

## **The Gables – Christmas Prophecies**

**Introduction:** If you turn on the television these days you'll find all kinds of Christmas movies being shown. Here's a sampling from the Hallmark channel: *Hats off to Christmas, Finding Christmas, Pete's Christmas, Snow Bride, A Very Merry Mix-up, The Christmas Ornament, Catch a Christmas Star, Winter Wonderland...* The list goes on and on. The Hallmark internet site even has a counter listing the days, hours, minutes and seconds until it is Christmas Day. We all look forward to Christmas Day, don't we? Did you know that the Old Testament looks forward to Christmas Day? Today we'll be discussing Christmas prophecies in the Bible including:

<b>Go To Bible Gateway</b>	<b>Blue Letter Bible</b>	<b>Compare with:</b>	<b>Blue Letter Bible</b>
<b>NIV &amp; Other Ver.</b>	<b>Commentary</b>	<b>NIV &amp; Other Ver.</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Born of The Seed of The Woman</b>			
<a href="#">Genesis 3:15</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 4:4</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Born of A Virgin</b>			
<a href="#">Isaiah 7:14</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 1:18,24,25</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Son of God</b>			
<a href="#">Psalm 2:7</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 3:17</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Seed of Abraham</b>			
<a href="#">Genesis 22:18</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 1:1</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Son of Isaac</b>			
<a href="#">Genesis 21:12</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Luke 3:23,34</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Son of Jacob</b>			
<a href="#">Numbers 24:17</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Luke 3:23,34</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Tribe of Judah</b>			
<a href="#">Genesis 49:10</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Luke 3:23,33</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Family of Jesse</b>			
<a href="#">Isaiah 11:1</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Luke 3:23,33</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>House of David</b>			
<a href="#">Jeremiah 23:5</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Luke 3:23,31</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Born In Bethlehem</b>			
<a href="#">Micah 5:2</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 2:1</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Presented With Gifts</b>			
<a href="#">Psalm 72:10</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 2:1,11</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Children Killed</b>			
<a href="#">Jeremiah 31:15</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 2:16</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>His Pre-Existence</b>			
<a href="#">Isaiah 9:6,7</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 1:17</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Called Lord</b>			
<a href="#">Psalm 110:1</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Luke 2:11</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>
<b>Shall Be Immanuel (God With Us)</b>			
<a href="#">Isaiah 7:14</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>	<a href="#">Matthew 1:23</a>	<a href="#">Further Study</a>

Source: <http://www.bible-prophecy.com/chr2.htm>

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### **Dialog between Rick & Donna:**

*Note: Print out the Scripture Extract section below and hand out one section to each person in the audience who is willing to read them aloud.*

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Born of the Seed of a Woman? Please read both passages.

**Rick:** All the way back in Genesis, God made a distinction between his children and the children of the devil. What happens when someone strikes you on your heel? It hurts, but it isn't fatal. Crushing the head of someone is fatal. The devil wounded Jesus on the cross but Jesus was ultimately victorious, defeating the power of death and the devil on the cross. One day, the devil will be thrown into the abyss for a thousand years while Jesus reigns on earth. Then he will be thrown into the Lake of Fire, with the demons and those people whose names are not written into the Book of Life. Is your name written in the Book of Life?

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Born of a Virgin?

**Rick:** King David said in Psalm 51:5 that he was sinful from the time he was conceived. Therefore, to pay the penalty for our sins, Jesus had to be sinless, even from the time he was conceived. He could not be born of a sinful man and a sinful woman. God provided the means for Jesus to be conceived sinlessly in Mary's womb. Jesus had to be born to a virgin, the purest vessel there was for carrying the Son of God.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Son of God?

**Rick:** Numerous scriptures point to Jesus being the Son of God. Jesus was fully God and fully man. How is that possible? I don't know. Pastor Jay said in the sermon this morning that his seminary professor explained it this way: It was like an Olympic athlete being tied to a normal person in a three-legged race. They are separate, but work together as one toward a common goal, combining the characteristics of the one with the characteristics of the other.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Seed of Abraham?

**Rick:** God planned to bless not only the Jewish people through Abraham, but predicted that the Messiah would come from the line of Abraham as well, because all blessing ultimately comes to us through Jesus, through whom everything holds together (Colossians 1:17).

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Son of Isaac?

**Rick:** It's recorded in Genesis that Abraham had two sons: Ishmael (born of the slave woman, Hagar) and Isaac (born of the freed woman, Sara). God foretold that the Messiah would come from the line of Isaac, not Ishmael. God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac on the altar. At the last minute God provided a ram in Isaac's place. Likewise, God provided Jesus to be our sacrificial lamb on the altar to pay the penalty for our sins.

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**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Son of Jacob?

**Rick:** The Numbers passage predicted that the Messiah King, who holds the scepter, would come from the line of Jacob.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Tribe of Judah?

**Rick:** Pastor Jay talked this morning about Jesus being from the Tribe of Judah. Judah was one of the patriarchs, a son of Jacob and grandson of Abraham. Normally, priests would come from the line of Aaron and Levi, but Jesus came from the line of Judah. While Jesus is and will be king, he was also establishing a new priesthood and a new covenant. Sacrificing animals for the forgiveness of sins was no longer necessary, because Jesus died once for all our sins at Calvary.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Family of Jesse?

**Rick:** Jesse had eight sons, the youngest of whom was David, who would later become King of Judah. The branch that will bear fruit ultimately points to the Messiah, Jesus.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for House of David?

**Rick:** God rules from heaven today. Satan cannot afflict the saints without first getting permission from God (Job 1). But one day, after all evil has been purged from the earth, Jesus will rule on earth for a thousand years and then for all eternity.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Born in Bethlehem?

**Rick:** The Book of Micah was written about 700 years before Jesus was born. It's amazing that God predicted the birthplace of the Messiah that far in advance. It is also amazing that Mary would travel the 85 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem, either walking or riding on a donkey while nine months pregnant, so the Messiah could be born at the just right place, at just the right time, to fulfill a prophecy made 700 years earlier.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Presented with Gifts?

**Rick:** The Psalms were written about 300 years before Jesus was born.

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Children Killed?

**Rick:** What a horrible thing Herod did, ordering the murder of any child under two years old in the region of Bethlehem. He was outwitted by the magi and out of his anger, jealousy, and desire to protect his throne, committed this terrible act. Ultimately, Satan was behind his efforts to destroy the Christ child, and noted in Revelation 12.

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**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for His Pre-Existence?

**Rick:** Jesus existed before the creation of the world, and participated in the creation. He also sustains the world. One day, this world will be destroyed and created anew when God will dwell with men (Revelation 21:1).

**Donna:** Who has the scriptures for Called Lord?

**Rick:** Jesus is royalty. He was appointed Lord of all the earth at his birth. We too are royalty, as God's adopted sons (Romans 8:29).

**Donna:** Here's the last one. Who has the scriptures for Shall be Immanuel (God with us)?

**Rick:** The good news of Christmas is that Jesus is Immanuel, or God with Us. He can be with you too if you choose to accept him as savior. Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sins and my sins so that we could all live forever with him in heaven one day.

**Donna:** This concludes our presentation tonight. We hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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### Scripture Extracts:

#### Born of the Seed of a Woman:

**Genesis 3:15** – “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

*and*

**Galatians 4:4-5** – “But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.”

#### Born of a Virgin:

**Isaiah 7:14** – “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

*and*

**Matthew 1:18,24,25** – “This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.”

#### Son of God:

**Psalms 2:7** – “I will proclaim the LORD’s decree: He said to me, ‘You are my son; today I have become your father.’”

*and*

**Matthew 3:7** – “And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.’”

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### Seed of Abraham:

**Genesis 22:18** – “...and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

*and*

**Matthew 1:1** – “This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:...”

### Son of Isaac:

**Genesis 21:12** – “But God said to him, ‘Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.’”

and

**Luke 3** – “Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph... the son of Isaac...”

### Son of Jacob:

**Numbers 24:17** – “I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel...”

and

**Luke 3** – “Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph... the son of Jacob...”

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### Tribe of Judah:

**Genesis 49:10** – “The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his.”

and

**Luke 3** – “Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph... the son of Judah...”

### Family of Jesse:

**Isaiah 11:1** – “A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.”

and

**Luke 3** – “Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph... the son of Jesse.”

### House of David:

**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...’”

and

**Luke 3** - Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph... the son of David...”

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### **Born in Bethlehem:**

**Micah 5:2** – “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.”

and

**Matthew 2:1** – “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem...”

### **Presented with Gifts:**

**Psalms 72:10** – “May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores bring tribute to him. May the kings of Sheba and Seba present him gifts.”

and

**Matthew 2:1,11** – “On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.”



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### Children Killed:

**Jeremiah 31:15** – “This is what the LORD says: ‘A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.’”

and

**Matthew 2:16** – “When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.”

### His Pre-Existence:

**Isaiah 9:6-7** – “For 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. Of 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.”

and

**Colossians 1:17** – “He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

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### Called Lord:

**Psalm 110:1** – The LORD says to my lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”

and

**Luke 2:11** – “Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”

### Shall be Immanuel (God with us):

**Isaiah 7:14** – “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

and

**Matthew 1:22-23** – “All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).”