



Messenger Project Newsletter

The Messenger

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A NONPROFIT CORPORATION PROMOTING THE BIBLE THROUGH THE ARTS

Messenger Project Members
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Editor-Publisher of *The Messenger*
Raymond Genovese, Treasurer
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Messenger Notes



Nylon String Lap Harp

Messenger Project recently added a nylon-stringed lap harp to our collection of musical instruments. We recorded a harp track on *Well Pleased*, the final song of our upcoming CD (*Messenger Project*). The harp will be used on acoustic flavored songs and was a gift from **Joie De Leon** to **Lionel De Leon**.

Our long awaited CD is finally mixed and ready for mass production! We hope to have CDs available by March. **Raymond Genovese** will be taking a hiatus from recording but will continue his duties as treasurer for Messenger Project. However, Lionel and Joie De Leon will continue recording new material from the Bible along with **Skip Hahn**.

Lionel and Joie De Leon performed *God, My Savior* at Huntington Beach **Community Bible Church** during the January 29th offering. Lionel performed the song on the lap harp and Joie added harmony vocals. The next performance will be *If You Are the Son of God* on February 26th with the worship team.

Messianic Prophecy

The first prophecy about Jesus is in Genesis 3:15 where God tells the serpent that Eve's offspring "will crush your head and you will strike his heel." This verse refers to the ongoing battle between good and evil and Jesus' ultimate triumph over Satan.

It is amazing that so much detail about Jesus' life was predicted hundreds of years before his birth. Consider the following prophecies and their fulfillment by Jesus:

Born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; *Matthew 1:21*)
Abraham's descendent (Genesis 12:1; 22:18; *Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:16*)
From the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10; *Luke 3:23, 33; Hebrews 7:14*)
From the house of David (2 Samuel 7:12; *Matthew 1:1*)
Son of God (Psalm 2:7; *Matthew 3:17*)
Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; *Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:4*)
Taken to Egypt (Hosea 11:1; *Matthew 2:14*)
Anointed by the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2; *Matthew 3:16*)
Performed miracles (Isaiah 35:5; *Matthew 9:35*)
Preached good news (Isaiah 61:1; *Luke 4:14*)
Ministered in Galilee (Isaiah 9:1; *Matthew 4:12*)
Cleansed the Temple (Malachi 3:1; *Matthew 21:12*)
Spoke in Parables (Psalm 78:2; *Matthew 13:34*)
A Prophet (Deuteronomy 18:5; *John 6:14; Acts 3:20*)
A Priest like Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4; *Hebrews 5:5*)
Rode a donkey as king (Zechariah 9:9; *Matthew 21:4*)
Adored by infants (Psalm 8:2; *Matthew 21:15*)
Rejected (Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 53:3; *1 Peter 2:7; John 1:10; 7:5,48*)
Betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9; *Luke 22:3; John 13:18*)
Valued at 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12; *Matthew 26:14*)
Silent before his accusers (Isaiah 53:7; *Matthew 27:12*)
Mocked (Psalm 22: 7-8; *Matthew 27:31*)
Beaten (Isaiah 52:14; *Matthew 27:26*)
Spit upon (Isaiah 50:6; *Matthew 27:30*)

Pierced his hands and feet (Psalm 22:16; *Matthew 27:31*)
Crucified with thieves (Isaiah 53:12; *Matthew 27:38*)
Prayed for his persecutors (Isaiah 53:12; *Luke 23:34*)
Pierced his side (Zechariah 12:10; *John 19:34*)
Given gall and vinegar to drink (Psalm 69:21; *Matthew 27:34, Luke 23:36*)
No broken bones (Psalm 34:20; *John 19:32*)
Buried in a rich man's tomb (Isaiah 53:9; *Matthew 27:57*)
Cast lots for his garments (Psalm 22:18; *John 19:23*)
Rose from the dead (Psalm 16:10; *Mark 16:6; Acts 2:31*)
Ascended into heaven (Psalm 68:18; *Acts 1:9*)
Sits at the right hand of God (Psalm 110:1; *Hebrews 1:3*)

Ezekiel 44:1-2 (c. 579 B.C.) prophesied that the future eastern gate of Jerusalem would remain shut because the Lord entered through it. Jesus entered through the Golden Gate when he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey (c. 33 A.D.). Jerusalem's eastern gate was sealed (either by Arabs in 810, Saladin in 1187 or Suleiman in 1541 A.D.) and remains sealed to this day.

If there were only two prophecies fulfilled by Jesus (born in Bethlehem and raised in Nazareth, for example), we could call it coincidence. But the number of prophecies exceeds coincidence and gives a strong argument for divine origin. Who but God can accurately predict the future? Who but God would dare? If this book were a hoax, why would it lay its credibility on the line with so many prophecies? God uses prophecy as proof of His authorship. He declares the future boldly before it happens so that we may know that the Bible is trustworthy and true.

The Old Testament is believed to have 300 prophecies about Jesus' first coming and 500 prophecies about his second coming. I challenge you to find them! Searching Scripture will enrich your relationship with God and increase your amazement in His Word, the Holy Bible (whether you find all 800 prophecies or not). The Bible is a love letter from God, a mystery, a revelation and a guide to godly living. Christ died for you. Live for him!