

12 OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES OF THE IDENTITY AND BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

- A. Prophecy composes approximately 25% of the entire Bible, and 50% of all Biblical prophecies have already been fulfilled literally.
- B. According to Dr. John Walvoord in his *Prophecy Knowledge Handbook* there are 575 Old Testament and 316 New Testament prophecies for a total of 891.
- C. There are over 300 Old Testament prophecies which pertain to the person and the work of Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah to Israel.
- D. There are **12 specific prophecies** which were fulfilled exactly in **the identification and birth of Jesus Christ**. All of these are recorded to have been fulfilled in Matthew 1:1-6; 18-25; 2:1-18:
1. Jesus was born **seed of a woman**. This prophecy speaks of His humanity.
Prophecy: ***“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed.”*** (Gen. 3:15a; Isa. 7:14a)
Fulfillment: ***“...God sent forth His son, born of a woman...”*** (Gal. 4:4; Matt. 1:20, 21)
 2. Jesus was born **Son of God**. This prophecy speaks of His deity.
Prophecy: ***“...Thou art my Son, today I have begotten Thee.”*** (Psalm 2:7; Isa. 7:14b)
Fulfillment: ***“This is my beloved Son...”*** (Matt. 1:18, 20; 3:17; Luke 1:35; 3:38; Heb. 1:5)
 3. Jesus was born **seed of Abraham**. This prophecy speaks of His lineage from Abraham, the father of a new race, the Hebrews.
Prophecy: ***“And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed...”*** (Gen. 21:8, 14, 18; cf. Gen. 12:2, 3)
Fulfillment: ***“...Jesus Christ...the son of Abraham.”*** (Matt. 1:1; Gal. 3:16)
 4. Jesus was born **seed of Isaac**. This prophecy speaks of His lineage through Isaac, the son of Abraham.
Prophecy: ***“But God said to Abraham...through Isaac your seed will be called.”*** (Gen. 21:12)
Fulfillment: ***“Jesus, ...son of Isaac, ...”*** (Luke 3:23-34; Matt. 1:2; Rom. 9:7, 8)
 5. Jesus was born **seed of Jacob**. This prophecy speaks of His lineage through Jacob, the son of Isaac.
Prophecy: ***“A star shall come forth...from Jacob...”*** (Num. 24:17; cf. Gen. 35:10-12)
Fulfillment: ***“Jesus, ...son of Jacob, ...”*** (Luke 3:23-34; Matt. 1:2; cf. Luke 1:33)
 6. Jesus was born of the **tribe of Judah**. This prophecy speaks of His lineage through the tribe of Judah, the son of Jacob.
Prophecy: ***“The scepter shall not depart from Judah...”*** (Gen. 49:10; Micah 5:2)

Fulfillment: ***“Jesus,...son of Judah,...”*** (Lk. 3:23-33; Matt. 1:2; Heb. 7:14; Rev. 5:5)

7. Jesus was born in the **family line of Jesse**. This prophecy continues the lineage of Jesus through Jesse, the father of David.

Prophecy: ***“Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse...”*** (Isa. 11:1; cf. Isa. 11:10)

Fulfillment: ***“Jesus,...the son of Jesse,...”*** (Luke 3:23-32; Matt. 1:6)

8. Jesus was born a **son of David**. This prophecy speaks of Jesus as being of the house and lineage of David, King of Israel.

Prophecy: ***“...I shall raise up for David a righteous branch;”*** (Jer. 23:5; Psalm 132:10-18; Isa. 9:6, 7)

Fulfillment: ***“Jesus,...son of David,...”*** (Luke 3:23-31; Matt. 1:1; 9:27; 15:22; Matt. 20:30, 31; 21:9, 15; 22:41-46; Mark 9:10; 10:47; 48; 18:38, 39; John 7:42; Acts 13:22, 23; Rev. 22:16)

9. Jesus was **born in Bethlehem**. This prophecy gives the exact location of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Prophecy: ***“But as for you Bethlehem Ephrathah...among the clans of Judah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler over Israel.”*** (Micah 5:2)

Fulfillment: ***“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judah...”*** (Matt. 2:1; Matt. 2:4-8; Luke 2:4-7; John 7:42)

10. Jesus was **born of a virgin**. This prophecy speaks of the miraculous nature of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Prophecy: ***“Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign; Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel (God with us).”*** (Isa. 7:14)

Fulfillment: ***“When His mother had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.”*** (Matt. 1:18, 23, 25; Luke 1:26-35)

11. Jesus was presented with **gifts that a king would receive**. This prophecy speaks of His birth as one born into a royal family.

Prophecy: ***“Let the kings of Tarshish and the islands bring presents; The kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts. And let all kings bow down before Him,...”*** (Psalm 72:10, 11, 15; Isa. 60:6)

Fulfillment: ***“...magi from the East arrived...”*** (Matt. 2:1) ***“...they fell down and worshipped Him; and opening their treasures they presented to Him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.”*** (Matt. 2:11)

12. Jesus was **delivered from** the rage and **slaughter** of all male children by Herod.

Prophecy: Jeremiah prophesies that Jewish captives and **children would be slaughtered**, and they were in 586 BC; but this prophecy extends into the future as well. (Jer. 31:15; cf. Ex. 4:22)

Fulfillment: Herod slaughtered all male children under two years of age, but Jesus was delivered being taken to Egypt. (Matt. 2:13-21)