

We Would See Jesus: The Son of God

“Truly This Man Was the Son of God”

Dave Miller

What God has done for humanity in the offering of His Son is unsurpassed in the annals of human history and, no doubt, throughout all eternity. No greater subject can possibly occupy the attention of human beings than the staggering, breathtaking reality that we can be forgiven of sin by the sacrificial blood of Christ. This incredible achievement was orchestrated with supernatural precision after millennia of prophetic anticipation.

Many of the events surrounding the life of Jesus on Earth were predicted in minute detail. Bible students place the figure at over 300 specific Messianic prophecies. The final week of His earthly ministry was particularly punctuated by the astonishing fulfillment of amazing predictions. These prophecies propel us to a greater appreciation for the inspiration of the Bible. But even more than this, they compel us to possess a profound respect and abiding love for the Savior. No honest person can contemplate these things without coming to the firm conclusion: Truly, this man was the Son of God.

Consider the following 47 out of the hundreds of prophecies that bear witness to the divine scheme, specifically those that occurred during the closing scenes of Christ’s life on Earth. [All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.]

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1. Jesus would be rejected by His own brethren (Psa. 69:8) – fulfilled in John’s declaration that “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11), even to the point of His own fleshly brothers rejecting Him (John 7:3).
2. Jesus would be counted a stone of stumbling to the Jews (Isa. 8:14) – declared fulfilled in Christ by Paul (Rom. 9:32) and Peter (1 Pet. 2:8).
3. Jesus would be hated (without cause) by the Jews (Psa. 69:4; Isa. 49:7) – fulfilled in Jesus’ own observation about His contemporaries (John 15:24-25).
4. Jesus would be rejected by the Jewish rulers, the “builders” (Psa. 118:22) – fulfilled in Jesus’ telling of the parable of the vinedressers (Matt. 21:42) and the Pharisees’ own admission (John 7:48).
5. Jesus would have both Jew and Gentile rise up together against Him (Psa. 2:1-2) – fulfilled in the uncanny friendship that suddenly developed between Herod and Pilate (Luke 23:12) and spotlighted by the early Christian disciples (Acts 4:27).
6. Jesus would be betrayed specifically by a friend with whom He dined (Psa. 41:9; 55:12-14) – fulfilled in the betrayal by Judas (Matt. 26:47ff; John 13:18, 21).
7. Jesus’ disciples would forsake Him by scattering from Him and leaving Him alone (Zech. 13:7; Isa. 63:3) – fulfilled when all the disciples forsook Him at His arrest (Matt. 26:31, 56; Mark 14:27).
8. Jesus’ friends would remain aloof, standing at a distance from Him (Psa. 38:11; 88:8) – fulfilled in

- the disciples, including the women, watching the passion events from afar (Matt. 27:55; Mark 15:40; Luke 23:49).
9. Jesus would be sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zech. 11:12-13)—fulfilled in the price given by the chief priests to Judas for the betrayal (Matt. 26:15-16; 27:3ff).
 10. The betrayal money would be thrown down on the floor of the house of the Lord (Zech. 11:13)—fulfilled when Judas threw the money down in the temple (Matt. 27:5).
 11. The money would then be used “for the potter” (Zech. 11:13)—fulfilled when the chief priests used the returned money to purchase the potter’s field (Matt. 27:7).
 12. Jesus would be accused by false witnesses (Psa. 35:11; 109:2)—fulfilled by the multiple false witnesses who came forward at His trial (Matt. 26:59-60).
 13. Jesus’ sufferings would be extremely intense (Psa. 22:14-15)—fulfilled in the agonies associated with Roman crucifixions (Heb. 13:12; 1 Pet. 2:21-23; 4:1).
 14. Jesus’ sufferings would be endured strictly in behalf of others and not for Himself (Isa. 53:4-6, 12; Dan. 9:26)—fulfilled in the atonement proffered for us (Matt. 26:28; Heb. 9:28; 1 Pet. 2:24).
 15. Jesus would be silent under suffering (Isa. 53:7; cf. Psa. 38:13; 39:2)—fulfilled when Jesus remained silent before the High Priest (Matt. 26:63) and before the chief priests and elders (Matt. 27:12-14).
 16. Jesus would be struck with a rod (Mic. 5:1)—fulfilled by the Romans soldiers (Matt. 27:30).

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17. Someone would spit on Jesus (Isa. 50:6) – fulfilled by the Roman soldiers (Mark 14:65).
18. Jesus would be scourged on His back (Isa. 50:6) – fulfilled at the order of Pilate (John 19:1).
19. Jesus’ appearance (“visage”) would be marred (Isa. 52:14; 53:3) – fulfilled by the bruising and swelling from the beatings at the hands of the Roman soldiers (Matt. 26:67; 27:30; Luke 22:64; John 19:3).
20. Jesus would be offered gall and vinegar to drink (Psa. 69:21) – fulfilled as the soldiers were about to crucify Him (Matt. 27:34).
21. Jesus’ hands and feet would be pierced (Psa. 22:16) – fulfilled by His hands and feet being nailed to the cross (John 19:18; 20:25; Col. 2:14; Rev. 1:7).
22. Jesus would be forsaken by God (Psa. 22:1) – fulfilled on the cross even as Jesus quoted the Old Testament prediction (Matt. 27:46).
23. Jesus would be despised, mocked and reproached (Psa. 22:6-7; 69:7, 9, 20) – fulfilled in the blasphemous railings of the passersby and the thieves (Matt. 27:39, 44; cf. Rom. 15:3).
24. Those mocking Jesus at the cross would shake their heads (Psa. 22:7; 109:25; cf. Job 16:4) – fulfilled by the passersby (Matt. 27:39; Mark 15:29).
25. Those mocking Jesus while He was on the cross would refer to His trust in God and the need for God to deliver Him if He would (Psa. 22:8) – fulfilled by the mocking of the Jewish leaders (Matt. 27:43).
26. Some individuals would divide Jesus’ garments among them and cast lots for His clothing (Psa. 22:18) – fulfilled by the Romans soldiers at the foot

- of the cross (Matt. 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:34; John 19:24).
27. Jesus would be numbered with transgressors (Isa. 53:12)—fulfilled when Jesus was placed between two thieves (Mark 15:28).
 28. Jesus would intercede for the transgressors (Isa. 53:12)—fulfilled when He called upon God to forgive His murderers (Luke 23:34).
 29. Jesus would thirst (Psa. 22:15; 69:3)—fulfilled when He so said from the cross (John 19:28).
 30. Jesus would die a physical death (Isa. 53:12)—fulfilled when He died on the cross (Matt. 27:50).
 31. Not one of Jesus' bones would be broken (Psa. 34:20; cf. Ex. 12:46; Num. 9:12)—fulfilled when the Roman soldiers refrained from breaking His legs since He was already dead (John 19:33, 36).
 32. Jesus would be pierced (Zech. 12:10)—fulfilled when the Roman soldier pierced Jesus' side with a spear (John 19:34, 37).
 33. Jesus would commit Himself to God (Psa. 31:5)—fulfilled with His final statement from the cross, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit" (Luke 23:46).
 34. Jesus would be buried with the rich (Isa. 53:9)—fulfilled when the wealthy man, Joseph of Arimathea, retrieved the body of Jesus and placed it in his own tomb (Matt. 27:57-60).
 35. Jesus' physical body would not decay (Psa. 16:10)—fulfilled when His spirit returned from the Hadean realm and re-inhabited His physical body, as explained by Peter on Pentecost (Acts 2:31).

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36. Jesus would be resurrected, i.e., His spirit would leave His body, enter into the Hadean realm, and then come out of Hades and re-enter His physical body (Psa. 16:10; cf. Isa 26:19) – fulfilled when Jesus arose from the grave (Luke 24:6, 31, 34; Acts 2:31-32).
37. Jesus would ascend from Earth to return to heaven (Psa. 24:7-10; 68:18; Dan. 7:13) – fulfilled when Jesus levitated off the ground as the disciples watched (Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9).
38. Jesus’ ascension would involve passing through clouds (Dan. 7:13) – literally fulfilled when “a cloud received Him out of their sight” (Acts 1:9).
39. Upon His return to heaven, Jesus would sit down at the right hand of God (Psa. 110:1) – fulfilled when He left the earth and entered the heavenly realm (Acts 2:33; Rom. 8:34; Phil. 2:9; Heb. 1:3; 12:2; 1 Pet. 3:22).
40. Jesus would establish His kingdom (Psa. 2:6; Isa. 2:2; Zech. 6:12; Dan. 2:44) – fulfilled on the first Pentecost after His resurrection and ascension (Luke 1:32; John 18:33-37; Acts 2:30ff; Col. 1:13; Rev. 12:10).
41. Jesus would exercise **priestly** authority (Psa. 110:4; Zech. 6:13) – fulfilled by the priestly role Jesus played by offering Himself as the atoning sacrifice (Heb. 5:5ff; 6:20; 7:17, 21, 24-8:3; 9:11-14).
42. Jesus would exercise **kingly** authority, i.e., rule on His throne in heaven (Psa. 2:6, 9; 110:2; Zech. 6:13) – fulfilled in His reigning as King over the church and the world (Rom. 8:34; 1 Cor. 15:24, 27-28; 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 12:5; 17:14; 19:16).

43. Jesus would function as the chief cornerstone of the church (Psa. 118:22; Isa. 28:16)—fulfilled via the establishment of His kingdom/church (Matt. 16:18-19; Acts 4:11; Eph. 2:20; 1 Pet. 2:6).
44. Jesus would incorporate the Gentiles in His kingdom (Psa. 18:49; 117:1; Isa. 11:10; 42:1; Amos 9:12)—fulfilled in the inclusion of Gentiles into the church of Christ (John 10:16; Acts 10; 11:18; 15:17; Rom. 15:9ff).
45. Jesus would execute righteousness in governing His kingdom (Psa. 45:6-7)—fulfilled in His righteous conduct and the righteous principles of His church (John 5:30; Rev. 19:11).
46. Jesus' dominion would be universal and encompass all peoples (Psa. 72:8; 145:13; Dan. 7:14)—fulfilled in His universal reign that crosses ethnic and national barriers (Acts 10:35; Phil. 2:9-11; Rev. 5:13; 14:6).
47. Jesus' kingdom would be indestructible and last forever (Psa. 145:13; Isa. 9:7; Dan. 7:14; Mic. 4:7)—fulfilled in the eternal nature of the church (Luke 1:33; Heb. 12:28; Rev. 11:15).

Astounding! No other document on the planet throughout all of human history compares to the Bible. These amazing predictions prove that the Bible is the inspired word of God. A thorough study of these incredible details that recount the closing scenes of Jesus' life on Earth will compel one to conclude: "Truly, this man was the Son of God."

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Dave Miller is the Executive Director of
Apologetics Press in Montgomery, Alabama.