

## *What are the Odds of Someone Fulfilling the Messianic Prophecies regarding Christ?*

- Dr. Peter Stoner calculated the chances of someone fulfilling certain Messianic prophecies  
⇒ He submitted his results to the American Scientific Affiliation, which responded that: "The manuscript ... has been found, in general, to be dependable and accurate in regard to the scientific material presented. The mathematical analysis included is based upon principles of probability which are thoroughly sound and Professor Stoner has applied these principles in a proper, convincing way."
- Dr. Stoner started conservatively and calculated the odds of someone literally fulfilling just 8 Messianic prophecies:
  - i) He would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1)
  - ii) He would be born of a virgin (Isa. 7:14; Matthew 1:18)
  - iii) He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (Zech. 11:12-13; Matthew 26:15)
  - iv) He would be smitten and spat upon (Isa. 50:6; Mark 14:65)
  - v) He would be crucified with thieves (Isa. 53:12; Matthew 27:38)
  - vi) His hands and feet would be pierced (Ps. 22:16; John 20:27)
  - vii) They would cast lots for His garments (Ps. 22:18; Mark 15:24)
  - viii) He would be buried in a rich man's tomb (Isa. 53:9; Matthew 27:57-60)
- He calculated the odds of someone fulfilling only these 8 prophecies as 1 chance in  $1 \times 10^{17}$  (that's a 1 with 17 zeroes, or 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000)  
⇒ This is equivalent to the following: If silver dollars were stacked 2 feet deep across the entire state of Texas, and you were blindfolded wandering throughout the state, you would have the same chance of picking out the 1 specially marked silver dollar hidden among all the silver dollars!
- Dr. Stoner then calculated the odds of someone fulfilling just 16 prophecies regarding Christ:
  - (a) He determined that it was 1 chance in  $1 \times 10^{45}$  (1 with 45 zeroes after it)
  - (b) Analogy: The sun is 93 million miles from the earth. If you stacked silver dollars on the sun so that they were stacked 93 million miles high in all directions, you'd still need to stack them 30 times farther to have enough silver dollars! Imagine then finding the one specially-marked silver dollar on the first try?!
  - (c) And this is just for 16 out of more than 300 Messianic prophecies that Christ fulfilled!!!

**CONCLUSION:** Dr. Stoner's calculations were so convincing that they ruled out coincidence, chance, or human manipulation in the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy! Jesus was the Messiah!!!

Wilbur Smith stated the following about the uniqueness of Biblical prophecy:

"Whatever one may think of the authority of and the message presented in the book we call the Bible, there is world-wide agreement that in more ways than one it is the most remarkable volume that has ever been produced in these some five thousand years of writing on the part of the human race. It is the only volume ever produced by man, or a group of men in which is to be found a large body of prophecies relating to individual nations, to Israel, to all the peoples of the earth, to certain cities, and to the coming of the One who was to be the Messiah. The ancient world had many different devices for determining the future, known as divination, but not in the entire gamut of Greek and Latin literature, even though they use the words prophet and prophecy, can we find any real specific prophecy of great historic event to come in the distant future, nor any prophecy of a Saviour to arise in the human race....

Mohammedanism cannot point to any prophecies of the coming of Mohammed uttered hundreds of years before his birth. Neither can the founders of any cult in this country rightly identify any ancient text specifically foretelling their appearance."

