

The arrival of the King of Kings

The first advent of Christ came with epic signs and prophetic displays: Visitations from angels, heavenly dreams, the fulfillment of ancient prophecies, signs in the starry heavens and the visitation of venerating Kings from a distant land. After almost five hundred years of prophetic silence, God was on the move. This was the advent of the promised Messiah!

Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.
Acts 2:22

Matthew's Gospel, chapters one & two

1) Joseph and Mary – Matthew 1:18-24

- ✚ Joseph is the unsung hero in the Gospel story
- ✚ God with us, Immanuel – Isaiah 7:14, 1 Timothy 3:16, John 1:14
- ✚ Dreams – (Job 33:14-18) God spoke five times through dreams in the first two chapters of Matthew's Gospel (Mt.1:20, 2:12, 13, 19, 22)
- ✚ Angels – Hebrews 1:14
- ✚ The angel quotes the bible; test all things with the bible – Isaiah 8:20, Gal.1:6-8

2) The Wise Men from the east – Matthew 2:1-12

- ✚ A fulfillment of prophecy – (Is.60:1-3) the wise men bore witness to the kingship of Jesus, affirmed the messianic Bethlehem birth and emphasized gentile faith and worship.
- ✚ Possible decedents from Daniel's school – Daniel 2:48
- ✚ Signs in the heavens – Psalms 19:1-4, Genesis 1:14-19, Job 38:31-33
- ✚ The prophetic symbolism of the three gifts: Gold, kingship; Frankincense, priesthood; Myrrh, His sacrificial death.

3) King Herod – Matt.2:13-23

- ✚ King Herod is the archetype of the antichrist spirit. Even after witnessing miraculous signs and prophetic fulfillment he hardened his heart like Pharaoh of old and tried to kill the baby Jesus. This antichrist spirit is alive today in attempts to take Christ out of Christmas.



Christmas prophecies

All the prophecies that foretold Christ's first coming were fulfilled literally. There are over 300 prophecies concerning His first coming. It's a mathematical impossibility (10 to the 157th) that these prophecies could be fulfilled in anyone other than Jesus of Nazareth. There are over 1800 prophecies about the Second Coming of Christ.

- He was born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
- He would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
- He would become a sacrificial offering for sin and healing (Isaiah 53)

A few prophecies in Isaiah (The 5th gospel)

1. Isaiah 2:1-4 – The future kingdom and king
2. Isaiah 7:14 – The virgin birth
3. Isaiah 9:1-7 – Light to the Gentiles and a King is born
4. Isaiah 11:1-10 – A branch from Jesse
5. Isaiah 28:16, 18 – The cornerstone rejected. The deaf to hear and the blind shall see
6. Isaiah 40:1-5 – Prepare the way of the Messiah
7. Isaiah 42:1-4 – the Messiah's calling and ministry
8. Isaiah 50:4-7 – He will be beaten and spit on
9. Isaiah 52:13-15 – The sin bearing servant
10. Isaiah 53 – The suffering Messiah
11. Isaiah 60:1-3 – Kings will come to His rising
12. Isaiah 61 – The good news of salvation that the Messiah will bring

