



**SERIES: LOOKING BACK – MOVING FORWARD**

**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**

**Friday, August 19, 2022**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 7:14 /Micah 5:2 / Isaiah 60:5 /Hosea 11:1/ Isaiah 35:4-6 / Zechariah 9:9 /  
Isaiah 53:9-11

**TITLE: Don't Dismiss the Prophecies**

The world will end on January 1, 2000. Do you remember hearing claims like this? Well, unless I'm mistaken, we are still here, and the world is moving on. But what's amazing, is people are still claiming to know when the world will end, and people are still buying it. But that's the great thing about prophecies: the fake ones are clearly proven false. But we shouldn't throw out the good with the bad.

Did you know there are approximately 2,500 prophecies in the pages of the Bible? 2,500 prophecies! Of those 2,500 prophecies, approximately 2,000 have been fulfilled with no errors.<sup>1</sup> The remaining 500 have yet to be fulfilled but are in the future/end of age category.

There are prophecies regarding Israel, various nations, past and future rulers, the Messiah, Jesus' birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection, the Church, and last days. Let's just quickly look at some prophecies regarding Jesus.

The book of Isaiah contains many prophecies of the Messiah. Isaiah was written around 725 BC. Isaiah wrote that **a virgin would bear a son, and his name would be Immanuel, meaning "God with us."** (Isaiah 7:14) We see this prophecy fulfilled in Matthew 1. Isaiah declared this 700 years prior.

The prophet Micah prophesied around 710 BC that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Mic 5:2). Both Luke and Matthew record this event. Again, this prophecy happened 700 years earlier.

Isaiah wrote that Kings would bring this Messiah gifts (Isaiah 60:5). Matthew records these visitors bringing frankincense, myrrh, and gold (Mat. 12:11).

Then the prophet Hosea prophesied in the late 7th century that the Messiah would be called out of Egypt (Hos. 11:1). Matthew records Jesus and his parents fleeing to Egypt, only to be called out and return home (Mat. 2:13-15).

Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be a miracle worker (Isaiah 35:4-6). This is seen in all four Gospels.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.reasons.org/articles/articles/fulfilled-prophecy-evidence-for-the-reliability-of-the-bible>

Zechariah was a prophet between 520 and 470 B.C. He predicted that the Messiah would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey (Zech. 9:9). Matthew records this event (Mat. 21).

Isaiah predicted this Messiah would be innocent but punished with a criminal's death and then be buried with the rich (Isaiah 53:9). Matthew and Luke record these events.

Last, Isaiah said that this Messiah would rise from the dead (Isaiah 53:10-11). And as we know, all four Gospels record His resurrection from the grave!

Friends, there are over 350 prophecies fulfilled in Jesus Christ. If only the eight prophecies I mentioned were fulfilled by the life of Christ, it would be a probability of 1 in  $10^{17}$ . That is 1 in 100 quadrillions!<sup>2</sup>

This is one of the reasons -- many reasons - why we can trust the Bible. What is said is true. What is predicted has come to pass, or will. The historical reliability and future probability are overwhelming.

So here's my challenge to you today: share this podcast with someone. Many people today either believe the Bible blindly, or reject it because of misinformation. Imagine what will happen when people encounter the truth and reliability of Scripture. It will change how they view the Bible, God, and our Savior, Jesus Christ. So share it and also comment below how this information has helped you win the day.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.accordingtothescriptures.org/prophecy/353prophecies.html>