

**WHY SHOULD WE
BELIEVE THE BIBLE TO
BE TRUE AND GOD'S
WORD?**

Part 2

**THE PROPHECIES ARE
ACCURATE**

Instructions:

- Read the entire lesson – all Bible verses are included and are from the New King James Version
- Answer the questions at the end of the lesson
- Mail the answers to the address provided
- The questions will be marked and returned to you along with the next lesson and a self-addressed envelope
- A Certificate of Completion will be mailed when the entire series is completed

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In the Old Testament there are many prophecies. They all have a lot of detail and are always accurate. In this lesson we will look at prophecies about Jesus' birth, His life, His death, His resurrection and His New Covenant (will or testament).

Before our lesson we will learn some amazing facts about bees, blue whales and birds. God created all animals, fish and birds with everything they need to survive. Jesus told His followers not worry because, if God cares for the birds and even the plants; then "are you not of more value than they?"

- Matthew 6:26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Blue Whales

The blue whale is a marine mammal. It is 30 meters (98 feet) long and weighs 180 metric tons (200 tons) or more. It is the largest known animal to have ever existed. It is even bigger than dinosaurs. Its tongue weighs around 2.7 metric tons (5,952 pounds), which is about the size of an average Asian elephant and its heart weighs about 600 kilograms (1,300 pounds).

The blue whale feeds almost exclusively on small, shrimp-like creatures called krill. Krill live in all of the oceans. Each day, during the summer feeding season, the blue whale consumes an astounding 3.6 metric tons (7,900 pounds) or more of krill. This is approximately 40 million krill and gives the adult blue whale the 1.5 million calories that it needs for survival. The life of these huge sea creatures is sustained by these small krill. Isn't God's creation wonderful and amazing?

- Genesis 1:21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that *it was good*.

Birds

Recently, in 2010, the common belief that bird skeletons are lightweight relative to their body size has been proven false. Instead of the bird skeletons being slender and delicate, they are dense, heavy, strong and stiff. Their bones are hollow and were created to maximize bone strength and stiffness and to minimize bone size. Birds need these types of bones to fly. Some birds, when migrating, travel up to 16,000 kilometers (10,000 miles). We will study bird migration in a later lesson.

Bees

Honey bees are fascinating insects. The female is the worker bee which you see going from flower to flower and gathering nectar. The males are called drones and are slightly larger than the females. They have no stingers, do not work and are used exclusively for mating. In each hive there is one special bee called the Queen. She lives an average of 5 years and lays all of the eggs, up to 2500 eggs a day, in the summer months.

Honey bees are very important as pollinators (an insect which carries pollen from one seed plant to another). It is the only insect that produces food that man eats. A bee's sense of smell is so precise that it can differentiate whether a flower carries pollen or nectar from metres away. The buzzing sound we hear is from the bee's wings beating 200 beats per second. It can fly as much as six miles and travel up to 24.1 kilometres (15 miles) per hour. A worker bee produces only about 1/12th teaspoon of honey in her lifetime. To collect 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of honey, a hive of bees will fly 144,841 kilometres (90,000 miles). This distance is equal to travelling more than 3 times around the world.

Each hive has a unique odour so the bees can easily identify their own colony when they return. The beehive is often called a "super organism" because the bees all work together as a single entity (body). A lone bee cannot live on it's own outside of the hive for even 24 hours.

Bees have been called "the golden thread going from flower to flower and keeping the world in bloom". As well as pollinating flowers, bees provide us with honey. Honey is the only food that has all the substances necessary to sustain life; this includes enzymes, vitamins, minerals and water. Honey was the first source for sweetness for man.

In the winter months, the bees live on honey which they had collected during the summer. Bees also produce beeswax which is used in their hive. We sometimes use it to make candles.

Did you know that the bee is God's only creation that improves our environment and does not prey on any other species? Thank you dear God for making this world so perfect that even the insects are important!

Why should we believe the Bible, God's Holy Word, is true?

- The most important reason why we should believe the Bible is God's Word is Jesus. God's only Son believed it to be true and He was with God from the beginning.
- Old Testament prophecies are detailed and accurate
- Historical accuracy of the Bible
- Unity of the Bible
- The Bible has been very well preserved

In this lesson we will study some of the Old Testament prophecies which are detailed and accurate. We already studied that Jesus believed the Bible to be true and said "it is written" more than 70 times. In this lesson we will study some prophecies about Jesus, God's Son and when they were fulfilled. From the beginning, it was always God's Plan to send His Son to die for our sins because it is only through Jesus that we can come to His Father.

- John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

God's Son would be a descendant of David

- **Prophecy (626-586 BC)** Jeremiah 23:5-6 "Behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "that I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this *is* His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.
- **Fulfillment (600 years later)** Matthew 1:1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

God's Son would be born of a virgin

- **Prophecy (701-681 BC)** Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel..
- **Fulfillment (700 years later)** Luke 1:26-31 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man

whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favoured *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!" But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.

God's Son would be born in Bethlehem

- **Prophecy (750-686 BC)** Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth *are* from of old, from everlasting."
- **Fulfillment (700 years later)** Luke 2:4-7 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

God would declare that Jesus was His Son

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 2:7 I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, "You *are* My Son, today I have begotten You."
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** Matthew 3:17 And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"

God's Son would speak in parables

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old,
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** Matthew 13:34-35 All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them, ³⁵ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world."

God's Son would be betrayed by a close friend

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 41:9 Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up *his* heel against me.
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** Luke 22:47-48 And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

God's Son's hands and feet would be pierced

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 22:16 For dogs have surrounded Me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** John 20:25-27 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

God's Son would be given vinegar when thirsty

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 69:21 They also gave me gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** Matthew 27:34 They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.

God's Son would pray for His enemies

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 109:4 In return for my love they are my accusers, but I *give myself to prayer*.
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** Luke 23:34 Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots.

God's Son would die for all sinners

- **Prophecy (701-681 BC)** Isaiah 53:5 He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He* *was* bruised for our iniquities; the

chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

- **Fulfillment (700 years later)** Romans 5:6-8 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

God's Son's friends would stay at a distance

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 38:11 My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague and my relatives stand afar off.
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)**, Luke 23:49 But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

God's Son's bones would not be broken

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 34:20 He guards all his bones; not one of them is broken.
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** John 19:33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead they did not break His legs

God's Son would be resurrected

- **Prophecy (1050-965 BC)** Psalm 118:17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.
- **Fulfillment (1000 years later)** Mark 16:6 But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him.

God would establish a new covenant

- **Prophecy (700-680 BC)** Jeremiah 31:31 Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah
- **Fulfillment (700 years later)** Hebrews 8:6-7 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises. For if that first *covenant* had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.

Secret Code

1=A	4=D	7=G	10=J	13=M	16=P	19=T	22=W
2=B	5=E	8=H	11=K	14=N	17=R	20=U	23=X
3=C	6=F	9=I	12=L	15=O	18=S	21=V	24=Y

1 21 15 9 3 5 3 1 13 5 6 17 15 13 8 5 1 21 5 14

18 1 24 9 14 7 19 8 9 18 9 18 13 24

2 5 12 15 21 5 4 18 15 14 9 14 22 8 15 13

9 1 13 22 5 12 12 16 12 5 1 18 5 4

13 1 19 19 8 5 22 19 8 17 5 5 18 5 21 5 14 19 5 5 14

True or False

1. Birds have hollow bones
2. A bird's skeleton is lightweight
3. The blue whale is the largest animal on earth
4. Jesus said that we should worry
5. Blue whales can eat 40 million krill a day
6. The Bible is historically accurate
7. God announced that He was pleased with His Son
8. Jesus said "it is written" more than 70 times
9. Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY	
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E-ADDRESS	

Please Complete the Following Verses

11T

1. John 19:33, But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was _____ they did not break His legs
2. Psalm 41:9 Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up *his* heel _____
3. Isaiah 53:5 He was _____ for our transgressions, *He* was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.
4. Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name _____
5. Jeremiah 23:5-6 “Behold, *the* days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this *is* His name by which He will be called: THE LORD _____
6. Micah 5:2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth *are* from of old, from _____.”
7. Mark 16:6 But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. _____! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him.
8. Matthew 13:34-35 All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:” I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from _____

