

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 02 Dec 2012.....Hosea 1:1-3:5..... Exposing a Broken Relationship
- 2) 09 DecHosea 4:1-7:16..... Rebuking Destructive Behavior
- 3) 16 DecHosea 8:1-10:15..... Deciding on Discipline
- 4) 23 DecMatthew 1:18-2:18..... Seeking the Savior
- 5) 30 DecHosea 11:1-12:14..... Remembering Compassion
- 6) 06 Jan 2013.....Hosea 13:1-14:9..... Restoring the Repentant
- 7) 13 JanAmos 1:1-4:13..... Unseal the Indictment
- 8) 20 Jan..... Gen 1; Ex 1, Ps 139; Mk 10..... Value of Human Life
- 9) 27 JanAmos 5:1-6:14..... Court is in Session
- 10) 03 Feb.....Amos 7:1-17..... Can I Get a Witness
- 11) 10 Feb.....Amos 8:1-9:15..... Let the Verdict be Read
- 12) 17 Feb.....Jonah 1:1-2:10..... Pursuing Those Called to Tell
- 13) 24 Feb.....Jonah 3:1-4:11..... Pursuing Those Who Need to Hear

INTRODUCTION

- Contemplated suicides have been linked to the foreboding predictions of the end of the world derived from the **Mayan Calendar ending on the Winter Solstice, 21 Dec 2012** (see link to article from the [Christian Post](#))
- NASA receives emails daily from people who are "seriously, seriously upset" about the prospect of a coming apocalypse
- 5,000 Americans have already booked their places of shelter
- It's amazing people put more faith in a long-dead Mayan culture than in the endearing word of God, which has proven itself meticulously over the centuries through fulfilled prophecies
- This Christmas season we look at some Bible prophecies detailing the birth of Jesus more than 2000 years ago

Passage	Comments
1:6-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lineage of Jesus from King David's son, Solomon, to Joseph shows His kingly and legal heritage • Luke records Jesus' physical bloodline (Judah) from King David's son, Nathan, to Mary
1:17	<p>Is the Bible Accurate in Counting?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 Generations from Abraham to David • 14 Generations from David to Babylon captivity • 14 Generations from Babylon captivity to Christ • Skeptics challenge us (as they should) on the accuracy of this statement since there are more than 14 generations between all these events • According to Barnes' commentary, this was a common linguistic practice of this era to use truncated or rounded summaries as a way to easily memorize • Therefore, numeric accuracy is not an issue here • God gives skeptics wiggle room to disbelieve
1:18-25	<p>Joseph finds out his fiancée is pregnant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary's story of her pregnancy being by immaculate conception was too hard to accept • Was it by a Roman soldier or a moment of indiscretion? • Joseph was discreetly divorcing Mary when God conveyed to him in a dream the truth of Mary's situation • Can we have Godly dreams, like Joseph (3x) & the wise men, to provide us with direction in life? • According to Heb 1:1-2 God spoke to special recipients in various ways. In all cases dreams were to be tested and not blindly accepted.....Zech 10:2; 1John 4:1
1:23	<p>ISAIAH 7:14 "THEREFORE THE LORD, HIMSELF, WILL GIVE YOU A SIGN: BEHOLD, A VIRGIN WILL BE WITH CHILD AND BEAR A SON, AND SHE WILL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL." – written about 740 B.C.</p>
2:2,29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Moving Star – No known astronomical event (e.g., comet, planetary alignment, exploding star), so it was either a direct miracle or an anomaly

Passage	Comments		
2:6	<p>MICAH 5:2 "AND YOU, BETHLEHEM, LAND OF JUDAH, ARE BY NO MEANS LEAST AMONG THE LEADERS OF JUDAH; FOR OUT OF YOU SHALL COME FORTH A RULER WHO WILL SHEPHERD MY PEOPLE ISRAEL." – written between 750-686 B.C.</p>		
2:18	<p>JEREMIAH 31:15 "A VOICE WAS HEARD IN RAMAH, WEEPING AND GREAT MOURNING, RACHEL WEEPING FOR HER CHILDREN; AND SHE REFUSED TO BE COMFORTED, BECAUSE THEY WERE NO MORE." – written between 626-586 B.C.</p>		
<p>Out of 365 Messianic prophecies, over 60 have been fulfilled, and 15 of those refer to His birth</p>			
#	Fulfilled Prophecy	OT Passage	NT Passage
1.	Heir to the throne of David	Isaiah 9:6-7	Matthew 1:1
2.	From the tribe of Judah	Genesis 49:10	Matthew 1:1-3
3.	Of the seed of Abraham	Genesis 12:3	Matthew 1:1-16
4.	Born of the seed of a woman	Genesis 3:15	Matthew 1:18
5.	Born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:18
6.	He will come to save you	Isaiah 35:4	Matthew 1:21
7.	His name called Immanuel, "God with us"	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:23
8.	Called "The mighty God, The everlasting Father"	Isaiah 9:6	Matthew 1:23
9.	Born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1
10.	Would be a Prophet of the children of Israel	Deuteronomy 18:15	Matthew 2:15
11.	Called out of Egypt	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:15
12.	Slaughter of the children	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:18
13.	Would be a Nazarene	Judges 13:5; Amos 2:11; Lam. 4:7	Matthew 2:23
14.	Presented with gifts	Psalms 72:10	Matthew 2:1, 11
15.	His pre-existence	Micah 5:2	John 1:1, 14

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Over 60 major messianic prophecies were filled in Jesus Christ, 15 at His birth and 30 at His resurrection. The chance of just 8 prophecies being fulfilled in 1 person is 10¹⁷. The chance of 48 prophecies being fulfilled in one person is 10¹⁵⁷. According to the scientific laws of probabilities anything over 1x10⁵⁰ is impossible. Therefore, scientifically, Jesus is who He said He is – the Messiah

NEXT WEEK: **Hosea 11-12**. We learn about God's enduring compassion toward sinners. He always leaves an open door with the expectation His people will fully repent.



The end of man is not believing the Word of God.