

# FOUR CHRISTMAS PROPHECIES



Dr. Andrew M. Woods



# Messiah Must Be:

1. A man (Gen 3:15)
2. From Jacob's line (Num 24:17)
3. Be born of a virgin (Isa 7:13-14)
4. Be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)



## Galatians 4:4 (NASB)

“But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law.”



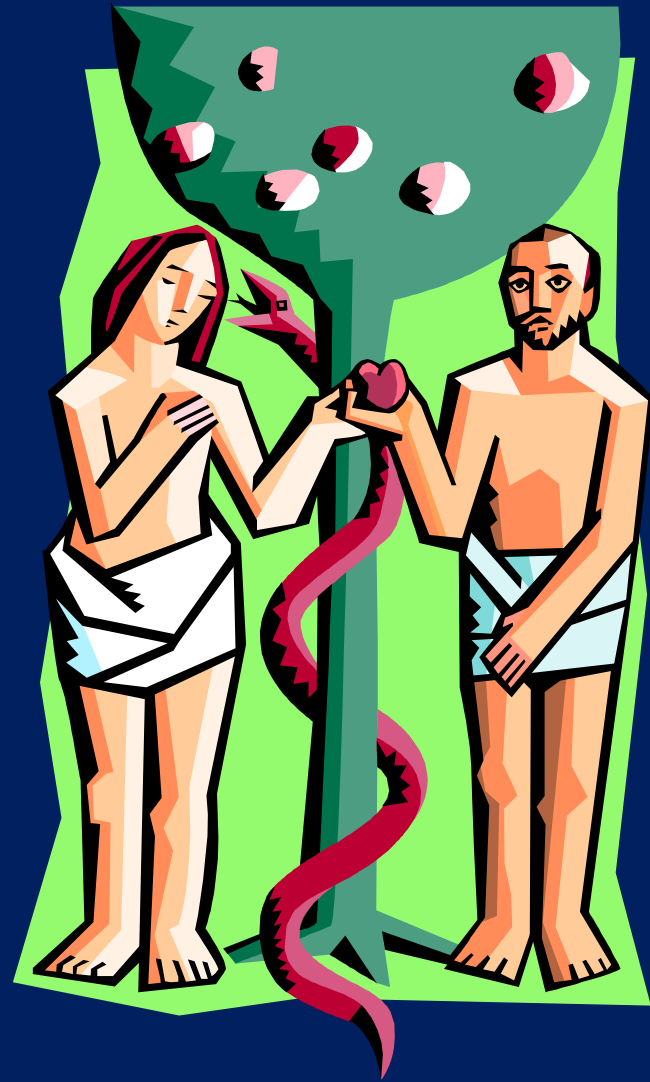
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# 1. Messiah must be a man

- Genesis 3:15



## Genesis 3:15 (NASB)

“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.”



## Genesis 4:1 (NASB)

“Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, ‘I have gotten a manchild with *the help of the LORD.*’”





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## Genesis 5:29 (NASB)

“Now he called his name Noah, saying, ‘This one will give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands *arising* from the ground which the LORD has cursed.’”



## Daniel 11:37 (NASB)

“He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the desire of women, nor will he show regard for any *other* god; for he will magnify himself above *them* all.”



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# Why the Virgin Birth?



- To fulfill OT prophecy
- To emphasize Christ's humanity and deity
- To emphasize Christ's eternality
- To maintain Christ's sinlessness
- To protect the bodily atonement
- To circumvent the curse of Jeconiah



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## 2. Messiah must be Jewish or from the line of Jacob

- Numbers 24:17





# Map of Babylon







Map 37  
The Babylonian Empire



Mediterranean Sea

AMMON

CANAAN

MOAB

Nile Delta

Teris

GOSHEN

Ethan

Wilderness of Shur

EDOM

Kadesh bamea

SINAI Peninsula

Ezion-geber

EGYPT

Land of Midian

Arabia

SINAI

Red Sea



## Balaam's 7 Oracles Blessing Israel (23-24)

- 1) First oracle (23:1-12), Balaam explained that God's blessings upon Israel were irrevocable.
- 2) Second oracle (23:13-26), Balaam explained that the source of Israel's blessing was her unique relationship to Yahweh
- 3) Third oracle (23:27–24:14), Balaam extolled Israel's beauty.
- 4) Fourth oracle (24:15-19), Balaam explained that a future messianic deliverer (Gen 49:10) would spring forth and exercise dominion from Israel.

## Balaam's 7 Oracles Blessing Israel (23-24)

5. Fifth oracle (Num 24:20) predicts Amalek's destruction. Amalek was the first foe that Israel had to fight against after leaving Egypt (Exod 17).
6. Sixth oracle (24:21-22) predicts the destruction of the Midianite group known as the Kenites as well as Assyria.
7. The nations of the seventh oracle are difficult to identify (24:23-24).

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## Numbers 24:17 (NASB)

“I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; A star shall come forth from Jacob, A scepter shall rise from Israel, And shall crush through the forehead of Moab, And tear down all the sons of Sheth.”



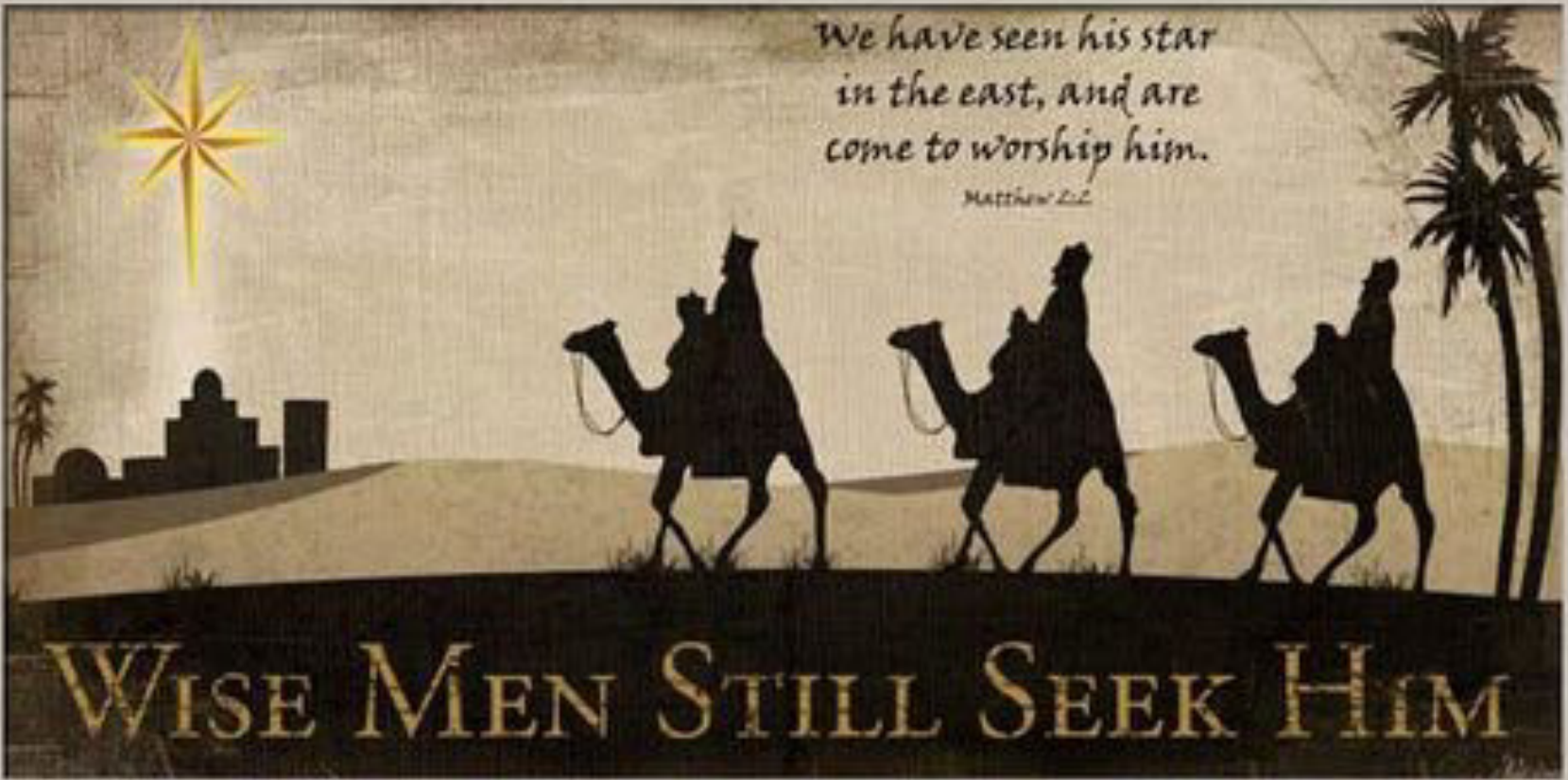




# Messiah must present Himself to Israel on March 30, A.D. 33

## ■ Daniel 9:25





*We have seen his star  
in the east, and are  
come to worship him.*

*Matthew 2:2*

**WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM**

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### 3. Messiah must be born of a virgin

- Isaiah 7:13-14



## Isaiah 7:13-14 (NASB)

“Then he said, “Listen now, O house of David! Is it too slight a thing for you to try the patience of men, that you will try the patience of my God as well? <sup>14</sup> 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.”



## Isaiah 7:13-14 (NASB)

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# Three Arguments Against the Virgin Birth (Isa. 7:13-14)

1. The Hebrew word is *Betulah* and not *Almah* (Joel 1:8)!
2. The Hebrew word *Almah* does not mean virgin!
3. No relevance to Isaiah's day!



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# To Fulfill Old Testament Prophecy

## ■ Almah

- ◆ OT uses (Gen 24:43; Exod 2:8; Ps 68:25; Song of Solomon 1:3; 6:8; Prov 30:18-19)
- ◆ LXX
- ◆ Matt 1:23



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# Isaiah 7:13-14

## ■ Ahaz' Day?

- ◆ Isaiah 53 in Acts 8:31-35
- ◆ Sign (Isa 7:14)
- ◆ Two threats (Isa. 7:1-2)
  - ◆ *Shear Jashub* (Isa. 7:3)
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  - ◆ From the singular to the plural “you”
- ◆ Extended context (Isa 9:6; 11:1-5)



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## ISAIAH 7 AND 8 DIFFERENCES

ISAIAH 7	ISAIAH 8
<b>Immanuel</b>	<b>Maher-shalal-hash-baz</b>
<b>Blessing</b>	<b>Judgment</b>
<b>Born to a virgin</b>	<b>Born to Isaiah's wife</b>
<b>Age 12</b>	<b>Age 1-2</b>
<b>Assyrian judgment upon Judah</b>	<b>Assyrian judgment upon Syria and Israel</b>

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## Isaiah 7:9–17 (NASB95)

<sup>9</sup> “... and the head of Ephraim is Samaria and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah. If **you [s]** will not believe, **you [s]** surely shall not last.”” <sup>10</sup> Then the Lord spoke again to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> “Ask a sign for **yourself [s]** from the Lord your God; make it deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, nor will I test the Lord!” <sup>13</sup> Then he said, “Listen now, O house of David! Is it too slight a thing for **you [pl]** to try the patience of men, that **you [pl]** will try the patience of my God as well? <sup>14</sup> “Therefore the Lord Himself will give **you [pl]** a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> “He will eat curds and honey at the time He knows enough to refuse evil and choose good. <sup>16</sup> “For before the boy will know enough to refuse evil and choose good, the land whose two kings **you [s]** dread will be forsaken. <sup>17</sup> “The Lord will bring on **you [s]**, on your people, and on your father’s house such days as have never come since the day that Ephraim separated from Judah, the king of Assyria.”

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## 4. Messiah must be born in Bethlehem

- Micah 5:2



## Micah 5:2 (NASB)

“But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
*Too* little to be among the clans of Judah,  
From you One will go forth for Me to be  
ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from  
long ago, From the days of eternity.”



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# Messiah must be from the tribe of Judah

- Genesis 49:10
- Revelation 5:5





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# The Two Bethlehems



\* The tribe of Levi, as the priesthood, were distributed throughout the other tribes.

Daily Bible Study

[www.kmyway.ca](http://www.kmyway.ca)

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# Modern Example

- Hemisphere
- Country
- State
- County
- City
- Zip code
- Street name
- Street address
- Person



Conclusion



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