

# God and Prophecy

Matthew 21:1-11

## Introduction:

- Is the following a biblical statement?

*If God knows everything, then He must know every detail of the future.*

1. The Bible does say in various ways that God knows everything (Ps 44:21; Lk 16:15; Heb 4:13; 1 Jn 3:20)
2. The Bible does say that God knows some of the future but it is not because He is all-knowing but because He is all p\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Knowing every detail of the future is a conclusion based on philosophy. The only way we can know about God's abilities, character, etc is if He r\_\_\_\_\_ it.

- Isaiah 46:9-11 teaches us about how God relates to prophecy

1. Predictive prophecy is where God d\_\_\_\_\_ the end from the beginning (i.e. He reveals something yet future) – v. 10a
2. The future God declares comes about by His a\_\_\_\_\_ - v. 10b (*I will accomplish all My good pleasure*)
3. God uses whatever means to bring the prophecy about – v. 11 (*a b\_\_\_\_\_ of prey, a m\_\_\_\_\_ from a far country. I have spoken. Truly I will bring it to pass.*)

- Prophecies are not about God's knowledge but God's p\_\_\_\_\_

*I declared the former things long ago and they went forth from My mouth, and I proclaimed them. Suddenly I acted, and they came to pass. – Is 48:3*

## Jesus fulfilled prophecy on purpose

- Jesus had to fulfill Zechariah 9:9 which is partially quoted in Matthew 21:5.

1. Who is coming to Jerusalem? – *Your k\_\_\_\_\_* (referring to the Messiah or Christ).
2. Why is He coming to Jerusalem? – this part is not quoted by Matthew – *He is endowed with s\_\_\_\_\_* (Jesus was coming to Jerusalem to pay for sin).
3. How is He coming to Jerusalem? – *on a donkey, even on a c\_\_\_\_\_, the foal of a beast of burden.*

- Jesus gave instructions to retrieve a certain colt out of o\_\_\_\_\_ to the Father.
  1. Jesus only did what the F\_\_\_\_\_ told Him to do (Jn 5:19).
  2. Jesus came to fulfill the Law and the P\_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 5:17).
  3. Jesus even stopped things that might prevent prophecy from being fulfilled (e.g. Peter defending Jesus with a s\_\_\_\_\_ - see Matt 26:53,54).
- Others purposely pursued fulfilling prophecies about themselves
  1. Cyrus King of P\_\_\_\_\_ (Is 44:28; 45:1; Ezra 1:1,2)
  2. John the B\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 1:23)
  3. Mary and J\_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 1:23-25)
  4. S\_\_\_\_\_ (Rev 16:13-16)

### **God controls the boundaries of all prophecies**

- Barriers to the fulfillment of Zech 9:9
  1. Having someone get the donkey's colt – Jesus ordered \_\_\_ disciples (They could have refused, but not likely – see Matt 17:27).
  2. Convincing the colt's o\_\_\_\_\_ to allow the two disciples to take the colt.
    - a. The password – *The Lord has n\_\_\_\_\_ of it*
    - b. The owner knew this password because God r\_\_\_\_\_ it to him (This is how God works – see Peter and Cornelius in Acts 10; Paul and Ananias in Acts 9)
  3. R\_\_\_\_\_ an unbroken colt (\_\_\_\_\_ controlled the colt)
    - a. God controlled Balaam's d\_\_\_\_\_ (Num 22:22ff)
    - b. God controlled the s\_\_\_\_\_ creature that swallowed Jonah (Jonah 1:7; 2:10).
- No one can overthrow God's sovereign plans
  1. S\_\_\_\_\_ cannot (Job 2:6)
  2. M\_\_\_\_\_ cannot (Gen 11)

### **Everyone can only act within God's control**

- Jesus had not been in Jerusalem for almost an entire \_\_\_\_\_
  1. What would you have done if you were the colt's owner and found out that Jesus, the Messiah and miracle worker was going to ride into Jerusalem?
  2. Many came out from Jerusalem to m\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus (Jn 12:13)

3. The crowd and the disciples were s\_\_\_\_\_ *Hosanna to the Son of David...*(see v. 9)
  4. The Pharisees told Jesus to silence the crowd (see Lk 19:39), but Jesus told them that the announcement was necessary and that if they did not cry out God would make the s\_\_\_\_\_ cry out.
- Be comforted in the fact that God's sovereign plans cannot be Overthrown by anyone or anything.

### **Conclusion:**

- There are prophecies that are written for you who trust in Jesus!
  1. Jesus will r\_\_\_\_\_ for you (I Thess 4:14-17)
  2. Jesus will reverse d\_\_\_\_\_ for you (I Thess 5:23,24)
  3. We will live on the n\_\_\_\_\_ earth (Rev 21)
- Most of the future is unwritten. The only future that is written is the future which God has d\_\_\_\_\_. Read about it and be comforted in God's almighty p\_\_\_\_\_ to bring it about.