



Many times we think of Jesus Christ as only being present in the Bible in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. In these gospels, it tells the account of His birth, the miracles He performed, and His crucifixion, burial and resurrection. Yet, we often fail to remember that our Savior, who is also the Creator, is foreshadowed numerous times throughout the Old Testament.

Not surprisingly, the first prophecy about Jesus Christ is found within the first three chapters of the Bible. As we know from reading the first two chapters of Genesis, God created this universe in six literal days, and called it all “very good”. But then, the Serpent deceived Adam & Eve into disobeying God, and partaking of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. After this incident, God cursed Adam, Eve and the Serpent. The curse God gives the serpent is very interesting: “*And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.*” (Genesis 3:15 - NKJV) Notice that the editors of the New King James Version added the capital ‘S’ to the word ‘seed’. Why? Because they realized that this curse laid on the Serpent was really a prophecy of the Coming One, the Lord Jesus Christ. And, not just a prophecy of His coming to this earth, but ultimately, of His death (the bruising of the Seed’s heel), and His triumphant resurrection (the crushing of the Serpent’s head).

Perhaps one of the most well-known prophecies about Jesus Christ is the one found in Isaiah chapter nine: “*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*” (Isaiah 9:6 - NKJV) This passage, which we often use during the Christmas season, foretells not only the gender of the Coming One: “a Son is given,” but it also tells us of the majestic names He would be called, and that His kingdom would be an everlasting Kingdom.

Yet, even more astonishing than those two passages, is the stunning detail given in Psalm twenty-two. “*For dogs have surrounded Me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; they divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.*” (Psalm 22:16,18 – NKJV) David, the writer of this psalm, lived during the 900s B.C., which would put the date of this psalm more than 900 years before Jesus Christ even walked on the face of this earth. Another thing to consider is that crucifixion wasn’t even a form of execution at that time in history¹, and yet David, through the wisdom and inspiration given to him from the Holy Spirit, very accurately described the manner in which Jesus would die.

These are just three out of the myriad of Scripture passages which foreshadow the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ, and the details of His life and death. I’ll mention several more, which you can look up and read on your own: Psalm 16:10, 34:20, 41:9, 69:21; Isaiah 7:14, 40:3-5, 50:6, 53:7-11; Ezekiel 34:23-24; Hosea 11:1.

The numerous Messianic prophecies found throughout the Bible are another indicator of the authenticity, reliability and truth of the Holy Bible, the very Word of our Lord. Let’s remember this

¹ <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/144583/crucifixion>

Christmas season, that the Triune God who created this universe, is also the One who sent His Seed, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior².

² See John 1:1-5, Colossians 1:16-20, Hebrews 1:2-3