

Why God Became Man

4. To Fulfill Old Testament Prophecy

Romans 1:1-4

Introduction

Was God really born as a baby 2,000 years ago? Do we have any evidence for this? We do. This morning we will look at one piece of evidence — the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy.

Where did the Gospel of Jesus come from? (Rom 1:1-4)

God had promised the Gospel before hand, through Old Testament prophets (v.2)
So the Gospel of Jesus was not a brand new idea thought up by Jesus and his followers.
It had been prophesied in the Old Testament hundreds of years before Christ.

Where in the Old Testament do we find these prophecies?

Isaiah 7:14 and Isaiah 9:6-7

A baby boy will be born of a virgin
He will be fully God
He will be born as a king in the line of David

Isaiah 11:1,10

He will bring salvation to all the peoples.

Isaiah 53:4-6

He will be punished in our place for our sins

Micah 5:2

He will be born in Bethlehem

Did Jesus fulfill these prophecies?

Matthew 1:1 —

he was in the line of David

Matthew 1:18-21 —

he was punished in our place for our sins

Matthew 1:22-25 —

He was born of a virgin
He was fully God — God with us

Matthew 2:1-2 —

He was born in Bethlehem
He was born as a king in the line of David
He will bring salvation to all the peoples

What does this mean for us?

We have all the evidence we need that this actually happened.
So turn from sin and trust Christ to forgive and change you.
Take all your worries to him and trust him to strengthen you.
Take your emptiness to him and trust him to satisfy you.
Join the Wise Men and worship him.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What questions did Sunday's teaching raise in your mind?

Can you see how prophecies written 700 years before Christ, and specifically fulfilled in Christ, give us massive evidence for the truth of Christ? Why or why not?

How would your friends respond if you shared this with the? What questions would they raise? What doubts would they have? How could these questions and doubts be answered?

How fervent has your worship of Christ been? How joyfully have you been offering your life to him? Did these Scriptures increase your fervency and joy? If not, why not? If so, how?

With whom can you share this good news? When might you do that? Share with the group, and have them pray for you.

What else is the Holy Spirit stirring in your heart through this passage?

