

Christian Study

Lesson 237

Be Light

Focusing on Church beyond Sunday

How Can I Know and Understand What the Bible Means?

Understanding the Basic Gospel

Biblical Prophecies about Jesus Christ

A moment of Reflection

Before beginning your study, pray and ask God to open your mind to understand His Word and to show you how to apply it to your own life.

Key Verse: Luke 2:44

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

Jesus Himself was speaking in the above passage about what and who the whole of scripture is about. Every thing that was written about Him long before and by many people in the Old Testament and the New Testament, were inspired by God to pen these facts.

I would like us to stop here for a moment and discuss our answer to this question. What would you conclude from this verse in **Luke 2:44**?

The coming of Jesus into human history was not an event that suddenly burst open an unsuspected world, it was the culmination of a long list of prophetic statements that started with the voice of God predicting His coming in the beginning of human history. His arrival in human form was an event planned before the creation of the world. **1 Peter 1:20** "who was foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for your sake." As was the mission on which He was **(2 Corinthians 5:18-21)** "God has done it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us, and he has given us the work of making peace between himself and others. **19** What we mean is that God was in Christ, offering peace and forgiveness to the people of this world. And he has given us the work of

sharing his message about peace. **20** We were sent to speak for Christ, and God is begging you to listen to our message. We speak for Christ and sincerely ask you to make peace with God. **21** Christ never sinned! But God treated him as a sinner, so that Christ could make us acceptable to God."

Ever since man fell from an obedient relationship with God, he has needed a relationship based on mercy and peace. So God arranged the affairs of men to prepare for the coming of the Messiah, His "Anointed One," who would redeem men from their sins. The New Testament expression "Christ," is the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament term "Messiah." Christ is not the last name or surname of Jesus.

Fulfilled Prophecies Concerning Christ (Messiah)

His Place of Birth

Writer: The Prophet Micah

Date written: 700 B.C

Prophecy: The LORD says, "Bethlehem Ephrathah, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times." **Micah 5:2**

Fulfillment: "Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod was king. Soon afterward, some men who studied the stars came from the East to Jerusalem **2** and asked, "Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him." **3** When King Herod heard about this, he was very upset, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. **4** He called together all the chief priests and the teachers of the Law and asked them, "Where will the Messiah be born?" **5** "In the town of Bethlehem in Judea," they answered. "For this is what the prophet wrote: **6** 'Bethlehem in the land of Judah, you are by no means the least.'" **Matthew 2:1-6**

Writer: The Prophet Isaiah

Date written: 700 B.C

Prophecy: "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." **Isaiah 7:14**

Fulfillment: "This was how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they were married, she found out that she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit. **19** Joseph was a man who always did what was right, but he did not want to disgrace Mary publicly; so he made plans to break the engagement privately. **20** While he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid

to take Mary to be your wife. For it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived. **21** She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus---because he will save his people from their sins. **22** Now all this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet, **23** "A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel" (which means, "God is with us"). **24** So when Joseph woke up, he married Mary, as the angel of the Lord had told him to. **25** But he had no sexual relations with her before she gave birth to her son. And Joseph named him Jesus." **Matthew 1:18-25**

Share with each other what ways you see this prophecy fulfilled.

Preceded by John the Baptist

Writer: The Prophet Isaiah

Date written: 700 B.C.

Prophecy: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness. "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God." **Isaiah 40:3**

Fulfillment: "In the days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, **2** and saying. "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand." **3** For this is He who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah saying, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His path straight." **Matthew 3:1-3**

His Ministry starts in Galilee

Writer: The Prophet Isaiah

Date written: 700 B.C.

Prophecy: "But there will be no more gloom for her who was in anguish: in earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He shall Make it glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles. The people who walked in darkness will see a great light, those who dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon then a light has shined." **Isaiah 9:1-2**

Fulfilled: "When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he went to Galilee. **13** But instead of staying in Nazareth, Jesus moved to Capernaum. This town was beside Lake Galilee in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali. **14** So God's promise came true, just as the prophet Isaiah had said, **15** "Listen, lands of Zebulun and Naphtali, lands along the road to the sea and east of the Jordan! Listen Galilee, land of the Gentiles! **16** Although your people live in darkness, they will see a bright light. Although they live in the shadow of death, a light will shine on them." **23** Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the Jewish meeting places and preaching the good news about God's kingdom. He also healed every kind of disease and sickness. **24** News about him spread all over Syria, and people with every kind of sickness or

disease were brought to him. Some of them had a lot of demons in them, others were thought to be crazy, and still others could not walk. But Jesus healed them all. **25** Large crowds followed Jesus from Galilee and the region around the ten cities known as Decapolis. They also came from Jerusalem, Judea, and from across the Jordan River." **Matthew 4:12-16, 23-25**

His Ministry and Miracles

Writer: The Prophet Isaiah

Date written: 700 B.C.

Prophecy: "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. **6** Then shall the lame *man* leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert." **Isaiah 35:5-6**

Fulfillment: "When John's disciples told him about all these things, he called two of them **19** and sent them to the Lord to ask him, "Are you the one John said was going to come, or should we expect someone else?" **20** When they came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to ask if you are the one he said was going to come, or should we expect someone else?" **21** At that very time Jesus healed many people from their sicknesses, diseases, and evil spirits, and gave sight to many blind people. **22** He answered John's messengers, "Go back and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind can see, the lame can walk, those who suffer from dreaded skin diseases are made clean, the deaf can hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is preached to the poor." **Luke 7:18-22**

His public entry into Jerusalem

Writer: The Prophet Zechariah

Date written: 500 B.C.

Prophecy: "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." **Zachariah 9:9**

Fulfillment: "saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. **3** If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." **4** This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, **5** "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'" **6** The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. **7** They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them" **Matthew 21:2-7**

Betrayed by a friend

Writer: David

Date written: 1000 B.C.

Prophecy: "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me." **Psalms 41:9**

Fulfillment: "I do not speak of you all; I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture might be fulfilled, "He who eats bread with me has lifted up his heel against me." **19** From now I tell you before *it* come, so that when it happens you may believe that I AM. **20** Truly, truly, I say to you, He who receives whomever I send receives Me. And he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. **21** When Jesus had said this, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, Truly, truly, I say to you that one of you shall betray Me." **John 13:18-21**

Sold for Thirty Pieces of Silver

Writer: The Prophet Zechariah

Date written: 500 B.C.

Prophecy: "I told them, "Pay me my wages, if you think you should; otherwise, forget it." So they handed me my wages, a measly thirty pieces of silver. Then the LORD said, "Throw the money into the treasury." So I threw the money into the treasury at the Lord's temple." **Zechariah 11:12**

Fulfillment: "Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, **15** and said *unto them*, what will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. **16** And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him." **Matthew 26:14-16**

His Sufferings

Writer The Prophet Isaiah

Date written 700 B.C.

Prophecy: "I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting." **Isaiah 50:6**

Fulfillment: "Then they spat in His face and beat Him with the fist. And others struck *Him* with the palms of their hands," **Matthew 26:67**

Fulfillment: "Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. **2** And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. **3** They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands." **John 19:1-3**

Prophecy: "But because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did. We are healed by the punishment he suffered, made whole by the blows he received." **Isaiah 53:5**

Fulfillment: Pilate wanted to please the crowd, so he set Barabbas free for them. Then he had Jesus whipped and handed him over to be crucified." **Matthew 15:15**

Fulfillment: "Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who was crucified with Him. **33** But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. **34** But one of the soldiers pierced His side *with* a lance, and instantly there came out blood and water."

John 19:32-34

Writer: The Prophet Micah

Date written 700 B.C.

Prophecy: "Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek." **Micah 5:1**

Writer King David

Date written: 1000 B.C.

Prophecy: "They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink." **Psalms 69:21**

Fulfillment: "Then Pilate's soldiers took Jesus into the governor's palace, and the whole company gathered around him. **28** They stripped off his clothes and put a scarlet robe on him. **29** Then they made a crown out of thorny branches and placed it on his head, and put a stick in his right hand; then they knelt before him and made fun of him. "Long live the King of the Jews!" they said. **30** They spat on him, and took the stick and hit him over the head. **31** When they had finished making fun of him, they took the robe off and put his own clothes back on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. **32** As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene named Simon, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross. **33** They came to a place called Golgotha, which means, "The Place of the Skull." **34** There they offered Jesus wine mixed with a bitter substance; but after tasting it, he would not drink it. -----**46** And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? That is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? **47** Some of them that stood there, when they heard *that*, said, This *man* calleth for Elias. **48** And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled *it* with vinegar, and put *it* on a reed, and gave him to drink. **Matthew 27:27-34, 46-48**

His Substitutionary Death

Writer: The Prophet Isaiah

Date written: 700 B.C.

Prophecy: "But he endured the suffering that should have been ours, the pain that we should have borne. All the while we thought that his suffering was punishment sent by God. **5** But because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did. We are healed by the punishment he suffered, made whole by the blows he received. **6** All of us were like sheep that were lost, each of us going his own way. But the LORD made the punishment fall on him, the punishment all of us deserved. **7** "He was treated harshly, but endured it humbly; he never said a word. Like a lamb about to be slaughtered, like a sheep about to be sheared, he never said a word." **Isaiah 53:4-7**

Fulfillment: " It was to this that God called you, for Christ himself suffered for you and left you an example, so that you would follow in his steps. **22** He committed no sin, and no one ever heard a lie come from his lips. **23** When he was insulted, he did not answer back with an insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but placed his hopes in God, the righteous Judge. **24** Christ himself carried our sins in his body to the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness. It is by his wounds that you have been healed. **25** You were like sheep that had lost their way, but now you have been brought back to follow the Shepherd and Keeper of your souls..." **1 Peter 2:21-25**

If there is any doubt in your mind about your relationship with Jesus Christ and whether you have truly accepted Him as your personal Savior and Lord, will you pray right now and claim Christ's forgiveness for your sins, once and for all. The following is a suggested prayer

Lord Jesus I need you. I agree that I have been in control of my life and as a result have turned against you. Come into my heart. Take control of my life and make me the kind of person you want me to be. As an expression of my faith I now thank you for coming into my life and for giving me your eternal life.

Following His Death

Writer: King David

Date written: 1000 B.C.

Prophecy: "He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken." **Psalms 34:20**

Fulfillment: "Then the Jews, because it was Preparation, begged Pilate that their legs might be broken, and *that* they might be taken away, so that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath. For that Sabbath was a high day. **32** Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who was crucified with Him. **33** But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already

dead, they did not break His legs. **34** But one of the soldiers pierced His side *with* a lance, and instantly there came out blood and water. **35** And he who saw bore record, and his record is true. And he knows that he speaks true, so that you might believe. **36** For these things were done so that the Scripture might be fulfilled, "Not a bone of Him shall be broken."

John 119:31-36

His Resurrection

Writer: King David

Date written: 11000 B.C.

Prophecy: "Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me in the grave, nor will you let your Holy one see decay." **Psalms 16:9**

Fulfillment: "Listen to these words, fellow Israelites! Jesus of Nazareth was a man whose divine authority was clearly proven to you by all the miracles and wonders which God performed through him. You yourselves know this, for it happened here among you. **23** In accordance with his plan God had already decided that Jesus would be handed over to you; and you killed him by letting sinful men crucify him. **24** But God raised him from death, setting him free from its power, because it was impossible that death should hold him prisoner. **25** For David said about him, 'I saw the Lord before me at all times; he is near me, and I will not be troubled. **26** And so I am filled with gladness, and my words are full of joy. And I, mortal though I am, will rest assured in hope, **27** because you will not abandon me in the world of the dead; you will not allow your faithful servant to rot in the grave. **28** You have shown me the paths that lead to life, and your presence will fill me with joy.' **29** "My friends, I must speak to you plainly about our famous ancestor King David. He died and was buried, and his grave is here with us to this very day. **30** He was a prophet, and he knew what God had promised him: God had made a vow that he would make one of David's descendants a king, just as David was. **31** David saw what God was going to do in the future, and so he spoke about the resurrection of the Messiah when he said, 'He was not abandoned in the world of the dead; his body did not rot in the grave.' **32** God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all witnesses to this fact." **Acts 2:22-32**

It has been said that if one could know what could occur five minutes in the future, he would use two weeks to rule the world. The Bible miraculously foretells hundreds of events. Minute details are recorded. In many cases, prophecies are made hundreds, sometimes thousands of years before their fulfillment.

Now these prophecies were either given by the inspiration of God or the prophets just wrote them as they thought they should be. If the later was true, the

prophets would have had one chance in a million for having them come true in one man, but they all came true in Christ

Jesus Christ is the subject of more than three hundred Old Testament prophecies made several hundred years before His birth. History confirms that even the smallest detail came about just as predicted. It confirms beyond a doubt that Jesus is the true Messiah, the Son of God and Savior of the world

It is no secret, what God can do. What He's done for others, He'll do for you.

Our mission is to help people find strength and security on the foundation that can never be shaken, cracked or shattered. This foundation is the remarkable truth of God's unconditional love and His indisputable grace experienced in a relationship with Jesus Christ. The critics of Christianity have launched a full attack to discredit the person and works of Jesus Christ and the reliability of His word. We cannot be silent anymore. Let us as children of light, stand firm in the faith, because He who has taken us this far will never forsake us. You are called Christians, be careful of that name. Let not our Lord Jesus Christ be blasphemed on your account

Believe this, "Jesus did not come to make bad people good, He came to make dead people live."

Keep It Simple

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.

If you have any questions, comments or you know anybody else who will benefit from this study please feel free to give us their email address and they will be added to our mailing list to receive weekly lessons. The email address is

santigiemandol@yahoo.com,

A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle (Ephesians 5:8)

Let's go light another candle