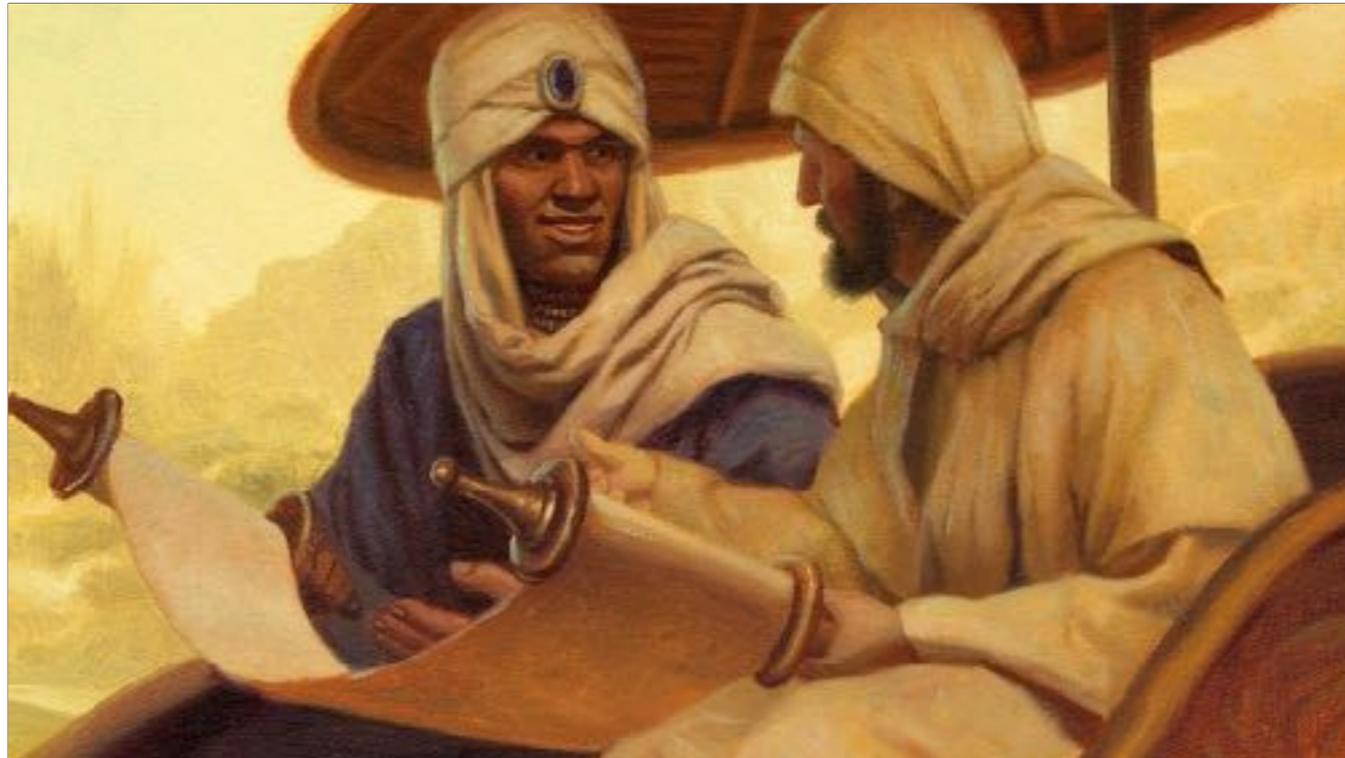


Prophecies of the Christ

Acts 8:30-39

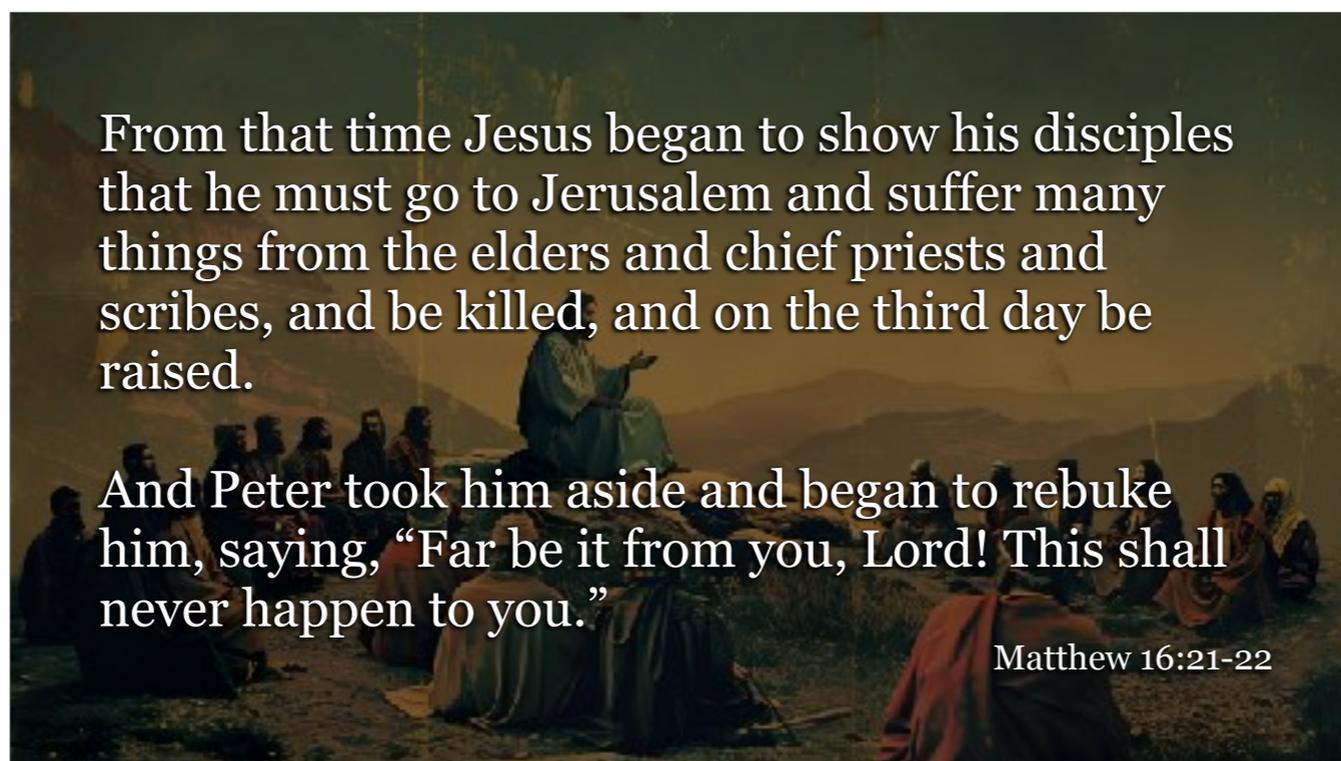


- It mattered to the Jewish people
 - Generally considered that the gospel of Matthew was written primarily to a Jewish audience
 - 9X specifically stated “this was to fulfill”
 - Some find as many as 40 total prophecies fulfilled
 - Matthew (and the Holy Spirit) purposefully pointed to these prophecies as a way to show that
 - God is at work
 - Jesus is the Christ

Why prophecy matters



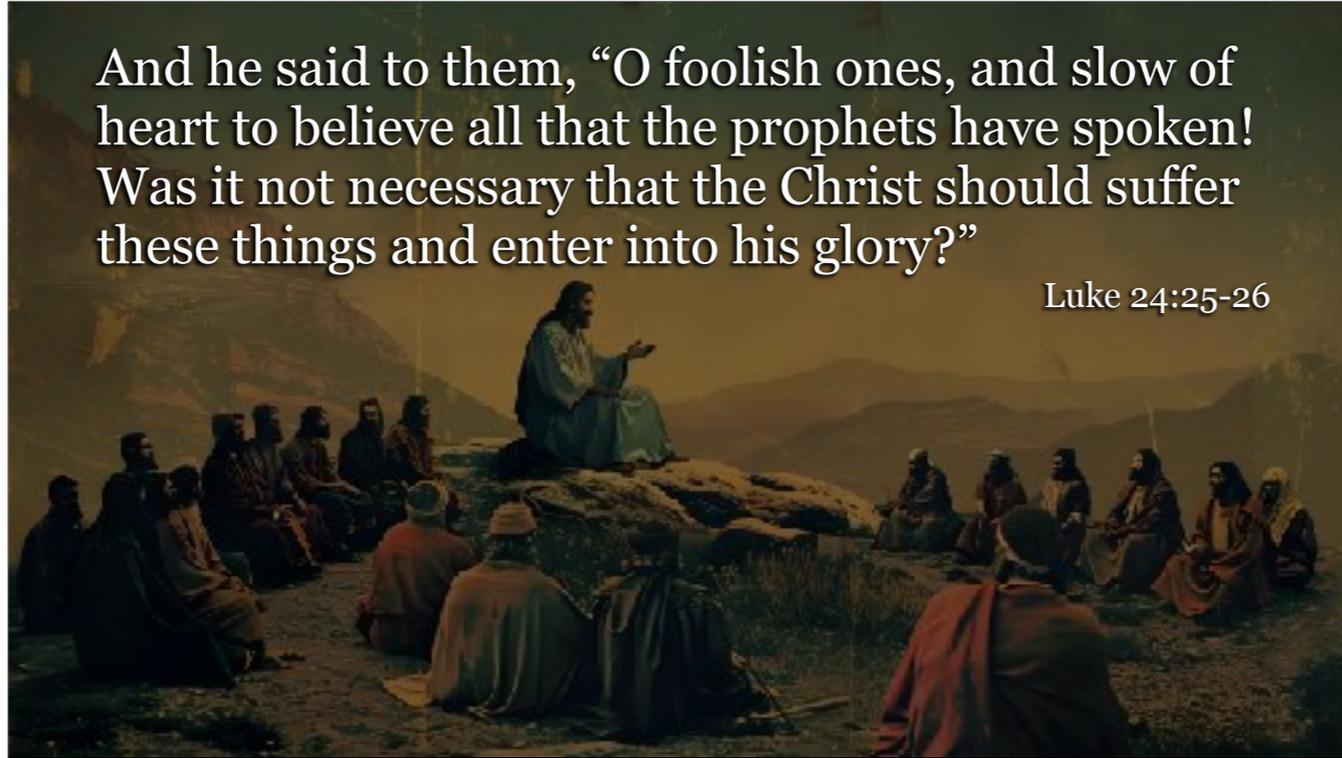
- Do the prophecies still matter to us? If so, why?
 - To answer that, let's consider what Jesus said about the prophecies to his own disciples



- Jesus told his disciples what was going to happen, but they didn't accept it.
- Matthew 16:21-22 (ESV)
 - 21 From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. 22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.”

And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

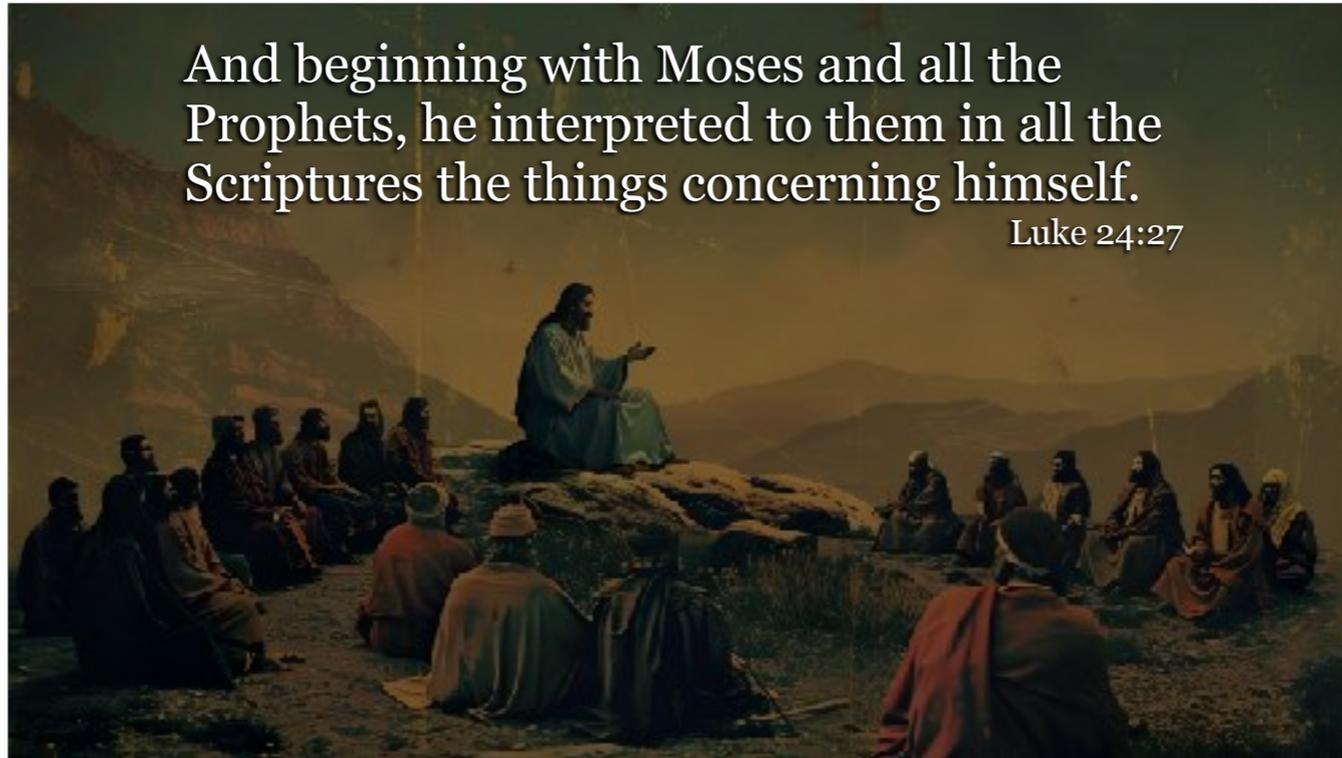
Luke 24:25-26



- After the resurrection, he reminds them not only of what he told them, but that these events had been prophesied
 - Luke 24:25-26 — 25 And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

And beginning with Moses and all the
Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the
Scriptures the things concerning himself.

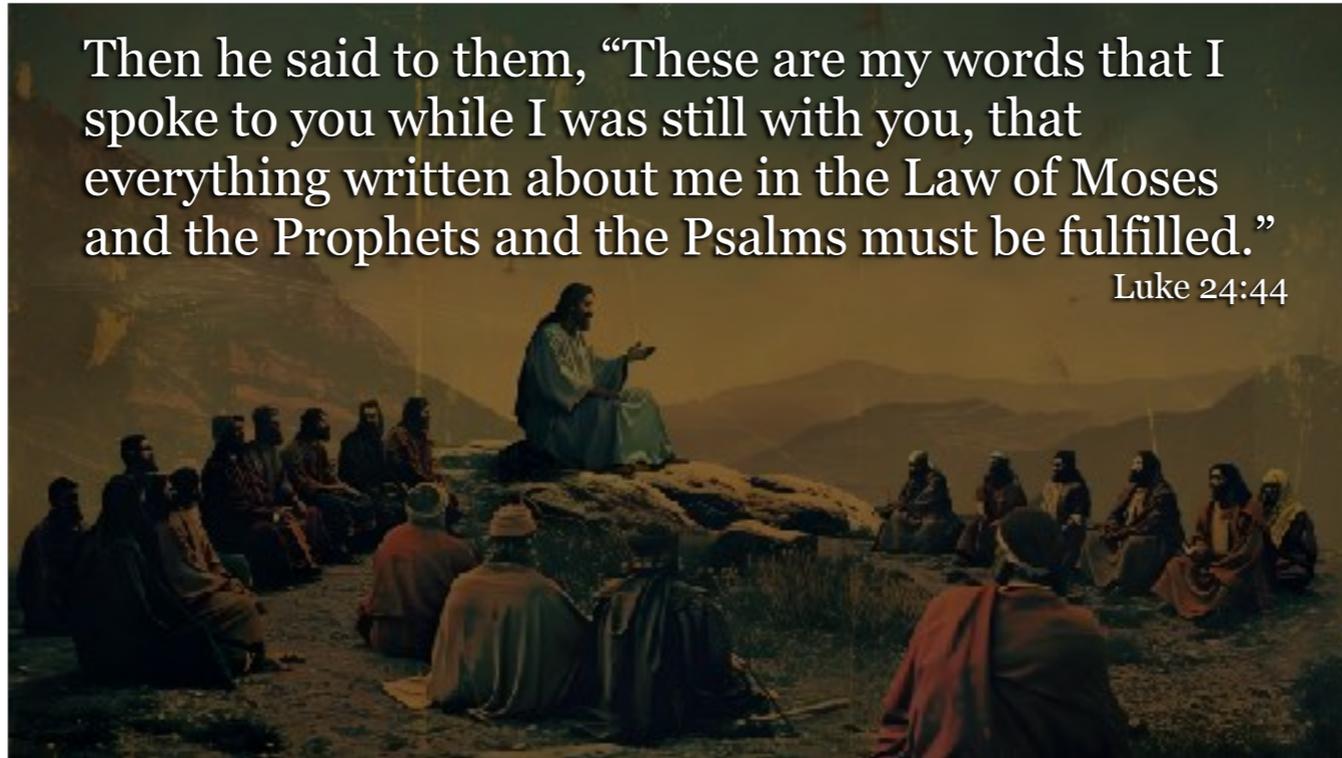
Luke 24:27



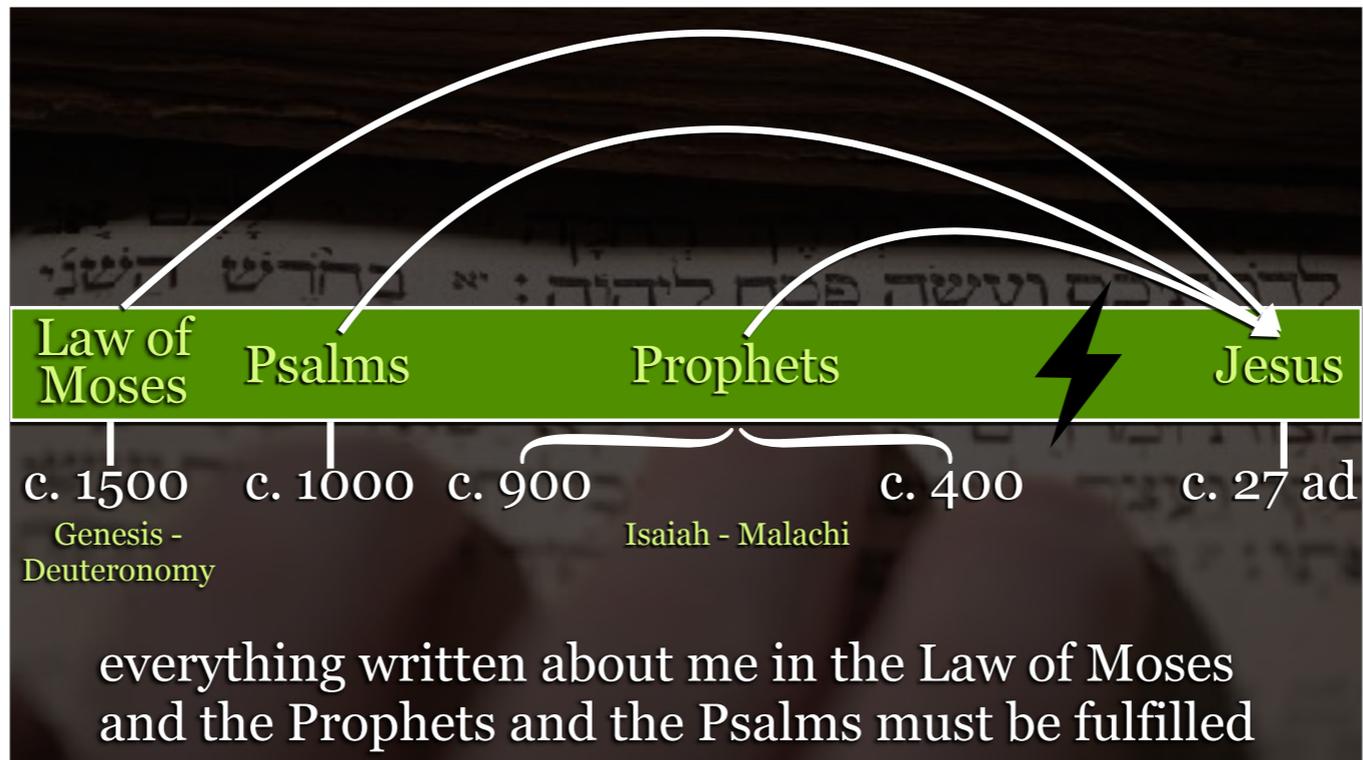
- So Jesus explains these to the disciples
 - Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

Luke 24:44



- Luke 24:44 Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”
- Specifically, The Christ
 - should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead
 - repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed



- Law of Moses: 1500
- Psalms: 1000
- Prophets: 900 - 400
- All pointing to Jesus
 - So that we would know.

Why prophecy matters



- Prophecy matters because it helps us to understand who Jesus is and what he is doing

Prophecy Demonstrates



The
Reality
of God



The
Power
of God



The
Purpose
of God

- Prophecy Demonstrates
 - The reality of God
 - The power of God
 - The purpose of God

The Reality of God

— tell us what is to happen (22)



Isaiah 41:21-24

- Isaiah 41:21-24 (ESV)
 - 21 Set forth your case, says the LORD; bring your proofs, says the King of Jacob.
 - 22 Let them bring them, and tell us what is to happen.

The Reality of God

— tell us what is to happen (22)

— tell us the former things (22)



Isaiah 41:21-24

- Tell us the former things, what they are, that we may consider them,
- that we may know their outcome; or declare to us the things to come.

The Reality of God

— tell us what is to happen (22)

— tell us the former things (22)

— that we may know that you are gods (23)



Isaiah 41:21-24

- 23 Tell us what is to come hereafter, that we may know that you are gods;

The Reality of God



— tell us what is to happen (22)

— tell us the former things (22)

— that we may know that you are gods (23)

— do good, or do harm (23)

Isaiah 41:21-24

- do good, or do harm, that we may be dismayed and terrified.
- 24 Behold, you are nothing, and your work is less than nothing;
- an abomination is he who chooses you.



- The Power of God
 - States his purposes
 - Accomplishes them through his power

The Power of God



so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11

- Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)
 - 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
 - it shall not return to me empty,
 - but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
 - and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The Power of God



God is not man, that he should lie,
or a son of man, that he should change his mind.
Has he said, and will he not do it?
Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Numbers 23:19

- Numbers 23:19 (ESV)
- 19 God is not man, that he should lie,
- or a son of man, that he should change his mind.
- Has he said, and will he not do it?
- Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

The Purpose of God



- Prophecy also reminds us that the things that have happened were not accident or coincidental
 - they are a result of God's plan for our salvation
 - His purpose from eternity.
- Isaiah 46

The Purpose of God



Isaiah 46:8-11

- Isaiah 46:8-11 (ESV)
 - 8 “Remember this and stand firm,
 - recall it to mind, you transgressors,
 - 9 remember the former things of old;
 - for I am God, and there is no other;
 - I am God, and there is none like me,

The Purpose of God

— declaring the end from the beginning



Isaiah 46:8-11

- 10 declaring the end from the beginning
- and from ancient times things not yet done,
- saying, My counsel shall stand,

The Purpose of God

- declaring the end from the beginning
- I will accomplish all my purpose



Isaiah 46:8-11

- saying, My counsel shall stand,
- and I will accomplish all my purpose,'
- 11 calling a bird of prey from the east,
- the man of my counsel from a far country.

The Purpose of God

- declaring the end from the beginning
- I will accomplish all my purpose
- I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass



Isaiah 46:8-11

- I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;
- I have purposed, and I will do it.

The Purpose of God

- declaring the end from the beginning
- I will accomplish all my purpose
- I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass
- I have purposed, and I will do it



Isaiah 46:8-11

- I have purposed, and I will do it.

The Purpose of God

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;

...

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:6-7



- Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)
- 6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Purpose of God



this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Acts 2:23

- Acts 2:23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Prophecy Demonstrates



The
Reality
of God



The
Power
of God



The
Purpose
of God

- Prophecy Demonstrates
 - The reality of God
 - The power of God
 - The purpose of God



The Good News of Jesus

- Prophecies help us to understand the plans and purpose that God has for us, especially with regard to the salvation in Jesus.
- They help us by reminding us that God has the power to accomplish his plan.
- Therefore we can trust him.

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

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Prophecies of the Christ

Isaiah 53; Acts 8:30-39

Synopsis: Prophecies help us to verify that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ that Jehovah had promised. They still matter today. They demonstrate the reality, power and purpose of God so that we can have assurance of our salvation.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”