

# The Gospel of John

## The Integration Of Scripture

### John 19:16-30

#### INTRODUCTION:

I would like to begin my message this morning with a quote that was spoken often by the late Chuck Missler on his radio broadcast 66/40. Chuck died on May 1, 2018.

"The great discovery is that the Bible is a message system: it's not simply 66 books penned by 40 authors over thousands of years, the Bible is an integrated whole which bears evidence of supernatural engineering in every detail!"

These authors came from all walks of life. Just think how much the world has changed since the time of Christ. Consider how much it has changed even in the last 150 years. The change in weapons of war. No cars, no electricity, no indoor toilets, no indoor water faucets, no TVs, no Internet, no planes, no satellites, not even the thought of putting someone on the moon or orbiting the earth in a space station. We now have the opportunity to communicate with nearly anyone on earth that we choose at any time that we want while sitting at home. It was only a couple of centuries ago that man was still communicating with smoke signals and sending letters by pony express.

Despite the truth and total accuracy of the Bible, we cannot even agree on what the Bible is telling us. Let alone have 40 men write a book, even on a simple subject, and still agree with each other, or for that matter, remain consistent within their own writings.

**Considering all of this diversity we would expect chaos as the outcome when it comes to writing about a God Who is outside our realm and is explaining spiritual things beyond our own personal experience and how He is interacting with us. One could not expect an "integrated whole" where all parts are in perfect unity with each other. But the more we read God's Word, the more we find a marvelous unity of design and harmony in all of its statements. The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed. It foretells of a Messiah that is to come to the earth to be a Savior of mankind so that when He came you would recognize Him. The New Testament is the Old Testament revealed. It was written to proclaim that the Messiah had arrived.**

**Have you ever realized the Bible had so much unity? Fifteen hundred years, forty different authors, three different languages, five or six different countries. And yet with all of these variations, there is still just one theme and it all harmonizes together.** If you were a god and you had created some people, and you wanted to communicate to them through a written word, wouldn't you make sure that your message had harmonized like that?

This unity comes in many different ways and timeframes. My goal this morning is to just look at how this unity comes into play on just **one day. The crucifixion of Christ.**

Throughout scripture we see that God is truly in charge of everything that happens in this world even when everything seems to be going awry. When we read, understand, and truly believe through the scriptures that Jesus was the Son of God, the prophesied Messiah, all of this becomes perfectly clear.

## **Stand and Read Scripture**

### **John 19:16-30 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup> So he then handed Him over to them to be crucified.

<sup>17</sup> They took Jesus, therefore, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. <sup>18</sup> There they crucified Him, and with Him two other men, one on either side, and Jesus in between. <sup>19</sup> Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It was written, "JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS." <sup>20</sup> Therefore many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin *and* in Greek. <sup>21</sup> So the chief priests of the Jews were saying to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews'; but that He said, 'I am King of the Jews.'" <sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

<sup>23</sup> Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His outer garments and made four parts, a part to every soldier and *also* the tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece. <sup>24</sup> So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, *to decide* whose it shall be"; *this was* to fulfill the Scripture: "They divided My outer garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots." <sup>25</sup> Therefore the soldiers did these things.

But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He *said* to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!"

<sup>27</sup> Then He *said* to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own *household*.

<sup>28</sup> After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, to fulfill the Scripture, *said*, "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup> A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon *a branch of* hyssop and brought it up to His mouth.

<sup>30</sup> Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

## **Prayer**

**We continue to be amazed at the depth and detail to which you go to show us your truth. We thank you, Father, that you made it so abundantly clear that Jesus was in fact fulfilling every specific prophesy required to be the Messiah. He came as our King, Redeemer, and Savior. We believe that He came to seek and to save that which was lost and we thank you for our salvation! Help us to fully commit our lives to Him through faith.**

**I pray that for every soul here will know this Messiah that you sent to us 2000 years ago. We especially thank you that you were willing to let Him die on the cross to save us from our sins and make us righteous before you. We thank you for your blessings and the assurance of an eternity in Heaven in the glory of your presence.**

**Thank you again for your Word and the great truth revealed there. May the Holy Spirit reveal to us the truths that are hidden in these pages in order that our faith may be strengthened and our testimony may be stronger. We give you all the glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## **BODY:**

### **I. THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPHECY.**

Prophecy is history written before it happens. Prophecy is perhaps one of the greatest reasons why we know that the Bible is true. One Bible scholar has determined that the Bible contains 8,362 predictions, most of which have already been fulfilled (with the exception of the second coming of Christ and the end of times). The amazing thing is that out of these 8000+ prophecies not one of them has ever been proven wrong. The Bible has a 100% accuracy rate.

Of those 8,362 predictions it is estimated that there are 324 specific prophecies that were fulfilled by Christ. Some of these prophecies were very specific and detailed.

These and many other Old Testament verses about Israel's Messiah were fulfilled in the New Testament life of Jesus Christ. Collectively they form the leading proof of Christ's deity. As Jesus went about his ministry, he knew that he was fulfilling these prophecies, and therefore, used this knowledge to confirm his claims of being the Son of God in the flesh.

Christ's knowledge of the prophecies was shared with two disciples on the road to Damascus.

#### **Luke 24:17-27**

**17** And He said to them, "What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?" And they stood still, looking sad. **18** One of them, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, "Are You the only one visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?" **19** And He said to them, "What things?" And they said to Him, "The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, **20** and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him. **21** But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened. **22** But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, **23** and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. **24** Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see." **25** And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! **26** Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?" **27** **Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.**

### **II. INTEGRATION OF SCRIPTURE THROUGH PROPHECY.**

The crucifixion is the major example of this. Satan thought he had won the war by executing Jesus, but we see that it all backfired in his face. The first prophecy, the oldest of all, had been given by God at the time of Adam and Eve's sin:

#### **Genesis 3:15 (NASB)**

**15** And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

It was at the crucifixion that Jesus defeated Satan. Satan had bruised Christ's heel but Christ put a deathblow to Satan's head. Christ became the perfect Lamb of God by

submitting Himself to be sacrificed on the cross for our salvation. He rose from the dead to prove that we no longer need to fear death if we are a Christian.

On the day of Jesus' crucifixion, all the prophecies concerning His suffering were fulfilled in every detail. Proof that Jesus truly is the Messiah. **I would like to list just the prophecies that were fulfilled in our passage this morning. There are probably more.**

### **John 19:16(NASB)**

<sup>16</sup> So he then handed Him over to them to be crucified.

Christ Himself taught that he was going to be killed and return to His father in heaven.

### **Mark 8:31 (NASB)**

<sup>31</sup> And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

Isaiah 53 foretold Jesus Christ's crucifixion as the sin offering for the world.

### **John 19:23-24 (NASB)**

<sup>23</sup> Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His outer garments and made four parts, a part to every soldier and *also* the tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece. <sup>24</sup> So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, *to decide* whose it shall be"; *this was* to fulfill the Scripture: "They divided My outer garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots."

This scripture that He quoted was prophesied by David.

### **Psalms 22:18 (NASB)**

<sup>18</sup> They divide my garments among them, And for my clothing they cast lots.

Another fulfilled prophecy is found in verses 25-26.

### **John 19:25b-26 (NASB)**

But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He *said* to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!"

Among those watching would be Jesus' family and friends. At some point Mary and John came up close to the cross.

### **Psalms 38:11 (NASB)**

<sup>11</sup> My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague; And my kinsmen stand afar off.

Another fulfilled prophecy is found in verses 28-29.

### **John 19:28-29 (NASB)**

<sup>28</sup> After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, to fulfill the Scripture, *said*, "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup> A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon *a branch of* hyssop and brought it up to His mouth.

This was prophesied by David.

### **Psalm 69:21 (NASB)**

<sup>21</sup> They also gave me gall for my food And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

### **III. JESUS MUST BE THE MESSIAH!**

One Bible scholar has determined that the Bible contains **8,362** predictions, most of which have already been fulfilled (with the exception of the second coming of Christ and the end of times). The amazing thing is that out of these 8,000+ prophecies not one of them has ever been proven wrong - the Bible is completely accurate.

Of those 8,362 predictions it is estimated that there are 324 **specific** prophecies that were fulfilled by Christ. Some of these prophecies were very detailed.

The Bible scholar listed eight of those Old Testament prophecies.

1. The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.
2. The Messiah would be preceded by a messenger.
3. The Messiah would enter Jerusalem on a donkey.
4. The Messiah would be betrayed by a friend.
5. The Messiah would be sold for thirty pieces of silver.
6. The thirty pieces of silver would purchase a potter's field.
7. The Messiah would be silent before his accusers.
8. The Messiah would be pierced through his hands and feet.

### **ILLUSTRATION:**

**Probability** is a branch of mathematics that measures the likelihood that a given event will occur. Every time you add a zero to the end of a number, it becomes 10 times bigger than the number it was added to. Thus 1 becomes 10, When you add a zero behind 10 becomes 100, 100 becomes 1,000, 1,000 becomes 10,000, 10,000 becomes 100,000, 100,000 becomes 1,000,000. Thus it only takes 6 zeros to get from one to one million. And the next number will be 10 times that!

Actually, just in regard to the eight prophecies that I listed for you in this message earlier, A man named Stoner in his book *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, calculated that the chance that any man might have lived down to the present time and fulfilled all eight predictions is 1 in 10 to the 17th power." That would be 1 with 17 zeros behind it..

In order to help us comprehend this staggering probability, Stoner says that if we take 10 to the 17th power of silver dollars and lay them on the face of Texas, they would cover the entire state of Texas two feet thick.

If we put an X on one of the silver dollars, mix them all up, and get a blind man to pick one at random, what chance would he have of getting the right one? Just the same chance that the prophets would have had of writing these eight prophecies and having them all come true in any one man, from that day to the present time, providing they wrote them in their own wisdom.

The chance that he will get the one with the X on it, is 1 in 10 to the 17th power. The surface of the earth is 732.59 times bigger than the state of Texas. That means that if you

**only** added three zeros behind the number of silver dollars in Texas, you would now have over two feet of silver dollars over the whole surface of the earth.

But Jesus, fulfilled not 8 prophecies, but an estimated 316 of them. If each of those remaining predictions were as small as 1 in a 1000, it would add three zeros to the number. That means that the odds of one person fulfilling all of them would be 1 in 10 to the 965th power. That is a 1 with 965 zeros behind it. We cannot even comprehend how large that number is.

But you have to realize that many of the prophecies would have required divine intervention. Such as...

1. He would be born of a virgin.
2. He would have to figure out how to be born in Bethlehem.
3. He had to be both God and Man.
4. He would heal the lame, make the blind to see, and raise people from the dead.
5. His body would be glorified in front of men.
6. He would live a **sinless** life.
7. He would be a perfect sacrifice for mankind and take on all of our sins.
8. He would bring salvation to mankind.
9. He would have an everlasting Kingdom.
10. He would raise from the dead.

### **How could you possibly place odds on each of those 10 prophecies?**

The odds confirm that these prophecies had to be given by the inspiration of God and God had to interact with man to allow them to happen.

**Jesus MUST truly be the Messiah!**

### **CONCLUSION:**

The Godhead is not bound by time and space. To them everything is as present time to us. They can see the prophecy being given and written down as well as being fulfilled at the same time. In other words, God already knew what was going to happen when He spoke the words through the Old Testament prophets.

God uses the evil schemes of men throughout redemptive history to accomplish His own purposes. **And He used the worst thing that men ever did to accomplish the greatest thing He ever did - the salvation of His own people. But what the New Testament wants us to understand is not the physical suffering of Christ, but the spiritual suffering of Christ, that He was suffering for sin in our place under the wrath of God.**

That means that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; the Savior of sinners that He claimed to be. God sent him to pay the penalty for our sin so that we can be reconciled to God.

If all of His prophecies were fulfilled while He was on earth, you can be assured that all future prophecy will be fulfilled also. Are you ready for Christ's second coming?

**He is Lord!**