



Tragedy and Triumph

Part 2

March 28, 2021

Last Sunday, we began our new Sermon Series entitled, “Tragedy and Triumph” and it was during the message I presented last Sunday that outlined the Preciseness, Profoundness and the Pain that was prophetically foretold by Isaiah the Prophet as well as Micah and even King David. We dove into Psalm 22 where we dissected the prophetic overlay of David’s Prophetic Utterance and the Textual record of Christ’s experience while upon the Cross in so discovering just how precise, profound, and painful this occurrence actually was.

The prophetic Words about Christ and His subsequent crucifixion is only a part of the equation. There were other things about His life and the experiences that He would have that are prophetically declared in the Old Testament and prophetically manifested in the New Testament.

I understand that this is not the typical Easter series but it is my heart's desire to not simply tell you about Christ's Life, Betrayal, Crucifixion, Death and Subsequent resurrection as a New Testament concept. Rather it is my desire to show you the depth of Scripture and the complexity of the Word of God regarding how the Prophets gave us prophetic glimpses of Messiah, over a multi-thousand year period of time, and how all of these thousands of years of prophetic utterances were made manifest in one moment of time in Christ the Messiah.

It is not only my goal to preach Jesus as Messiah but also to show you that the Word of God validates and affirms my claims in and through the Prophetic Words being made manifest in the very life of Christ! So let's look at three major points in the story line of the last week of Christ's life on the Earth leading up to and ending at His death.

For example, did you know that Judas' betrayal was not simply an act but was the manifestation of Bible Prophecy?

1. The Betrayal of the Messiah was Prophesied

- a. I won't to share a very interesting prophecy given by the Prophet Zechariah found in chapter 11:12-13 and I won't you to pay very close attention to the words used; specifically in reference to a specific number that is given.
- b. Zechariah 11:12-13 - ¹²Then I said to them, "If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them." And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. ¹³Then the Lord said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter."
- c. Now I want to point out a specific statement found in this passage of text in the last part of verse 13, "So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter."
- d. Let's focus on the thirty pieces of silver for a moment.. In Exodus 21, the Bible tells us that thirty pieces of silver is the price of a slave in payment if a slave is killed by another man's animal. Notice Exodus 21:32 with me for a moment.
- e. Exodus 21:32 - ³²If the ox gores a slave, male or female, the owner shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned."

- f. Now let's reference back to Zechariah 11 for just a moment and revisit what the Prophet spoke, "And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. ¹³Then the Lord said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter."
- g. Notice the slight sarcasm that seems to be placed into the words when the Lord spoke by the Prophet, "the lordly price at which I was priced by them..." This price according to the prophet was thirty pieces of silver.
- h. But let's dissect the last part of verse 13 of Zechariah 11 for just a moment to go a little deeper, "So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter."
- i. Thirty pieces of silver
 - ii. Threw them into the house of the Lord
 - iii. Potter
- i. Now what in the world does this verse have to do with Bible Prophecy and the story line of Christ's betrayal? Notice with me Matthew 26:14-15...

- j. Matthew 26:14-15 - “¹⁴Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.”
- k. How many pieces of silver? Thirty. And He was paid off by whom? The chief priests. But the Prophet gave greater explicit detail than thirty pieces of silver in Zechariah 11, remember he said, “So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter.”
- l. Notice how this prophetic text of Zechariah is made manifest in the life of Judas in Matthew 27:3-10...
- m. Matthew 27:3-10, “³Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, ⁴saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” ⁵And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. ⁶But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.” ⁷So they took counsel and bought with them the potter's field as a burial place for strangers. ⁸Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to

this day. ⁹Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, ¹⁰and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me.””

- n. Zechariah 11:13, “So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord, to the potter.”
- o. Even the amount of the cost of betrayal, the place that the money would be thrown into and even what the blood money would buy were all named and defined by Zechariah in 500BC; some 500 years before the birth of Christ.
- p. But not only was the Betrayal of the Messiah Prophesied...

2. The Crucifixion of the Messiah was Prophesied

- a. As we discussed last week, the Prophecy of King David in Psalm 22 is amazingly accurate in light of the crucifixion story found in the Gospels. According to some research I performed, The Encyclopedia Britannica annotates concerning crucifixion reports that the first historical record of Crucifixion was in 519 BC by Darius King of Persia and I quote, “Darius I, king of Persia, crucified 3,000 political opponents in Babylon”.

- b. The first known record in human history notes the first annotation of crucifixion in 519bc and David wrote Psalm 22 in roughly 1,000 BC. Notice the words of David found in Psalm 22:16-17...
- c. Psalm 22:16-17 - “For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet ¹⁷ I can count all my bones, they stare and gloat over me...”
- d. It is this prophetic declaration accompanied by the record of human history that clearly gives us insight into the prophetic accuracy and foresight that the Lord gave to King David concerning the Messiah. But King David is not the only prophet to prophetically declare about the Messiah being pierced. Notice with me the Prophet Zechariah in Zechariah 12:10 written in the 6th century BC...
- e. Zechariah 12:10 - “¹⁰ And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.”
- f. This is an apocalyptic prophecy about the Return of the Messiah to the Earth and that the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem will have to look upon him whom they had pierced and it will be the signs of piercing that shall cause them to mourn and weep bitterly.

g. They will have to come face to face with the reality that they pierced and crucified their Messiah and yet in spite of that, He still returns for them during the tribulation period. Even the Apostle John, John the Revelator as he is affectionally called, noted in the Book of the Revelation in chapter one and verse 7...

h. Revelation 1:7 - ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

i. I want you to note here the prophetic echo found in comparison of Zechariah 12 and Revelation 1:7! Both speak of the one who was pierced thus lending to the prophetic flow of Scripture regarding the Prophecies of David and Zechariah and the recording of the Gospels as well as John in the Book of the Revelation. But not only was the Crucifixion of the Messiah Prophesied...

3. The Burial of the Messiah was Prophesied

a. Many of us know the story of the death, burial and subsequent resurrection of Christ based upon the story provided to us by the Biblical Text, however far too often we all miss just how prophetic each and every step is in the story of the Messiah. Notice with me the text found in the Gospel of Saint Matthew 27:57-60...

b. Matthew 27:57-60 - “⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.”

c. There are two points in this text that I would like to point out for us that may seem to be an unnecessary detail found within the Biblical Text; however, it is actually a manifestation of Bible Prophecy. A rich man asked for his body after his death but he was hung upon the cross between two thieves; his body is finally laid to rest in the borrowed tomb of Joseph. Notice with me Isaiah 53:9...

d. Isaiah 53:9 - And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

e. “And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death...” His place of death was assigned to be amongst the wickedness of man but his place of death was found to be with a rich man.

- f. Here we have the Prophet Isaiah prophesying some 700 years before Christ was born and was revealing the truth of the suffering Messiah and what he would endure. Isaiah is literally foretelling the burial place of the Messiah 700 years earlier and it happened just as he said...
- g. “there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus....⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.”
- h. Messiah will be buried with the rich though murdered amongst the wicked but there is a resurrection morning that is coming!
- i. We find Christ in all of the Scriptures! In the Old Testament He is predicted, in the Gospels He is revealed, in Acts He is preached, in the Epistles He is explained, and in Revelation He is Expected to return!!!
- j. To this point, His story has been a Tragedy, But Triumph is COMING!!!