

**WHY I  
BELIEVE  
IN JESUS  
(PART TWO)**

# A "LOADED QUESTION"

## MATTHEW 22:42

**"What think ye of the  
Christ? Whose son  
is he?"**

# **WHY BELIEVE JESUS EVEN EXISTED?**

- 1. TESTIMONY OF NEW TESTAMENT.**
- 2. TESTIMONY OF JEWISH WRITINGS.**
- 3. TESTIMONY OF SECULAR WRITINGS.**
- 4. TESTIMONY OF CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.**

# 3 REASONS TO “BELIEVE IN” JESUS

## **3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS**

**1. BECAUSE HE  
FULFILLED THE  
MESSIANIC  
PROPHECIES  
OF THE OT.**

## 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

### 1. BECAUSE HE FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECIES.

The OT contains  $\approx$  **300 Messianic prophecies**.

Every one of these saw their respective fulfillments wrapped up in *one man*: a humble carpenter from Nazareth, Galilee, Israel named *Yeshua*, universally known as **Jesus Christ**.

If Jesus fulfilled all *Old Testament* prophecies re: the Messiah, it would be irrational to conclude anything but that He will fulfill any "*outstanding*" prophecies (cf. Matt. 24:36ff; Jn. 14:2,3; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2 Pet. 3:9-13).

# 1. BECAUSE HE FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECIES.

TOPIC	PROPHECY	PREDICTION	FULFILLMENT
BIRTH & LINEAGE OF MESSIAH	<b>Born of virgin, named Immanuel</b>	ISAIAH 7:14	MATT. 1:18-25
	<b>Born in Bethlehem</b>	MICAH 5:2	MATT. 2:1
	<b>Seed of Abraham</b>	GEN. 22:18	MATT. 1:1
	<b>Tribe of Judah</b>	GEN. 49:10	MATT. 1:2
	<b>House of David</b>	JER. 23:5	MATT. 1:1
MINISTRY OF MESSIAH	<b>Will begin in Galilee</b>	ISAIAH 9:1	MATT. 4:12,13
	<b>Will teach in parables</b>	PSALM 78:2	MATT. 13:34

<sup>1</sup> Taken/slightly adapted from Brad Harrub, *Convicted: A Scientist Examines the Evidence for Christianity* (Brentwood: Focus Press, Inc., 2010), pp. 157-8. Emp. added.

# 1. BECAUSE HE FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECIES.

TOPIC	PROPHECY	PREDICTION	FULFILLMENT
MINISTRY OF MESSIAH	<b>Will heal the blind, deaf, and lame</b>	ISAIAH 35:5,6	MATT. 9:35
	<b>Will enter Jerusalem on a donkey</b>	ZECH. 9:9	MATT. 21:6-11
ARREST & CRUCIFIXION OF MESSIAH	<b>Will be betrayed by a friend</b>	PSALM 41:9	MATT. 10:4
	<b>Sold for 30 pieces of silver</b>	ZECH. 11:12	MATT. 26:15
	<b>Will be silent before accusers</b>	ISAIAH 53:7	MATT. 27:12
	<b>Hands &amp; feet pierced</b>	PSALM 22:16	MATT. 27:35
	<b>No bones broken</b>	PSALM 34:20	JOHN 19:33



# 1. BECAUSE HE FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECIES.

TOPIC	PROPHECY	PREDICTION	FULFILLMENT
ARREST & CRUCIFIXION OF MESSIAH	<b>No bones broken</b>	PSALM 34:20	JOHN 19:33
	<b>Killed with transgressors</b>	ISAIAH 53:12	MATT. 27:38
	<b>Garments parted <i>via</i> casting of lots</b>	PSALM 22:18	MATT. 27:35
	<b>His side would be pierced</b>	ZECH. 12:10	JOHN 19:34
	<b>Buried in tomb of a rich man</b>	ISAIAH 53:9	MATT. 27:57-60
	<b>Would make intercession for transgressors</b>	ISAIAH 53:7	MATT. 27:12

## 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

### 1. BECAUSE HE FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECIES.

## GALATIANS 4:1-5

But when **the fullness of time** had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons (4,5).

## 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

### 1. BECAUSE HE FULFILLED MESSIANIC PROPHECIES.

If Jesus fulfilled all *Old Testament* prophecies related to the Messiah, **it would be irrational to conclude anything other than that Jesus will also fulfill any and all "out-standing" [relevant] prophecies which have not yet seen their fulfillments** (e.g., Matt. 24:36ff; John 14:2,3; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2 Pet. 3:10-12).

## **3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS**

**2. BECAUSE  
HE PERFORMED  
GENUINE MIRACLES  
(i.e., DID THE UNDENIABLY  
IMPOSSIBLE).**

### 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

## 2. BECAUSE HE PERFORMED GENUINE MIRACLES.

**Miracles** have always been God's "*go to*" method of **confirming divine truth**.

*Words spoken* by messengers (Judg. 6:36-40; Mk. 16:20); *Himself*—i.e., superiority over other "gods" (1 Kgs. 18:36-39);

**Divinely-appointed persons** [to lead people to heed whatever they say] (Exod. 4:1ff; Jn. 2:23; 10:38; Acts 8:6; 2 Cor. 12:12; 1 Thess. 1:5).

Never was the world more saturated with the miraculous than **while Jesus of Nazareth "dwelt among us"** (Jn. 1:14-16).

## 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

### 2. BECAUSE HE PERFORMED GENUINE MIRACLES.

#### LUKE 7:18-23

The disciples of John reported all these things [re: Jesus's ministry] to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ...**In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight.**

## 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

### 2. BECAUSE HE PERFORMED GENUINE MIRACLES.

#### LUKE 7:18-23

And he answered them, "**Go and tell John what you have seen and heard:** the *blind* receive **their sight**, the *lame* walk, *lepers* are **cleansed**, and the *deaf* **hear**, the *dead* are **raised up**, the *poor* have **good news** preached to them. And blessed is the one who finds in me no occasion of stumbling."

## 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

### 2. BECAUSE HE PERFORMED GENUINE MIRACLES.

## ACTS 3:24

"...Yes, and **all the prophets**,  
from Samuel and those who follow,  
as many as have spoken, have also  
**proclaimed these days.**"



**3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS**

**3. BECAUSE  
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FROM THE  
DEAD.**

## 3 REASONS TO "BELIEVE IN" JESUS

### 3. BECAUSE HE AROSE FROM THE DEAD.

The evidence shows that Jesus **died** (Mt. 27:50; Mk. 15:37; Lk. 23:46; Jn. 19:30).

The evidence shows Jesus **was buried** in a tomb (Mk. 15:43-46; Jn. 19:38-42).

The evidence shows that **extreme measures were taken to secure the tomb** (Matt. 27:62-66).

The evidence shows that **the tomb was EMPTY** (Mt. 28:1ff; Mk. 16:1ff; Lk. 24:1ff; Jn. 20:1ff).

# WHY DO I BELIEVE IN JESUS?

**...BECAUSE OF THE EVIDENCE!**

## **JOHN 20:30,31**

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but **these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**