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## Sermon – Jesus – Advent Week 3 of 2023

Scripture – Acts 4:12

**Main Message – There is no other name by which we can be saved. Praise Jesus**

This weeks Christmas Card is simply – JESUS. The context behind this card is overwhelming in detail. For Instance...

Jesus is the Messiah. He is the one spoken of in the Bible from the beginning until the end. Prophecies, written thousands of years before he was born foretold in detail how he would arrive, where he would arrive, what he would do, how he would live, how he would suffer, and ultimately how he would die.

Look at what was foretold about the coming of the messiah.

### • **Old Testament Prophecies:**

The Old Testament, particularly in books like Isaiah, Micah, and Jeremiah, contains numerous prophecies foretelling the coming of a Messiah who would bring salvation and redemption.

- **Virgin Birth:** One of the notable prophecies is found in Isaiah 7:14, predicting a virgin birth: "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."
- **Descendant of David:** Prophecies indicated that the Messiah would be a descendant of King David. For example, in Jeremiah 23:5: "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land."
- **Bethlehem as Birthplace:** Micah 5:2 specifies Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Messiah: "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."
- **The Suffering Servant:** Isaiah 53 provides a detailed description of a suffering servant, anticipating Jesus' sacrificial death for the sins of humanity.
- **Rejected by His Own:** Psalm 118:22-23 and Isaiah 53:3 suggest that the Messiah would be rejected by his own people.
- **Triumphal Entry:** Zechariah 9:9 predicts a triumphant entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilled during Jesus' Palm Sunday entrance.
- **Betrayal for Thirty Pieces of Silver:** The betrayal of the Messiah for thirty pieces of silver is foretold in Zechariah 11:12-13, fulfilled in Judas' betrayal of Jesus.
- **Crucifixion Details:** Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 provide striking details about the Messiah's crucifixion, including the piercing of hands and feet.
- **Resurrection:** Psalm 16:10 prophesies the Messiah's resurrection: "because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay." This was fulfilled with Jesus' resurrection on the third day.

It is always amazing to me and inexplicable that just this small list of prophecies written a few hundred years in advance can be fulfilled so perfectly, but such is the power of God. Jesus is the only name by which we can be saved from our sins and the rewards keep coming. Peace, Joy, fulfillment, contentment and love for all.

Thank you Jesus