

The Uniqueness of Christianity III

By Greg Rangel

As we continue to study the uniqueness of Christianity, we have come to see that Christianity is unique much in every way. As the light is so much different than darkness, Christianity as well is much more different than any other world religion. According to 2 Peter 1:19-21, the Holy Spirit came upon holy men and inspired them to speak and to write His words. Anyone can claim that God spoke to them of course. But providing proof is another thing indeed.

One of the ways to see that God did speak through these men is through prophecy. Some of the following examples were written hundreds of years in advance. The prophet Isaiah wrote his prophecies over 750 years before the birth of Christ but were fulfilled by Jesus himself.

Isaiah wrote in chapter 7 verse 14, "...Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." This was fulfilled through the birth of Jesus. Matthew 1:18-25 says, "...behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us..."

Isaiah wrote many other detailed prophecies regarding the Messiah hundred of years in advance. These prophecies were not obscure prophecies like some of today's so called prophets that give general so called prophecies that can be applied to anything.

In "Ready With An Answer," Ankerberg and Weldon wrote "Anyone can make predictions. Having them fulfilled is another story entirely. The more statements you make about the future and the greater the detail, the better the chances proportionately...that you will be proven wrong. For example: think how difficult it would be for someone to predict the exact city in which the birth of a future U.S. President would take place 500 years from now. But that's what the prophet Micah did with the birthplace of the Messiah 700 years before He was born (Micah 5:2. Or, how difficult would it be to predict the specific date of the appearance of some great future leader hundreds of years in advance? But that's what the prophet Daniel did 530 years before Christ (Daniel 9:24-27). On the other hand, if you created 50 specific prophecies about some man in the future you will never meet, how difficult do you think it would be for that man to fulfill all 50 of your predictions? How hard would it be for him if 25 of your predictions were about what other people would do to him and were completely beyond his control. How does someone organize to have God inform and send the proper messenger to go before him (Malachi 3:1 with Matthew 11:10)?"

It is an impossibility to have those things arranged hundreds of years in advance. Man does not have the power to do that. Prophecies were given to man directly from the Lord

himself. This is one of the many reasons that Christianity is unique. There is no other world religion, faith, or belief system like this one. Christianity is unique, much in every way.

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