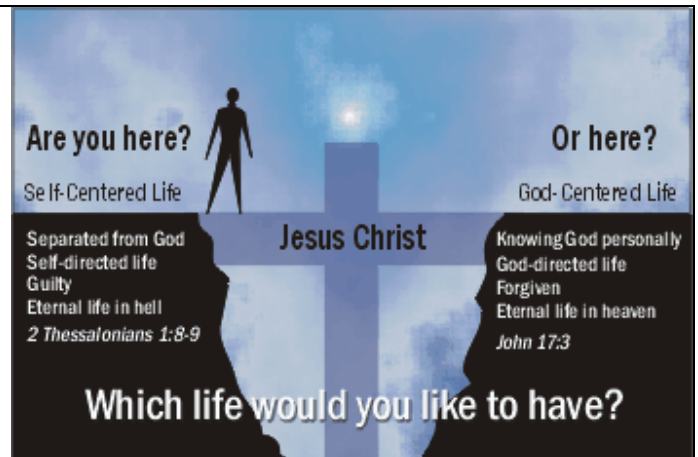
6. We must choose to accept Jesus Christ

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" Romans 10:13

How does someone accept Jesus as Savior?

A simple sincere prayer, with a willing heart is all that is required.

"Dear Lord, I know that I am a sinner and cannot save myself. Right now I turn from my sin and accept You alone for my salvation. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus Name, Amen."



Is Christianity the Truth?

To evaluate whether Christianity is true and Jesus is the Son of God as He claims its important to understand the background, beliefs and evidence of Christianity.

1. Background of Christianity

1. A. Old Testament

The word Christianity comes from the word Christ. Christ is the Greek word for משיח *Mashiyach* (Messiah), meaning anointed or anointed one. Though the word messiah is used for priests and kings, the Old Testament pointed to the coming of an ultimate Messiah, an individual who would come and restore the world to a condition of righteousness and judge sin. Christianity believes Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah of Israel foretold by Israel's prophets. The prophets listed specific events and qualifications which could only be fulfilled by one man. Jesus Christ fulfilled these qualifications demonstrating himself as the Messiah.

Christianity therefore considers itself the fulfillment of Judaism, Jesus being the Messiah foretold by the Jewish prophets. The Messiah would come into the world and restore humanities' relationship with God. When Israel rejected Jesus as Messiah, God extended the blessings of the Messiah, to the non-Jewish nations (The Gentiles). His rejection by Israel was foretold before Jesus came, and Israel future acceptance of Jesus is also foretold. Jesus being identified as "me whom they pierced", came the first time to suffer and die for the sins of the world, he will come the second time in glory and power to rule the nations. In the end the nations will come against Israel, and Israel will cry out to Jesus Christ as their Messiah.

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. Zechariah 12:10

God revealed His word through the descendents of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. These descendents known as Israel, named after Jacob who was renamed Israel. Jacob's had twelve sons whose descendents became known as the 12 tribes of Israel (See attached chart). Through Israel, God would make his plan of redemption, through the Messiah (Christ) known to the whole world.

Summary of The Old Testament (Tanach)	
Creation to Noah's Flood Genesis 1-9	<p>God created the heavens and the earth and mankind in 6-days and rested on the 7th day.</p> <p>God created the first man and woman, Adam and Eve. They had "Free Will" to obey or disobey God. They choose to reject God's command and listen to Satan, a fallen angel. By rejecting God's command, mankind became fallen and corrupt. God however promised a <i>Messiah</i> who would redeem man and restore him. (Genesis 3;15). Man's corrupt nature caused God to bring judgment on the whole human race, causing a flood to kill human and animal life. Noah, his family and all the living animals who entered the arc (the boat Noah built) were spared from God's judgment.</p> <p>Everybody alive today is a descendent of Noah and his family.</p>
From the Flood to Egyptian captivity 2500 B.C. To 1450 B.C. Genesis 10-50	<p>Following the flood, The arc landed in the mountains of Ararat (Armenia), from there, man as one tribe traveled to the lands of Babylon. As one people, humanity again began to rebel against God, so God caused a confusion in language between Noah's descendents. This confusion caused humanity to be dispersed over the earth forming the different nations.</p> <p>Abraham left Ur, a city in Babylon, for Mt. Moriah (Jerusalem) at God's instruction. God promised to make a great nation out of Abraham. Isaac, Abraham's son, had two sons Jacob and Esau. Jacob had 12 sons, who would later become the nation of Israel.</p> <p>Joseph, Jacob's second youngest son was sold by his brothers into Egypt. In Egypt, he became prime minister. Famine struck the land of Canaan (Israel) forcing his brothers to come to Egypt for food. There, they met their brother who was sold as a slave years earlier. Joseph forgave his brothers and they settled in the land of Egypt with Joseph. Over the next 400 years they multiplied to over 1,000,000 souls and subsequently became oppressed in the land of Egypt as slaves of a new Pharaoh. The cried out to God for rescue, and God sent them Moses, A Hebrew raised in Pharaoh house.</p>
From Egypt to Babylon 1450 B.C. To 539 B.C. Exodus to II Kings Including Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel	<p>Moses, representing God to Pharaoh, delivered plagues on Egypt, Pharaoh agreed to release Israel from Egyptian slavery. Moses led the descendents of Jacob (Israel) back to the land of Canaan. On the way, Israel rebelled against Moses and wanted to return to Egypt. They were forced to wander in the wilderness of Sinai under Moses' leadership for the next 40 years, until the rebellious generation died.</p> <p>Joshua, would succeed Moses and lead Israel into Canaan. Israel conquered and settled a portion of land and established a confederacy of tribes after the 12 sons of Jacob. God ruled the tribes through judges. The people requested a king like the other nations, and God gave them Saul as their first king, followed by David. David conquered the city of Jerusalem from the Jebusites, making it the City of David. Through prophets, God established David's throne as an eternal throne later to be ruled by his descendent, <i>the Messiah</i>, who would one day rule the world with Jerusalem as the capital city of the earth. Solomon, David's son would build the Temple on Mt. Moriah, becoming known as <i>Solomon's Temple</i></p> <p>Eventually Israel turned away from the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and started worshipping the idols in the land of Canaan, Baal, Ashtorah, Chemosh, etc. God warned Israel through prophets, letting Israel know these practices would result in destruction. The people rejected these messages through Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Micah and others, and continued their idol worship.</p> <p>God responded by sending the armies of Assyria in 722 B.C. to take the northern part of Israel captive to the lands of Assyria. From 605-586 B.C. the Babylonians, destroyed Jerusalem and Solomon's Temple taking those who were left into Babylon for a period of 70 years. At the end of 70 years, the Persians defeated Babylon under Cyrus the Great, he allowed the Jews to return to the land of Israel.</p>
From Babylon to The Maccabees	<p>In Babylon, Israel was humbled becoming servants of the Babylonians. However in Babylon, God raised up prophets like Daniel who became the prime minister of Babylon under king Nebuchadnezzar. Through Daniel, God revealed his future plans for Israel and the world, and the coming of His <i>Messiah</i>. Giving the exact</p>

<p>539 B.C. To 4 B.C.</p> <p>Daniel to Malachi</p>	<p>month, year and day of his death (Daniel 9:24-27)</p> <p>In 539 B.C. Cyrus the Great, head of a Persian-Median kingdom defeated Babylon. He allowed the Jews to return to the land of Israel and rebuild their Temple. In 516 B.C., seventy years after the Temple was destroyed, <i>the Second Temple</i> was completed. During this period God spoke through the prophets, Zechariah, Haggai, Malachi to encourage Israel about the coming plan of redemption through the <i>Messiah</i>.</p> <p>Alexander the Great, as foretold in the book of Daniel, conquered the Persian kingdom in 331 B.C., the Greeks took control of Israel. After Alexander death, his kingdom was divided between his 4 generals. The generals Ptolemy and Seleucid became the progenitors of two kingdoms which fought for control of Israel, the <i>Selucids</i> and <i>Ptolemies</i>.</p> <p>Eventually in 165 B.C., Antiochus Epiphanies, a Seleucid, tried to destroy the Jewish identity by setting up an idol of Zeus and sacrificing a pig in the Second Temple on Mt. Moriah, he forced the Jews to adopt Greek customs. This caused a revolt leading to independent Jewish state for about 100 years, <i>the Maccabean Kingdom</i>. Feuding between Jewish rulers caused them to invite Roman arbitration, General Pompey conquered Jerusalem in 63 B.C., the Romans would later install Herod the Edomite as ruler over Palestine, this began Roman rule over Israel in the time of Jesus Christ. Herod the Great died in the year 4 B.C.</p>
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1. B. New Testament

Jesus Christ was born approximately 4 B.C., before the death of Herod the Great, the Edomite installed by Rome to rule over Palestine. Jesus was born in the city of Bethlehem, fulfilling the words of Micah 5:2

Summary of the New Testament	
<p>Birth of Jesus Christ</p> <p>To</p> <p>Ministry years.</p> <p>4 B.C. to</p> <p>A.D. 30</p>	<p>Jesus was born in the city of Bethlehem fulfilling the words of Micah 5:2, who 700 years earlier foretold the coming Messiah from the city. Joseph and Mary were required to go to Bethlehem because Romans were taking a census. Mary was with child, but not by Joseph, but by the Holy Spirit. Inside Mary, was Jesus Christ (Messiah) who was God incarnate, God taking upon Himself, human flesh, to be born into the world, to redeem humankind. Again fulfilling what was foretold by the prophet Isaiah 700 years earlier, "A virgin shall conceive" (Isaiah 7:14)</p> <p>About 2 years after his birth, three Magi from the East, looking for the King of Jews, the Messiah, followed a star leading them to Jerusalem. In Jerusalem, they were told to go to Bethlehem referring to the birthplace of the Messiah according to scripture. Joseph then left Bethlehem for Egypt to escape Herod's plans. Following this, Herod worried about losing his throne killed all the male children 2-years and younger.</p> <p>After Herod's death, Joseph returned from Egypt and settled in Nazareth. Following the settlement of Joseph, Mary and Jesus in Nazareth, little is known about the next 30 years except an incident when Jesus went to Jerusalem at Passover, and was left behind by his family at the Temple at the age of 12 (Luke 2:41-49).</p>
<p>Ministry Years</p> <p>A.D. 30</p> <p>To</p> <p>A.D. 33</p>	<p>In 15th year of the Reign of Tiberius Caesar, about A.D. 29 John the Baptist began his ministry as a precursor to the Messiah (Luke 3:1). Jesus' ministry would follow John the Baptist. Christ's ministry lasted for three 3 ½ years. During this time Jesus presented Himself as Israel's Messiah, performing signs, healing the blind, lame and deaf, raising the dead. Israel rejected Jesus as their Messiah fulfilling what prophets foretold would happen, hundreds of years before Jesus was even born. Jesus came to die for the sins of the world as the prophets Isaiah and Daniel foretold. (Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Daniel 9:24-27)</p>
<p>Passover</p> <p>A.D.33</p>	<p>On Passover A.D. 33, Jesus was crucified on the cross, the exact date Messiah was cut-off was foretold by Daniel the prophet 539 years before His birth (Daniel 9:24-27). The Messiah was cut-off to pay for the sins of the world.</p>

	<p>Jesus became our <i>Passover lamb</i>, paying for our sins. Jesus foretold the destruction of the Temple following his rejection by Israel (Matthew 23:37-24:1) Before Jesus was crucified, He told of a day when he will come back with glory and power to judge the world. He will sit on the throne of His glory and judge the nations. (Matthew 24:30, 25:30) And Israel would in the future accept Him as their Messiah. (Matthew 23:39)</p>
<p>The Church</p> <p>Pentecost A.D. 33 To the Present</p>	<p>After Jesus was received into Heaven (Acts 1:10-11), 50 days after Passover, on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came on the disciples in power (Acts 2). From Jerusalem the disciples began to spread the message of the Gospel. The "Good News" was Jesus' death on the cross paid for the sins of all mankind, and by accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior your sins will be forgiven.</p> <p>The word Gospel means "Good News" the good news is your sins can be forgiven through what Jesus did on the cross. This message is essence of Christianity,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God became man in the person of Jesus Christ to pay for the sins of the world. 2. By accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, you receive the gift of eternal life by the work of Christ on the cross. 3. Jesus will return in glory and power at His 2nd coming, at which time Israel will acknowledge Him as their Messiah rejected at His first coming.

2. The Beliefs of Christianity

The beliefs of Christianity are based on both the Old and New Testaments. Both parts are considered equally inspired by God, through his servants the prophets, who recorded the words in the original autograph. The autograph was then copied via manuscripts and transmitted over time, until the printing press, when manuscripts were copied by mechanical means.

The original manuscripts were inerrant (without error), through the transmission process some transmission errors can be found in translations today. These transmission errors are minimal and do not effect the message in anyway.

With the existence of numerous Old Testament (Hebrew and Aramaic) and New Testament (Greek) manuscripts, this accuracy can be verified. The recent discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, confirmed the nearly flawless transmission of the Hebrew Manuscripts over time.

Some basic essential Christian beliefs	
God	<p>Christianity believes there is only one God. God created the heavens and the earth and created all life. God has identified Himself, as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God as three persons (<i>Trinity</i>³).</p> <p>Tell and bring forth your case; Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I, the Lord? And <u>there is no other God besides Me</u>, A just God and a Savior; There is none besides Me. Isaiah 45:21</p>
Jesus	<p>Christianity believes Jesus Christ is the Messiah of Israel who came and suffered as the scriptures foretold. (Isaiah 52:13-53:12) The Messiah would be the Son of God, God incarnate as foretold by scripture. He would come to rule on David's throne, as a descendent of David, son of David and Son of God.</p> <p>"I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Psalm 2:7</p> <p>He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. Isaiah 53:8</p>

³ The word Trinity is not in the Bible, but is a word used to describe a concept. The concept being One God who has revealed Himself in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

	<p>For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And <u>His name will be called</u> Wonderful, Counselor, <u>Mighty God, Everlasting Father</u>, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the <u>throne of David</u> 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. Isaiah 9:6-7</p>
Death	<p>Christianity believes we only have one life. When someone dies, there are no second chances. The only exceptions being miracles when the dead were brought back to life, to demonstrate Christ's power over death. For example, Lazarus was brought back to life, John 11.</p> <p>And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, Hebrews 9:27</p>
Sins	<p>Those who accept Christ as Lord and Savior, receive forgiveness of sins. Jesus paid for everyone sins on the cross, but only those who accept the gift receive the gift.</p> <p>7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. I John 1:7-9</p> <p>For our transgressions are multiplied before You, And our sins testify against us; For our transgressions are with us, And as for our iniquities, we know them: Isaiah 59:12</p>
Heaven	<p>After death, the saved go into Heaven, to be with Christ, not because of their righteousness but Christ's righteousness. We someone accepts Christ, their sins are paid for and they receive Christ's righteousness.</p> <p>22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Philippians 1:22-23</p> <p>"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14:3</p>
Hell	<p>Hell is a real place. People, who die in their sins, go there to await the judgment of humanity. There are no second chances for those in hell. Jesus talked twice as much about Hell then about Heaven, to warn people it's a real place.</p> <p>22 The rich man also died and was buried. 23 "And being in torments in Hades (Hell), he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. 24 "Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' Luke 16:22b-24</p> <p>And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:15</p>

The Evidence of Christianity

The question many might ask themselves, is why should I believe Christianity is the truth? This is a legitimate question, a question everybody should ask about what they believe. The atheist who denies the existence of God, still needs to ask, if God does not exist, how did the universe come into existence? The Buddhists should ask themselves, what evidence is there Buddha was enlightened? How do I know, the Hinduism behind Buddha is true? The Muslim should question whether Mohammad received revelation from Gabriel?

Why should we question? Because, what you believe is true may be wrong! The atheist who lives his who life, thinking no God exists, might have the rest of eternity to think about not choosing to investigate God's existence. The Buddhist who was sure he would be given endless chances through reincarnation, might find out there was only one life and its too late after death. The Muslim who followed Mohammad and denied the death of Jesus on the Cross, might find out after death, Jesus Christ on the cross was his only hope.

Supernatural Evidence

The Bible is different than any book on the earth. It's actually a collection of books, the Old Testament compiled in Hebrew and Aramaic⁴ (Daniel chapters 2-7), and the New Testament in Greek. What separates the Bible from every other book is the *supernatural* nature and evidence in the pages. Supernatural means beyond this natural world, for someone to die is natural, for someone to come back to life after dying is supernatural, beyond the natural world.

When Jesus came into the world, he did not merely claim to be the Messiah, son of God, but demonstrated who he was, through supernatural events. Jesus raised people from the dead, he calmed storms, healed the blind, lame and deaf. He did these works to demonstrate he was the Son of God. The evidence of the person of Jesus Christ, is more than signs and wonders performed 2000 years ago.

Before Jesus was even born in the world, God through prophets established qualifiers to prove Messiah's identity. God demonstrates the supernatural authorship of the Bible by proclaiming events future events in the past.

9Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,
10Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' Isaiah 46:9-10

3 "I have declared the former things from the beginning; They went forth from My mouth, and I caused them to hear it. Suddenly I did them, and they came to pass.

4 Because I knew that you were obstinate, And your neck was an iron sinew, And your brow bronze,
5 Even from the beginning I have declared it to you; Before it came to pass I proclaimed it to you, Lest you should say, 'My idol has done them, And my carved image and my molded image Have commanded them.'
Isaiah 48:3-5







Supernatural Evidence regarding Jesus	
1. Before the Messiah came the we were told he would die and be rejected	<p>Jesus was rejected by Israel, according the scripture. The prophets of the Old Testament gave us the circumstances surrounding the death of the Messiah (Christ), how his own people (Israel) would reject him at his first coming but accept him at his second coming. Isaiah 52:13-53:12, written 700 years before Jesus pictures his rejection and death followed by his exaltation.</p> <p>13 Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. 14 Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more sons of men; 15 So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider. Isaiah 52:13-15 (710 B.C.)</p> <p>3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. Isaiah 53:3,7-8</p>
2. We are told where the Messiah would be born.	<p>The Old Testament prophets, identified the birthplace of the Messiah. This narrowed down the identification of the Messiah to someone born in a specific city, eliminating 99.99% percent of the people on earth from being Messiah.</p> <p>"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting." Micah 5:2 (700 B.C.)</p>
3. We are told the Messiah would be pierced in his	<p>The prophets foretold before he came the Messiah would be pierced and rejected. And his piercing would be a mark of his identification. David in the Psalm pictures the crucifixion 1000 years before the birth of Jesus. Zechariah identifies the Savior of the Jewish people at the end of time, as the "One whom they pierced"</p>








⁴ The Aramaic portion of the Bible is very short, mostly made up of Daniel chapters 2 to 7 and some of the book of Esther.



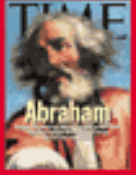



rejection.	<p>16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; 17 I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. 18 They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots. Psalm 22:16-18 (1000 B.C)</p> <p>10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on <u>Me whom they pierced</u>. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. Zechariah 12:10 (520 B.C.)</p>
4. After the Messiah death Jerusalem and the Temple would be destroyed.	<p>Daniel writing 539 before the birth of Jesus proclaims the month and year of Messiah's death, and what happens after the Messiah is killed. The city of Jerusalem and the Temple would be destroyed. This happened in A.D. 70 as the Romans destroyed both the city and the Temple.</p> <p>"And after the sixty-two weeks <u>Messiah shall be cut off</u>, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall <u>destroy the city and the sanctuary</u>. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined. Daniel 9:26 (539 B.C.)</p>
5. The Messiah would be abused by man	<p>Before Jesus was crucified he was abused by the Romans and Jews, this abuse is pictured 700 before his birth in the book of Isaiah.</p> <p>I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting. Isaiah 50:6</p>
6. The Month and Year Jesus would die	<p>539 years before Jesus is born, Daniel gave us the timeline of Messiah. Daniel foretold from the starting point of the command to rebuild Jerusalem (March 444 B.C., Nehemiah. 2:8) 483⁵ Jewish-years later, The Messiah would be cut off (killed) following Messiah death Jerusalem and the Temple would be destroyed.</p> <p>25 "Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem <u>Until Messiah the Prince</u>. There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times. 26 "And <u>after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off</u>, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined. Daniel 9:25-26</p>
7. Messiah would enter Jerusalem on a donkey and one day rule the earth	<p>In the Bible there are two pictures of Messiah, one picture is a rejected servant and the other is ruler of the world. The Jews in the time of Christ did not understand that Messiah would first come as a servant, be rejected and later return (at his 2nd Coming) as King of the Earth. Christ entered Jerusalem at his first coming on a donkey, cheered as King of Israel, he was later rejected by the leaders. (Luke 19:37-38)</p> <p>9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall give peace to the nations; His dominion shall be 'from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.' Zechariah 9:9-10</p>

⁵ The seventy weeks of Daniel is God's prophetic clock using composed of 70 units of 7 years (70 x 7=490) We are told from the starting point, the commandment to restore Jerusalem, 69 weeks or (69x7) 483 years later the Messiah would be cut off. The date the commandment was given was March/April 444 B.C., and 483 Jewish years later was Passover 33 A.D. when Jesus was killed.

Evidence regarding the Bible as God's Word

Objective-Evidence	Description of Evidence	Importance of the Evidence
<p>Objective Historical Israel and Judah. As a nation and people Israel and Judah have an objective history with kings, cities, wars and dealings with other nations. The bible revolves around the formation of Israel and Judah and their interaction with God and mankind around them.</p> 	<p>Today we can go to the cities and towns of ancient Israel. We can investigate buildings, roads, mountains and rivers and compare them to the historical writings. By using Archeology we can place the history under a microscope.</p>	<p>We can compare the historical records of other nations and writers with the history of Israel. We can corroborate facts to the bible records. People such as Rameses II of Egypt, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, Cyrus the great are all historical figures that interacted with Israel and the Jewish people. We can compare the objective evidence, what the writers of these nations say to what the bible says about the same events.</p>
<p>Objective Historical Persian History The nation of Israel and the nation of Persia come into contact with each other from 539 BC to 333 BC.</p> 	<p>The Persian-Median Kingdom defeats Babylon and the Jewish people and their lands come under Persian control. Kings, cities and events are mentioned during this period of time.</p>	<p>We can compare historical records of Persian history with that of the biblical accounts. We can see that history corroborates the objective points that are recorded in the bible by the authors. Books such as Ester, Nehemiah, Ezra, Daniel, Habakkuk, interact with Persian history.</p>
<p>Objective History Roman The nation of Israel and the Jewish people came into contact with Rome from 54 BC to the present. Rome first came to settle a dispute with the Hasmomite Jewish Kingdom. Roman control existed during the time of Jesus.</p> 	<p>Roman rulers such as Ceasar, Augustus, Nero and others are mentioned in the new testament. Roman Legions, cities, coins, customs are all part of the records found in the New testament. Roman history can be compared to actual people, cities.</p>	<p>Roman history validates the New testament records. Small details about people and their positions have been verified in archeological discoveries many times over. The existence of Pontus Pilate was questioned by many critics but recent discoveries have confirmed his existence as governor of Judea.</p>
<p>Objective: Archeological City of Babylon The Ruins of ancient Babylon, capital of Babylonian Kingdom, cover 2000-3000 acres in Iraq, 56 miles south of Baghdad.</p> 	<p>Babylon's ruins include one of many ziggurats (Stepped towers) from the area. Later finds include ruins of the palace of King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:29)</p>	<p>The palace of Nebuchadnezzar, who destroyed Jerusalem in 586 BC and sent the Jews into exile, was the site of Belshazzar's feast in Daniel 5. Jeremiah wrote that the Lord would make Babylon desolate forever (Jer 25:12, 51)</p>
<p>Objective: Archeological Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser This 6.5 foot tall black basalt obelisk (Four sided pillar) reports in pictures and words the conquests of Assyrian King Shalmaneser III Israel's foe.</p>  	<p>The Black Obelisk was discovered in the palace at Nimrud in 1846 and shows the biblical Jehu, king of Israel, kneeling down and bringing tribute to the Assyrian king, Shalmaneser. Dating from 841 BC.</p>	<p>This find is the only picture we have so far of an Israelite king. This is the first mention of tribute paid to Assyria by Israel. King Jehu's reign is mentioned in 2 Kings 9-10.</p>

<p>Objective:Archelological The Moabite Stone  In 1868, A German missionary found a stone slab over three feet tall near Dibon, east of the Dead Sea. Inscribed on the stone were the accomplishments of Mesha, King of Moab around 850 BC. This stone is sometimes called the Mesha Stele.</p>	<p>The ancient Moabites were relatives of the Israelites according to Genesis 19:37. On this stone King Mesha brags of having driven the Israelites out of his land. 2 Kings 3 tells that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel after the death of King Ahab of Israel.</p>	<p>The Moabite stone is one of the earliest finds that mentions biblical people. The stone says that King Omri and his son Ahab "humbled" Moab for many years. After Ahab's death, King Mesha said he had "Triumphed" over Ahab's family and that Israel had "perished forever". Some scholars say that the stone also contains a reference to the "House of David"</p>
<p>Objective:Archelological Siloam Carving  Two boys discovered this ancient Hebrew inscription carved in stone along the wall of a tunnel as they were wading through the southern end of the tunnel's waters in 1880.</p>	<p>The inscription comes from the days of Hezekiah (701 BC) who ordered the tunnel to be made so the water from Jerusalem's Gihon Spring could be brought in to the city to a man-made reservoir, The Pool of Siloam. This tunnel provided water to Jerusalem during the anticipated siege of the King Sennacherib of Assyria.</p>	<p>The inscription celebrates the completion of this remarkable tunnel as mentioned in 2 Kings 20:20, 2 Chronicles 32:20.</p>
<p>Objective:Manuscript Dead Sea Scrolls  The Dead Sea Scrolls are actually hundreds of scrolls and scraps that date between 300BC and 70 AD. The first of them was found in 1947 in the caves in the Qumran area near the Dead Sea about seven miles south of Jericho.</p>	<p>Some of the scrolls were found in jars. About 1/2 of the scrolls contain copies of portions of Old Testament books every book but Esther) These copies are over 1000 years older than most of the manuscripts scholars previously had available for study and translation.</p>	<p>This was one of the most important finds in history because it shows that the Old Testament was copied very accurately over the centuries. When the scrolls were compared with the oldest Masoretic text, on which most modern translations are based, only insignificant differences were found. Therefore we can be confident of our current texts.</p>
<p>Objective:Manuscript Septuagint  The Greek translation of the Old Testament dating to 300-250 BC</p>	<p>After the conquest of Alexander the Great over the Persian kingdom. The writings of many cultures were translated into the Greek language. Including the Old Testament. This translation was called the Septuagint.</p>	<p>The Septuagint was used by the early church as their bible. But the Septuagint pre-dates the Christianity by 250 to 300 years. The Septuagint validates the accuracy of the original Hebrew Bible.</p>
<p>Super-Natural</p>	<p>Objective Evidence</p>	
<p>Evidence</p> <p> Mosaic Covenant: Dispersion of Israel Duet 28:64 3450 years ago Moses foretold a scattering of the children of Israel</p>	<p>Description of Evidence</p> <p>Two times in the history of Israel were they scattered as a nation. First during the Babylonian captivity in 608 BC and a second time during the Roman occupation 54BC- 638 AD.</p>	<p>Importance</p> <p>70 AD Roman general and future emperor destroys the Jewish Temple and city and begins the process of scattering the Jewish people throughout the Roman empire to suppress opposition to Roman rule. The events are recorded by Jewish historian and writer Flavius Josephus. The Arch of Titus in Rome celebrates the Roman victory over Jerusalem.</p>
<p> Mosaic Covenant: Gathering of Israel Duet 30:3 3450 years ago Moses foretold a gathering of the children of Israel</p>	<p>Two times in history were the children of Israel gathered from the nations and placed back in the land of Israel after being scattered from the land. Once after Persian victory over Babylon and Second after creation of state of Israel in May 1948.</p>	<p>The creation of the State of Israel after 2000 year period of occupation by foreign forces was fulfilling part of the Covenant Moses established but also prophecies from the book of Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Amos and Micah. All talked about a future gathering of a dispersed Jewish nation.</p>
<p> Gathering of Israel Ezekiel 36-37 2600 years ago the Jewish priest Ezekiel describes a detailed gathering of Israel.</p>	<p>Ezekiel gives a detailed description of the gathering of the Jewish people after 1900 years of scattering. Jewish people from all over the world be gathered into a nation that was birthed into existence.</p>	<p>Nearly 1900 years after the Roman armies expelled the Jews from the land of Israel and renamed it Palestine they returned. But 600 even before they were expelled Ezekiel gave us a detailed account of their return from near extermination as a people with no hope or recovery. The details of the prophecy defies all laws of probability. Some way Ezekiel knew the future in the past.</p>

 <p>Gathering of Jews from Ethiopia. Isaiah 11:11 750 BC Isaiah describes Jews being gathered from Ethiopia</p>	<p>In 1980 known as Operation Solomon and In 1991 known as Operation Exodus people known as the Falashi Jews of Ethiopia were taken to Israel.</p>	<p>2750 years ago the book of Isaiah foretold of the gathering of Jews from various nations including Ethiopia. After a near extermination the nation of Israel sent Cargo planes into Ethiopia to save the remaining of Jews who claimed descent from Dan.</p>
 <p>Jerusalem focus of world attention Zechariah 12:3 2550 years ago the city of Jerusalem was foretold to be a focus of world attention.</p>	<p>We are told that Jerusalem will be a burden for the world and the object of conflict. The nations of the world will be at war with the descendents of Israel.</p>	<p>2550 years ago Jerusalem was not much different then any other regional large city. But today over 3 billion people. Half the Earth population claim connection to Jerusalem. 1.3 billion Muslims believe the City and Dome of the Rock belong to Islam. And Christian nations feel connected to it because Of Jesus. Zechariah was telling us the future in the past.</p>
 <p>Abraham position Gen 12:2-3 Abraham is promised greatness in the Earth.</p>	<p>Abraham was an individual that lived over 4000 years ago in the city of Ur. But his future is foretold with the following points. 1. Great nation to come descend from him. 2. Name great. 3. All people of Earth blessed through him</p>	<p>4000 years is a long-time. The chance for one individual to be singled out and projected as someone who would be great in the Earth 4000 into the future is a near impossibility. This was either someone who had power over time and space and could reveal the future in the past or a very lucky guess. In fact the name Abraham is the most popular name in the world.</p>
 <p>70 Weeks of Daniel Daniel 9:24-27 Daniel writes about the date of the death of Messiah Prince, Destruction of Jerusalem and Temple, Rebuilding of Temple.</p>	<p>The exact month and year are foretold in Daniel when Messiah would die. Following his death the city and Temple would be destroyed. The Temple would later be rebuilt.</p>	<p>Jesus died in 33AD. Over 500 years before his death Daniel would foretell the Month and year of his death. As well as the Roman destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. And a future yet to be rebuilt Temple. The details of Daniel prophecy are such that they are beyond lucky guessing. The source of Daniel's writing is beyond Time and Space.</p>
 <p>Messiah Rejected Isaiah 52:13-53 The person described in Isaiah is one who is to be exalted above all but will first be rejected and killed.</p>	<p>Jesus claimed to be Messiah but told that he must first suffer and be rejected for the sins of man. 750 years before his birth Isaiah describes events that would parallel the life of Jesus and concur with his purpose.</p>	<p>Jesus who claimed to be Messiah was crucified by the Romans. Isaiah foretold events that were beyond the control of human nature. "Raised and lifted up" first be "appalled at", "Pierced for transgression", "Die with the wicked", "Buried with the rich" and then "See the light of life". 750 years before his birth. Today Christianity is the most populous religion. What was Isaiah's source?</p>
 <p>Destruction of Temple Matthew 24 :2 Jesus foretold the destruction of the Jewish Temple in which each stone would be thrown down.</p>	<p>In 70 AD the Romans under Titus destroyed the Temple 37 years earlier that the Disciples admired. The Temple was completely destroyed.</p>	<p>In 70 AD the Romans burned the Temple. The gold from the Temple melted and poured into the rocks and crevices. The Roman soldiers pried all the stones to get at the gold throwing each stone to the ground. Fulfilling exactly what Jesus foretold. The future foretold in the past.</p>

Additional prophecies regarding Jesus and his credentials as Messiah

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT		
PROPHECY	OT REFERENCES	NT FULFILLMENT
Seed of the woman	Gen 3:15	Gal 4:4; Heb 2:14
Through Noah's sons	Gen 9:27	Luke 6:36
Seed of Abraham	Gen 12:3	Matt 1:1; Gal 3:8, 16
Seed of Isaac	Gen 17:19	Rom 9:7; Heb 11:18
Blessing to nations	Gen 18: 18	Gal 3:8
Seed of Isaac	Gen 21:12	Rom 9:7; Heb 11:18
Blessing to Gentiles	Gen 22:18, 26:4	Gal 3:8, 16; Heb 6:14
Blessing through Abraham	Gen 28:14	Gal 3:8, 16; Heb 6:14
Of the tribe of Judah	Gen 49:10	Rev 5:5
No bone broken	Exod 12:46, Num 9:12	John 19:36
Blessing to firstborn son	Exod 13:2	Luke 2:23
Serpent in the wilderness	Num 21:8-9	John 3:14-15
A star out of Jacob	Num 24:17-19	Matt 2:2; Luke 1:33, 78; Rev 22:16
As a prophet	Deut 18:15, 18-19	John 6:14; 7:40; Acts 3:22-23
Cursed on the tree	Deut 21:23	Gal 3:13
The throne of David established forever	2 Sam 7:12-13, 16, 25-26; 1 Chr 17:11-14, 23-27; 2 Chr 21:7	Matt 19:28; 21:4; 25:31; Mark 12:37; Luke 1:32; John 7:4; Acts 2:30; 13:23; Rom 1:3; 2 Tim 2:8; Heb 1:5, 8; 8:1; 12:2; Rev 22:1
A promised Redeemer	Job 19:25-27	John 5:28-29; Gal 4:4; Eph 1:7, 11, 14
Declared to be the Son of God	Ps 2:1-12	Matt 3:17; Mark 1:11; Acts 4:25-26; 13:33; Heb 1:5; 5:5; Rev 2:26-27; 19:15-16
His resurrection	Ps 16:8-10	Acts 2:27; 13:35; 26:23
Hands and feet pierced	Ps 22:1-31	Matt 27:31, 35-36
Mocked and insulted	Ps 22:7-8	Matt 27:39-43, 45-59
Soldiers cast lots for coat	Ps 22:18	Mark 15:20, 24-25, 34; Luke 19:24; 23:35; John 19:15-18, 23-24, 34; Acts 2:23-24
Accused by false witnesses	Ps 27:12	Matt 26:60-61
He commits His spirit	Ps 31:5	Luke 23:46
No broken bone	Ps 34:20	John 19:36
Accused by false witnesses	Ps 35:11	Matt 26:59-61; Mark 14:57-58
Hated without reason	Ps 35:19	John 15:24-25
Friends stand afar off	Ps 38:11	Matt 27:55; Mark 15:40; Luke 23:49
"I come to do Thy will"	Ps 40:6-8	Heb 10:5-9

Betrayed by a friend	Ps 41:9	Matt 26:14-16, 47, 50; Mark 14:17-21; Luke 22:19-23; John 13:18-19
Known for righteousness	Ps 45:2, 6-7	Heb 1:8-9
His resurrection	Ps 49:15	Mark 16:6
Betrayed by a friend	Ps 55:12-14	John 13:18
His ascension	Ps 68:18	Eph 4:8
Hated without reason	Ps 69:4	John 15:25
Stung by reproaches	Ps 69:9	John 2:17; Rom 15:3
Given gall and vinegar	Ps 69:21	Matt 27:34, 48; Mark 15:23; Luke 23:36; John 19:29
Exalted by God	Ps 72:1-19	Matt 2:2; Phil 2:9-11; Heb 1:8
He speaks in parables	Ps 78:2	Matt 13:34-35
Seed of David exalted	Ps 89:3-4, 19, 27-29, 35-37	Luke 1:32; Acts 2:30; 13:23; Rom 1:3; 2 Tim 2:8
Son of Man comes in glory	Ps 102:16	Luke 21:24,27; Rev 12:5-10
"Thou remainest!"	Ps 102:24-27	Heb 1:10-12
Prays for His enemies	Ps 109:4	Luke 23:34
Another to succeed Judas	Ps 109:7-8	Acts 1:16-20
A priest like Melchizedek	Ps 110:1-7	Matt 22:41-45; 26:64; Mark 12:35-37; 16:19; Acts 7:56; Eph 1:20; Col 1:20; Heb 1:13; 2:8; 5:6; 6:20; 7:21; 8:1; 10:11-13; 12:2
The chief cornerstone	Ps 118:22-23	Matt 21:42; Mark 12:10-11; Luke 20:17; John 1:11; Acts 4:11; Eph 2:20; 1 Pet 2:4
The King comes in the name of the Lord	Ps 118:26	Matt 21:9; 23:39; Mark 11:9; Luke 13:35; 19:38; John 12:13
David's seed to reign	Ps 132:11 2 Sam 7:12-13, 16, 25-26, 29	Matt 1:1
Declared to be the Son of God	Prov 30:4	Matt 3:17; Mark 14:61-62; Luke 1:35; John 3:13; 9:35-38; 11:21; Rom 1:2-4; 10:6-9; 2 Pet 1:17
Repentance for the nations	Isa 2:2-4	Luke 24:47
Hearts are hardened	Isa 6:9-10	Matt 13:14-15; John 12:39-40; Acts 28:25-27
Born of a virgin	Isa 7:14	Matt 1:22-23
A rock of offense	Isa 8:14-15	Rom 9:33; 1 Pet 2:8
Light out of darkness	Isa 9:1-2	Matt 4:14-16; Luke 2:32
God with us	Isa 9:6-7	Matt 1:21,23; Luke 1:32-33; John 8:58; 10:30; 14:19; 2 Cor 5:19; Col 2:9
Full of wisdom and power	Isa 11:1-10	Matt 3:16; John 3:34; Rom 15:12; Heb 1:9
Reigning in mercy	Isa 16:4-5	Luke 1:31-33
Peg in a sure place	Isa 22:21-25	Rev 3:7

Death swallowed up in victory	Isa 25:6-12	1 Cor 15:54
A stone in Zion	Isa 28:16	Rom 9:33; 1 Pet 2:6
The deaf hear, the blind see	Isa 29:18-19	Matt 5:3; 11:5; John 9:39
King of Kings, Lord of Lords	Isa 32:1-4	Rev 19:16; 20:6
Son of the Highest	Isa 33:22	Luke 1:32; 1 Tim 1:17; 6:15
Healing for the needy	Isa 35:4-10	Matt 9:30; 11:5; 12:22; 20:34; 21:14; Mark 7:30; John 5:9
Make ready the way of the Lord	Isa 40:3-5	Matt 3:3; Mark 1:3; Luke 3:4-5; John 1:23
The Shepherd dies for His sheep	Isa 40:10-11	John 10:11; Heb 13:20; 1 Pet 2:24-25
The meek servant	Isa 42:1-16	Matt 12:17-21; Luke 2:32
A light to the Gentiles	Isa 49:6-12	Acts 13:47; 2 Cor 6:2
Scourged and spat upon	Isa 50:6	Matt 26:67; 27:26, 30; Mark 14:65; 15:15,19; Luke 22:63-65; John 19:1
Rejected by His people	Isa 52:13-53:12	Matt 8:7; 27:1-2, 12-14, 38
Suffered vicariously	Isa 53:4-5	Mark 15:3-4, 27-28; Luke 23:1-25, 32-34
Silent when accused	Isa 53:7	John 1:29; 11:49-52
Crucified with transgressors	Isa 53:12	John 12:37-38; Acts 8:28-35
Buried with the rich	Isa 53:9	Acts 10:43; 13:38-39; 1 Cor 15:3; Eph 1:7; 1 Pet 2:21-25; 1 John 1:7, 9
Calling of those not a people	Isa 55:4-5	John 18:37; Rom 9:25-26; Rev 1:5
Deliver out of Zion	Isa 59:16-20	Rom 11:26-27
Nations walk in the light	Isa 60:1-3	Luke 2:32
Anointed to preach liberty	Isa 61:1-3	Luke 4:17-19; Acts 10:38
Called by a new name	Isa 62:1-2	Luke 2:32; Rev 3:12
The King cometh	Isa 62:11	Matt 21:5
A vesture dipped in blood	Isa 63:1-3	Rev 19:13
Afflicted with the afflicted	Isa 63:8-9	Matt 25:34-40
The elect shall inherit	Isa 65:9	Rom 11:5, 7; Heb 7:14; Rev 5:5
New heavens and a new earth	Isa 65:17-25	2 Pet 3:13; Rev 21:1
The Lord our righteousness	Jer 23:5-6	John 2:19-21; Rom 1:3-4; Eph 2:20-21; 1 Pet 2:5
Born a King	Jer 30:9	John 18:37; Rev 1:5
Massacre of infants	Jer 31:15	Matt 2:17-18
Conceived by the Holy Spirit	Jer 31:22	Matt 1:20; Luke 1:35
A New Covenant	Jer 31:31-34	Matt 26:27-29; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:15-20; 1 Cor 11:25; Heb 8:8-12; 10:15-17; 12:24; 13:20
A spiritual house	Jer 33:15-17	John 2:19-21; Eph 2:20-21; 1 Pet 2:5
A tree planted by God	Ezek 17:22-24	Matt 13:31-32

The humble exalted	Ezek 21:26-27	Luke 1:52
The good Shepherd	Ezek 34:23-24	John 10:11
Stone cut without hands	Dan 2:34-35	Acts 4:10-12
His kingdom triumphant	Dan 2:44-45	Luke 1:33; 1 Cor 15:24; Rev 11:15
An everlasting dominion	Dan 7:13-14	Matt 24:30; 25:31; 26:64; Mark 14:61-62; Acts 1:9-11; Rev 1:7
Kingdom for the saints	Dan 7:27	Luke 1:33; 1 Cor 15:24; Rev 11:15
Time of His birth	Dan 9:24-27	Matt 24:15-21; Luke 3:1
Israel restored	Hos 3:5	John 18:37; Rom 11:25-27
Flight into Egypt	Hos 11:1	Matt 2:15
Promise of the Spirit	Joel 2:28-32	Acts 2:17-21; Rom 10:13
The sun darkened	Amos 8:9	Matt 24:29; Acts 2:20; Rev 6:12
Restoration of tabernacle	Amos 9:11-12	Acts 15:16-18
Israel regathered	Mic 2:12-13	John 10:14, 26
The kingdom established	Mic 4:1-8	Luke 1:33
Born in Bethlehem	Mic 5:1-5	Matt 2:1; Luke 2:4, 10-11
Earth filled with knowledge of the glory of the Lord	Hab 2:14	Rom 11:26; Rev 21:23-26
The Lamb on the throne	Zech 2:10-13	Rev 5:13; 6:9; 21:24; 22:1-5
A holy priesthood	Zech 3:8	John 2:19-21; Eph 2:20-21; 1 Pet 2:5
A heavenly High Priest	Zech 6:12-13	Heb 4:4; 8:1-2
Triumphal entry	Zech 9:9-10	Matt 21:4-5; Mark 11:9-10; Luke 20:38; John 12:13-15
Sold for thirty pieces of silver	Zech 11:12-13	Matt 26:14-15
Money buys potter's field	Zech 11:12-13	Matt 27:9
Piercing of His body	Zech 12:10	John 19:34, 37
Shepherd smitten—sheep scattered	Zech 13:1, 6-7	Matt 26:31; John 16:32
Preceded by Forerunner	Mal 3:1	Matt 11:10; Mark 1:2; Luke 7:27
Our sins purged	Mal 3:3	Heb 1:3
The light of the world	Mal 4:2-3	Luke 1:78; John 1:9; 12:46; 2 Pet 1:19; Rev 2:28; 19:11-16; 22:16
The coming of Elijah	Mal 4:5-6	Matt 11:14; 17:10-12