

## Taken from ISOB lesson 09-Roots-www.isob-bible.org

**One of the most amazing prophecies given by Ezekiel was the foretelling of the very month (maybe even to the day) of Israel's return to the Promised Land after being away over 2,000 years. The year was 1948!**

In 70 AD, a little more than 30 years after Jesus was resurrected, the Roman General Titus came and destroyed Jerusalem. The Jews dispersed all over the world. Over 2,000 years later, in the 1940s, Hitler tried to destroy the last traces of Jews from the face of the earth.

**They are the only race of people to survive thousands of years without a country!**

In 1948 (during my own lifetime) after World War II and Hitler's failure, the Jews came back and formed a new country called Israel. I watched it on TV! I saw the United Nations vote to ordain this.

Ezekiel gave this most amazing prophecy in verses 4:3-6. He said this would be a sign to Israel. Lie on your left side 390 days (representing 390 years), and then lie on your right side 40 days (representing 40 years), or a total of 430 years. This would be a sign to Israel that their punishment would be for 430 years. In the spring of 536 BC they were released from Babylon. If you count the 70 years of captivity in Babylon, they still had 360 years left ( $430 - 70 = 360$ ).

However, nothing happened at the end of this 360-year period. The majority of the Jews were still in Babylon, now known as Iraq and Iran, and they were still backslidden people. They had failed to repent of their disobedience.

The solution to this mystery is in Leviticus 26 where it states that the punishments for Israel are based on her obedience and disobedience to His commands. God said here that if Israel did not repent, the punishments would be multiplied by 7<sup>1</sup>. This means that the 360 years of further punishment prophesied by Ezekiel was multiplied by 7 ( $360 \times 7 = 2,520$  Biblical years). A Biblical year was 360 days. Converting this to our calendar years that would total 2,483.8 years ( $2,520 \times 360 = 907,200$  days) /  $365.25 = 2,483.8$  years)

Ending of Babylonian Captivity	<b>536 BC</b>
Plus	<b><u>2,483.8 calendar years</u></b>
Equals	<b>1,947.4</b>
Adjust for no zero year. between 1 BC and AD 1	<b>1</b>

<sup>1</sup> Grant Jeffreys, The Signature of God Page (Toronto, Ontario: Frontier Research Publications, Inc. 1996) 167.

Therefore the captivity of  
Israel would end in **1948 May 15**  
Which was the date Israel became a nation.

**This great day marked the first time since the days of Solomon** that a united Israel took its place as a sovereign and independent state among the nations of the world.

**This is more proof that God is the Author of the Bible.** Such prophecies being fulfilled in this way are beyond human manipulation. It also shows that Israel is part of God's plan and that we are living in very special days; some call it end times. We do not know when things on this earth will change, when Jesus will come back, when anything will happen, but we do know that just a little over 50 years ago **a MAJOR Bible historical event took place!**

**One of the most amazing prophecies in the Word of God** is Daniel's prophecy in Daniel Chapter 9 telling the exact day that Jesus would enter Jerusalem to be crucified, 500 years before it happened.

God wants us to know that He is coming back to earth some day. But He wants us to concentrate more on the fact that He will come back NOW for our individual situations in much the same way and with the same process. We are warned that not every believer will inherit the promises of God, that some will be deceived and fall away. We are not necessarily talking about going to heaven but about making it here on earth.

In the struggles of life there is a time called THE DAY OF VISITATION (Luke 19:44, I Peter 2:12, Daniel 9:24) where we see God coming through for us, but not all of us will experience that. Daniel and Jesus tell about a great deception that will be used against God's people. We need to know that the Word is true no matter what things look like; then we will inherit the promises.

If somebody gave you his word that something would take place in the future, and over a very long period of time everything happened as he said it, without exception, without any error, would you tend to believe his word?

**Daniel** is the Old Testament prophet that gave the most important prophecies of the Bible. God showed him which powers would rule the world and how they would fall. He told about Babylon, then Medio Persia, then Alexander the Great and Macedonia to be followed by Rome.

Most Bible scholars would agree that Daniel 9 is the most important prophecy in the Bible. Jesus studied and quoted Daniel perhaps more than any other prophet. It is a supernatural act showing the accuracy of God's Word.

Daniel had been shown many vision prophecies. He had just seen that in the last days many of his people (which is now us) would fall away and be deceived by the anti-Christ spirit. He actually got sick and began to pray, confess his sin and the sin of his people and pray for them and us. All of the sudden, the angel Gabriel came to him and spoke the most amazing, comforting prophecy. He told him that God's people would have a period of 70 weeks cut out of history for them, during which time several things would take place: (1) to finish the transgression (or revolt against authority, the Adamic problem), (2) to make an end of sins (through the Cross), (3) to bring in everlasting righteousness (through Jesus and the new birth), (4) to seal up the prophecy. and (5) to anoint the most Holy place (which for us is the Holy Spirit dwelling in our hearts).

69 of the 70 weeks have been fulfilled in actual history. There is a pause of thousands of years, and then the last week will be fulfilled. This is a common thing in Bible prophecy. In a spiritual way we are in the last week, now in our lives today.

The word week is "shabua," which in Hebrew means seven; it is like saying a dozen. The entire Old Testament proves this out; when a week is spoken of it means seven, and it usually associated with years (Leviticus 25). Daniel was thinking in terms of periods of seven years for each "week."

We are going to focus on the 69 weeks which now is history and prophecy fulfilled in a supernatural way.

The year in Old Testament terms was not 365 days but 360 days; proven in Genesis 7:11- 8:3. It verifies that the flood lasted 150 days and then it gave us the five-month period by dates.

**The starting point for this prophetic event** was to be the issuance of a command to rebuild Jerusalem, including the streets, the walls, and the moat as a protection against the enemies. “Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven ‘sevens’, and sixty-two ‘sevens’. It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble” Daniel 9:25 (NIV).

**There were four commands** given by various Gentile kings to rebuild something in Jerusalem which might have qualified as the starting point of this prophetic event.

1. Ezra 1:1-4 talks about building the house of God. This is 80 years off from the prophecy dates and could not be the starting point of the prophetic event.

2. Ezra 6:6-12, included only the Temple, and could not be the starting point of the prophetic event.

3. Ezra 7:11-26 talks about building Temple. This was 7 years off, could not be the starting point of the prophetic event.

4. **The real starting point was the command to rebuild the City**, and that was given in Nehemiah 2:1. It was the month of Nisan in the 20th year of King Artaxerxes. He began his reign in 465 BC, + 20 years = 445 BC, so the decree took place in 445 BC the month of Nisan. 445 BC Nisan = March 14.

69 weeks X 7 X 360 days = 173,880 days.

**Now for the rest of the math:**

Add to March 14, 445 BC 173,880 days = April 6, 32 AD, **which is the very day Jesus rode into Jerusalem in his triumphal entry. What an amazing prophecy and fulfillment!**

Just as a test, we can convert it to our calendar of 365 days: 445 BC - 32 AD = 476 years, less one year due to BC 1 and AD 1 being the same year. 476 X 365 = 173,740, add leap years of 116 days and add 24 days from March 14 to April 6 = 173,880 days.

**Daniel said that the Messiah the Prince**, the official presentation of the Messiah would take place, and it did as He rode into Jerusalem (on a donkey as foretold by Zechariah 9:9). Who ever heard of a king riding a donkey? They thought it should have been a white horse. He had refused to allow His disciples to proclaim His Messiahship prior to this. Now He said that if they did not, the rocks would.

**Jesus wept over the unbelief of Jerusalem;** He said that if you would have just known this prophecy and counted the days, and recognized that it is I, that you would not have missed the day of visitation, or the day of God's reward.

**For some, the day of visitation is a reward**, for others it carries the punishment and disaster of following idols, being disobedient and other such sins.

If the first 69 weeks of years were fulfilled perfectly in history, why would we not trust the future prophecy of the last week that is in our time, right now? While we won't

go into it's meaning in future historic events, we can trust that Jesus told us some things about the end time, or the last week. We can apply that last week to our life today. It has a real life application for each one of us.

**Basically, it says that many believers will be deceived** by the anti-Christ spirit and will believe a lie, they will go after popularity, money, fame, intellect, political power, power in the world of some kind, and in doing so they will (like in Hebrews 6) be crucifying the Lord afresh. Hebrews 6 says that if we know that God cannot lie, and we get into His Word and His presence then we can hang on to the promises and use them as an anchor until the DAY OF OUR OWN PERSONAL VISITATION.

## Who God is

### 115. Bible Prophecy The Name of Jesus Revealed in the Old Testament

This article was taken from the web site of Grant Jeffrey's, and is subject to the copyrights therein.  
The Signature of God - Grant R. Jeffrey - Frontier Research Publications, Inc. July, 1996,  
Toronto, Ontario

“Yeshua Is My Name” יֵשׁוּעַ שְׁמִי

In my latest book (author Grant Jeffreys, The Signature of God, I reported on one of the most astonishing and important biblical discoveries in history. God has hidden the name Yeshua - יֵשׁוּעַ which is the Hebrew form of the name Jesus in numerous passages throughout the Old Testament. Especially within the great Messianic prophetic passages the Lord has hidden at equally spaced intervals in the Hebrew text the incredible message that “Yeshua is My Name.” This is one of the most astonishing and tremendous biblical discoveries in the last two thousand years.

The phenomenon of Hebrew codes hidden within the text of the Torah gives us one of the strongest possible proofs that the Bible was truly inspired by God. My friend Yacov Rambsel, a Jewish Messianic pastor in San Antonio, Texas, made a series of extraordinary discoveries through a detailed analysis of the Hebrew Scriptures by individually counting the equally spaced intervals between the letters. Incredibly, Yacov found the original Hebrew name of Jesus, Yeshua יֵשׁוּעַ - encoded in the very first verse Genesis 1:1, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” Starting with the fifth letter, Yod -, in the first word in the Bible, B'raisheet בְּרֵאשִׁית “In the beginning” the name of Jesus - Yeshua - יֵשׁוּעַ is spelled out by counting forward every 521st letter. The letters spell out the words “Yeshua Yakhol” which translates as “Jesus is able.”

Ten years ago Israeli scientists at Hebrew University discovered an incredible phenomenon of Hebrew Codes in the authorized Masoretic Text of the Old Testament. They asked their computer program to analyze every possible combination of letters within the Hebrew text of the Bible. They discovered that meaningful words such as Hitler, Holocaust and Eichmann were spelled out in the text of Deuteronomy 10:17-22 at an interval of every 22 letters.

They call the phenomenon “Equidistant Letter Sequences” and have written numerous scholarly articles about their discoveries in mathematical and academic journals worldwide. In other words, when the computer found the first letter of the word Hitler - , the letter heh , it skipped forward every 22 letters and found the letters of the Hebrew word Hitler- **היטלר** spelled out in the text. However, they also found in the same passage these words: Eichmann, King of the Nazis, Berlin, Germany, Holocaust, Crematoria, Fuehrer and the death camp Auschwitz. These discoveries and hundreds of others are detailed in my book The Signature of God. The presence of these complex coded words in the Hebrew text of the Bible written thousands of years ago is one of the strongest hard science proofs we could ever hope for proving beyond question that a supernatural intelligence inspired the writers of the Scriptures. These discoveries are causing many agnostics to reconsider their position against the supernatural origin of the Bible. However, the greatest discovery for a Christian is that God has encoded the name of Yeshua - Jesus repeatedly throughout the Old Testament.

One of the most astonishing features is that virtually every one of the clearly Messianic passages of the Old Testament contains the name Yeshua - Jesus - encoded within the text at intervals such as every 2nd letter or every 20th letter, etc. As an example, Yacov found the name Yeshua embedded in the text of Isaiah 53:10 that prophesied about the atoning sacrifice that Christ made for our sins on the cross two thousand years ago. “Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand” (Isaiah 53:10). Beginning with the second Hebrew letter yod in the Hebrew phrase “He shall prolong,” “ya'arik Kyray,” Yacov counted forward every 20th letter and discovered the phrase “ - Yeshua - Shmi” which means “Yeshua [Jesus] is My Name” encoded in this verse about the suffering Messiah who died to atone for our sins. Mathematicians calculated the probability that this astonishing combination of letters spelling “Yeshua [Jesus] is My Name” would occur by random chance in Isaiah is only one chance in 50 quadrillion, an inconceivable number!

Genesis declared that the Lord provided “coats of skin” for Adam and Eve to cover their nakedness after they sinned: “And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them” (Genesis 3:20,21). God killed the first animal as a sin sacrifice to provide their covering. This prophetic sign pointed to the perfect sacrifice of the Lamb of God to cover our sins. However, beginning with the last Hebrew letter heh ה in Genesis 3:20

and counting forward every ninth letter we find the word “Yoshiah” meaning “He will save.” The word Yoshiah is a Hebrew variation of the name Yeshua (Jesus). The angel told the virgin Mary that “thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). Genesis 3:20,21 revealed another code showing the name Yeshua hidden in this passage. Beginning with the letter ayin in the phrase “coats of skin” and counting forward every seventh letter spells out another form of the word Yeshua - , which is spelt without using the letter vav .

A well known Messianic prophecy describes the exact price of Christ's betrayal, namely 30 pieces of silver. The prophet Zechariah gave this prediction five hundred years before the birth of Jesus: “And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver” (Zechariah 11:12). Who is the one who is being betrayed? In the phrase “My price” se'kari beginning with the letter yod when we count forward every 24th letter we find the word Yeshua. The Lord obviously inspired the writers of the Old Testament to choose specific Hebrew words and precise spelling to create this phenomenon.

The Book of Leviticus reveals an astonishing hidden coded message about the blood of Jesus Christ being shed for our sins. In this passage Moses gave God's detailed instructions regarding the rules of the holy priesthood and the sacrifices for the sins of the chosen people. “And he that is the high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes; Neither shall he go into any dead body, nor defile himself for his father, or for his mother; Neither shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the crown of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I Am the Lord” (Leviticus 21:10-12). Beginning with the first heh ה in Leviticus 21:10 and counting forward every third letter, it spelled out the phrase hain dam Yeshua, which means “Behold! The blood of Yeshua.” It is awesome to realize that God has secretly encoded these profound messages regarding His Son Jesus in these significant passages throughout the Old Testament.

One of the most startling of the Messianic codes was found within Psalm 41:7-10 which predicted the betrayal of Jesus by Judas Iscariot: “All My haters whisper together against Me; they plot evil against Me; saying, A thing of ruin is poured out on Him; and He Who lies down shall not rise again. Even My own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who did eat of My bread, has lifted up his heel against Me. But Thou, O Lord, be merciful unto Me, and raise Me up, that I may repay them” (Psalm 41:7-10). Verse 8 contained the phrase “they plot evil,”

yach' shvu rah'ah. However, beginning with the letter yod, when we count forward every second letter we find the word- Yeshua.

The Book of Ruth contains a wonderful love story that reveals the ancestry of King David and Jesus of Nazareth. It is fascinating to note that the name Yeshua - **ישוע** is encoded in the very first verse, Ruth 1:1. Counting every fifth letter from right to left from the letter **ש** spells out the name of Yeshua - **ישוע**. The prophet Isaiah announced centuries before the birth of Christ that He would come as the great liberator to mankind. This prophecy of the Great Jubilee at the end of this age reminded Israel that their Messiah would finally cancel all their debts and proclaim liberty to all of those who were captives to sin. “The Spirit of the Lord God is on Me, because The Lord has anointed Me to preach the Good News to the meek. He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and complete opening to the bound ones; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn” (Isaiah 61:1,2). Starting with the yod in the phrase, “The Spirit of the Lord God,” “Ruach Adonai Yehovah,” counting nine letters from left to right spells Yeshua.

Of the many incredible discoveries made by Yacov Rambsel, one of my favorites concerns Daniel’s great prophecy of the Seventy Weeks found in Daniel 9:25-27. Verse 26 reads: “And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined” (Daniel 9:26). Students of the Bible are familiar with the controversy over the last century about the correct identity of the “Messiah the Prince” referred to in the passage. Those who deny that the prophecy teaches about Jesus Christ's first coming have usually claimed that “Messiah the Prince” was Hezekiah or some other individual. However, the name Yeshua - **ישוע** is encoded within Daniel 9:26 starting with the letter yod in the phrase “the city,” v'ha'iry, by counting left to right every 26th letter.

The significance of Yacov Rambsel's discovery is overwhelming. When added to the awesome research in Israel on the hidden codes of the Torah we can see the sovereign hand of God bringing about an incredible proclamation of His inspiration of the Word of God. Hundreds of thousands of people around the world, mostly Jews, have heard about these secret Torah codes. These people, who have reaffirmed their belief in God's inspiration of the Old Testament

## Bible Evidence <sup>1</sup>

Luke 17:30, "Even thus shall it be IN THE DAY when the son of man is revealed. (Vs 31) IN THAT DAY. (Vs 34) I tell you, IN THAT NIGHT . . . " Nobody in Luke's day thought it could be day and night at the same time! They thought the earth was flat! Luke was written around 65 A.D. How did Luke know something that the scientists didn't know until the 16th century?

Isaiah 40:22, "It is he that sitteth upon the CIRCLE OF THE EARTH." How did Isaiah know in 700 B.C. the earth is round? The scientists of Isaiah's day thought the earth was flat. They didn't discover the earth is round until the early 1500s when Magellan sailed around the world.

How did Isaiah know something over 2000 years ahead of science?

Job 26:7, ". . . and hangeth the earth upon NOTHING." During the time of Job, it was believed a god named Atlas held the earth on his shoulders! Nobody believed the earth "hangeth upon NOTHING!" Job is the oldest book in the Bible! Written over 3500 years ago! How did Job know something that was IMPOSSIBLE to know during his day?

Genesis 2:7, "And the Lord God formed man of the DUST OF THE GROUND, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul." Surely, you don't take Genesis 2:7 seriously? Do you? November 1982, Reader's Digest had an article titled How Life on Earth Began. It stated that according to scientists at NASA's Ames Research Center the ingredients needed to form a human being can be found IN CLAY. The article said, "The Biblical scenario for the creation of life turns out to be NOT FAR OFF THE MARK." (Reader's Digest, November 1982 p.116) No, it's "not far off the mark" - it's right on it! Scientists have laughed at the possibility of Genesis having any scientific credibility whatsoever - and yet, the more we learn, the more we find it to be SCIENTIFICALLY CORRECT!

Psalms 8:8, ". . . whatsoever passeth through the PATHS OF THE SEAS." After reading Psalm 8:8, Matthew Maury, a U.S. Naval officer, set out to locate these curious "paths in the seas." He discovered the oceans have paths which flow through them. He became known as the "pathfinder of the seas". How did David (the writer of Psalms) know, over 2,000 years ago, there were "paths in the seas"? David probably never even saw an ocean! HOW DID HE KNOW?

Ecclesiastes 1:7, "All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again." How did the writer of Ecclesiastes know the water cycle of condensation and evaporation? The sun evaporates water from the ocean; water vapor rises and becomes clouds. This water in the clouds falls back to the earth as rain, collects in rivers, and makes its way back to the ocean.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.av1611.org/amazing.html>

This wasn't known until Galileo in 1630! How did the writer of Ecclesiastes know this in 1000 B.C.? 2500 YEARS AHEAD OF SCIENCE!

Leviticus 15:13, "And when he that hath an issue is cleansed of his issue; then he shall number to himself seven days for his cleansing, and wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in RUNNING WATER." God said to wash the infected flesh in RUNNING WATER. Science didn't discover that until two men named Pasteur and Koch in the late 1800s. Doctors were washing their hands in a bowl of water and spreading the germs like wild fire. It wasn't until the invention of the microscope and the science of bacteriology that doctors started washing under RUNNING WATER. Leviticus was written around 1490 B.C. SCIENCE WAS ABOUT 3000 YEARS BEHIND! Isn't it embarrassing how science always lags about 2000 years behind that Amazing Book!

Job 38:19, "Where is THE WAY where light dwelleth?" How come Job didn't say where is THE PLACE where light dwelleth? Because light is always moving. How did Job know something in 1500 B.C. that science didn't find out until Einstein? How can the men who wrote that Amazing Book, with their limited scientific knowledge - BE SO FAR AHEAD OF SCIENCE?

Ecclesiastes 1:6, "The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again ACCORDING TO HIS CIRCUITS." How did the writer of Ecclesiastes know the wind traveled within circuits? How did he know something that the aerologists and meteorologists are just now discovering? THINK ABOUT IT! How can these men, with their limited knowledge thousands of years ago, be so far ahead of science?

Proverbs 6:6-8, "Go to the ant . . . gathereth her food in the harvest." Life's Nature Library "The Insects" (p.163) commenting on Proverbs 6 reads, "One of the entomological puzzles of the last century concerned this observation by Solomon. There was no evidence that ants actually harvested grain. In 1871, however, a British naturalist showed that Solomon had been right after all . . ." How did Solomon know that in 1000 B.C.? How did Solomon CLEARLY, detail a scientific FACT, that was IMPOSSIBLE for him to know in 1000 B.C.?

Proverbs 17:22, "A merry heart doeth good like a MEDICINE." An article in The Birmingham News, titled Laughter: Prescription for Health, said, the LATEST medical evidence reveals that, "At some point during laughter, your body issues A PRESCRIPTION from the pharmacy in your brain." How did the writer of Proverbs know those - 3000 YEARS AHEAD OF MEDICAL SCIENCE?

Leviticus 17:11, "For the life of the flesh is in the blood." That's the most accurate, scientific statement ever written about the blood!

It is the blood that carries on all the life processes of the body.

It is the blood that causes growth builds new cells, grows bone and flesh, stores fat, makes hair and nails.

It is the blood that feeds and supports all the organs of the body. If the blood supply were cut off from an arm, that arm will immediately begin to die and rot.

It is the blood that repairs the body. It is the blood that clots wounds, that grows new flesh, new skin and even new nerves.

It is the blood that fights disease. When they give you a vaccine against a disease, they give you a shot into your blood stream.

For thousands of years, doctors treated people by a practice called "bleeding." They thought illnesses could be cured by removing blood. In 1799, less than 200 years ago, George Washington was literally bled to death. They bled poor George four times, the last time they took over a quart of his blood! They didn't know, but they were literally draining away his life by removing his blood. It wasn't until the early 1900's that a man named Dr. Lister discovered that the blood provides the bodies immune system - **THE LIFE OF THE FLESH IS IN THE BLOOD!**

The Birmingham Post Herald, February 26, 1988, told the story of Mike Thomas. Mike was working at a construction site when he fell 70 feet. As he was falling, a cable wrapped around his arm and severed his hand a few inches above the wrist. A fellow worker carried his severed hand to the hospital. Because of serious internal injuries, doctors couldn't at that time reattach Thomas's hand. Instead, they attached his hand to blood vessels on his abdomen wall to "keep it alive". Two months later, the doctors removed it from his abdomen and reattached it to his arm. According to the report, UAB was the first in the nation to perform such a task! Exactly what the Bible said in 1490 B.C.! Keep feeding that hand blood and it'll stay alive - the LIFE of the FLESH is in the BLOOD!

Don't you find that odd? What Moses wrote in 1490 B.C., the brightest minds man can produce, are just now discovering! How can that Amazing Book, written thousands of years ago, by men with such limited knowledge, be so far ahead the best mankind can produce in 6,000 years?

To realize how Amazing that Book is; compare what the scientists taught when that Amazing Book was written. They believed lightning bolts were missiles from the gods. The Vedas (Hindu sacred book) taught, to get rain, tie a frog with his mouth open to a tree and repeat some magic words - and presto - rain! The Egyptians believed stars were the souls of dead people who were now gods. The Greeks believed a god named Atlas held the earth on his shoulders. Some taught the earth sat on the backs of several large (very large!) elephants. And the elephants were resting on the back of a large (very, very large!) turtle! And the turtle? He was resting on a large (very, very, very large!) snake! And the snake? Well, you get the picture.

But, that Amazing Book, contains nothing so foolish! Despite what was taught and believed during the writers day! That Amazing Book says, "And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians . . ." (Acts 7:22) And yet, the "superstitions and mythology" of Egypt are not in the books written by Moses! In fact, after 6,000 years of "discoveries and advancements" - that Amazing Book, can stand beside the most advanced medical, scientific, and historical books available!

One subject that separates that Amazing Book from any other book is prophecy. No other book forecasts the future as this one does. The prophecies are precise. Many times they're hundreds, even thousands of years in advance. And without exception - they are fulfilled - to the smallest detail!

A prophecy in Ezekiel 26:1-6 reads, “. . . the word of the LORD came unto me, saying . . . Behold, I am against thee, O Tyrus, and will cause many nations to come up against thee . . . And they shall destroy the walls of Tyrus, and break down her towers: I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock. It shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD . . . ”

Three years later, Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon surrounded Tyrus. But before he came, the people of Tyre escaped to an island, a half-mile offshore. After thirteen years of siege, the Babylonians "broke down her walls" and "broke down her towers", destroying the city on the mainland. By that time, the escaped people had re-built the city of Tyre on the island. And because Nebuchadnezzar had no navy, the city on the island remained untouched. Even though Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the city, he didn't fulfill Ezekiel's prophecy. But 250 years later, Alexander the Great took the rubble Nebuchadnezzar's destruction left, and they "scraped her dust", the wood, rock and stubble from the destroyed city, and they built a causeway, like "the top of a rock". They marched on the rubble-causeway, into the island and destroyed it. And if you travel to site of old Tyre today - you'll see fisherman "spreading their nets" to dry on what was Tyre! Exactly, as Ezekiel prophesied around 586 B.C.! Over 2500 years before it happened!

There were over 300 prophecies fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. That Amazing Book has many that were written thousands of years before Jesus was born! Precise, detailed prophecies such as; where He would be born (Micah 5:2), how He would be born, (Isaiah 7:14) how He would die (Psalm 34:20), etc. And history has PROVEN, without ANY doubt whatsoever, they were fulfilled EXACTLY as that Amazing Book had prophesied, hundreds of years earlier!

In the book, *Science Speaks*, mathematician and scientist, Peter Stoner, applies the rules of probability to these prophecies. The chances of just eight of these three-hundred prophecies being fulfilled are one in 10 to the 17th power - that's 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000! In the book, Professor Stoner, illustrates:

Let us try to visualize this chance . . . Suppose that we take 10 to the 17th power silver dollars and lay them on the face of Texas. They will cover all of the state two feet deep. Now mark one of these silver dollars and stir the whole mass thoroughly . . . Blindfold a man and tell him . . . he must pick up one silver dollar . . . What chance would he have of getting the right one? Just the same chance that the prophets would have had of writing these eight prophecies and having them all come true in any one man. (*Science Speaks*, pp. 106 - 107)

Professor Stoner then took 48 of these over 300 fulfilled prophecies. The chances of 48 being fulfilled are 1 in 10 to the 157 power - that's 1 in 10 with 157 zeros! Here's how he illustrates:

Let us try to visualize it . . . The electron is about as small an object as we know of. It is so small that it will take  $2.5 \times 10$  to the 15th power of them laid side by side to make a line, single file, one inch long. If we were going to count the electrons in this line one inch long, and counted 250 each minute, and if we counted day and night, it would take us 19,000,000 years to count just the one-inch line of electrons . . . With this introduction, let us go back to our chance of 1 in 10 to the 157th power . . . Let us make a solid ball of electrons, extending in all directions from the earth to the distance of six billion light-years (the distance that light will travel at 186,000 miles a second in 6,000,000,000 years). Have we used up our 10 to the 157th power electrons? No, we have made such a small hole in the mass that we cannot see it. Now, one of these electrons was marked and thoroughly stirred into the whole mass; blindfold your man and ask him to find the marked electron. (The electron, in fact, is so small that it cannot be seen with a powerful microscope.) To the extent, then, that we know this blindfolded man cannot pick out the marked electron, we know that the Bible is inspired. (Science Speaks, pp 109 - 111)

And in case you think Professor Stoner's statistics are exaggerated or without scientific substance the "Foreword" of the book, Science Speaks includes an acknowledgement by the prestigious American Scientific Affiliation stating, "The mathematical analysis included is based upon principles of probability which are thoroughly sound and Professor Stoner has applied these principles in a proper and convincing way."

Professor Stoner concludes, "This is not MERELY EVIDENCE. It is PROOF of the Bible's inspiration by God - PROOF DEFINITE that the universe is not large enough to hold the evidence."

These are just a few examples (of thousands) that prove beyond any shadow of doubt that a supernatural hand, far greater than what you and I can possibly imagine, was guiding the men who wrote that Amazing Book. Friend, if the physical things that we can examine prove to be true - what about the spiritual that we can not yet examine?

**This is what God said in the First Hebrew Covenant, the Hebrew Scriptures, would happen to the *promised deliverer*.**

**Check to see how many of these have been fulfilled in Jesus.**

Isaiah 9:7	David's descendant	
Isaiah 7:14	Born of a virgin	
Micah 5:2	Born in Bethlehem	
Hosea 11:1	Flee into Egypt	
Isaiah 11:2	Some of His characteristics (look up)	
Isaiah 53:4,5	Suffer for others	
Psalms 41:9	Betrayed by a friend.	
Zechariah 11:12,13	Sold for 30 pieces of silver.	
Psalms 21:12	Accused by false witnesses	
Isaiah 50:6	Smitten and spat upon.	
Isaiah 53:7	Silent when accused.	
Isaiah 53:3	Rejected by the Jews	
Psalms 69:4	Hated without a cause.	
Psalms 22:18	His clothing gambled for.	
Isaiah 53:9	Die with the wicked.	
Psalms 22:6-8	Mocked and insulted.	
Isaiah 53:9	Buried with the rich.	
Psalms 16:10	Rise after death.	
Psalms 68:18	Go back to Heaven	

### Prophecies about Jesus

**There are over 300 prophecies that Jesus fulfilled in His birth, life death, and resurrection, but consider only 17 most prominent ones (there are 20 on this page).**

**The combined probability against these 17 predictions occurring is equal to:**

**1 chance in 480,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000**

**Or 480 Billion X 1 Billion X 1 Trillion.**

Next page is optional.

## Prophecies about Jesus

**There are over 300 prophecies that Jesus fulfilled in His birth, life death and resurrection, but consider only 17 most prominent ones.**

**The combined probability against these 17 predictions occurring is equal to:**

**1 chance in 480,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000**

**Or 480 Billion X 1 Billion X 1 Trillion.**

**Concerning the over 300 fulfilled prophecies about Jesus,** it is ridiculous to imagine that these prophecies would all be fulfilled by accident by one person. Only one chance in a number followed by 181 zeros! To give you some idea of the size of this immense figure, think of a ball that is packed solidly with electrons (two and a half million billion make a line about one inch long). Now in your mind imagine this ball expanded to the size of the universe - some four billion light-years in diameter (a light-year being the distance that light travels in a year at the speed of over 186,000 miles per second). Multiply this by 500 quadrillion. Out of this vast container of electrons, remove just **one** electron and “color” it red and return it to the container, and stir it with the other electrons for a hundred years. Then blindfold a man and send him in to pick it out the first time. Impossible? With the same chance, Jesus the Christ lived and died was resurrected and is now alive according to the Scriptures by “accident”!

**Other Old Testament prophecies too numerous** to list include the destruction of certain cities like Tyre, and others, and they all took place as foretold in the Bible. There are 1,817 individual prophecies concerning 737 separate subjects found in 8,352 verses. These comprise 27% of the whole of Scriptures.

Isaiah 42:9 says, “Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; before they happen, I cause you to hear.”

### **Some prophecies in the Old Testament**

**Genesis 3:15** says, “And I will put enmity (strife) between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; it shall bruise your head, and you shalt bruise his heel.”

This is a clear prophecy that Satan will cause Jesus to be crucified, yet Jesus will ultimately crush Satan.

**In Genesis 15** God told Abraham (the first Jew), thousands of years before Jesus, that he would be the father of a great group of people who would bless all the other peoples of the earth. God also said that they would be taken slaves for 400 years before they came back to their own land. This happened, Abraham became the first Jew and the Jews went into Egyptian slavery for 400 years.

**In Isaiah 53** God prophesied that the Messiah would come as a suffering savior who would die for our sins. The Jews were looking for a conquering King and when Jesus came they did not recognize Him. This was about 500 years before it happened. Isaiah also told that the Messiah would be born of a virgin.

**Daniel told** of the coming of the Messiah to be crucified and His entering Jerusalem, to the very date, over 400 years before it happened.

**Daniel saw** the prophecies of the kingdoms of the earth in history before they happened. They were to be Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome and finally the anti-Christ's rule. He also saw the Kingdom of God finally becoming the world victor.

**Ezekiel saw** the re-gathering of Israel in May of 1948. He saw this over 2,000 years before it happened and prophesied it to the date.

### **How does God do that?**

**It may seem like a promise to us**, but to God it is something that has already happened! It's a done deal.

He calls those things that are not yet as though they were, just so they will be. He wants us to be the same way; just like Abraham in Romans 4.

**A prophecy from God is not really predicting something** that will happen, it is God looking forward in time, actually seeing it happen, then looking back in time and telling us about it!!!

because of this phenomenon, will now learn that God has secretly encoded the actual name of His Son, the Messiah, Yeshua, within these Messianic texts.

This revelation of God's matchless wisdom and inspiration of the Scriptures in this decade as we approach the new millennium reminds me of the angel's prophecy to Daniel: "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase. . . ." (Daniel 12:4). The discovery of these astonishing codes revealing the name of God's Son Yeshua - יֵשׁוּעַ , hidden within the text of the Bible for over three thousand years, is part of the fulfillment of this prophecy. Our knowledge of the Bible and its prophecies is increasing at a phenomenal rate in these exciting last days as we approach the time of the Messiah's return to set up His kingdom.

Over the course of my research on *The Signature of God*, Yacov Rambsel and I have had many conversations about the tremendous significance of his discovery of the Yeshua codes. There is much more exciting material in Yacov's book than I could cover in this chapter. As a result of these discussions, our ministry will be publishing Yacov's fascinating book *Yeshua - יֵשׁוּעַ The Name of Jesus Hidden in the Old Testament*. If any reader is interested in studying this phenomenon and documentation in greater detail, they can order the book from any Christian bookstore or directly from our ministry, Frontier Research Publications, Inc. As Yacov wrote in his book, "Without a doubt, the Messiah's Name is Yeshua - יֵשׁוּעַ , but in English, His Name is **Jesus**."

This article was copied from the Internet Web page of Grant Jeffreys, author of [The Signature of God](#). It is not to be used for resale or the enhancement for the sale of any product.

## **01 HOW TO BECOME A CHILD OF GOD:**

**By Winkie Pratney, reprinted from his web page tracts by permission**

**If you have never really met Jesus, you can, right now.**

You may not have much in common with Christians you've met or read about. You may be from a different nation, with different abilities, a different income, a different educational or religious background. You may be saying "What's all this got to do with me?" Or "That's fine for them, but my situation, my problems are hopeless." Well, here's good news! The answer they found is the same answer you can find for yourself. Victory over any adversity may be found by living for Jesus Christ. Whatever you are going through, there is hope in Jesus.

God is real. Jesus is alive! He loves you and is concerned for your well-being. He is the absolute Reality on which all truth is ultimately grounded. His message for you and your world is contained in the collection of 66 books called the Bible. Its transcendent teachings have stood the test of time, the scrutiny of scholars and the furnace of practical experience. They speak not only about history but how to live today in every level and facet of life.

The Bibles' theme is God's plan of freedom from sin and death, a message that has delivered millions in every nation from self-destructive habits and given them a life both abundant and eternal. By first entering into and then developing a personal relationship with this living God, you will find everything you need for life on earth and for all eternity. Your life will have a sense of purpose marked by confidence and peace of mind. You will understand the true meaning of life. And God Himself will be your loving Father and your great Friend to give you power and to guide your steps. From the Bible we learn these facts:

(1) God created humanity and nature for a wonderful purpose, but a stupid act of rebellion and self-centeredness by the first man and woman caused our race to lose our original relationship with Him and fall into a state of sin. Our sad legacy is now a nature wholly self-centered and impure in thought, word and deed. Our best efforts are selfish; apart from God we cannot even agree on what "good" is.

(2) Gods laws revealed in the Bible are not inventions, but descriptions of reality. They truthfully tell us how things actually are in the moral world. We do not actually "break" Gods laws; they break us. We are punished by our sin as much as we are punished for our sin. All true law has a penalty as important as the law it is designed to protect. The penalty for sin, the violation of Gods moral law is endless death and eternal separation from God; if we live like hell here, our death will only confirm to us the reality of Hell forever. Whether we consider our violations large or small, the sentence must be the same; the "wages of sin is death; the soul that sins shall die."

(3) On our own we can do nothing to cancel or escape this sentence. We deserve to be judged. Nothing we can say or do can possibly justify the life we have lived and the things we have done to hurt ourselves, others and most of all, God.

(4) But God has no personal problems in seeking to forgive and restore us. God has never stopped loving rebellious man nor seeking to pardon us. At great cost to Himself, God found a way to provide a way back to His heart and our true home.

(5) In Jesus Christ God became a man and lived among us. He put on display Gods love, wisdom, power and compassion. Born like no man before Him, He lived a sinless life without historical equal, spoke in wisdom like no man ever spoke, and demonstrated beyond contention Divine power and love in His miracles of healing, provision and deliverance. He even raised three people from the dead. Then to the astonishment of the world He did it decisively Himself!

(6) What seemed at first tragedy turned out to be Divine strategy. To liberate us from our death sentence and reconcile us to Himself, Jesus laid down his sinless life as a substitute for the penalty you and I so thoroughly deserve. He gave Himself as the ultimate sacrifice for our sin and made our forgiveness and pardon possible. Now if you will trust Him as your substitute, you can go free. The God-Man on the middle cross has taken your place!

(7) After three days in the tomb Jesus rose from the dead by the power of His Father. He was seen then by hundreds of witnesses, has been met since then by millions all over the world and lives today as the Ultimate Victor over sin, death and the grave. Because of what Jesus did, anyone who believes Jesus Christ is God's Son, and trusts in His complete work on the cross for pardon and cleansing will be forgiven of sin and be restored to friendship with God. By His Holy Spirit God Himself will enter your life and break the enslaving power of sin once and for all.

(8) You will not only be given the gift of His eternal life to live forever with him, but life here and now will be forever different. But to experience this you must make a deliberate and conscious decision to surrender your life to Christ as your Lord and Savior.

(9) This experience is called the "New Birth". God tells us in the Bible that the only way a person can become a true Christian is to be "born again." The essential conditions for receiving this new life in Jesus are:

### **Conditions Of Real Conversion To Christ:**

(a) Honesty: All your life you have been living a lie. When you come to God, you must face for the first time the truth about your wrong. To do this you must be utterly real. God will not do business with people who do not mean business with Him. "He that covers his sins shall not prosper; but whoever confesses and forsakes them shall have mercy." (Prov.28:13)

(b) Repentance: "I confess that I am a sinner and I cannot save myself from sin." True repentance means turning completely from your selfishness, with the determination to sin no more. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you see, hate and forsake your sin. True repentance means giving up of all rights to your life; you must die to all your own plans, dreams and ambitions and put yourself into Gods loving hands for whatever He wants of your life.

True repentance also means the willingness as far as humanly possible to make right all known wrong. Whatever the Holy Spirit speaks to you about, whether it is forgiveness of those who have hurt you, confession of wrong to another, restoring or repaying someone, the Lord Jesus will give you the courage and words to make it right.

(c) Faith: "I believe that God is real, and that Jesus Christ is His son. I freely confess He died on the cross for the penalty I deserved. I believe that I can receive both His forgiveness and a new life through the power of His Spirit living within me." This act of faith is neither an idea or a feeling but an intelligent and deliberate act of the will. Give Him your doubts, your weakness and your loneliness. Your heart will never have peace, your doubts will never clear up, you will never die to the world until you trust, surrender, believe from your heart!

**Why wait any longer?** Jesus Christ is knocking at the door of your heart, waiting to come in. You can pray a simple, life-changing prayer right now.

In your own words confess to Him that you are a sinner and you hate your sin. Ask him to forgive you and cleanse your soul from all that is not right. Surrender your life wholly to His mercy and power, and ask Him to take over the total control of your life, now and forever. Thank Him for His forgiveness and ask Him to show you how to live for Him.

The Bible says "if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and shall believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes to righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made to salvation ... the same Lord over all is rich to all that call on Him. For whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:9-13)

**What he has done for countless other young men and women around the world - He can and will do for you. Just ask.**

**How do you know where you are going after you die?**



**How do you know Jesus was raised from the dead?**

**How do you know anything in the Bible is true?**

The way Satan got Eve to sin was to ask the question “did God really say.....”. Genesis 3:1.

For sure, human beings on this planet called Earth are the object of spiritual warfare. Satan has no new weapons to use, just old ones with new wrappers. He still causes us to ask the question "did God really say."

Now ask yourself the question, how do you know for sure where you are going after you die? Do you think you are going to heaven because your parents told you or your pastor or Sunday School teacher said so? Do you think it is wise to trust another person's word with something as important as where you will spend eternity?

**We need to be able to trust the Bible no matter what comes our way!**

**If there is one thing the Bible dares to do that no other book in the world does it is to accurately predict the future.**

This proves beyond argument that only God could have written the Bible.

God arranges the situations of history to bring about His glory in the lives of those who respond to His call. Working with the moral choices of men He directs circumstances together into a pre-planned series of patterns laid down before the foundation of the world. The outline of many of these patterns is revealed in the Bible.

**There are 8,352 verses** directly or indirectly concerned with prophecy in Scripture - about one verse in six tells of future events. God's challenge to the world is that we might prove Him. “I am the LORD: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass” (Ezekiel 12:25). Jeremiah 28:9, Ezekiel 24:14 and Luke 21:22 also indicate the same idea.

**Buddhists, Confucianists** and the followers of Mohammed have their sacred writings but in them the element of prophecy is conspicuous by its absence. The destruction of Tyre, the invasion of Jerusalem, the fall of Babylon and Rome, each of these events was accurately predicted and fulfilled to the smallest of details.

**The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem** was foretold over hundreds of years earlier by the prophet Daniel - TO THE VERY DAY.

**The forming of Israel as a new state** in 1948 was foretold to the day and month in the Old Testament.

**In the life of the Lord Jesus himself** there are over 300 fulfilled prophecies. It is ridiculous to imagine that these prophecies would all be fulfilled by accident by one person. Statistically there is only one chance in a number followed by 181 zeros that they could have been fulfilled by accident!

**To give you some idea** of the size of this immense figure think of a ball that is packed solidly with electrons (two and a half million billion make a line about one inch long). Now in your mind imagine this ball expanded to the size of the universe, some four billion light-years in diameter (a light-year being the distance that light travels in a year at the speed of over 186,000 miles per second). Multiply this by 500 quadrillion. Out of this vast container of electrons, remove just **one** electron, and “color” it red, return it to the container, and stir it with the other electrons for a hundred years. Then blindfold a man and send him in to pick it out the first time. Impossible? With the same chance Jesus the Christ lived and died was resurrected and is now alive according to the Scriptures by “accident!”

Other Old Testament prophecies too numerous to list include the destruction of certain cities like Tyre and others and they all took place as foretold in the Bible. There are 1,817 individual prophecies concerning 737 separate subjects found in 8,352 verses. These comprise 27% of the whole of Scriptures.

Isaiah 42:9 says, "Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; before they happen, I cause you to hear. Only God knows the end from the beginning!"

### **Some prophecies in the Old Testament**

**Genesis 3:15** says, "And I will put enmity (strife) between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; it shall bruise your head, and you shalt bruise his heel."

This is a clear prophecy that Satan will cause Jesus to be crucified yet Jesus will ultimately crush Satan.

**God spoke to Abraham in Genesis 15 about Israel.** God told Abraham, (the first Jew) thousands of years before Jesus, that he would be the father of a great group of people who would bless all the other peoples of the earth. He told him that they would be taken slaves for 400 years before they came back to their own land. This happened. Abraham became the first Jew and the Jews went into Egyptian slavery for 400 years.

**Isaiah 53.** This is where God prophesied that the Messiah would come as a suffering savior who would die for our sins. The Jews were looking for a conquering King and when Jesus came they did not recognize Him. This was spoken about 500 years before it happened. Isaiah also told that the Messiah would be born of a virgin.

**Daniel told** of the coming of the Messiah to be crucified and His entering Jerusalem to the very date, over 400 years before it happened.

**Daniel saw** the prophecies of the kingdoms of the earth in history before they happened. They were to be Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome and finally the anti-Christ's rule. He also saw the Kingdom of God finally becoming the world victor.

**Ezekiel saw** the re-gathering of Israel in May of 1948. He saw this over 2,000 years before it happened and prophesied it to the date.

## Prophecies about Jesus.

**There are over 300 prophecies about Jesus but consider only the 17 most prominent ones.**

**The combined probability against these 17 predictions occurring is equal to:**

1 chance in 480,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000

Or 480 Billion X 1 Billion X 1 Trillion.

**If God left this Book for you then you should read it and see what He says**

**1. See what He says about how He feels about you.**



**He loves you even if it does not feel like it.**

John 3:16-17 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him."

**2. See what He says about what you should be doing to obey Him.** See what He says about how to live your life, how to treat people, how to relate to Him, to conduct your personal habits, your personal speech, your giving and forgiving.

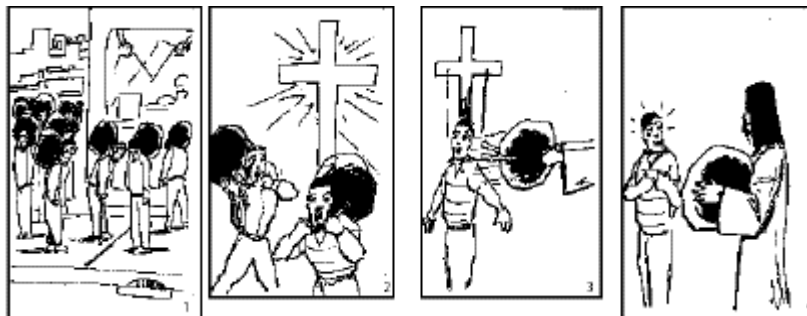
**He bought you with a high price and now asks for obedience,** and that you lay down your life to allow His Spirit to live in you.

1 Corinthians 6:20 says, "for you are bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

2 Timothy 2:22 says, "But flee **youthful lusts**, and follow righteousness, faith, love, peace, with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

**3. See what He says to you regarding the promises** He wants you to inherit.

2 Peter 1:4 says, "through which He has given to us exceedingly great and precious **promises**, so that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."



**4. See what He says about where you are going when you die.**

John 11:25 says, "Jesus said to her, I am the Resurrection and the Life! He who believes in Me, though he **die**, yet he shall **live**."

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:1-6).

**5. See what He says to you about being His disciple.**

Luke 14:27 says, "And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me, he cannot be My **disciple**."

Luke 14:33 says. "**So then, everyone of you who does not forsake all his possessions, he cannot be My disciple.**"

**Eternity is not a long time it is forever!**

**Where you spend it is important!**



## **“Hello there, my Name is Jesus.”**

It was August 26, 1979, 5:30 PM. I was 39 years old and had lived my life for myself, my own way. On the surface my life did not seem too bad, but underneath it all God saw my desperation. I wanted to know where I would go after I died and where I would spend eternity. I had heard all sorts of differing opinions. Some said you just fall asleep. Some said you just go to a “better place.” Some said you just ceased to exist. Others talked about a Heaven and Hell.

Think about it. That is the most important question you can ask during your life here on earth. You had better not take someone else’s word for it. You better be sure. Eternity is not a long time it is forever. I knew deep down inside that I had better not cast my eternal destiny to the opinion of others. Even the people that said they knew the answer could not agree with each other.

I kind of believed in Heaven and Hell, but I thought that God graded on the curve system. You know, if there were some people that were worse than I was, like murderers, etc., then I would fall in the middle somewhere and at least get a “C” grade and make it to Heaven. I finally got real with God and asked the question, “Where do you go when you die?”

I had been reading the Bible for the first time. I started at 12:30 PM, and at 5:30 PM I stopped and said, “Jesus is alive, He is God and He wrote the Bible. Not only that, Jesus is the final victor over all evil. God wants to be my father and take over my life.”

**I heard God speak to me.** He said, “And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away’” (Revelation 21:3,4).

All of the sudden I experienced what John 7:37-39 says, “On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, ‘If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.’ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.”

**Jesus became real to me.** I saw him with my spiritual eyes in a way that made Him as real as any other person I knew. He said, **“Hello there, my Name is Jesus. I love you.”** I could feel the “rivers of living water” welling up inside of me. I told Him, “I have made a mess of my life. Thank you for becoming my Father and promising to take care of me. I will do whatever You say.”

**When I stop to think of why it took me so long** to find my need for Jesus, I can only come up with this conclusion: We need to understand our desperate need for God before we can really see who He is. Actually, we all have a desperate need for God and to understand that Jesus is God Himself. The problem is that we have found ways to bury our desperation. We have discovered how to manipulate people, how to control people, how to perform in life so that our apparent needs are met. When we find that these do not work, we try religion or we turn to different stimulants, all of which end up making us slaves. If we are honest, we will admit that there is something inside of us that is not fulfilled by anything but the Creator.

It has been said by many that we need to fall flat on our face and fail in life before we find Jesus. I do not believe that is true (although it is the experience of many). I believe all it takes is for a person to be gut level honest with herself/himself. People all over the social and moral scale can find the true living God, the Creator of the universe, Jesus Christ. All they have to do is to be honest with themselves and with God. God will do the rest. It is His job to reveal Himself to people.

**Religion (of all types)** tells us that we have to struggle to do certain things or to be a certain way to find the truth or to find God. But the Bible tells us it is God Himself that draws us to Him and that He supernaturally reveals Himself to us. It tells us that God knows what we need and He knows how to help us.

He knows us intimately. He knows what it will take for us to see the truth. We do not have to take someone else’s word for the truth. That would be scary to put my eternal destiny into the hands of another human’s opinion! God will embrace you with His loving kindness right where you are in life, whether you are rich or poor, young or old, moral or immoral.

God is certainly capable of revealing His name to you. Be honest and listen for the words, **“Hello there, my Name is Jesus. I love you.”**

**Good news, bad news.**

Before one is ready for good news (Gospel means good news) they need to first face the bad news. Doctors can prescribe wonderful healing medicines, but if we do not face the bad news first, we will never be healed.

**The bad news first.** Genesis 1:26 tells us that God created man (Adam) in God's own likeness and image. God created Adam's body out of clay. He gave Adam the potential to have what other animals did not have; that is, to be a three part being. He made man to be a spiritual being with a soul and a body. God breathed His own Spirit into Adam. He gave Adam the program for living, but Adam wanted to be independent from God and God's Word (the Tree of Life). When he became independent, God's Spirit had to leave Adam. This was the beginning of the separation between God and man.

You were born in the image of Adam, a person separated from God. Adam is our forefather. We have the potential to be in the image of God, but we are not born that way.

**Now the good news.** God did not give up on Adam and He did not give up on us. Adam knew something was wrong after he became independent and started to run his own life without God. He tried to cover his shame with fig leaves. We try all kinds of religious activities to make our independence tolerable, but nothing really works. Genesis 3:21 tells us that God killed an animal, shed blood and covered Adam and Eve with the skin. This act of shedding blood was a foreshadow of what God would do in the future.

**It is not what we do but who we are that counts.** The thing that keeps us separated from God is not what **we do**, but it is **who we are**. As descendents of Adam we are eternally separated from God. We are not merely separated during this life on earth, but as the Bible tells us we are separated eternally and destined to spend eternity without the presence and love of God. This is called Hell.

**God arranged, before time began,** to have a way for man to be reunited to Himself. A blood covenant is the only thing that can change a person's spiritual nature. The blood covenant will give us a new birth and change our spiritual identity. The blood covenant will allow God to join His Spirit to our spirit and go back to the pattern He had for Adam, to be in the image of God.

**In a blood covenant each party takes on the identity of the other.** What mankind needed was someone who was indeed connected to God so that man could obtain that connection. (His spirit connected with God's Spirit, God actually inhabiting man.) However, that person who was connected to

God would have to take man's nature, that of being disconnected, and that man would have to suffer that penalty.

**Here was God's plan.** The Bible tells us in John 1:1-2 that Jesus is God Himself, that He is the Word of God, He is the Son of God that created everything by His words. The Bible also tells us that God has other aspects, that of The Father and that of The Spirit.

**The Word of God being spoken to Mary caused the incarnation of Jesus as a child into the womb of this Jewish virgin.** Mary became pregnant with the Word of God. In this manner of birth, Jesus did not inherit the nature of Adam (separated from God) but He did become a man. What a miracle! The first man to be born since Adam without being a descendant of Adam. The Bible calls Jesus the Second Adam.

**Here is the perfect person with whom to make a covenant.** We could take His nature if He would be willing to take our nature. The only problem was would He be willing to take our nature, that of being eternally separated from God not only on earth, but also in Hell?

**Here is the good news.** God loved us so much that He would be willing to pay the penalty for us. He would be willing to give up His only Son to be separated from Him, the Father. Jesus never did anything independent from His Father as Adam did, even though Satan tempted Him sorely to do so. When it came time for Jesus to make the blood covenant with us, He was a perfect man capable of swapping natures with us. The people crucified Jesus, the most cruel torture saved only for the most desperate criminals. Jesus shed His blood as His side of the covenant.

**What Jesus said just before He died on the Cross** is recorded in Matthew 27:46. "About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' --which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'" This is evidence that Jesus took on our nature. Jesus was separated from God.

**Jesus went to Hell.**

"He seeing this before spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption" (Acts 2:31). Jesus suffered in Hell so that we would not have to.

**Jesus did not stay dead; He was resurrected!**

"He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead. And, behold, He goes before you into Galilee. There you shall see Him. Lo, I have told you" (Matthew 28:6,7).

“This is now the three times Jesus was revealed to His disciples, He being risen from the dead” (John 21:14).

**Jesus was not only resurrected, He ascended back to Heaven as a man.**

“And saying these things, as they watched, He was taken up. And a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they were looking intently into the heaven, He having gone, even behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them, who also said, Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into the heaven? This same Jesus who is taken up from you into Heaven, will come in the way you have seen Him going into Heaven” (Acts 1:9-11).

**Jesus sent the Holy Spirit back to earth** so that we could be reunited to God not only in this life but also for eternity.

“And suddenly a sound came out of the heaven as borne along by the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And tongues as of fire appeared to them, being distributed; and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:2-4).

**Finally God moved back into man** to inhabit them as He had done with Adam. However this time the Spirit of God had a new quality, that of resurrection from the dead. Satan no longer had dominion over man but man now rules over him.

**With the completion of this plan, mankind actually became something greater** than the original Adam. We have the resurrected life of Jesus residing in us. We are Heaven bound and victors over all of Satan’s activities while we are living on earth. God does not promise us that we will have a comfortable life. He does promise that we will be overcomers in everything that happens. He promises joy, peace, love, faith and purpose in life. He promises He will never leave us. He promises a close, intimate and personal relationship with Him. He makes this life on earth worth living!

**We don’t have to understand all of this intellectually.** A very religious man who lived in Jesus’ day named Nicodemus could not figure everything out with his brain. Jesus had an answer for him and for you and me.

“And there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to Him, Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles which you do unless God is with him. Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless a man is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb and be born?

Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless a man is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, You must be born again. The Spirit breathes where He desires, and you hear His voice, but you do not know from where He comes, and where He goes; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit. Nicodemus answered and said to Him, How can these things be?

Jesus answered and said to him, Are you the teacher of Israel and do not know these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, We speak what we know and testify what we have seen. And you do not receive our witness. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how shall you believe if I tell you heavenly things? And no one has ascended up to Heaven except He who came down from Heaven, the Son of man who is in Heaven. But even as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up, so that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him" (John 3:1-17).

**What must you do to receive this great miracle of the blood covenant?** First you must not fake it. Be honest with God about your doubts, fears and needs. Jesus is the Truth. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. God makes a safe way for you to believe. You must trust on the Truth!

The final two things are found in Romans 10:9-11, which says, "Because if you confess the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses unto salvation. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone believing on Him shall not be put to shame.'"

**You must know in your heart that Jesus was raised from the dead.** If you just know this as a Bible story it will not work. If you try to work up faith it will not work. You must know that He is alive because He is revealing Himself to you.

**Once you know Jesus is alive from the dead, you must now make Him Lord.** Lord is an old English word for "boss" or "master". We cannot earn our new birth but now that we have it we must realize that we belong to

God and we can no longer be independent as Adam tried to be. We will go into more detail on this in later chapters.

**If you are not sure about these things, here is how to pray:** “Oh, God, I am a seeker. I want the truth about who you are and about spiritual things. I want you to reveal yourself to me. I want you to tell me your name. I want this to be a personal thing, not something from a book or from man.” Now, pour your heart out to God and tell Him how you honestly feel. Include your doubts, fears, etc.

**If you wish to pray to receive the blood covenant, you may do it right now.** “Oh God. I believe that you sent Jesus to take my old nature and I want to receive His nature. I want to be born back into your family so that I can be connected with You. I believe that Jesus shed His blood for me as His part of the covenant. I believe that when He died He took my old nature and the penalty that went with it. I believe that He was raised from the dead to give me His life. I accept this covenant by making Jesus my boss, my Lord. (This is the way we shed our blood, by laying down our life and allowing Him to take over. We do not have to actually cut our bodies.)

**“Hello there, my Name is Jesus. I love you.”**