

UNDERSTANDING THE “ONE STORY” OF SCRIPTURE

Week 14 – Backdrop re: First Messianic Miracle – Pt. 2

February 22, 2026

Prophecies re: Jesus’ first coming:

Prophecies re: Jesus’ physical second coming

To understand the prophecies regarding Jesus' Second Coming compared to His First Coming, consider the following points:

- The Old Testament contains numerous prophecies about the Messiah's first coming.
- The New Testament includes many references to Jesus' Second Coming.
- Some scholars estimate around 300 prophecies related to His first coming.
- Estimates for prophecies about the Second Coming vary widely, often cited as over 1,800.
- The ratio of prophecies can depend on theological perspective – if you take the Bible literally or allegorically (allegorically – looking for a different spiritual meaning – not understanding the passage in context!!!!
- While some claim a significant increase, the exact number is debated among theologians.

Daniel - when he read from the scroll of Jeremiah (Jer. 25), he read of the 70 years of the desolation of Jerusalem. Daniel was stunned and thought that God was going to give Israel the kingdom at the end of the 70 years. How could he and his people return to Jerusalem when they, as a nation, had not repented. God had been calling His people, Israel, to repent. Read Daniel’s prayer in Dan. 9:1-19. Gabriel is sent by God to give Daniel skill in understanding. God’s message – 70 7’s – (years) 490 years during which time Jerusalem will be rebuilt and restored (read Ezra and Nehemiah), and Messiah the Prince shall come but be cut off but not for Himself (He will die for others and not be given the Kingdom at that time). And, within the 490 years there is a GAP of time.

The book of Zechariah is often labeled as the “apocalypse of the OT”. Zechariah as a Prophet called the people to repentance and reassured them regarding future blessings. Zechariah sought to encourage the people to build the temple in view of the promise that someday Messiah would come to inhabit it. The future hope of the Messiah was on their minds. Zechariah begins historically and then moves forward to the time of the Second Coming of the Messiah when He returns to His temple to set up His earthly kingdom!

Were MANY Israelites awaiting the coming of the Messiah as the Warrior Messiah – when vengeance would come upon the world??

Isa. 61:1-4 – The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me (the Messiah) to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord (salvation), and the day of vengeance of our God (the Day of the LORD when He will come in His wrath during the tribulation); To comfort all who mourn, ³ To console those who mourn in Zion, to give

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them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness (peace with God; salvation; grace). That they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.” ⁴ And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations (partial restoration in the Millennial Kingdom - ?) Simeon (Consolation of Israel; Anna – spoke of Redemption)

In preparing for our study this morning God sent me to several passages of Scripture:

Isa. 40:1-5 – ‘Comfort, yes, comfort My people!’ Says your God.

² ‘Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned; for she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.’

³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; ⁵ The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

In Isa. 40:1-5 God instructed the prophets in the OT to announce the theme of comfort to a captive people in a foreign land. Comfort His people - Israel! The eastern monarchs/kings WHO WERE ARRIVING sent heralds before them to clear away obstacles, straighten crooked roads and valley and level hills.

Who was this voice? John the Immerser/the Baptizer. John readied the people for the Messiah.

Malachi 3:1-3 - speaks of this messenger who will prepare the way before ME!!! And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple. Even the Messenger of the covenant in Whom you delight. Behold He is coming says the LORD of hosts. And who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launders soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness. When will this occur? During the tribulation.

Jer. 30:7 - *Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.* God will pour out His Spirit on the third of the Jewish people left alive at the end of the tribulation. Zech. 13:8-9 – two thirds of the Jewish people will be cut off and die during the tribulation. Eze. 20:33-38; Eze. 22:17-22.

How did John the Immerser announce Jesus to the Pharisees?

Matt. 3:11-12 - *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.*”

John ALSO proclaimed Jesus as the Lamb of God!!!!

John 1:29 - *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'* We see two comings of Jesus in John's announcements! At His first coming Jesus died for our sin. At His second coming He will come in “vengeance.”

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Isa. 61:1-2 – *to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD and the day of vengeance of our God.*

Much was proclaimed in the Hebrew Scriptures re: Jesus' second coming. And so Jesus told the disciples how to pray...

Matt. 6:9-10 - *Our Father in heaven, holy is Your Name. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

We see a future Kingdom on earth. This is the Kingdom that God promised to Israel – II Sam. 7:12-16 – through the lineage of David of the tribe of Judah.

When Jesus told the crowds when He entered Jerusalem before His trial and crucifixion...

Matt. 23:37-39 - *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! ³⁸ See! Your house is left to you desolate; ³⁹ for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'*”

Matt. 24:1-2 - *Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. ² And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”*

The disciples, in showing Jesus the buildings, most likely thought how could such a structure be left desolate. The disciples then asked Jesus, *Tell us when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming* (parousia – “presence” – coming in glory) *and of the end of the age?* The disciples were envisioning, as many were, Jesus coming in triumph as the Messiah. Crucifixion was NOT what they envisioned AT ALL!

Luke 19:11 – the disciples still *thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately!*