



# The First Advent of Christ, Part 2

# Prophecies of Christ

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- ❖ The sixty-first chapter of Isaiah testifies that Christ was to do the very work He did. Chapter fifty-three sets forth His rejection and sufferings in the world, and chapter fifty-nine describes the character of the priests and rabbis. (*DA* 458.2)

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

(Galatians 4:4–6)

**He had selected the lowliest place in society.**

He was the Majesty of heaven, and he knew that the world would bear sway by magnificence, carrying everything before its display and grandeur; but Jesus honored those whom the world looked upon with contempt.

Christ's birthplace was devoid of conveniences, not to speak of riches and luxury. And his entire life in this world was in keeping with the humble home of his early experience. (*ST* January 20, 1890, par. 3)

Many who were convinced that Jesus was the Son of God were misled by the false reasoning of the priests and rabbis. These teachers had repeated with great effect the prophecies concerning the Messiah, that He would “reign in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before His ancients gloriously;” that He would “have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.” Isaiah 24:23;

Psalm 72:8. **Then they made contemptuous comparisons between the glory here pictured and the humble appearance of Jesus.** (*DA*

458.2)

Christ came to save fallen man, and Satan with fiercest wrath met him on the field of conflict; for the enemy knew that when divine strength was added to human weakness, man was armed with power and intelligence, and could break away from the captivity in which he had bound him. Satan sought to **intercept** every ray of light from the throne of God. He sought to cast his shadow across the earth, that men might **lose** the true views of God's character, and that the knowledge of God might become **extinct** in the earth. He had caused truth of vital importance to be so mingled with **error** that it had lost its significance. The law of Jehovah was burdened with needless **exactions and traditions**, and God was represented as **severe, exacting, revengeful, and arbitrary**. (*ST* January 20, 1890, par. 6)

- ❖ Intercept every ray of light
- ❖ Lose true view of God's character
- ❖ Knowledge of God become extinct in earth
- ❖ Vital truths become mingled with error
- ❖ The law of God become burdened with needless exactions and traditions
- ❖ God represented as severe, exacting, revengeful, arbitrary

He was pictured as one who could take pleasure in the sufferings of his creatures. The very attributes that belonged to the character of Satan, the evil one represented as belonging to the character of God. Jesus came to teach men of the Father, to correctly represent him before the fallen children of earth. Angels could not fully portray the character of God, but Christ, who was a living impersonation of God, could not fail to accomplish the work. The only way in which he could set and keep men right was to make himself visible and familiar to their eyes. That men might have salvation he came directly to man, and became a **partaker of his nature**. (*ST* January 20, 1890, par. 6)



- ❖ By His life and His death, Christ has achieved even more than recovery from the ruin wrought through sin. It was Satan's purpose to bring about an eternal separation between God and man; but in Christ **we become more closely united to God** than if we had never fallen. In taking our nature, the Saviour has bound Himself to humanity by a tie that is never to be broken. Through the eternal ages He is linked with us. "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." John 3:16. He gave Him not only to bear our sins, and to die as our sacrifice; He gave Him to the fallen race. To assure us of His immutable counsel of peace, God gave His only-begotten Son to become one of the human family, forever to retain His human nature. (*DA* 25.3)

- ❖ As the people of God approach the perils of the last days, Satan holds earnest consultation with his angels as to the most successful plan of overthrowing their faith. He sees that the popular churches are already lulled to sleep by his deceptive power. By pleasing sophistry and lying wonders he can continue to hold them under his control. Therefore he directs his angels to lay their snares especially for those who are looking for the second advent of Christ, and endeavoring to keep all the commandments of God. (*4SP* 337.1)

- ❖ The Sabbath is the great question which is to decide the destiny of souls. . . .When death shall be made the penalty of violating our Sabbath, then many who are now ranked with commandment-keepers will come over to our side.
- ❖ We can separate many from Christ by worldliness, lust, and pride. They may think themselves safe because they believe the truth, but indulgence of appetite or the lower passions, which will confuse judgment and destroy discrimination, will cause their fall.
- ❖ Go, make the possessors of lands and money drunk with the cares of this life.

- ❖ “I will have upon the ground, as my agents, men holding false doctrines mingled with just enough truth to deceive souls. I will also have unbelieving ones present, who will express doubts in regard to the Lord’s messages of warning to his church. Should the people read and believe these admonitions, we could have little hope of overcoming them. But if we can divert their attention from these warnings, they will remain ignorant of our power and cunning, and we shall secure them in our ranks at last. God will not permit his words to be slighted with impunity. If we can keep souls deceived for a time, God’s mercy will be withdrawn, and he will give them up to our full control. (*4SP* 340.2)
  
- ❖ “We must cause distraction and division. We must destroy their anxiety for their own souls, and lead them to criticise, to judge, and to accuse and condemn one another, and to cherish selfishness and enmity. For these sins, God banished us from his presence; and all who follow our example will meet a similar fate.” (*4SP* 340.3)