

Search the Scriptures

Introduction:

- A. There are many things in life about which one may be completely indifferent. - e.g., sports
- B. Men have reached various verdicts about Jesus of Nazareth. - e.g., Matthew 14:33; 27:63; John 3:1-2
- C. With Christ one cannot be neutral. - Luke 11:23
- D. Proposition: Jesus' fulfillment of the old Testament prophecies concerning Christ proves He is the Christ the Son of God.

I. The Proposition Explained:

- A. the Christ: "anointed ... of the coming king whom the Jews expected to be the saviour" (Thayer. 672); cf. Psalm 2; Matthew 1:21
- B. the Son of God - Luke 1:35; Acts 13:33; John 1:1-3,14
- C. Jesus appealed to fulfilled prophecy to sustain His claims. - John 5:39; Luke 24:44
- D. The apostles did the same. - Acts 3:18; 10:43; 17:2-3; Romans 16:25-26; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Revelation 19:10

II. The Importance of the Evidence

- A. It sustains our faith in the Bible, the source of our faith.
 - 1. Man cannot know the future; only God can foretell history or events. - Isaiah 46:8-11
 - 2. The Bible foretold the coming of Christ.
 - 3. Therefore the Bible is the Word of God not of man. - 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- B. It sustains our faith in God.
 - 1. If the Bible is the Word of God, there is a God.
 - 2. The Bible is the Word of God.
 - 3. Therefore there is a God.
- C. It sustains our faith in Jesus.
 - 1. If Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament promises and prophecies of the Christ, He is the Christ the Son of God.
 - 2. Jesus did fulfill the Old Testament promises and prophecies of Christ.
 - 3. Therefore Jesus is the Christ the Son of God. - Matthew 16:16-18

III. The Nature of the Evidence: the Characteristics of True Prophecy

- A. The events must be beyond the power of men to foresee.
- B. It must be demonstrated that the prediction was written long before the event.
- C. The prediction must be applicable to the event.
- D. The language of the prediction must be unambiguous and unmistakable.
- E. Every prophecy or part of prophecy must be fulfilled; no mistakes are allowed. - Deuteronomy 18:20-22

IV. The Evidence: Christ in Prophecy - e.g., finding a man in a lineup of suspects; look for identifying characteristics

- A. Time: Roman Empire - Daniel 2:36-45; Luke 2:1; 3:1
- B. Place: Bethlehem Ephratah - Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1-6
- C. Lineage
 - 1. Abraham - Genesis 12:3; 22:18; Matthew 1:1
 - 2. Judah - Genesis 49:10; Matthew 1:2-3
 - 3. David - 2 Samuel 7:12-13; Psalm 89:19-45; Matthew 22:41-42; 1:1; Acts 13:22-23

4. woman - Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-23; Galatians 4:4

D. Character

1. Obedient - Deuteronomy 18:18; John 12:49-50; Philippians 2:8
2. Wise - Isaiah 11:1-4; Luke 4:22; Matthew 7:28-29; John 7:45-46
3. Love of Righteousness - Psalm 45:6-7; Matthew 5:10; Hebrews 1:8-9
4. Gentleness & Tenderness - Isaiah 42:1-3; Matthew 12:15-21; 19:13-15; 23:37; 1 Peter 2:23
5. Compassion - Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 4:16-21; John 11:35; Matthew 9:36-38
6. Piety - Psalm 40:7-8; Hebrews 10:7; John 4:31-34

E. Events

1. Forerunner - Malachi 3:1; Isaiah 40:3-5; Mark 1:2-4
2. Anointed by Holy Spirit - Isaiah 42:1; Matthew 3:16-17
3. Man of Sorrows - Isaiah 53:3; Matthew 26:36-39
4. Triumphant Entry - Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:1-11
5. Jews' Rejection - Isaiah 53:1-3; Matthew 27:22-23

F. Betrayal and Trial

1. Betrayal - Zechariah 11:12-13; Matthew 26:14-16; 27:3-8
2. Demeanor on Trial - Isaiah 53:1-7; Matthew 27:12-14

G. Crucifixion and Burial

1. Unjust Judgment - Isaiah 53:8; Matthew 27:15-26
2. Scourging - Isaiah 50:6; Matthew 27:26-31
3. Crucifixion - Psalm 22:1,6-8,16-18; Matthew 27:39-46; John 19:23-24, 31-34
4. Burial - Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:57-60; John 19:38-42
5. Triumph
 - a. Resurrection - Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:29-32; 13:34-37
 - b. Ascension - Psalm 68:18; Acts 1:9; Ephesians 4:8-10

Conclusion:

- A. Indeed, Jesus is the Christ the Son of God!
- B. What will you do with Jesus? - Acts 8:26-39