There are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament which foretell the life of Jesus. These prophecies were made at least 400 years before the birth of Jesus. They include the following 16, over which a mortal could have had no control: The Place of Birth Mic 5.2

Slaughter of Babies Jer 31.15

Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem Isa 62.11

The Price of His Betrayal Zech 11.12

That He would be Deserted by Disciples Zech 13.7 Isa 53.3

That He would be Mocked and Insulted Ps 22.7

He would be given Vinegar and Gall for drink Ps 69.21

His hands and his feet would be pierced Ps 22.16

He would be scourged Isa 53.6

He would be Crucified Among Thieves Isa 53.12

His hands would be Nailed – Pierced Zech 12.10

None of His Bones would be Broken Ps 34.20

They would cast Lots for Garments Ps 22.18

His garments would be divided Ps 22.18

His Grave with the Rich Isa 53.9

His Resurrection Ps 16.10-11; 30.3

Suppose you read a book in a library about a man from a large family, whose father was United States Ambassador to England, whose oldest brother was killed in World War II, who piloted a P. T. Boat for the U. S. Navy, who was a senator from Massachusetts, who became the first Catholic President of the United States, and who was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. You would immediately recognize that these facts apply to only one man, John F. Kennedy.

Now suppose that the librarian proved to you that the book was printed in 1700.

Imagine, a manss whole life portrayed in detail and in print hundreds of years before he was ever born! That is exactly what you have in these Messianic prophecies. These prophecies were all recorded and in a complete translation in the Greek language (Septuagint Version) at least 250 years before Jesus was born.

Jesus Had Many Unnatural Sayings and Deeds Which NO Mortal Would Have Had.

He was completely devoid of worldly ambition.

When they tried to make Him a worldly king, he refused, while the Jewish nation looked for a worldly Messiah to set up an earthly kingdom,

John 18:36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."

A Jewish fraud trying to establish a religion would naturally try to influence and win the support of the rulers, the chief priests, and the scribes. Jesus cultivated the poor and the sinners.

He never expressed a doubt on any subject.

He was entirely free of prejudice or hatred.

- John 4 The Samaritan woman Jesus spoke to a woman (4.27) Jesus spoke to a Samaritan (4.9) He was entirely fearless and set forth teachings that were certain to bring persecution.

While all Jews looked with pride upon Jerusalem as the chosen city of God, the center of a physical kingdom to come, Jesus plainly foretold its utter destruction (Matt. 24).

While the Jews looked upon the 10 commandments, the law of Moses, as the ultimate and eternal law, Jesus taught that it would end and that men were to hear Him rather than Moses.

Jn 1:17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

He had no malice or ill-will even toward His enemies.

Luke 23:34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

He was entirely free of egotism and selfishness.

Matthew 20:27 and whoever wants to be first must be your servant 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

He gave God all the credit for what He accomplished.

John 5:30 By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

Some unnatural sayings of Jesus:

John 8:58 "I tell you the truth,"
Jesus answered, "before Abraham
was born, I am!"

How many people claim to be eternal?

While claiming that only God should be worshiped, He accepted worship from many people.

Matthew 28:9 Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

Jn 20:28 Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus Performed Miracles

A miracle is an event that could not be brought about by the ordinary forces of nature or by ordinary men.

What purpose do miracles serve?

Miracles were given to confirm that the one who spoke was speaking from God

Mk 16:20 Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

Did Jesus actually perform miracles?

John 10:25 Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me,"

His disciples said He performed miracles:

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.

His enemies said that both He and His disciples performed miracles.

Acts 4:10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. 16 "What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem knows they have done an outstanding miracle, and we cannot deny it.

The fact of the resurrection is the greatest proof of the Christian religion.

Romans 1:4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead:

Jesus Christ our Lord.

If we accept it as true, every claim and action of Jesus is verified.

If we reject it, Jesus as a good man, the Bible as a good book,
Christianity as a worthwhile religion, must be cast aside as trash, written by a madman.

The Apostles were witnesses of the resurrection. If they didn't see Him, their lives were lived in vain.

1Cor 15:16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

Alternate Explanations given for the resurrection.

a. The swoon theory (that Jesus was not actually dead, and that He revived from a state of unconsciousness and walked out of the tomb.

- b. The theory that the enemies of Jesus stole the body.
- c. The theory that the disciples stole the body.
- d. The "hallucination" theory. (That the disciples wanted to see Jesus so badly, they mistook a vision or dream for reality.)
- e. That He arose from the dead!

Take divinity away from Jesus and what do you have?

A Jew, born in a captive Roman province, of a peasant woman, lived as a carpenter's son for 30 years, became a teacher of religion for 3½ years, was deserted by his followers when arrested, tried, and killed as a common criminal.

He never wrote a book, never invented a machine, never went to college, yet he claims to be equal with God, to be the light of the world, that He would judge the world, that He would arise from the dead, and that He was sinless.

What happened? All time is reckoned from Him

either AD – the year of ourLord – or

BC – before Christ. Some have switched to BCE or CE, but we still date from the birth of Christ!

He established a religion that has grown and spread throughout the whole world.

Could this nameless cheat, this fraud, invent the character of Christ, and successfully play the part for a number of years fulfilling prophecies beyond his control?

Could this man be a conscious liar and yet give the world the highest moral standard it has ever known.

Who can believe it? The only logical and rational conclusion to reach is that Jesus is what He claimed to be, the Christ, the Son of God!!