

72. By what term was Jesus frequently alluded to by the people of His day?
73. In what sense is Jesus preeminently The Prophet of all time?
74. How shall we classify the prophecies made by Jesus?
75. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to particular events in the lives and affairs of other persons.
76. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the closing incidents of His life and ministry in the flesh.

### Lesson Eighty-nine

#### THE PROPHECIES OF JESUS AND THEIR FULFILMENT (Concluded)

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Scripture Reading: Matt. 21: 33-45; Luke 21: 20-24.

Scriptures to Memorize: "And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all the peoples whither Jehovah shall lead thee away" (Deut. 28: 37). "And I say unto you, that many shall come from the east and the west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven: but the sons of the kingdom shall be cast forth into the outer darkness: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 8: 11-12). "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led captive into all the nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21: 24).

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77. **Q.** List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the advent and work of the Holy Spirit.
    - A.** This particular group of prophecies may be listed as follows:
      - (1) Believers to receive the Holy Spirit, after Jesus' Ascension and Glorification (John 7: 37-39; cf. Acts 4: 31, 8: 14-17, 10: 44-46, etc.)

(2) The Holy Spirit to be the Comforter and Guide especially of the Apostles (John 14:16-18, 14:26, 15:26, 16:13,25; Acts 2:1-4, 8:29, 10:19-20, 13 :4, 19:1-6, etc.).

(3) The Holy Spirit to indwell all true believers (John 7:37-39; cf. Acts 5:32; Rom. 5:5; Rom. 8:26; I John 2:20, 27).

(4) The coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles in baptismal measure to be their authority for the inauguration of the Gospel Dispensation (Luke 24:45-49, Acts 1:1-8; cf. Acts 2:1-4 and all that follows in *Acts*).

(5) The Holy Spirit to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment, through the preaching of the Gospel (John 16:7-11; cf. Rom. 1:16-17).

**78. Q. List briefly those prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the work to be done by His followers and the treatment they were to receive from men.**

**A. This particular group of prophecies may be listed as follows:**

(1) The Apostles to become fishers of men (Matt. 4:18-19, Mark 1:16-17, Luke 5:10; cf. Acts 2:37-41, 4:33, and so throughout the book of *Acts*).

(2) The Apostles to have power to confirm their testimony by miracles (Luke 10:19, Mark 16:17-18, Mark 16:20, etc.).

(3) Those who preach the Gospel to meet with hatred and persecution (Matt. 10:17-23, John 15:20-21; cf. Acts 4:1-3, 5:17-18, 8:3, etc., etc.).

(4) All faithful confessors of Jesus to be owned by their Lord in heaven (Luke 12:1-9, Matt. 10:26-33).

(5) The Lord to reward and punish His professed followers according to their works (Mark 8:38, Luke 9:26, Matt. 16:27, Matt. 25:31-46).

(6) The Lord to reward those who befriend His faithful followers (Matt. 10:39-42).

(7) The Lord's followers to have need of prudence and of self-defense (Luke 22:35,36).

(8) Believers to accomplish greater works through the

glorified Christ, *i.e.*, the redemption of souls which is infinitely nobler than the healing of bodies (John 14:12, 5:20, 4:37; cf. Acts 2:38-41, 4:4, 5:14, 8:12, etc.).

**79. Q. List briefly those prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the growth of His kingdom.**

**A. This particular group of prophecies may be listed as follows:**

(1) The Kingdom not to be revealed to the unbelieving (Mark 8:11, 12; Matt. 16:1, 14).

(2) The Kingdom to come in power within the lifetime of some of Jesus' hearers (Mark 9:1, Matt. 16:28, Luke 9:27. See the book of *Acts*).

(3) The message of the Kingdom to be a cause of division (Matt. 10:34-36, Luke 12:51-53).

(4) The growth of the kingdom to be great, though unseen (Mark 4:26-29, Matt. 13:31-32, Mark 4:30-32, Luke 12:18-19, Matt. 13:33, Luke 13:20-21).

(5) Christ Himself to be the Way of communion and fellowship with God (John 1:51, 14:6).

(6) True worship to be universal, not local; and spiritual, rather than ritualistic (John 4:21-24).

(7) The dead in sin to be raised to spiritual life in the Kingdom (John 5:25).

(8) The Kingdom to be world-wide under the Lord of all (John 10:16).

**80. Q. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the destruction of the Temple and of the city of Jerusalem.**

**A. This particular group of prophecies may be listed as follows:**

(1) Jerusalem to be besieged and taken (Luke 19:41-44).

(2) The fall of the city to be a time of great distress (Luke 23:28-31).

(3) Spiritual leadership to pass away from the Jewish people (Matt. 21:42-45, Mark 12:10-11, Luke 20:17-18).

(4) The Temple to suffer complete destruction (Matt. 24:1-2, Mark 13:1-2, Luke 21:5-6).

(5) These punishments for past sins and unbelief of the Jewish people imminent (Matt. 23:35-39; Luke 11:49-51, 13:34-35). Note Matt. 23:36—"All these things shall come upon this generation." *These prophecies were all literally fulfilled when the Roman legions under Titus captured Jerusalem in the year A.D. 70.* In A.D. 66, the Jews attempted to throw off the Roman yoke, and thereby brought on themselves the final destruction which was involved in the great siege and fall of Jerusalem, A.D. 70—one of the most horrible events in the history of war. The Jews suffered unthinkable privation and hardships during the siege; and, according to Josephus (*Antiquities*, 9:3), 1,100,000 of them were killed and 97,000 made captives by the Romans, who were led by Titus. The rebellion lasted about three years longer, when the Jewish power was totally exhausted, and they were forced to give up the fight.

**81. Q. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the Dispersion of the Jews and the Calling of the Gentiles.**

**A. This particular group of prophecies may be listed as follows:**

(1) The Jews to be cast off because of their blindness and hardness of heart (Matt. 21:42-45, Mark 12:1-11, Luke 20:1-18). The raucous challenge of the rabble, "His blood be on us, and on our children" (Matt. 27:25); and from that day to the recent establishment of the state of Israeli, the Jew has never had a flag he could call his own. Cf. Deut. 28:37—"thou shalt become . . . a byword among all the peoples whither Jehovah shall lead thee." This is not "anti-Semitism" either—but just plain fact.

(2) The Gentiles to be called to the privileges and blessings of the Gospel (Matt. 8:11-12, Luke 13:28, Matt. 28:18-20, etc.).

(3) The Jews to be dispersed and trodden down among all nations, "until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21:24).

**82. Q. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to His Second Coming and the end of our age.**

**A. This particular group of prophecies may be listed as follows:**

(1) World-wide irreligiousness, lawlessness, social and political unrest, etc., to prevail in the age immediately preceding our Lord's return (Luke 17:22-27; Matt. 24:36-44; Luke 21:10-11; Luke 21:25-28; Matt. 24:3-14).

(2) Great tribulation to prevail throughout the earth (Matt. 24:3-24; Mark 13:3-8; Mark 13:14-27; Luke 21:25-27, etc.).

(3) The Gospel of the kingdom to be preached for a testimony unto all the nations before the end shall come (Matt. 24:14).

(4) The Good and Bad to grow together until the end (Matt. 13:24-30; 13:37-43; 13:47-50).

(5) The Son of man to come in power and great glory (Matt. 24:29-31; Mark 13:24-27; Luke 21:25-27).

(6) Rejection of the Gospel to meet with due punishment (Matt. 10:14-15; Matt. 11:21-24; Luke 10:13-15), in the final judgment (Matt. 12:41-42).

(7) Pretended followers to be rejected (Matt. 7:13-14; Luke 13:23-24; Matt. 7:21-23; Luke 13:26-27, 13:28-30).

(8) Faithful followers to be rewarded (Luke 10:29-30; Matt. 19:28-30; Luke 22:28-30).

(9) The Last Judgment pictured (Matt. 25:31-46).

(10) The Lost to be segregated in hell with the devil and his angels, the Faithful to inherit eternal life (Matt. 25:31-46).

**83. Q. Of the various groups of prophecies made by Jesus which we have studied, which is probably the most significant?**

**A. The predictions made by Jesus with respect to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersion of the Jews, are without doubt the most significant.**

(1) Concerning the *Temple*, He said: "there shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown

down" (Luke 21:6). Concerning the *nation*, He said: "the kingdom of God shall be taken away from you, and shall be given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof" (Matt. 21:43). "Many shall come from the east and the west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven; but the sons of the kingdom shall be cast forth into the outer darkness: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 8:11-12). "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led captive into all the nations" (Luke 21:24). Concerning the *city* of Jerusalem, He said: "When ye see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that her desolation is at hand" (Luke 21:20). Again: "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21:24). *These prophecies have all been literally fulfilled. As a matter of fact all human history since the birth of Jesus is quite largely a record of the political and social movements, changes and events related to their fulfilment.* (2) The story is told that Frederick the Great of Prussia, who was inclined toward skepticism, once said to one of the pastors of his realm: "Reverend Sir, what is the most convincing proof you can give me of the divinity of Christ and the inspiration of the Scriptures?" The clergyman hesitated not a moment. "Sire," he replied, "the most convincing proof of the divinity of Christ and the inspiration of the Scriptures that I, or any other person, could give you, *is the history of the Jewish people.*" (3) I am reminded of a conversation reported to me recently as having taken place between a Christian elder and a young Jew. The two became engaged in conversation riding side by side on a train, and in the course of the talk the subject of religion was introduced. The elder informed the young Jew that he was a Christian, and held the office of elder in a congregation of Christians. Whereupon the Jew said: "I can't understand how you can believe all that stuff about Jesus being the Son of God." Then, after a pause, he

added: "Just what are your reasons for believing it, anyway?" "You are one of the reasons," replied the elder. The other looked at him in astonishment for a moment, then asked, "Just what do you mean?" "What I mean is just this," answered the elder, "that one of the reasons why I believe in Jesus Christ is the attitude taken towards Him by you Jews. You reject Jesus. A great many of your people still despise Him. Very few of your people have ever accepted Him as their Savior. *And that is exactly the attitude He said you would take.* He foretold again and again in his teaching that His own people would reject Him and stumble on in blindness of unbelief. He foretold the desolation of your city and the dispersion of your people among all nations. He foretold the suffering and persecution that you have endured for your rebelliousness. He foretold the forfeiture of your election as the chosen people. *And in all these matters your people have fulfilled His predictions in every particular!*" How true! Despite the accumulated evidence of more than nineteen hundred years to convince him of the tragic error of his way, beginning with the destruction of Jerusalem and the enforced dispersion of the Jewish people, and continuing with their wanderings over the face of the earth and the persecutions which they have endured among all nations—despite all these things, and in the face of them, the Jew persists in his course of unbelief and is still the world's "man without a country." (4) *The spiritual blindness of the Jewish people is the great enigma of human history.* Dr. James I. Vance tells the story of a Jewish lad who had attended a number of Protestant services in the army camps during the World War. The lad was wounded one day, and when visited by a Jewish rabbi, he asked the rabbi to explain the difference between the Messiah of the Jews and the Jesus of Christians. The rabbi said: "The difference is that we Jews believe the Messiah is still to come, while the Christians believe that he has already come in the person of Jesus." After a moment of medita-

tion, the wounded soldier said: "Rabbi, when the Messiah does come, what will he have on Jesus?" Echo answers, What? *Just when and how does the Jewish nation expect to give to the world a character as perfect and as unique as Jesus of Nazareth?* His deity is in no respect more clearly attested than in the attitude of His own people (according to the flesh) toward Him.

**84. Q. In view of the many prophecies of Jesus and their obvious fulfilment, what conclusion do we reach with respect to Jesus Himself?**

**A. We conclude that He is indeed The Prophet of all time.**

The standard by which the authority and inspiration of a prophet is to be determined, is laid down in Deut. 18:22, as follows: "when a prophet speaketh in the name of Jehovah, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which Jehovah hath not spoken: the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously." *Measured by this standard, Jesus is preeminently the Prophet of all history.*

#### REVIEW EXAMINATION OVER LESSON EIGHTY-NINE

77. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the advent and work of the Holy Spirit.
78. List briefly those prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the work to be done by His followers and the treatment they were to receive from men.
79. List briefly those prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the growth of His kingdom.
80. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the destruction of the Temple and of the city of Jerusalem.
81. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to the Dispersion of the Jews and the Calling of the Gentiles.

82. List briefly the prophecies made by Jesus pertaining to His Second Coming and the end of our age.
83. Of the various groups of prophecies made by Jesus which we have studied, which is probably the most significant?
84. In view of the many prophecies of Jesus and their obvious fulfilment, what conclusion do we reach with respect to Jesus Himself?

### Lesson Ninety

## JESUS THE WORKER OF MIRACLES

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Scripture Reading: Matt. 8:1-34.

Scriptures to Memorize: "What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?" (Matt. 8:27). "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant shall be healed" (Matt. 8:8). "Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God unto you by mighty works and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you, even as ye yourselves know" (Acts 2:22). "Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that thou doest, except God be with him" (John 3:2).

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**85. Q.** What fifth aspect of the Jesus of history shall we now proceed to investigate?

**A.** We shall now proceed to study Him as the Worker of Miracles.

Note again the progressive nature of our analysis. First, we studied His teaching, and found it *complete and perfect*; second, His character, and found it *faultless*; third, His claims, and found them *prodigious*; fourth, His fulfilment, in His own person and life and work, of the Old Testament Messianic types and prophecies, and found it *absolute*. Now we shall proceed to study Him as the Worker of "mighty works and wonders and signs." Cf.