



IMPARTING  
**GOD'S WISDOM...**

1COR.2:6-7

**APOLOGETICS 2**



# LESSON SEQUENCE

- 01** LESSON **ONE**  
What O.T. prophecies did Jesus fulfill?
- 02** LESSON **TWO**  
Is Jesus truly God?
- 03** LESSON **THREE**  
Is Jesus truly Man?
- 04** LESSON **FOUR**  
How could Jesus be tempted?
- 05** LESSON **FIVE**  
Is believing in Jesus enough to be saved?
- 06** LESSON **SIX**  
Why did Jesus have to die?
- 07** LESSON **SEVEN**  
Did Jesus rise from the dead?
- 08** LESSON **EIGHT**  
Was the Bible inspired by God?
- 09** LESSON **NINE**  
Why were books left out of the Bible?
- 10** LESSON **TEN**  
Are modern translations reliable?
- 11** LESSON **ELEVEN**  
Are there contradictions in the Bible?
- 12** LESSON **TWELVE**  
Does the Bible support slavery?
- 13** LESSON **THIRTEEN**  
Does the Bible condemn homosexuality?

# PREPARING TO TEACH

Congratulations! What an awesome responsibility it is to participate in the discipleship and education of adult believers. By His amazing grace, our triune God moves His people from death to life through the process of justification and sanctification. We are in constant need of heart transformation, mind renewal, and behavior change. The Christian life is to be one of growth and maturity in order to glorify God by loving Him and other people. To that end, God has given His people His Word and all truth to learn and to apply. And, He has blessed us with gifted teachers like you.

This Teacher's Manual is designed for a 13-week adult discipleship class or Sunday School. The format is mainly lecture, but can include as much discussion as your context allows. Each lesson is divided into three segments: **Opening**, **Rewind**, and **Bible Implementation**.

The **Opening** is where you start. It offers introductory information about the theological topic being taught. Each lesson gives important content to increase knowledge of God's truth.

The next section is the **Rewind**. It allows the students to have a brief review, connecting them back to what was previously taught. Context and review is essential when teaching and learning.

The heart and soul of the lesson is the **Bible Implementation** time. Each lesson takes the students through the theological subject by implementing foundational Scriptures. God's Word is read and discussed, making **observations** and **application** along the way. Ultimately, you are teaching the students to develop their theology by a proper study of the Bible.

**Teaching Theological Studies.** Adults need to grow in their love for and understanding of sound theology: truth about God and His work in His world. This curriculum teaches from an evangelical, Christ-centered, Reformed theological perspective. It grounds all of its theological propositions in God's Word, supported by a Biblical theology. Always teach your students how to think Biblically about God and His world. Rather than simply sharing opinions, the goal is to observe, understand, and apply what is true.

Ultimately, you prepare to teach others theological truths by a growing dependence on the Word and the Spirit. Grow in that grace as you teach.

# LESSON ONE / WHAT OT PROPHECIES DID JESUS FULFILL?

## OVERVIEW

A significant area of apologetics is the defense of Jesus Christ. Christians should always be able to explain what we believe about Jesus, and to share only the true, Biblical, historical Jesus with others. Our first question of this series of lessons connects Jesus to Old Testament prophecies. Some scholars estimate that Jesus fulfills over three hundred of these prophecies!

Micah 5:2 prophesies that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Isaiah 7:14 says that the Messiah would be born to a virgin and be given the name Immanuel. In Numbers 24:17, we read that the Messiah will be a descendant of Jacob. Then, in Genesis 49, it is foretold that the Messiah will be from the line of Judah.

Isaiah was given many prophecies that were fulfilled in Jesus. Isaiah 53:3 declares that the Messiah will be rejected and despised by people. Isaiah 9:1-2 says that the Messiah would bring light to Galilee. Isaiah 61:1-2 predicts that the Messiah will heal the brokenhearted. This was a prophecy Jesus taught about Himself! Isaiah 53:7 says the Messiah will be silent before His accusers. Isaiah 53:12 prophesies that the Messiah will be killed with common criminals. Isaiah 53:5-6 declares that the Messiah will bear our transgressions and iniquities. Other passages in Psalms and Zechariah talk about the Messiah's betrayal and even His crucifixion. Christ is the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy!

## APPLICATION ▶

- Jesus was born in Bethlehem, as Micah prophesied.
- Jesus is the only king to come from the line of Judah who rules forever, and is obeyed by all the peoples.
- Out of our wilderness of sin comes a highway to Jesus!
- Who would have thought that the Messiah would be despised, rejected, a man of sorrows, and someone who was not esteemed?
- If you believe that God's Word is inspired by God, and fully inerrant and infallible, then these passages prove that Jesus is the Messiah!
- Prophecies fulfilled always demonstrate that God is sovereign over all things!
- Only Jesus bore the sins of His people.



# OPENING

**Greet the students. Welcome visitors. Open with prayer.**

*As we seek to defend the faith, we will open up each week with helpful apologetics tips. Today's tip: When we make apologetic arguments, we have to be careful not to be **AMBIGUOUS**. **What does it mean to be ambiguous?** It means to be vague or unclear.*

*One way we argue in an ambiguous way is by the use of "equivocation." This happens when we change the meaning of important terms in the middle of an argument.*

*Here's an example:*

*"The only thinking being is man.  
A woman is not a man.  
So, a woman is not a thinking being."*

**How did we change the meaning of the terms in this argument?**

*Man means "human being" in the first statement, but then was changed to mean the "male gender" in the second. To keep our argument from being ambiguous, we must keep the meaning of terms the same throughout.*

*When we are making apologetic arguments, we must take great care to be as unambiguous as possible. That's one reason we work so hard at defining terms!*



# REWIND

*Each week, we will review what we have learned in the past. Today, we will remind ourselves of the definition of APOLOGETICS. **Who can give me a good definition of apologetics?***

*The Greek word "apologia" often refers to the activity of giving a verbal defense. So, apologetics is the discipline of defending one's beliefs.*

*Or, to put it another way, apologetics is the work of convincing others to change their beliefs. Christian apologetics is the defense of the Christian faith, doctrine, and practice.*

# BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION



**Introduction:** *Today, we will start a new section of apologetic questions—ones having to do with Jesus Christ. Christians have always had to make a defense about the person and work of Jesus Christ. There are many, many false teachings about our Savior. So, here's the first question to begin our defense:*

## **What Old Testament prophecies did Jesus fulfill?**

**Observations:** *How many Old Testament prophecies refer to Jesus as our Messiah? Bible scholars believe that there are over three hundred prophecies that point to Jesus! We don't have time to look at them all today, that's for sure. So let's examine as many as time will allow.*

*We'll begin with the book of Micah. Read Micah 5:2.*

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

► **Application:** *Did Jesus fulfill this prophecy? Yes! We read in Matthew 2 and Luke 2 that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet Micah foretold. Jesus is the “ancient of days” and the “ruler in Israel.”*

*Let's go to Isaiah 7. Read Isaiah 7:14.*

<sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

**Observations:** *What virgin gave birth to Jesus? Mary! In Luke 1, we see the fulfillment of this prophecy.*

*Now let's go to Numbers 24. Read Numbers 24:17.*

<sup>17</sup> I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

**Observations:** *Do you remember the prophet, Balaam? He was paid by Balak, king of Moab, to curse Israel. This verse is part of what Balaam said about the coming Messiah. He will be a descendant of Jacob! This prophecy is fulfilled in Matthew 1, where we read that King Jesus descended from Jacob.*



Turn to Genesis 49. **Read Genesis 49:10.**

<sup>10</sup> The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

**Observations:** *Not only would the Messiah come from Jacob, He would also descend from the tribe of Judah. In Luke 3:33, we are told that Jesus did come from the line of Judah.*

- ▶ **Application:** *Couldn't these prophecies be about another king? The key is that "the scepter will not depart from Judah." Jesus is the only king to come from the line of Judah who rules forever, and is obeyed by all the peoples.*

Let's move on to Isaiah 40. **Read Isaiah 40:3-5.**

<sup>3</sup> A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

**Observations:** *Isaiah prophesied that a special messenger in the wilderness who would prepare the way of the LORD. **Who is this prophecy about?** John the Baptist. John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus.*

- ▶ **Application:** *We also see the power and glory of Jesus on display in this prophecy. Out of our wilderness of sin comes a highway to Jesus!*

We'll now go to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:3.**

<sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

**Observations:** *Many Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah came through God's prophet, Isaiah. In this passage, the Messiah is predicted to be rejected by people. **Can this accurately be said of Jesus?** Yes!*

- ▶ **Application:** *Do you see how we can defend the truth of Jesus as the Messiah by working our way through the Old Testament? Who would have thought that the Messiah would be despised, rejected, a man of sorrows, and someone who was not esteemed!*



*Let's stay in Isaiah—Chapter 9. Read Isaiah 9:1-2.*

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

**Observations:** *Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would bring light to Galilee. The Messiah is not just for Israel, but for the nations. But how do we know this is fulfilled in Jesus?*

*For that answer, turn to Matthew 4. Read Matthew 4:13-16.*

<sup>13</sup> And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup> “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup> the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.”

► **Application:** *Another prophecy fulfilled! If you believe that God's Word is inspired by God, and fully inerrant and infallible, then these passages prove that Jesus is the Messiah!*

*No, we'll go back to Isaiah 61. Read Isaiah 61:1-2.*

<sup>1</sup> The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

**Observations:** *Does this prophecy sound familiar?*

*Compare that to Luke 4. Read Luke 4:17-19.*

<sup>17</sup> And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, <sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

**Observations:** *Jesus read this prophecy to the people in order to show them that He was the One who was sent to heal the brokenhearted.*





Let's go to the prophecy of Zechariah. **Read Zechariah 11:12-13.**

<sup>12</sup> Then I said to them, "If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them." And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD, to the potter.

**Observations: What is Zechariah describing?** Yes, hundreds of years before Jesus was even born, it was prophesied that He would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver and that money would then be used to buy a potter's field.

► **Application:** Prophecies fulfilled always demonstrates that God is sovereign over all things!

We'll go back to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:7.**

<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

**Observations:** Do you remember when Jesus appeared before Pilate on the way to the cross? In Mark 15, we read how Jesus was silent before His accusers. Jesus was the Lamb of God, led to the slaughter.

Turn to Psalm 22. **Read Psalm 22:7-8.**

<sup>7</sup> All who see me mock me; they wag their heads; <sup>8</sup> "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

**Observations: What does this sound like?** In Luke 23, we read how Jesus was mocked and ridiculed on the cross. He was told to save Himself, if He was really the Son of God.

And, we go back to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:12.**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

**Observations: How is this prophecy fulfilled by Jesus?** We know that Jesus was crucified with common criminals, and that He was crucified for our transgressions.

► **Application:** Only Jesus bore the sins of His people. This prophecy couldn't have been fulfilled by anyone else!

Back to Psalm 22. **Read Psalm 22:16.**

<sup>16</sup> For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—



**Observations:** *This Messianic Psalm has all sorts of references to Jesus. **What does this verse predict?** Jesus would have His hands and feet nailed to the cross!*

One more verse from Psalm 22. **Read Psalm 22:1.**

<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

**Observations:** *While the Psalmist was crying out to God, these were the exact words used by Jesus on the cross.*

And one more visit to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:5-6.**

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

**Conclusion:** ***Who did God lay our iniquity on?** Jesus! Can you see how just these few passages we have looked at today were all fulfilled in Jesus? But what does it matter? **Why do Christians need to defend that Jesus is the prophesied Messiah?** Sadly, many people are still waiting for the Messiah. We know that He has already come, lived, and died for our sins!*