

# THE LIFE AND TIMES OF CHRIST

Christ and Prophecy

# Prophecy included both fore telling and forth telling

- ⦿ It is the fore telling in which we think of the Old Testament prophets.
- ⦿ Forth telling also was included the work of the prophets which is speaking God's word on His behalf.

# Prophecy

- ⦿ The test of a true prophet was that the message he gave came to be true.
- ⦿ There are more than 300 Old Testament prophecies of Christ.
- ⦿ The more details given concerning prophecy the more it takes it out of the realm of human probability.
- ⦿ The New Testament writers clearly affirm that the Old Testament in all of its parts points unmistakably to Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah promised to Israel.

# The Messiahship of Jesus is testified by all the apostles

- Peter in Acts 2:18.
- Paul in Acts 13:27; I Corinthians 15:3ff

- ⦿ There are four major prophetic themes in the Old Testament that find their fulfillment in Christ identified in the New Testament.
- ⦿ One, The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53)
- ⦿ Two, The Messianic King (Isaiah 9:6-7)
- ⦿ Three, The Invincible Kingdom (Daniel 2)
- ⦿ Four, The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

# The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53)

- Philip asked the Ethiopian nobleman, “Do you understand what you are reading?”
- The nobleman reading from Isaiah 53 asked Philip “About whom, pray, does the prophet say this, about himself or about some one else?”
- Philip beginning with this scripture told him the good news of Jesus.

# The Messianic King

- ⦿ A second major prophetic theme which points unmistakably to Jesus of Nazareth is the great theme of the Messianic King
- ⦿ “Messiah is the English form of a Hebrew term meaning “anointed.”
- ⦿ In Israel priests, kings, and prophets, were divinely anointed to designate their divine appointment for service.
- ⦿ It is against this background that the prophets anticipated the coming of the ideal king who would be the Messiah.
- ⦿ The Greek term for “anointed is “christos” which in English becomes Christ.

# David's Son to be Messianic King

- ⦿ Isaiah 11:1,2; 11:10
- ⦿ Jeremiah 23:5,6
- ⦿ Matthew 12:23; 15:22; 21:9

# The Invincible Kingdom

- The Jewish expectation of the Messiah included the anticipation of his inaugurating his kingdom rule.
- Jesus taught his disciples to pray, “Thy kingdom come” (Matthew 6:10).
- Jesus informed his audience that he kingdom would be established during the lifetime of some of them. (Mark 9:1).

- ① The term “church” and “kingdom” are interchangeable in Matthew 16:18-19.
- ① The parables of the kingdom in the Gospels are parables concerning the church.
- ① The kingdom came with power on Pentecost (Mark 9:1; Acts 1:8)
- ① Following Pentecost the kingdom is a reality no longer a prediction in the future (Acts 2; Colossians 1:13; Revelation 1:5).

# The New Covenant

- ⦿ A kingdom must have a ruler, territory, subjects and a law.
- ⦿ Jeremiah 31:31-34
- ⦿ This new covenant is indeed the New Testament as it is confirmed in Hebrews 8:8-12
- ⦿ John contrasts the two covenants, saying, “For the law was given through Moses; grace and true came through Jesus Christ” (John 1:17).

- ⦿ First the Mosaic covenant was made with Israel, the new covenant is offered to all men (Matthew 28:18-20)
- ⦿ Second the new covenant is characterized by a greater inwardness and spirituality as “I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts.” (John 3:5; 6:44-45)
- ⦿ The new covenant is characterized by full forgiveness. (Hebrews 9:1-18)

- ◎ Therefore the Christ of the New Testament can be seen through prophecy as God's eternal plan from the beginning.
- ◎ He is now reigning in His Kingdom in the hearts of His obedience servants.
- ◎ His subjects enjoy knowing that their sins have been forgiven and He remembers them no more.
- ◎ Is Jesus your King?