

CHRISTMAS PROPHECIES

- Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14 (HCSB)
- For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on His shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ The dominion will be vast, and its prosperity will never end. He will reign on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish and sustain it with justice and righteousness from now on and forever. Isaiah 9:6-7 (HCSB)
- Bethlehem ..., you are small among the clans of Judah; One will come from you to be ruler over Israel for Me. His origin is from antiquity, from eternity. Micah 5:2 (HCSB)
- I see him, but not now; I perceive him, but not near. A star will come from Jacob, and a scepter will arise from Israel... Numbers 24:17 (HCSB) ... Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your radiance. Isaiah 60:3 (HCSB)

WHY JESUS SUFFERED

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (NLT)

1. To **AWAKEN** our **CONSCIENCE**

¹³ See, my servant will prosper; he will be highly exalted. ¹⁴ But many were amazed when they saw him. His face was so disfigured he seemed hardly human, and from his appearance, one would scarcely know he was a man. ¹⁵ And he will startle many nations. Kings will stand speechless in his presence. For they will see what they had not been told; they will understand what they had not heard about.

**Mark 6:51; 7:37; Romans 15:15-16; Romans 13:11;
Ephesians 5:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:26**

2. To **EXPERIENCE** our **FRAILTY**

¹ Who has believed our message? To whom has the LORD revealed his powerful arm? ² My servant grew up in the LORD's presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. ³ He was despised and rejected— a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care.

**Matthew 12:20-21 (Isaiah 42:1-3); Matthew 11:28-30;
Hebrews 4:15; Galatians 6:1-2; 1 Peter 3:18**

3. To DIE AS OUR SUBSTITUTE

⁴ Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! ⁵ But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. ⁶ All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all.

**2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 8:3;
Galatians 3:13; 1 John 2:2**

4. To SERVE AS OUR EXAMPLE

⁷ He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. ⁸ Unjustly condemned, he was led away. No one cared that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short in midstream. But he was struck down for the rebellion of my people. ⁹ He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave.

**Philippians 2:5-8; 1 Peter 2:21-24; Luke 9:23-25;
Ephesians 5:2; 1 John 3:16**

5. To LEAD us TO VICTORY

¹⁰ But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's good plan will prosper in his hands. ¹¹ When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins. ¹² I will give him the honors of a victorious soldier, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among the rebels. He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels.

**Colossians 2:13-15; John 12:31;
Hebrews 2:14; Acts 2:32-36**

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame,
and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2 (NIV)

My Next Step

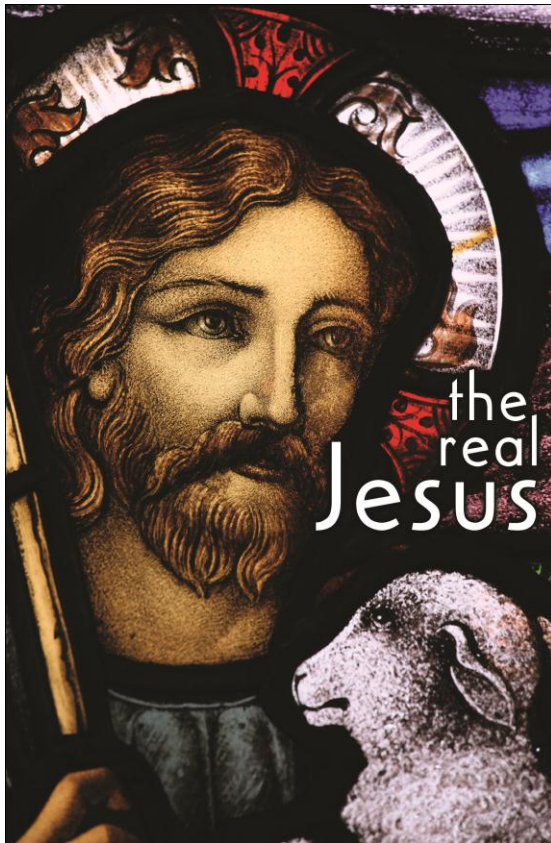
- Memorize: **Hebrews 12:2**
- Thank Jesus everyday for becoming my substitute and follow his example of gracious service.
- Invite Jesus to be my Savior and Lord today
- Invite someone to come celebrate The Real Jesus with me on Christmas Eve @ 4 or 6 p.m.

WALK THE TALK

Growth Group Resource

1. Growing up who helped you the most when you got in trouble? How did they help you get out of trouble?
2. Which of the "Christmas Prophecies" above amaze you the most? Why? How important to you is the fulfillment of Biblical prophecies in the life of Jesus?.
3. Re-read the prophecy of Isaiah 52:13-53:12, out load to each other. What stands out to you as the most powerful truth regarding Jesus? What one verse seems to be the most significant to you right now?
4. Pick one of the five statements under "Why Jesus Suffered" and share with the group how that ministers to your heart the most? Explain your answer.

Create a Christmas tradition around the real Jesus with your family this Christmas season. Perhaps use this sermon series to talk with your spouse or children about the "real reason for the season." (Examples: Use each week to build toward Christmas morning by using the Advent Wreath. OR, Hang a new Christmas ornament on the tree that celebrates in some real way the true meaning of Christmas)



The Suffering Jesus

The Real Jesus – Part 3

**A Sermon Resource Guide
On the Incarnation**

December 17th / 18th 2011
PASTOR DAVID SULCER