

**A Lively Hope In Troubled Times**  
**The Prophecy Of Grace**  
**1 Peter 1.3-13; cf. 10**

**The Address Of A King – Bible prophecy identifies the messiah for us.**

Can you imagine the Prophets of old, who looking ahead, having seen the revelations of God, by the Spirit of Christ, foretold a gracious salvation to come, and longed to reach out and take hold of that special endearing gift. Yet, their lives were not long enough to experience the very thing that they foretold, and we now hold in our hearts.

These prophets wrote many hundreds of years before the Lord Jesus Christ came. The last of the prophets wrote four hundred years before the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. These prophets also wrote of something that they could hardly understand.

- **No more sacrifices for sin.** They had to bring animals to the tabernacle and makes sacrifices for their sins.
- **Direct Access To God.** Only the priest could go into the Holy Place and only the High Priest once a year could go into the Holy of Holies.
- **The Indwelling presence of God in every person.**

The Prophets wrote of all these and much more and tried to figure out what it all might mean. **This is an incredible proof of the inspiration of the Bible.** God did not just give the prophets ideas and feelings and let them write it as they wanted. No God moved them to write every pen stroke. Otherwise they would not have written about things that just made no sense to them.

Notice in our text,

*1 Peter 1:10–12 - Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: <sup>11</sup> **Searching what, or what manner of time** the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. <sup>12</sup>Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; **which things the angels desire to look into.***

Those things which God has done for us as born-again Christians even the angels struggle to fully understand.

Sometimes people wonder why the lost world around us seems to have so much trouble understanding the New-Birth and the Salvation we have in the Lord Jesus Christ. Those spiritual realities that God has worked within us are not natural, they are not normal. **They are supernatural miracles** that we as Christians often take for granted. Being a Born-Again Christian is incredibly amazing.

Yet, In these prophecies God's forethought and foreknowledge was so perfect and compassionate that from the very foundations of the world He prepared to make the required payment owed by every repentant and believing sinner that would ever walk the face of this created globe.

From the very beginning He made His message known. On the same day as Adam's fall by sin; God, in His grace, made the message of deliverance known, the seed of the woman would one day conquer Satan (Gen 3.15), providing victory for all mankind. And this message of hope and victory has continued throughout the ages, and continues today.

## I. A Continuing Message.

### A. There was the message given to,

1. Adam and Eve (Gen 3.14-15)
2. Abraham (Gen 12.3) - His seed would bless many.

*Genesis 12:1–3* - Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: <sup>2</sup>And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: <sup>3</sup>**And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.**

Dan 2.34

3. In Judah the scepter would continue (Gen 49.10) – When Abraham blessed his children he said to Judah,
4. David - Saw visions of the Messiah,
  - His rejection (Ps 2.1-7, cf. 2)
  - His betrayal (Ps 55.12-14)
  - His disgrace (Ps 69.19-21)
5. Isaiah - Told of a coming Messiah
  - A promise of peace (Isa 2.4).
  - A promised light (Isa 9.2)
  - A promised righteous branch (Isa 11.1-5)
  - A promise of rest (Isa 11.10)

- A promised SAVIOR (Isa 62.11).

6. **Jeremiah** foretold of a coming King (Jer 23.6-8) – The Coming regathering of Israel at the Millennium

7. **Daniel** spoke of a falling stone (Dan 2.34,44) – The Coming Millennium

*Daniel 2:34 - Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.*

*Daniel 2:44 - And in the days of these kings shall **the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed:** and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, **but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms,** and it shall stand for ever.*

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8. **Haggai** described Him as the delight of the temple (Hag 2.7).

9. **Zechariah** described a coming branch (Zech 3.8).

## B. The wonder of their prophecies (1 Pet 1.10-12)

*1 Peter 1:10–11 - Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: <sup>11</sup>**Searching what, or what manner** of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.*

They inquired and searched diligently

They longed to obtain the foretold gift of grace

They searched what, or what manner of time.

They yearned to know more and experience this reality - For they knew that it would come for God would keep His word.

Can you imagine the curiosity of,

- **Isaiah** when he prophesied,

*Isaiah 28:11 - For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.*

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- **Jeremiah and Ezekiel** when they both spoke of the law written within the hearts of mankind (Jer 31.33; Ezek 11.19)

*Jeremiah 31:33 - But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, **I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.***

*Ezekiel 11:19 - **And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:***

- **Ezekiel** when he prophesied of the endowment of the Holy Spirit of God, mentioning the purpose of His indwelling presence (Ezek 36.25-27)

*Ezekiel 36:25-27 - Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. <sup>26</sup>**A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart***

*out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.* <sup>27</sup> *And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.*

- **Joel** when he prophesied of the visions and dreams yet to come, with the presence of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2.28)

*Joel 2:28 - And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:*

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- **Isaiah** when he, through God's inspiration, described this coming savior (Isa 9.6-7).

*Isaiah 9:6–7 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

The Prophets wrote of many things they did not, could not understand and they longed to know what all these things could mean and be. They longed to know what God used them to prophecy and write in the Word of God.

## II. Not Unto Them, But Unto Us (vs 10-12)

Yet their prophecies were not for them, but spoke of God's unmerited grace that was delivered to this world in love one day some 2000 years ago.

We have, what they desired to experience -  
How do we know, for sure?

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### A. Ten Prophecies confirming our Lord Jesus Christ,

Isa 7.14

#### 1. The messenger was sent - John the Baptist (Mal 3.1).

*Malachi 3:1 - Behold, **I will send my messenger,** and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.*

#### 2. A virgin conceived - Mary (Isa 7.14)

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

Mic 5.2

#### 3. He was born in Bethlehem (Micah 5.2)

*Micah 5:2 - But thou, **Bethlehem Ephratah,** though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*

Zech 9.9

**2. He was rejected by the nations (Psm 2.2)**

*Psalm 2:2 - The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, **against the LORD**, and against **his anointed**, saying,*

**3. He entered the city on an asses colt (Zech 9.9)**

*Zechariah 9:9 - Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, **and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.***

Zech 11.12

**4. He entered the city on the precise day indicated by Daniel (Dan 9.25) – 70 weeks prophecy**

**5. He was railed on by a confidant (Psm 55.12-14)**

*Psalm 55:12–14 - For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: <sup>13</sup>But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. <sup>14</sup>We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.*

**6. He was sold for exactly thirty pieces of silver (Zech 11.12)**

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- A. Ten Bible Prophecies – The address of a king.

*Zechariah 11:12* - And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price **thirty pieces of silver.**

**7. He was forsaken of all of His friends  
(Zech 13.7)**

*Zechariah 13:7* - Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: **smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered;** and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

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Psalm 110.1

**8. His body was torn beyond recognition (Isa 52.14)**

*Isaiah 52:14* - As many were astonished at thee; **his visage was so marred more than any man,** and his form more than the sons of men:

**9. He was ridiculed while He suffered upon the cross (Ps 69.21)**

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

**10. He then physically ascended on high, and now sits on the right hand of God the Father to be revealed in the near future (Ps 110.1)**

*Psalm 110:1* - The LORD said unto my Lord, **Sit thou at my right hand,** until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

**B. Proof positive of His identity**

There are seventy (70) major prophecies concerning the first advent of Christ, all of them were fulfilled literally in Jesus.

There are Two hundred and seventy (270) more ramifications given concerning the first advent of Christ, all of them have been literally and historically fulfilled in Jesus.

If **only ten of the prophecies** listed above were fulfilled to the letter, the odds of that occurring by chance are 1:10 to the 17th power:  
1:1,000,000,000,000,000,000

Yet many somehow doubt.

### C. The greatest proof of all.

#### 1. The Indestructible Church of Jesus Christ.

Christianity goes on and on.

Even today in our secular, worldly, and sinful religious hordes; there is a remnant.

#### 2. The indwelling Holy Spirit of Almighty-God.

None can deny the transforming presence of the Holy Spirit in any sincere and new born Christians life.

No Born-Again Christian can deny the indwelling presence of a living God.

**DO YOU HAVE HIM WITHIN YOU!!!**

CrossRoads Baptist, Nov 15, 2020

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##### **II. Not Unto Them, But Unto Us**

- A. **Ten Bible Prophecies** – The address of a king.
- B. **Proof Positive of Jesus Identity**
- C. **The Greatest Proof of All**
  - 1. The Indestructible Church
  - 2. The Indwelling Holy Spirit