

SERIES OVERVIEW:

- Jesus is: the reason for this season! This is our Christmas series.
- Leading up to Christmas we will be looking at the who, what, when, where, why and how **Jesus is**.
- We will be diving into the truths that Jesus is: God, Fulfillment, Messiah and Emmanuel.

LAST WEEK: JESUS IS: GOD**THIS WEEK: JESUS IS: FULFILLMENT**

Fulfillment is the act of doing or the achievement of something hoped for, expected, desired, promised or predicted.

What are you hoping for, expecting and desiring this Christmas? What are you looking to that you hope fulfills?

1. Jesus fulfills prophecy

Hebrews 1:1-2 (NIV) - 1In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.

Scholarship has determined that Jesus fulfilled at least 48 major prophecies each written at least 3 centuries before his birth, notably:

- The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:1-6)
- He will be of Abraham (Genesis 12:3, Matthew 1:1)
- From the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10, Luke 3:33)
- Flee to Egypt (Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:14-15)
- Betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9, John 13:18)
- Sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:13, Matthew 26:15)
- Crucified with criminals (Isaiah 53:12, Matthew 27:38)
- Buried with the rich (Isaiah 53:9, Matthew 27:57-60)

Scholars also estimate that Jesus fulfilled a total of over 300 old testament prophecies!

The prophet Isaiah revealed the Christmas story some 700 years before the birth of Jesus:

Isaiah 9:6-7 (NIV) - 6For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Jesus fulfills the promises, purposes and plans of God as he fulfills the prophecies of God.

2. Jesus fulfilled the law

Matthew 5:17 (NIV) - 17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Romans 3:20-22 (NIV) - 20Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. 21But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

Romans 10:4 (NIV) - 2For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. 3Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

Jesus offers us righteousness through faith and belief, through his fulfilling of the law.

3. Jesus can fulfill our lives

John 10:7-11 (NIV) - 7Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. 9I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.** 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Psalms 62:5-8 (NIV) - 5Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. 6Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. 7My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. 8Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

John 6:26-36 (NIV) - 26Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. 27Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." 28Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" 29Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." 30So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?" 31Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" 32Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34"Sir," they said, "always give us this bread." 35**Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.** 36But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe.

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NEXT WEEK: JESUS IS: MESSIAH

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What stood out to you from this message about Jesus? Why?
- What is the most personally challenging part of this message? Share.
- How does this message impact your belief in God?
- What is one next step you can take from this message?
- To watch the Overtime Podcast, go to: <https://bit.ly/RLOvertime>



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