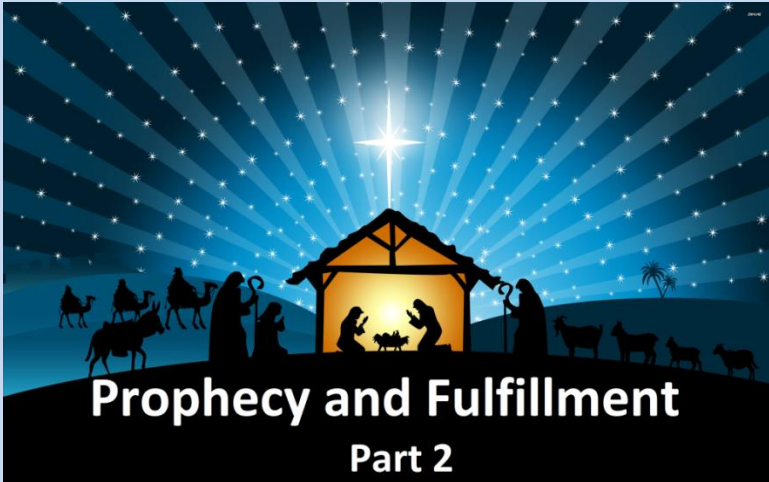


Based on Genesis 49; Micah 5; Luke 2 NAU



December 9, 2020 ♦ 11 AM & 7 PM

*Second Wednesday in Advent*

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Christ: Today is part 2 of a 3-part series I am calling: Prophecy and Fulfillment. In this series, prophecy is *God telling us about a future event*, while fulfillment is *God achieving what He foretold*.

As we live our lives on planet earth, *let us keep remembering these important things:* ☞ God created, ☞ the people disobeyed, ☞ God promised to send His Son, ☞ God did send His Son, ☞ Jesus took away our sins, ☞ the Bible is true, ☞ we all need Jesus, and ☞ one-day Jesus will return!

This sermon focuses on two major prophecies – **Genesis 49** and **Micah 5**, as well as the fulfillment of those prophecies. As we proceed today, *let us marvel at what God **said** and **did** for our eternal salvation!*

1. **Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob:** This is the big picture!
  - a. Last week we focused on **Genesis chapter 3**, which includes God's **FIRST** promise to send Jesus. Then, after that promise, *nearly 2,000 years passed by!* Those

2,000 years included **▶people** sinning much, **▶God** causing the worldwide flood, and **▶God** causing people to speak many different languages.

- b. Then, in **Genesis chapter 12**, God told Abram: “...in **you** all the families of the earth will be blessed” (Gen. 12:3 NAU). What did that mean? It meant that God’s Son, *the Messiah*, would be one of Abram’s future descendants! The line of the Messiah continued *from Abraham through Isaac*, then *from Isaac through Jacob*. Now, *as we come to the end of Genesis chapter 49*, Jacob, **whose name is now Israel**, has a large family – *12 sons and 1 daughter*, and is drawing near to the end of his life.

2. **Genesis 49 – So Much about Jesus:** <sup>1</sup> Then Jacob summoned his sons and said, “Assemble yourselves [*in the order of your birth from oldest to youngest*] **that I may tell you what will befall you** [*what will happen to you*] **in the days to come.** <sup>2</sup> **Gather together and hear, O sons of Jacob; And listen to Israel your father.** // Keep in mind that God changed Jacob’s name to Israel.<sup>1</sup> Also, understand that each of Jacob’s sons – *over time* – **▶became** very large families, **▶became** known as the 12 tribes of Israel, and **▶became** the nation of Israel.

- a. Jacob’s first three sons: Israel began by addressing **Reuben**, *his firstborn son* (vv. 3-4). Reuben should have been most-blessed; however, *because of his sexual sin*, his father had bad news for him. Then he addressed **Simeon** and **Levi**, *his second and third sons* (vv. 5-7). Israel also had bad news for them because of their violence and anger.

---

<sup>1</sup> Genesis 32:28

- b. Jacob's fourth son, Judah:<sup>2</sup> Here is an amazing prophecy about Judah; *it was through **his line** that the Messiah came into the world!* Some of this prophecy applies to Judah himself, some to his descendants – *including David*, and much to our Lord Jesus Christ!
- i. Mighty among his brothers:<sup>8</sup> **“Judah, your brothers shall praise you; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father’s sons shall bow down to you.”** // Regarding Judah, *the son of Jacob*, the Bible says that **“Judah prevailed over his brothers, and from him came the leader [who was David and ultimately who is JESUS]... (1 Chr. 5:2 NAU).** The Bible also says, *regarding the tribe of Judah*: **“The total of the numbered men of the camp of Judah: 186,400, by their armies. They shall set out first”** (Num. 2:9 NAU).
- ii. David, Solomon, and Jesus:<sup>9</sup> **“Judah is a lion’s whelp [cub]; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He crouches [bends], he lies down as a lion, And as a lion, who dares rouse him up?”** // King David defeated many enemies, *which ushered in a time of peace under his son, Solomon.* **The ultimate battle was at Calvary and the ultimate peace is through knowing our Lord Jesus Christ!**
- iii. Descendants, especially Jesus:<sup>10</sup> **“The scepter [symbol of authority, kingship] shall not depart from Judah [from the descendants of Judah], Nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes [thus until Jesus, the Prince of Peace comes and makes peace between God and people], And to him shall be the obedience [the obedience of the faith] of the peoples.”**

---

<sup>2</sup> Phillip Bruce Giessler, Solving New Testament Mysteries with Old Testament Clues (Ishpeming, MI: BookVenture Publishing LLC, 2019), 74-79.

- iv. Palm Sunday and Good Friday: <sup>11</sup> **“He ties *his* foal to the vine, And his donkey’s colt to the choice vine; He washes his garments in wine, And his robes in the blood of grapes.”** // Jesus came on a donkey; then, red with blood, *He won the ultimate victory!*
- v. Easter Sunday: <sup>12</sup> **“His eyes are dull from wine, And his teeth white from milk.”** // Those are positives, *pointing to Jesus’ being raised from the dead!*

### 3. **Micah 5 – The Birthplace of Jesus:**

- a. Prophecy: Jesus is from the tribe of Judah and was prophesied to be born in Bethlehem of Judah: <sup>2</sup> **“But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah [to distinguish it from another Bethlehem], Too little to be among the clans [the large families] of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me [thus I, the LORD, will send Him] to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.”** // In other words, the Son of God was with God the Father *before the creation of the world (John 1:1-2)*; then, *in the fullness of time*, He put on flesh!
- b. Fulfillment: <sup>NAU</sup> **Luke 2:4-6 Joseph... went up... to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary... While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. // As always, God keeps His promises!**

**Let Us Pray:** Dear Jesus, as we ponder who You are and the prophecies You fulfilled, *let us always gladly receive You!*