

Various religions and philosophies are believed sincerely by many. In the end, however, it doesn't matter what we believe; it only matters what is true. So how can we know truth? There has to be some way to test things. Everybody from atheists to Christians should do this, and seek out the truth; even the Bible says to "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."<sup>1</sup>

Several religious works have made various predictions. If a book tells us something is going to happen in the future, and that prediction never happens, then we know that book is false. In the same way, if a book makes several hundred detailed predictions about the future, and they all come true in every detail, that book would not only be true, but also divinely inspired.

Let's examine various prophecies:

- Israel would be scattered throughout the earth, and then return to their lands. They scattered in 70 A.D., and became a nation again, against all odds, in 1948. (Predicted 750-570 B.C.)<sup>2</sup>
- The new Israel would have no king. Israel is now democratic, with no king.<sup>3</sup>
- Nebuchadnezzar would defeat and plunder Tyre; another nation would break down Tyre's walls and "lay [its] stones and [its] timber and [its] dust in the midst of the water;" and Tyre would

(1) 1Th. 5:21 (2) Isa. 43:6, Jer. 31:7-10, Eze. 20:34  
(3) Hos. 3:4,5

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exist no more. Its dust would be scraped, and it would be "a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea." Three years after the prophecy was made, Nebuchadnezzar besieged Tyre for thirteen years, in which time its residents fled to a nearby island, which they also named Tyre. Everybody thought the prophecy had failed because old Tyre wasn't scraped into the sea (although it was defeated and plundered), but 240 years later, Alexander the Great besieged the new island city. To do this, his army threw the stone and timber of the old city into the sea, building a 200-foot-wide, half-mile-long land bridge, scraping even the dust of the old city. This bridge still exists today, and fishermen "spread their nets to dry" on what was old Tyre—never rebuilt. An astounding fulfillment!<sup>4</sup>

- The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (an unlikely place for the coming King).<sup>5</sup>
- The Messiah would appear 483 years (69 "weeks" of seven years) from the "commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem." After this time, Messiah would be "cut off, but not for himself."<sup>6</sup> The decree of Artaxerxes I (457 B.C.) allowed the Jews to restore Jerusalem,<sup>7</sup> and they began work on the walls.<sup>8</sup> In A.D. 27, 483 years later, Jesus Christ was

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baptized, and anointed as the Messiah.<sup>9</sup> A few years later, he was "cut off, but not for himself," and died for our sins.<sup>10</sup>

- The Messiah would be born of a virgin, and would be "God with us."<sup>11</sup>
- The Messiah would be of the tribe of Judah,<sup>12</sup> and would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver, used to buy a potter's field.<sup>13</sup> These were fulfilled in Jesus.<sup>14</sup>
- The Messiah would rise from the grave: "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."<sup>15</sup> Jesus lives forever!

The chance that any man in history would fulfill eight prophecies about the Messiah (out of some 324 Jesus fulfilled) is  $10^{17}$  (one followed by 17 zeroes). If we laid  $10^{17}$  silver dollars across all of Texas, they'd cover two-feet deep. The chance that a blind man would pick a certain one at random is  $10^{17}$ . The probability of somebody fulfilling 48 of over 324 prophecies is  $10^{157}$ , more than the estimated  $10^{79}$  electrons in the universe!<sup>16</sup>

However, some prophecies have not yet come to pass. Jesus said that "every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."<sup>17</sup> Considering all the fulfilled prophecies, we should take heed to the Bible's warnings.

(9) Mat. 3:13-17 John 1:41, Acts 10:38 (10) Mat. 27  
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Another prophecy says “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”<sup>18</sup> All liars! Have you ever lied? We know murderers deserve Hell, but the Bible says “Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer,”<sup>19</sup> and Jesus said God judges uncaused (wrongful) anger as murder—he also said looking with lustful thoughts is the same as adultery in the heart. Idolatry is even worse—anything you hold before God is an idol. Would you deny God for \$100 million? Have you **always** put God first?

Your sin must be paid for, so God sent his Son to die in your place. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross, and rose from the grave. Foretelling Jesus, Isaiah wrote: “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”<sup>20</sup> He offers you forgiveness: “...the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”<sup>21</sup> “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.”<sup>22</sup>

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”<sup>23</sup> Pray to God from your heart, confessing and forsaking your sins. **Ask Jesus to save you, and he will.**

(18) Rev. 21:8 (19) 1Jn. 3:15 (20) Isa. 53:6 (21) Rom. 6:23  
(22) Acts 16:31 (23) Rom. 10:13

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**Only one book contains hundreds of prophecies fulfilled in every detail.**



**Only one book tells you how to escape the coming global turmoil.**



**Only one book tells you how to live forever, and be 100% sure of it.**

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Shouldn't you at least *consider* what it says?

*Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.*

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**Want to learn more? Please contact:**

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(785) 691-8272**

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*A study in prophecy*

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