



BIBLE

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **7th Grade | Unit 4**

BIBLE 704

Christian Evidences

Fulfilled Prophecies About Christ

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Christian Evidences Fulfilled Prophecies About Christ

Introduction

Studying this LIFEPAAC® you will learn how the first Advent of Jesus Christ was foretold hundreds of years before it actually happened. You will study various Old **Testament** Scriptures which gave specific details concerning His birth, and you will study the New Testament book of Matthew to see how each detail was fulfilled. You will learn about God's purpose in sending His only begotten Son to Earth in the form of an infant. You will make a comparison to see if that mission was fulfilled as revealed in the Gospel of Matthew.

You will learn about two **Messianic** functions of Christ: He was both Redeemer and Servant. A comparison will be made of the Old Testament prophecies concerning these functions and the part of each prophecy fulfilled in the New Testament Gospel of Matthew.

The study of prophecy can be an enriching experience for you as you discover the multitude of Christian evidences which prove the divine character and mission of God's Son—Jesus Christ. You will begin to understand how God prepared His people for the first Advent of His Son. Hundreds of years before Jesus actually arrived as an infant born of a **virgin**, the story was foretold in Old Testament prophecy. Biblical history teaches the divinity of Jesus Christ and His Messianic mission as Savior of the world (John 3:16).

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Write the details of prophecy concerning Jesus entering the world.
2. State Christ's purpose in the first Advent.
3. Describe the specific offices foretold by the prophets which Christ would hold as Messiah.
4. Identify the Scriptures in Matthew which fulfill the Old Testament predictions concerning His specific offices as Servant and Redeemer.

1. THE FIRST ADVENT OF THE MESSIAH

The central theme of the Bible is the coming of God's only Son into the world as Savior. The Old Testament people of God were looking for God's Son to come as a strong king and not as a little baby born of a virgin in a stable. Jesus was born exactly as prophesied hundreds of years before by many of God's **prophets**. In this

section you will study various Bible prophecies concerning the birth of Jesus Christ and how in the Gospel of Matthew these prophecies were fulfilled. You will also study the mission of Jesus Christ as foretold in Old Testament prophecy and Christ's fulfillment of that mission as recorded in Matthew.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Write the details of prophecy concerning Jesus entering the world:
 - 1.1 List the way Christ was to come to earth.
 - 1.2 List how the prophecy of Christ's coming was fulfilled in events recorded in Matthew.
2. State Christ's purpose in the first Advent:
 - 2.1 Describe His mission as foretold in Old Testament prophecy.
 - 2.2 Explain how this Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled in events recorded in Matthew.

Vocabulary

Study these words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAAC.

advent (ad' vent). Coming; arrival.

curse (kèrs). To bring great evil upon.

divinely (də vīn' lē). Heavenly; superbly.

Immanuel (i man' yu ul). Means God with us.

inspiration (in' spə rā' shən). Divine manifestation enabling a person to receive and give sacred revelation.

inspired (in spīrd'). Guided by God.

intercession (in' tər sesh' ən). Prayer of petition in favor of another.

Messianic (mes' ē an ik). Pertaining to the expectant king and the deliverer of Jews.

noble (nē' bəl). Of high quality.

prophet (prof' it). One who gives divinely inspired revelations.

redemption (ri demp' shən). Act of buying back; releasing from blame and guilt.

scepter (sep' tər). Staff carried by a king as a symbol of authority.

Testament (tes' tə mənt). A main division of the Bible.

tithe (tītĪH). A tenth part.

ultimate (ul' tə mit). Final.

virgin (ver' jən). Pure; untouched woman.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAK appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, Īce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʒh/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

The Method of the First Advent

Hundreds of years before the actual **advent** of Christ, the Old **Testament** prophets foretold that Christ was to be born of a **virgin** from the family of David. This unique way in which the Savior of the world arrived upon the earth will now be examined.

Prophecy of the First Advent Foretold in the Old Testament. The Bible contains many verses that foretold the birth of Jesus. God judged Adam and Eve because of their willful disobedience to God's law, and He **cursed** the serpent, Satan. He stated, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15).

God pronounced a curse upon the devil by telling him there would be a division between him and the seed of the woman. God then gave a specific word of how this event would occur by telling Satan that his defeat would come through the seed of the woman. The devil would manage to bruise the heel of Jesus by His crucifixion. However, the *seed* of the woman, Christ, would be raised from the dead. The resurrection of Christ is implied in the verse when God reveals what the seed shall do to the devil. The **ultimate** victory belongs to Christ because He will "bruise thy [the devil's] head," thus inflicting a mortal wound.

Genesis 3:15;
Number 24:16-19;
and Isaiah 11:1-10.



In this early Old Testament verse, we find God's promise of hope in Jesus Christ. Adam and Eve were driven from God's beautiful paradise because of their disobedience. However, the **Messianic** seed mentioned in the first book of the Bible tells us that through the woman will come a Savior who will restore that which was lost through disobedience.

Another Old Testament Scripture related to the first Advent of Christ is Numbers 24:17. Four things are told in this passage concerning the coming Savior:

1. A star of Jacob
2. A **scepter** out of Israel
3. He shall come out of Jacob's seed
4. He shall have dominion

Let us more carefully study exactly what is being predicted in this part of Old Testament Scripture. The verse predicts a star (light) of Jacob. It is foretold here that a light and direction will come forth from Jacob's seed. This light will have the right of rule (scepter) which implies He will be of **noble** birth. Certainly we find little difficulty in seeing that Christ fulfills this description. Jesus' purpose was to be the



| Prophecy Symbols

light for blinded mankind who had lost God's fellowship.

Related to this Scripture is Isaiah 11:1–10, which also foretold the birth of Christ. Isaiah 11:1 states, "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots." This passage refers to the human lineage of Jesus through the royal line of David, the son of Jesse.

One final Old Testament Scripture to be considered which foretold the coming of Jesus is Isaiah 7:13–14. Notice that verse 13 states His origin as the house of David. In verse 14 the prophet states that the Messiah would be born of a virgin and be named **Immanuel**.

This portion of the Scripture gives specific details about the birth of Christ. Jesus would come from the seed of David, be born of a virgin, and his name would be *Immanuel*, or *God*

with us. The book of Isaiah is considered one of the greatest prophetic books in the Bible. Isaiah is especially noted for the **redemptive** prophecies concerning Christ.

As more prophecy was given concerning the Messiah, more details of His birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection became known.

Prophecy of the First Advent Fulfilled in Matthew. You will study in Matthew's gospel how many of the Old Testament prophecies concerning the first Advent of Christ were fulfilled. We begin our study with Matthew 1, since here is where we can show the family line of Jesus and compare this information to early prophecies.

Matthew 1:1 begins by stating: "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham." In this very first verse, we can see that Matthew seeks to establish the earthly

bloodline of Christ through His mother, Mary. Genesis 3:15 promised that the Messiah would come through the seed of the woman; that is, the Messiah would come by childbirth.

Numbers 24:17 teaches us that this star will come out of Jacob's house. Jesus is the star, the light of men, and in Matthew's gospel (Matthew 1:2) we read that "Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob..." Thus, the generations of Jesus began and continued all the way through His legal father, Joseph. We find that Jesus is a descendant of Jacob's through His earthly and legal father, Joseph. Although Jesus was born of a virgin, God supplied Joseph to be the guardian and legal father of Jesus. We realize that God is the real father of Christ, but He provided Joseph, a man of Jacob's house, to care for Jesus.

The supernatural element of God's Word is evident as Old Testament prophets predicted a coming Messiah. A specific Old Testament prophecy concerning the coming of Christ as the Savior of the world is found in Isaiah 11:1. This passage tells us that "...there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots." We find that a rod, a ruler, and a guide shall develop and come forth from Jesse, the father of David. This verse gives indication that Jesus—the Branch, a main life center—shall come forth from Jesse.

Many would ask why God would choose to bring His Son through mankind. To become man's Redeemer, Jesus had to be born a man to suffer and to bear man's sins. God's ways are not man's ways, and He does all things well and perfectly. God knows the beginning and the end, and His justice was satisfied when Jesus fulfilled the role of Old Testament sacrifice. He was without blemish and could carry our sins to the cross once and for all, that we "...might have life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

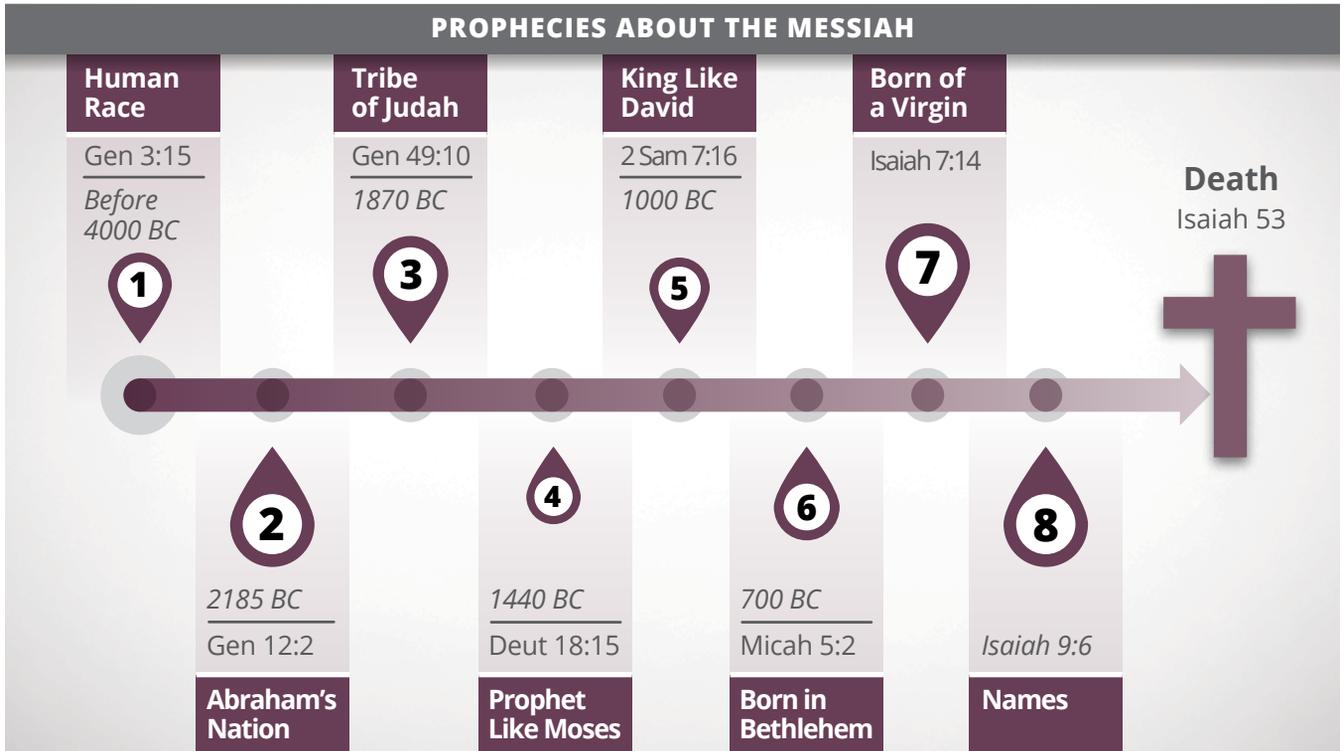
Isaiah 11:1 is fulfilled in Matthew 1:5–6. Matthew writes that Jesus came from the seed of



Jesse, just as the Old Testament prophet predicted hundreds of years earlier. We have proof that God's Word was **divinely inspired** by God as His Spirit moved upon men to write.

The book of Isaiah is considered to be one of the greatest prophetic books in the entire Bible. Isaiah is regarded as one of the greatest Old Testament prophets. The reason for this generous title is that Isaiah is the prophet of redemption. The name Isaiah means "Salvation of Jehovah" and is appropriately the central message of the entire Bible. We shall study Isaiah 11 in more detail at a later time when we consider the mission of Jesus. At this point, it is sufficient to say that Isaiah's prophecy was in harmony with all Scripture that Jesus would come from a woman. Isaiah 7:13–14 gives specific details of the birth of Christ. In Isaiah 7:13 the coming of Jesus from the house of David is prophesied. In Isaiah 7:14 it is foretold that Jesus is to come from a virgin and His name would be called Immanuel.

In Matthew 1:23 the prophecy of Isaiah is quoted: "behold, a virgin shall be with child..." Matthew 1:25 provides us with the fulfillment of this prophecy: "And [Joseph] knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called His name JESUS [Immanuel]."



| Prophecies About the Messiah

In this section, we have briefly studied selected portions of Old Testament prophecy concerning the birth of Christ. We then compared Matthew's account to these prophecies and were able to see the fulfillment of these Scriptures

which were given hundreds of years before the arrival of Christ. These prophecies and their fulfillment are some of the Christian evidence of the **inspiration** of the Word of God and the theme of salvation found throughout the Bible.



Match the new words with their meanings.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------|-----------|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1.1 | _____ | advent | a. | a spokesman for God |
| 1.2 | _____ | curse | b. | a woman pure and undefiled |
| 1.3 | _____ | virgin | c. | pertaining to Christ and His mission |
| 1.4 | _____ | Messianic | d. | coming or arrival |
| 1.5 | _____ | prophet | e. | occurrence or happening |
| | | | f. | a pronouncement of judgment or evil |



Answer this question in your own words.

1.6 How has Genesis 3:15 foretold of the birth of Jesus and His mission? _____

Do these activities.

1.7 Read Isaiah 7:13–14 and list three key phrases which indicate Jesus’ first Advent.
a. verse _____ b. key phrase _____
c. verse _____ d. key phrase _____
e. verse _____ f. key phrase _____

1.8 Explain how Isaiah 7:13–14 predicts the first Advent of Jesus Christ on the earth. _____

1.9 Find five Scriptures from the Old Testament and New Testament showing prophecies (O.T.) and their fulfillment (N.T.).

Old Testament

New Testament

a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
d. _____
e. _____

1.10 What specific details did Isaiah provide concerning the birth of Jesus Christ?

List three.

a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

The Purpose of the First Advent

You will now study the specific purpose and mission for which Christ came to earth. Truly it can be said that Christ was a man born to die, the just for unjust, that we might live! A comparison of the Old Testament prophecies concerning the mission of Christ and their New Testament fulfillment will also be presented.

The Mission of the First Advent. Genesis 14:13–20 provides us with a picture or a shadow of something which was yet to occur. Melchizedek (mel chis' ə dek), king of Salem, met Abraham returning from a war and blessed him. Abraham paid a **tithe** (tenth) to this priest. Now, the Bible teaches us to honor God only.

Who was this strange priest called Melchizedek? Hebrews 7:2–3 tells us that this priest was a king of righteousness and peace. He was without father or mother, having neither

Genesis 14:13–20;
Leviticus chapter 16;
Numbers 21:6–9; Psalms
110 and 118; Isaiah 4:2–6; 25:
6–9; 26:1, 19; and chapter 60.



beginning nor ending of his life. He was made like the Son of God.

Hebrews 7:15 states that another priest will arise. The Bible shows Melchizedek as a foretype of Jesus Christ and of His priestly office for His people. The mission of a priest is to bring the people's sins before God and to offer a sacrifice which would bring His forgiveness. In the Old Testament, a sacrifice was needed to cover the sins of the people; for God is a just God and cannot look upon sin and by his nature must punish it.

The Old Testament priest had to present a lamb without blemish as sacrifice to God for sin. Hebrews 7:22–28 describes the priestly office which Christ would hold. Hebrews 7:25



| Abraham and Melchizedek

states that Jesus is able to save His people to the uttermost if they will come to Him. He makes **intercession** on our behalf, ever pleading our case before the judgment seat of God. Christ becomes our lawyer (1 John 2:1–2) when we receive Him as our Savior. He transforms our lives and provides the abundant life to those who are His own. Romans 3:10 reminds us that the reason all human beings need Jesus as their personal Savior and Priest is because of sin: "...There is none righteous [having a right standing], no, not one."

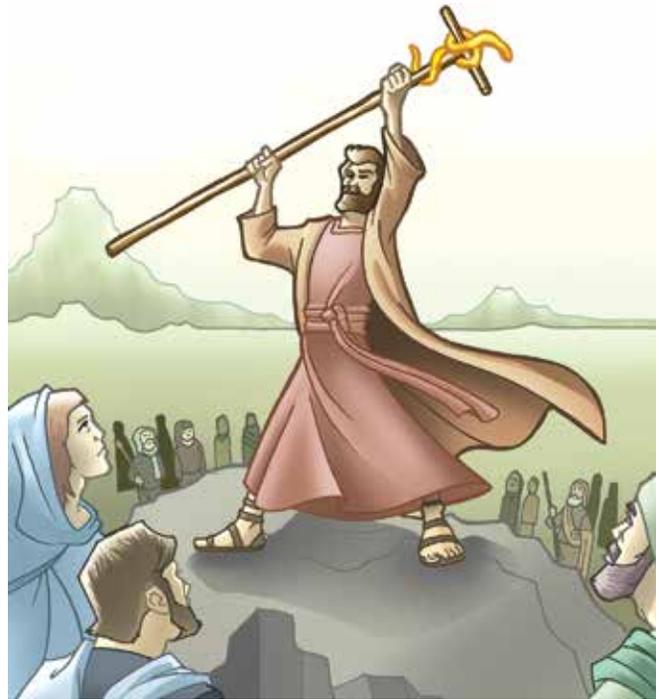
Another prophetic portion of Scripture is found in Numbers 21:6–9. In that account, God's people had come into a serious situation; they were being bitten by serpents and some were dying. This tragedy occurred because God's people had sinned by speaking evil against God and against His servant Moses. This message is applicable today since there are those who are quick to speak evil against God's servants instead of upholding them in prayer.

God's mercy is seen (Numbers 21:9) as He instructs Moses to make a serpent out of brass like the one which had bitten God's people. Moses was instructed to place it high on a pole above God's people, and whoever would place their eyes upon it would be healed. This brass serpent became a type of savior for God's people as it was lifted up above them. Whomever would look toward the brass serpent in hope would be healed from the real serpent's bite.

Here we see the mission of Jesus as the Savior of mankind. Christ has been lifted up as the world's hope and those who look unto Him for their salvation shall be saved.

Psalm 110 portrays the role of Jesus as a priest for His people after the pattern of Melchizedek. Psalm 110:4 speaks of Christ taking upon Himself the role of Priest forever.

One part of the mission of Jesus in coming to earth was to cleanse mankind from their sins and restore them into fellowship with God. The prophet Isaiah foretold this aspect of Christ's



| The Brass Serpent

mission in Isaiah 4:2–6. Jesus Christ is the Branch mentioned in Isaiah 4:2: "In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious...."

Isaiah 4:4 sets forth the purpose of Christ's death. Christ would purge mankind from their sins by His blood: "When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst...."

The Fulfillment of the First Advent Mission.

We must study the New Testament carefully to see if the Old Testament prophecies concerning Jesus were fulfilled. The Gospel of Matthew gives us specific examples of the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies. Study this parallel comparison of Old Testament prophecies concerning the mission of Jesus and their respective New Testament fulfillment in Matthew's gospel.

In the following brief parallel comparison, you are able to see how various aspects of the mission of Jesus—His death and resurrection as Savior—were fulfilled. The fulfillment occurred and was completed in every detail.

| Old Testament Prophecy Relative to Jesus' Mission | New Testament Fulfillment of Jesus' Mission |
|--|--|
| Isaiah 9:7 Heir to throne | Matthew 1:1 Book of generation of Jesus as Son of David |
| Zechariah 11:12 Sold for thirty pieces of silver | Matthew 26:15 “...And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.” |
| Psalm 27:12 False witnesses accuse Him | Matthew 26:60–61 “...At the last came two false witnesses, And said...” |
| Isaiah 53:4–5 Wounded for our transgressions— bruised for our iniquities | Matthew 8:16–17 “...Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.” |
| Isaiah 53:12 Crucified with sinners | Matthew 27:38 Two thieves crucified with Him |
| Psalm 16:10 His resurrection | Matthew 28:9 Resurrected |



Find the Bible verse to answer these questions.

1.11 Which Bible passage used Melchizedek to portray Jesus Christ as priest? _____

1.12 Which passage tells of Israel being bitten by serpents and Moses making a brass serpent to deliver them? _____

Complete this activity.

1.13 Explain the comparison between the brass serpent and Jesus. _____



Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test. The Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

SELF TEST 1

Match the words with their meanings (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------------|----|--|
| 1.01 | _____ | advent | a. | act of buying back, release from blame |
| 1.02 | _____ | intercession | b. | guided by God |
| 1.03 | _____ | noble | c. | heavenly, superbly |
| 1.04 | _____ | tithe | d. | of high quality |
| 1.05 | _____ | scepter | e. | bring great evil upon |
| 1.06 | _____ | curse | f. | prayer or petition in favor of another |
| 1.07 | _____ | ultimate | g. | a tenth part |
| 1.08 | _____ | redemption | h. | coming, arrival |
| 1.09 | _____ | divinely | i. | final |
| 1.010 | _____ | inspired | j. | staff carried by king as symbol of authority |
| | | | k. | one who gives divine information |

Write true or false for each statement (each answer, 1 point).

- 1.011 _____ The central theme of the Bible is prophecy.
- 1.012 _____ God cursed the serpent.
- 1.013 _____ Numbers 24:17 refers to Jesus as “a star of Jacob.”
- 1.014 _____ Immanuel means “God with us.”
- 1.015 _____ The family line of Jesus is established in Isaiah.
- 1.016 _____ There are prophecies in the Psalms concerning the Messiah.
- 1.017 _____ Isaiah means “salvation of Jehovah.”
- 1.018 _____ Old Testament prophets made intercession for the people.
- 1.019 _____ Matthew gives the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies concerning Christ.
- 1.020 _____ One part of Jesus’ earthly mission was to cleanse His people from their sins.

Complete these sentences (each numbered problem, 4 points).

- 1.021** God's pronouncement of Satan's defeat is stated in _____ .
- 1.022** The Old Testament people of God were looking for a _____
not a little baby.
- 1.023** Jesus dealt a "fatal" blow to Satan by His _____ .
- 1.024** Numbers 24:17 calls Jesus a a. _____
out of b. _____ .
- 1.025** The book of _____ is considered one of the greatest prophetic
books in the Bible.
- 1.026** Isaiah is noted for its _____ prophecies concerning Christ.
- 1.027** Matthew's gospel begins with the _____ of Jesus Christ.
- 1.028** Some Old Testament prophecies concerning Jesus are fulfilled in the Gospel
of _____ .
- 1.029** The priest who was a foretype of Jesus was _____ .
- 1.030** We need Jesus as our personal priest because of _____ .

Complete the following activities (each answer, 3 points).

1.031 List how the New Testament fulfills each of the following Old Testament prophecies (you do not have to list chapter and verse).

a. Zechariah 11:12: Sold for thirty pieces of silver _____

b. Isaiah 9:7: Heir to throne _____

c. Isaiah 53:12: Crucified with sinners _____

d. Psalm 16:10: His resurrection _____

e. Psalm 27:12: False witnesses _____

1.032 List five facts about Melchizedek.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

| | | | | |
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