



Sermon Series: The Messiah: God's Promise, God's Glory
Sermon Title: Following the Clues to the Greatest Treasure
Date: 11/30/2025

Big Idea: Every clue in God's plan proves He keeps His promises.

Long before Jesus was born, God filled Scripture with detailed promises pointing toward the coming Messiah. These clues were not vague predictions but intentional markers showing exactly who the Savior would be, where He would come from, and when He would arrive. Like a map leading to a treasure, every prophecy steered God's people toward Jesus. Christmas, then, is not a sentimental story—it is the fulfillment of God's long-standing plan to rescue the world.

1. God Left Clues That Lead to the Greatest Treasure

Clue #1: The Hidden Promise

The first clue appears in **Genesis 3:15**, where God speaks of an offspring who will confront evil and ultimately defeat it. Though the enemy would wound Him, He would crush the enemy's head. This "Protoevangelium," the first announcement of the gospel, reveals God's plan to restore what sin destroyed. From the moment humanity fell, God promised hope. Jesus' birth in Bethlehem was not an afterthought but a continuation of this ancient rescue plan.

Clue #2: The Smallest Town

Micah 5:2 provides the second clue by naming Bethlehem Ephrathah—the smaller of the two Bethlehems—as the birthplace of the Messiah. This small, easily overlooked town became the exact location where the eternal ruler would be born. Centuries later, a Roman census led Joseph and Mary straight there, fulfilling the prophecy precisely. Even political events aligned under God's direction. Jesus' birthplace shows that God works through both small details and large movements of history.

Clue #3: The Perfect Timing

The third clue reveals *when* the Messiah would appear. In **Daniel 9:25**, Gabriel gives a prophetic timeline of 483 years leading up to the arrival of the Anointed One. Counting from the decree to rebuild Jerusalem brings us

to the period when Jesus publicly presented Himself as Messiah. This shows His coming was not random—it unfolded exactly on God’s schedule. Together, these clues—promise, place, and timing—form a unified picture pointing directly to Jesus.

2. Find the Treasure: God’s Plan Revealed in Jesus

When these clues are seen together, they reveal the identity of the Messiah clearly. The one who would defeat evil, be born in Bethlehem, and arrive at a precise moment in history is Jesus Christ. These are only a few of the many prophecies He fulfilled. If even one detail had failed, the entire message would unravel. Instead, every part aligned perfectly, demonstrating that God’s Word is trustworthy.

Christmas, therefore, becomes evidence, not imagination. Jesus is the treasure at the center of the map—God’s promise kept, God’s love revealed, and God’s plan fulfilled.

3. Trust His Promises Every Day

Because God fulfilled His promises about Jesus, believers can trust Him with the details of their lives. The same God who directed kings, kingdoms, and centuries is still in control today. When circumstances feel uncertain, God’s faithfulness in the Christmas story reminds us that His timing and purposes are always intentional.

These clues were not just proof of God’s power—they were expressions of His love. Jesus came near so His people would know that God sees, cares, and acts on their behalf. Christmas calls believers to respond with trust: to rest in God’s leadership, to believe His promises, and to share the good news with others.

Every clue in Scripture points to one truth: God keeps His promises—then and now.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Which prophetic clue stands out most to you and why?**
- 2. How does Genesis 3:15 shape your understanding of God's plan for redemption?**
- 3. What does the prophecy about Bethlehem reveal about God's precision and sovereignty?**
- 4. How does Daniel's timeline strengthen your confidence in God's timing?**
- 5. What is one promise of God you need to trust more deeply this season?**