Hundreds and sometimes even a thousand years before Jesus was born in Bethlehem near 1AD, God inspired people to write down His words that would serve as prophecies about the life of this Jesus. This was so that we could know for certain that this Jesus was the promised Messiah, come to save us from the curse of Adam and Eve and to bring us to new life in His Father's eternal kingdom.

The verses provided here are by no means exhaustive, yet they do represent the most obvious, easiest to recognize and correlate with the life and ministry of Jesus the Christ. When we see that these prophecies were made so many years before Jesus, and how many of these were made by others over whom Jesus had no direct control, it becomes plain that this was always God's plan and purpose and that this Jesus really is the One come to save us from our sins.

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Prophecies of Jesus

"Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures and said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." Luke 24:45-47

The Coming Messiah

God promised to Eve and to Abraham and again to David that He would raise up One who would save us from the curse and rule over us as our blessed King.

Genesis 12:3 Genesis 22:18 2 Samuel 7:12-13 Isaiah 61:1-3 Zechariah 9:9

The Holy Birth

God promised Eve that HER seed (offspring) would overcome the serpent—that is, the seed of a woman, not of the man. So God prophesied through Isaiah that this Messiah would be born of the virgin and so come miraculously into the world.

Genesis 3:15 Numbers 24:17 Psalm 8:4-6 Isaiah 7:14 Isaiah 9:6 Jeremiah 23:5-6 " Micah 5:1-2 Zechariah 6:12

The Suffering Servant

Throughout the Old Testament, God promises that His blessed King, His Mes-

siah, would come to suffer before he reigned in glory. Many of these verses are directly quoted by Jesus or the Gospel writers as pointing to the suffering of the Anointed King.

Numbers 21:8-9 John 3:14-15 Deuteronomy 21:23 John 19:38, 40 Psalm 27:12 Psalm 35:11 Mark 14:56-57 Psalm 41:9 Psalm 55:12-14 Zechariah 13:6-7 John 13:21-26 **Zechariah 11:12-13** Matthew 26:15, 27:5-9 Jeremiah 32:9 **Psalm31:5** Luke 23:46 Isaiah 50:6

Psalm 22

Psalm 22 is special in the prophesies of the Suffering Servant because of how detailed it is in describing the crucifixion of Jesus. The verses of fulfillment of Psalm 22 are provided below.

Matthew 27:46 Matthew 27:41-43 Psalm 69:21 John 19:28-30 Luke 24:39-40 John 20:20 John 19:23-24

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Isaiah 52-53, the fourth Servant Song of Isaiah, is like Psalm 22 in how detailed and specific it is in describing the crucifixion of Jesus in the Gospels. Note that this prophecy ends by speaking about the continued life of the one who was slain.

The Passover Lamb

Scripture not only shows us that the King should suffer. It also shows us that his suffering and death is intended as a sacrifice for our sins and the gift of new life, just as God provided the Passover to point forward to the death of Jesus.

Exodus 12:1-13, 46 Numbers 9:12 Psalm 34:20 John 1:29, 36 John 19:32-36

The Resurrection

God also promised that this Suffering Servant would be raised on the third day to live and rule and reign for all eternity at the right hand of the Father.

Deuteronomy 32:39

Job 19:25 Psalm 16:8-11 Acts 2:25-32 Psalm 49:15 Psalm 86:13 Hosea 6:1-2 Jonah 1:17 Matthew 12:40 Isaiah 25:8

