Bible Prophecy Fulfilled:

"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."

John 5:39



“There is a God,” leading atheist concludes. Philosopher says scientific evidence changed his mind.

updated 12/9/2004 6:04:35 PM ET

NEW YORK — A British philosophy professor who has been a leading champion of atheism for more than a half-century has changed his mind. He now believes in God — more or less — based on scientific evidence, and he says so on a video released Thursday.

At age 81, after decades of insisting that belief is a mistake, the professor, Antony Flew, has concluded that some sort of intelligence or first cause must have created the universe. A super-intelligence is the only good explanation for the origin of life and the complexity of nature, Flew said in a telephone interview from England.

Flew first made his mark with the 1950 article “Theology and Falsification,” based on a paper for the Socratic Club, a weekly Oxford religious forum led by the writer and Christian thinker C.S. Lewis.

Over the years, Flew proclaimed the lack of evidence for God while teaching at Oxford, Aberdeen, Keele and Reading universities in Britain, in visits to numerous U.S. and Canadian campuses and in books, articles, lectures and debates.

There was no one moment of change but a gradual conclusion over recent months for Flew, a spry man who still does not believe in an afterlife.



Yet biologists’ investigation of DNA “has shown, by the almost unbelievable complexity of the arrangements which are needed to produce [life], that intelligence must have been involved,” Flew says in the new video, “Has Science Discovered God?”

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse...”

Romans 1:20



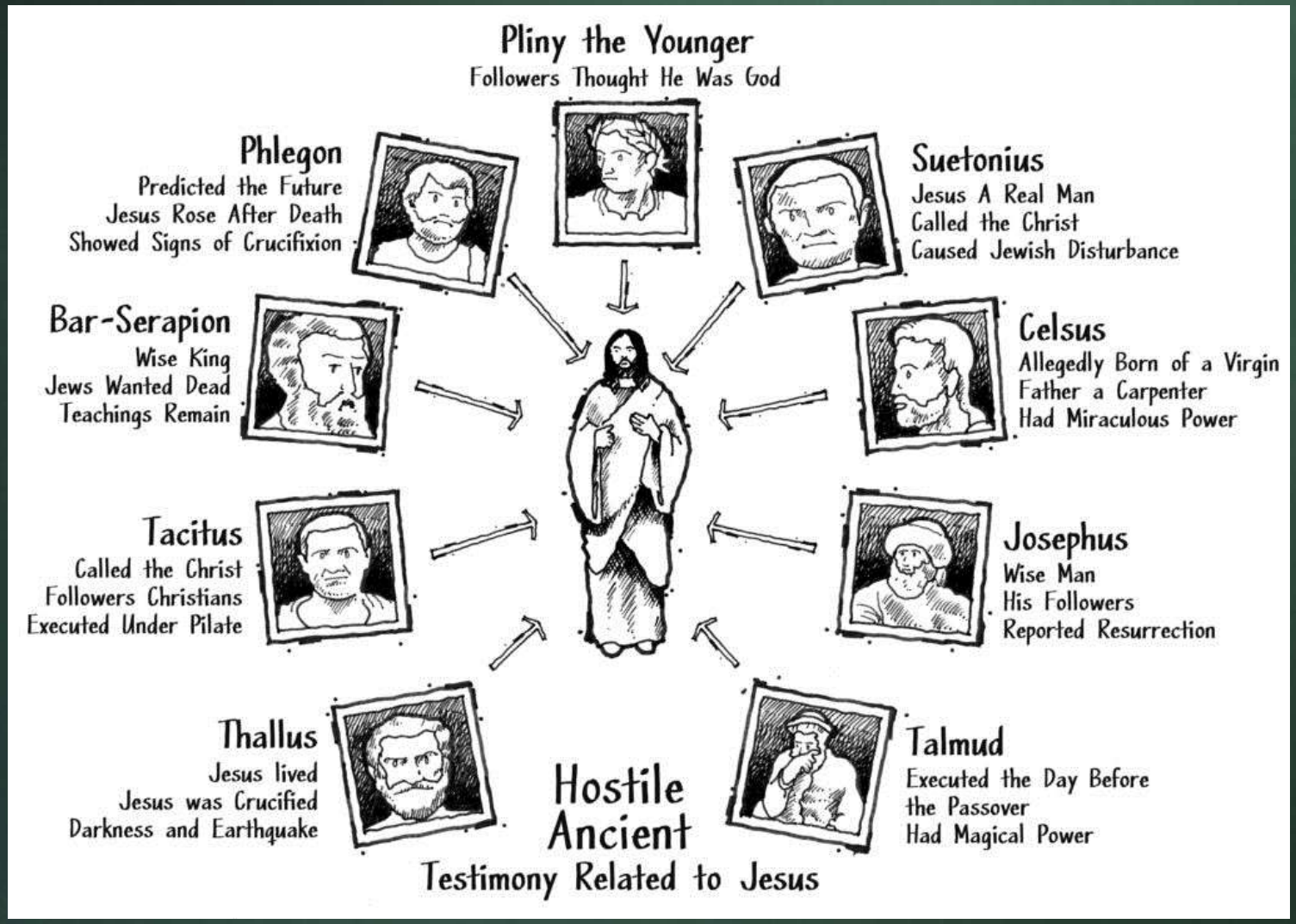
Dead Sea Scrolls

The Dead Sea Scrolls (also the Qumran Caves Scrolls) are ancient Jewish and Hebrew religious manuscripts discovered in 1946/47 at the Qumran Caves on the northern shore of the Dead Sea. Dating from the 3rd century BCE to the 1st century CE,the Dead Sea Scrolls include the oldest surviving manuscripts of entire books later included in the biblical canons.

All the prophecies listed in this presentation appear in manuscripts that date from 50 BCE to 300 BCE



Hostile accounts of Christ



Pliny the Younger	(61-113 AD)
Suetonius	(69-140 AD)
Celsus	(175 AD)
Josephus	(37-101 AD)
Talmud	(400-700 AD)
Thallus	(52 AD)
Tacitus	(56-120 AD)
Bar-Serapion	(70 AD)
Phlegon	(80-140 AD)



Prophecy #1: Live in 32 AD

“Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the prince, there shall be seven sevens and sixty-two sevens; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.”

Daniel 9:25



“In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of the reign of Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I took wine and gave it to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence before. Therefore, the king said to me ‘why is your face sad, since you are not sick?’.”

Nehemiah 2:1-2a



Prophecy #1: Live in 32 AD

Authentication

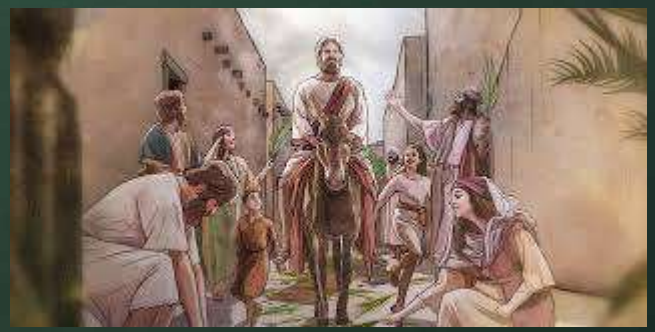
- Daniel 9:25 (Appears in DSS 11Q13, dated 100 BC)

March 14, 445 BC

Command Given to Restore/Rebuild Jerusalem (Nehemiah 2:1-2a, Encyclopedia Britannica)

Sir Robert Anderson

483 years = 69 x 7 years
173,880 days = 483 years x 360 days



April 6, 32 AD

Validation

- All accounts have Jesus living at this time!
- ~275K possible people could be the Messiah



Prophecy #2: Born in Bethlehem

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old, from ancient times.”

Micah 5:2



“Therefore, many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, ‘Truly this is the Prophet.’ Others said, ‘This is the Christ.’ But some said, ‘Will the Christ come out of Galilee? Has not the Scriptures said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?’”

John 7:40-42



“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.’ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ [Messiah] was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

Mathew 2:1-6



Prophecy #2: Born in Bethlehem

Authentication

- Micah 5:2 (Appears in DSS 4Q81, dated 175-50 BC)

John 7:40-42, Matthew 2:1-6



Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, Israel

Validation

- Church of the Nativity built in Bethlehem in 326 AD
- Justin Martyr wrote in 150 AD that Jesus' birth was in Bethlehem
- Emperor Hadrian in 130 AD tried to desecrate Jesus' birth site in Bethlehem
- ~105 possible people could be the Messiah



Prophecy #3: Executed by being Pierced

"But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. 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." ***Isaiah 53:5-6***

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn." ***Zechariah 12:10***

"For dogs have surrounded Me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet." ***Psalm 22:16***



Prophecy #3: Executed by being pierced

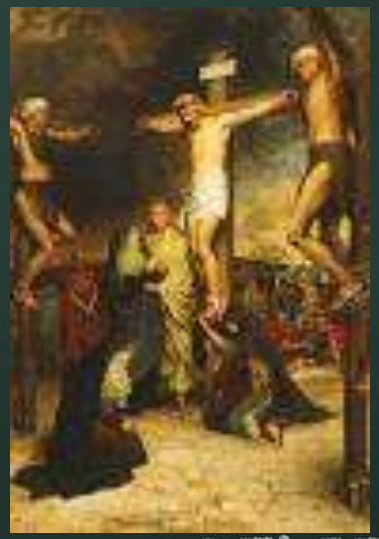
Authentication

- Isaiah 53:5-6, Zechariah 12:10, Psalm 22:16 (Appears in DSS 1QIs, 4Q80, and 4Q88, respectively)
- DSS 1QIs dated 350-100 BC, 4Q80 dated 75-50 BC, and 4Q88 dated 100-25 BC

Crucifixion described (never happened to David, but Messiah is pierced):

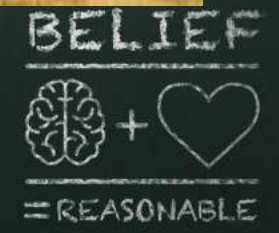
Psalm 22:14-15: Stretched out, exhaustion, thirst
Psalm 22:16: Pierced hands and feet
Psalm 22:17: No bone broken, crowd looks upon him

John 19:24,37



Validation

- Tacitus (56 AD), Thallus (52 AD), Phlegon (80 AD), Lucian of Samosata (115 AD), Josephus (37 AD), Jewish Talmud (400 AD), Toledot Yeshu (1000 AD)
- ~1 person could be the Messiah



“One of the most certain facts of history is that Jesus was crucified on the orders of the Roman Prefect of Judea, Pontius Pilate.”
Historian Bart Ehrman (Atheist)

“Jesus’ death as a consequence of crucifixion is indisputable.”
Historian Gerd Ludermann (Atheist)



Prophecy #3: The Messiah will be executed by being pierced

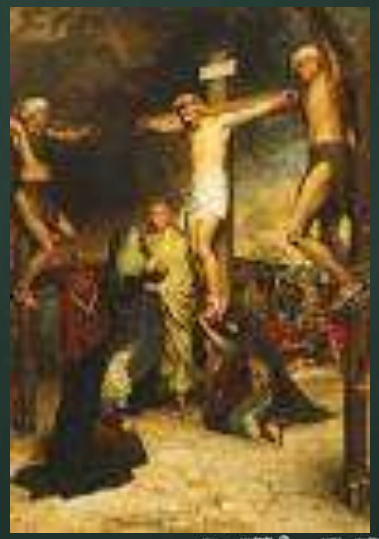
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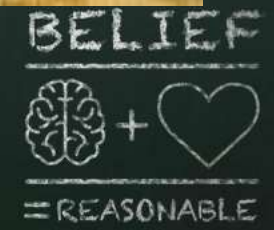
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- ~1 person could be the Messiah



Prophecy #4: Executed on Passover Eve

"He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth … Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper His hand. He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities."

Isaiah 53:7,10-11



“But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and ceases to keep the Passover, that same person shall be cut off from among his people, because he did not bring the offering of the Lord at its appointed time; that man shall bear his sin.”

Numbers 9:13



“They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count <u>all</u> my bones. They look and stare at me.”

Psalm 22:16b-17

“He guards all his bones; Not one of them is broken.”

Psalm 34:20



Prophecy #4: The Messiah will be Killed on Passover eve

Authentication

- Isaiah 53:7, 10-11, Psalm 22:16-17, Psalm 34:20 (Appears in DSS 1QIs, 4Q88, 4Q83, respectively)
- DSS 1QIs dated 350-100 BCE, 4Q88 dated 100-25 BCE, and 4Q83 dated 200-100 BCE

Messiah, Our Passover Lamb
1 Corinthians 5:7
1 Peter 1:19
John 1:29
John 19:36

Four specified criteria for the Passover lamb:

- It was to be a male lamb (Exodus 12:5)
- It was to be without blemish (Exodus 12:5)
- When it was killed, no bone was to be broken (Exodus 12:46)
- It was to be slain on Passover Eve (Exodus 12:6)

Validation

- Jewish Talmud (400 CE), Toledot Yeshu (1000 CE)
- 1 person could be the Messiah





Another Four Prophecies

1. Messiah would spend time in Egypt
   - Hosea 11:1 (?)
   - validated by Celsus (175AD)
2. Messiah amass a following by healing the blind, lame, deaf, etc.
   - Isaiah 29:18 (DSS 1QIs), Is. 35:4-6 (DSS IQIs)
   - validated by Celsus (175AD), Josephus (37AD), Jewish Talmud (400AD), Toledot Yeshu (1000AD)
3. Messiah would ride in on a donkey
   - Zech. 9:9 (DSS ?)
   - validated by Toledot Yeshu (1000AD)
4. Messiah would be given vinegar to drink at time of death
   - Ps. 69: 21 (?)
   - validated by Toledot Yeshu (1000AD)



“And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed …”

2 Peter 1:19a

