

# Bible Studies

## Christmas Prophecy

One of the amazing things about Jesus life was the way it fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah, the One who was to come. As we approach Christmas we are going to look at some of these prophecies. Many of them are familiar to us, we read them every year. But what do they tell us about Jesus?

### GENESIS 3V14-15

**In what context is the prophecy recorded?**

**Who said it and who were they talking to?**

**What does this tell us about Jesus origins?** Galatians 4:4

**What does it tell us about his work?** 1 John 3:8

**What do you think Adam expected of the Messiah?**

**Read Romans 5v15-17** (The trespass=Adam the gift=Jesus.)

*For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. 1 Cor 15:22*

The context is Adam's sin and the fall of mankind. God is speaking straight to the enemy. Jesus is the Woman's seed, i.e. he is born of women, he is human, his task is to destroy Satan's work.

The point of this prophecy is that what Adam lost, Jesus was to restore.

**In what ways was Jesus like Adam?**

They were both 'heads' mankind, their actions effected us all. Other than that it is the points of contrast that are the interesting ones.

**This passage concentrates on Jesus as:**

### DEUTERONOMY 18V15-19

**Who is talking?**

**What kind of ministry will this promised one engage in?**

**How does he describe this prophet?**

**Where does the Prophet come from?**

**In what ways was Jesus like Moses?** Heb 3:2 John 1:17

When God spoke to the people from Mt. Sinai, the people did not want to hear what God had to say. v17b. Moses acted as an intermediary. Nor did they latter want to obey the words that Moses passed on.

**What do you think Moses strong injunction to listen to the Prophet implied?**

At this passage tells us that the words Jesus spoke, like the words Moses spoke came from God. V19, John 14:24. They had an authority of the same kind as the Law given at Mt Sinai. Moses warning against refusing to hear God's voice directly, suggests to us that Jesus was doing more than speaking God's words, He was God speaking.

**What will happen to those how refuse to listen? V19**

**This passage concentrates on Jesus as:**

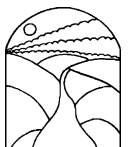
### MICAH 5V1-5A

**How did people in Jesus day understand this verse?** Mat 2v5-6, John 7v42

**Who else was born in Bethlehem?** 1 Sam 17v12

**Why is this significant?** 2 Sam 7:12-13

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**Having said this where does the Messiah come from? v2b**

**What will he do?**

**When were his origins?**

Jesus might have been born in Bethlehem, but He came from God. He existed before He was born! Ancient times is, יומי עולם Literally eternal days.

There never was a time when Jesus did not exist. The point of this passage is that He became flesh, ie became human. John 1v14.

**What was the effect of Messiah's ministry? v3**

This is really strange, the result of Messiah coming was not national acceptance and restoration, but rather the abandonment of the nation. This happened in AD70 with the destruction of Jerusalem. But it is only for a time. Until '*she who is in labour gives birth*' then it will result in Israel's restoration. Romans 11v25-26.

This passage presents a problem that is common in the prophets, they saw what would happen, but they did not see a time frame. Like a mountain range viewed from a distance, they only saw the peaks, not the valleys of time between them. Therefore, part of this passage is fulfilled, part is being fulfilled and part is yet to come.

**Which bits are which?**

**This passage concentrates on Jesus as:**

ISAIAH 7V14

**What are the significant things this verse tells us about Jesus?**

Mat 1v18-2v1 & Luke 1v26-35, record the fact that Jesus was born of a virgin.

**Why do you think the virgin birth was necessary?**

It emphasises Jesus sinlessness, (not tainted by Adams sin) and His divine origin.

Emmanuel means God with us or God among us. It implies, God on our level. God becoming one of us. A different Hebrew word is used for a superior among inferiors.

**Was Jesus ever called Emmanuel?**

**In what way do you think the name was appropriate to Jesus?**

*Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."*

*Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? John 14:8-9*

**This passage concentrates of Jesus as:**

ISAIAH 9V1-7

Again this is another prophecy that mixes the now and the not yet.

**What would the Messiah bring?** Mat 4v12-17, John 1v4,5,9.

**To whom would Jesus be a light?** v1b, Luke 2:32.

**How was this fulfilled?**

*he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth." Isaiah 49:6*

**To whom is the Child born?**

**What do you think is important about the 4 names?**

The names are significant because again they make it clear just who Jesus is.

Spiritual peace is ours now, but the physical peace and the physical reign of Jesus must await his second coming.

**This passage concentrates of Jesus as:**

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*Restorer*

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*Prophet Divine Voice*

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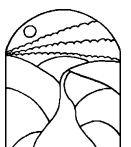
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*Son of David, divine*

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*For us , a light*