

PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

The Holy Scriptures indicate the time, the place, the generation, and the manner in which God would incarnate. Specifically, they predicted the following:

That God would come to the earth: “God shall come visibly” (Ps. 49:3).

“God is the Lord, and He hath appeared unto us” (Ps. 117:26).

“And He bowed the heavens and came down” (Ps. 17:9).

“This is our God, and there shall be no other accounted in comparison to Him...Afterward He appeared on the earth, and He conversed with men” (Bar. 3:35-37).

That He would be born from the tribe of Judah: “Judah, thy brethren shall praise thee...thy father’s sons shall do thee reverence” (Gen. 49:8).

That He would be a descendent of Jacob: “A man shall come forth from his [Jacob’s] seed, and he shall rule many nations” (Num. 24:7)

That He would arise from the root of Jesse: “And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall arise to rule over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust, and his rest shall be glorious” (Isa. 11:10).

That He would emerge from the seed of David: “Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will raise up to David a righteous branch, and a king shall reign and understand, and shall execute judgment and righteousness on the earth” (Jer. 23:5).

That He would come from Heaven: “Thus says the Lord Almighty: ‘Behold the man, Dayspring is His name, and He shall rise up from below the horizon, and He shall build the house of the Lord’” (Zach. 6:12).

That He would come to the earth quietly: “He shall come down like rain upon a fleece (Ps. 71:6).

That He would appear at a time when there were no more rulers from the tribe of Judah: “There shall not cease being a ruler from Judah, nor a lawgiver from his loins, until what is in store for him comes. And he is the expectation of the nations” (Gen. 49:10).

That He would be born in Bethlehem: “God shall come from Thaeman” (Hab. 3:3). Thaeman means “south.” With this name, the prophet Habakkuk predicted that Christ would come from Bethlehem, which is located south of Jerusalem.

“And thou, Bethlehem, house of Ephratha, art few in number to be reckoned among the thousands of Judah. Yet out of thee shall one come forth to me, to be a ruler of Israel; and his goings forth were from the beginning, even from eternity” (Mic. 5:2).

That He would be born from a virgin: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive in the womb, and shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Emmanuel” (Isa. 7:14).

That the virgin would give birth without experiencing pain: “Before she travails in labor to give birth, before the pain of birth pangs comes on, she escapes it and bears a male” (Isa. 66:7).

That she would remain a virgin after giving birth: “Then he brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary that looks eastward; and it was shut. And the Lord said to me, ‘This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no one shall pass through it; for the Lord God of Israel shall enter by it, and it shall remain shut’ (Ezk. 44:1-2).

That the child is God: “A child is born to us, and a son is given to us; and his name is called the Messenger of great counsel, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Potentate, Prince of Peace, Father of the age to come” (Isa. 9:5-6). “For before the child shall know good or evil, he refuses evil to choose the good” (Isa. 7:15).

That the star would appear: “A star shall rise out of Jacob, and a Man shall rise out of Israel; and he shall crush the princess of Moab, and shall spoil all the sons of Seth” (Num. 24:17).

That the Magi would offer Him gifts: “The kings of Tarshish and their islands will come bearing gifts; the kings of Arabia and Saba will bring presents. All the kings of the earth shall worship Him...He shall live, and there shall be given to him from the gold of Arabia” (Ps. 71:10-11, 15).

“All those from Sheba shall come bearing gold, and they shall bring frankincense and proclaim the good news of the Lord’s salvation” (Isa. 60:60).

That Herod would slay the 14,000 babes: “Thus says the Lord: ‘A voice of lamentation, weeping, and mourning was heard in Ramah. Rachel does not wish to cease mourning deeply over her children, because they are no more’” (Jer. 38:15).

That He would flee to Egypt: “Behold, the Lord sits on a swift cloud [that is, the Virgin Mary], and shall come to Egypt; and the idols of Egypt shall be moved” (Isa. 19:1).

That He would return from Egypt: “Out of Egypt I called My Son” (Hos. 2:15). “God led him out of Egypt, and he has the glory of a unicorn” (Nm. 24:8).

The above prophecies, which were voiced by the prophets 500 to 1,500 years before the advent of Christ and which were perfectly fulfilled with His birth, clearly attest that He is the Son of God, Who became the Son of man, in order to save man.