

# The Evidence of Fulfilled Prophecy

It is not enough to believe the Bible is God's word merely because we want it to be true. We must base our belief on rock solid evidence. I want us to consider one of the most powerful and convincing arguments that the Bible is the very word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

- **The Evidence of Fulfilled Prophecy**

- The Bible is loaded with specific predictions pertaining to people, kingdoms, cities, and nations.
  - Daniel predicted the rise and fall of four world kingdoms (Daniel 2:36-45).
  - Isaiah predicted the coming and work of Cyrus (Isaiah 44:25; 45:1).
  - Ezekiel predicted the fall of Tyre (Ezekiel 26).
- There are at least 100 clear prophecies that pertain to the life of Jesus.
  - He would be born in Bethlehem of Judea (Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1-6).
  - He would be born into David's family (2 Samuel 7:12-13; Matthew 1:1).
  - He would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25).
  - He would have a forerunner (Isaiah 40:3-4; Mark 1:1-3).
  - He would suffer terribly before His death (Isaiah 53; 1 Peter 2:24).
  - He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:13; Matthew 26:15).
  - He would spend time in Egypt (Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:15).
  - His enemies would mock Him (Psalm 22:8; Matthew 27:43).
  - Soldiers would divide His garments (Psalm 22:18; Matthew 27:35).
  - He would be given wine mixed with gall (Psalm 69:21; Matthew 27:34).
  - He would be raised from the dead (Psalm 16:8-11; Acts 2:25-28).
- How could these men have known these details about Jesus hundreds of years before He came to the earth? 2 Peter 1:20-21 give us the answer!

- **Feeble Attempts to Combat the Evidence:**

- "The prophecies were written after the fact."
  - Historical evidence proves otherwise.
    - The Dead Sea Scrolls date to at least 100 B.C.
    - The Septuagint made in Alexandria Egypt date to 250 B.C.
  - To deny these facts is to deny history!
- "The gospel writers fabricated the story to make it look like Jesus fulfilled prophecy!"
  - There was no legitimate motive for fraud.
  - Good men don't die for a lie! See 1 Corinthians 4:11-13; Acts 12:1-3.
- "The prophecies were intentionally fulfilled by Jesus."
  - How does one manipulate when, how, and where they were born?
  - How does one control the words of His enemies while He dies on a cross?
  - How does one determine the exact family that He will be born into?

**Conclusion:** We can be sure the Bible is God's word because only God knows what is going to happen in the future!

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