

## Messiah's Prefiguration in Scripture

The list below contains 44 prophecies regarding the Messiah which appear in the Tenakh (Old Testament) and over 44 records of their fulfillment which appear in the New Covenant Scriptures (New Testament).<sup>1</sup> I may have missed some.

### 01 - He would be the seed of a woman:

**This prophecy occurs in Genesis 3:15:** [God says to Satan]...I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

**Galatians 4:4 records its fulfillment:** ...when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law....

### 02 - He would be the seed of Abraham:

**This prophecy occurs in Genesis 12:3:** [God says to Abraham]...in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

**Luke 3 records its fulfillment in the genealogy which traces Jesus' blood line from Mary back to Adam. Luke 3:34 states:** ...Abraham, which was the son of Thara....

### 03 - He would be the seed of Isaac:

**This prophecy occurs in Genesis 17:19:** ...God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

**Luke 3 records its fulfillment in the genealogy which traces Jesus' blood line from Mary back to Adam. Luke 3:34 states:** ...Isaac, which was the son of Abraham,....

### 04 - He would be the seed of Jacob:

**This prophecy occurs in Numbers 24:17:** ...there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel,....

**Luke 3 records its fulfillment in the genealogy which traces Jesus' blood line from Mary back to Adam. Luke 3:34 states:** ...Jacob, which was the son of Isaac,....

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<sup>1</sup> I prepared this list as a handout to accompany a homily which I delivered at the Church of Our Saviour in Lebanon Springs on April 16, 2003.

**05 - He would be from the tribe of Judah:**

**This prophecy occurs in Genesis 49:10:** The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

**Luke 3 records its fulfillment in the genealogy which traces Jesus' blood line from Mary back to Adam. Luke 3:33-34 states:** ...Judah, which was the son of Jacob....

**06 - He would be a descendant of David:**

**This prophecy occurs in 2 Samuel 7:12-13:** [God says to David] ...when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

**Luke 3 records its fulfillment in the genealogy which traces Jesus' blood line from Mary back to Adam. Luke 3:33-34 states:** ...David, which was the son of Jesse....

**Romans 1:3 also records its fulfillment:** Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh....

**07 - He would be heir to the throne of David:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 9:7:** 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.

**Luke 1:32 records its fulfillment:** [The angel Gabriel says to Mary] He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

**08 - He would appear before the scepter departed from Judah:**

**This prophecy occurs in Genesis 49:10:** The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

**All four Gospels record its fulfillment:** Judah still occupied the Promised Land in Jesus's time.

**09 - He would be born at a specific time:**

**This prophecy occurs in Daniel 9:25:** Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

**Luke 2:1-2 records its fulfillment:** ...it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

**10 - He would be born in a specific place, Bethlehem of Judea:**

**This prophecy occurs in Micah 5:2:** ...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.

**Luke 2:4-7 records its fulfillment:** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

**11 - He would be born of a virgin:**

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

**Luke 1:26-35 records its fulfillment:** ...in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS....Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

**12 - He would be named before He was born:**

**This prophesy occurs in Isaiah 49:1:** Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.

**Luke 1:30-31 records its fulfillment:** And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

**13 - His birth would entail sorrow for others:**

**This prophecy occurs in Jeremiah 31:15:** Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

**Matthew 2:16-17 records its fulfillment:**...Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Beth-lehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

**14 - He would flee into Egypt and then return to Judea:**

**This prophecy occurs in Hosea 11:1:** When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

**Matthew 2:14-15 records its fulfillment:** When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

**15 - He would be preceded by a forerunner:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 40:3:** The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**Matthew 3:1-3 records its fulfillment:** In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

**This prophecy also occurs in Malachi 3:1 in a slightly different form:** 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.

**Luke 7:24-27 records its fulfillment:** ...when the messengers of John were departed, Jesus began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?....This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

**16 - He would be a prophet:**

**This prophecy occurs in Deuteronomy 18:15:** [Moses said] The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken....

**Acts 3:20-22 records its fulfillment:** [Peter said] ...[the Lord] shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

**17 - He would be a priest - after the order of Melchizedek:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 110:4:** The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

**Hebrews 5:5-6 records its fulfillment:** So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

**18 - He would be the Son of God:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalms 2:7:** I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

**Seven passages of scripture record God's own testimony to its fulfillment:**

*Three occur at His baptism.*

**Matthew 3:17:** And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

**Mark 1:11:** And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

**Luke 3:22:** ...and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

*Four occur at His Transfiguration.*

**Matthew 17:5:** ...a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

**Mark 9:7:** And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

**Luke 9:35:** And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

**II Peter 1:17-18:** ...there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard....

#### **19 - He would minister in Galilee:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 9:1-2:** Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

**Matthew 4:13-16 records its fulfillment:** And leaving Nazareth, [Jesus] came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

#### **20 - He would heal the broken-hearted:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 61:1:** The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to [them that are] bound;

**Luke 4:16-21 records its fulfillment:** [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet

Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

**21 - He would heal the blind, the deaf, and the lame:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 35:5-6:** Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 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.

**All four Gospels record its fulfillment on many occasions, to which Jesus Himself drew attention in Matthew 11:4-5:** Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

**22 - He would still the tempest:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 107:29:** He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.

**Matthew 8:23-27 records its fulfillment:** ...when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him. And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish. And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

**23 - He would speak in parables:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 78:2:** I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old....

**Matthew 13:34-35 records its fulfillment:** All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

**24 - He would enter Jerusalem in triumph, riding on a colt:**

**This prophecy occurs in 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.

**Mark 11:7-11 records its fulfillment:** ...they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him. And many spread their garments in the way: and others cut down branches off the trees, and strewed them in the way. And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. And Jesus entered into Jerusalem....

**25 - He would be poor and needy:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 40:17:** ...I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.

**Matthew 8:20 records its fulfillment:** And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

**26 - He would be sold for thirty pieces of silver:**

**This prophecy occurs in 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.

**Matthew 26:15-16 records its fulfillment:** ...[Judas] 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. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray [Jesus].

**27 - He would be betrayed by a friend:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 41:9:** Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

**Luke 22:47-48 records its fulfillment:** And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him. But Jesus said unto him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?

**28 - He would be accused by false witnesses:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 35:11:** False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge things that I knew not.



**Mark 14:57-58 records its fulfillment:** And there arose certain, and bare false witness against him, saying, We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.

**29 - He would not answer His accusers:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 53:7:** He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

**Mark 15:4-5 records its fulfillment:** And Pilate asked him again, saying, Answerest thou nothing? behold how many things they witness against thee. But Jesus yet answered nothing; so that Pilate marvelled.

**30 - He would be despised and rejected by His own people:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 53:3:** He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were [our] faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

**Luke 23:18 records its fulfillment:** And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas:

**John 1:11 also records its fulfillment:** He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

**31 - He would be hated without cause:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 35:19:** Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: neither let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause.

**It also occurs in Psalm 69:4:** They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away.

**John 15:24 records its fulfillment:** [Jesus said] If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.

**Luke 23:4 also records its fulfillment:** Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people, I find no fault in this man.

**32 - He would be spat upon and smitten:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 50:6:** I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

**Matthew 26:67 records its fulfillment:** Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands....

**33 - He would be crucified with malefactors:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 53:12:** ...he was numbered with the transgressors....

**Mark 15:27-28 records its fulfillment:** And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

**34 - He would be pierced in the hands and feet:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 22:16:** For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have enclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.

**John 20:25-29 records its fulfillment:** ...[Thomas] said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

**35 - He would be scorned and mocked:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 22:7-8:** All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.

**Luke 23:35-36 records its fulfillment:** ...the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. And the soldiers also mocked him,....

**36 - He would be given vinegar:**

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

**Matthew 27:34 records its fulfillment:** They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

**37 - He would pray for His executioners:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 109:4:** For my love they are my adversaries: but I give myself unto prayer.

**It also occurs in Isaiah 53:12:** ...[he] made intercession for the transgressors.

**Luke 23:34 records its fulfillment:** Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.....

**38 - His executioners would cast lots for His clothes:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 22:18:** They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

**Matthew 27:35 records its fulfillment:** ...they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

**39 - His bones would not be broken:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 34:20:** He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.

**John 19:32-33 records its fulfillment:** Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs.

**40 - He would be pierced in the side:**

**This prophecy occurs in Zechariah 12:10:** And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

**John 19:34 records its fulfillment:** But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

**41 - He would be buried with the rich:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 53:9:** And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death....

**Matthew 27:57-60 records its fulfillment:** When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

**42 - He would be resurrected:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 16:10:** For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

**It also occurs in Psalm 49:15:** But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.

**Mark 16:6 records its fulfillment:** And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.

**43 - He would ascend to Heaven:**

**This prophecy occurs in Psalm 68:18:** Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

**Mark 16:19 records its fulfillment:** So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

**Ephesians 4:8 also records its fulfillment:** Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

**44 - He would be a substitutionary sacrifice:**

**This prophecy occurs in Isaiah 53:5-6:** ...he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

**Romans 5:6-9 records its fulfillment:** For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly....God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.