**TO FULFILL WHAT HAS BEEN SPOKEN BY THE PROPHETS**

**Matthew 1 & 2**

**The account of the life of Jesus, recorded by Matthew was written to help Jewish readers understand that Jesus was fulfilling the Old Testament prophecies.** Over and over you will read *‘that it might be fulfilled.’* The concept might be given like this; God promised the ‘one,’ the Messiah in the Old Testament and this is how Jesus fulfills those prophecies.

**I-Who would this child be?**

 All of us have birthdays. What is so special about this baby that we remember and worship each

year?

 A-He was the Son of David- 2 Samuel 7:12

 One of the keys to this prophecy is the Davidic Covenant.

 God promised David that one day his son would reign over his (David’s) kingdom. Solomon was

the immediate fulfillment of this prophecy. But often God used prophecies to

encourage Israel in an ancient day and to also announce truth about Messiah.

 This prophecy would be fulfilled in Messiah/Jesus, the future Son of David. (Matt.1:20)

 B-He was a ruler that would come- Isaiah 9:6

 Isaiah tells us that ‘the government will be upon His shoulder.’

 C- He would be king- Numbers 24:17

 In the prophet Balaam’s 4th oracle, comments directed by God, he says that a star would rise out

of Jacob and a scepter out of Israel.

**II-From Where Did He Come?**

A-He was born in Bethlehem- Micah 5:2

Bethlehem was the home of David and the home of the future ruler spoken of in 2 Samuel 7:12.

 A ruler, yet in the future to those who prophesied, would come from Bethlehem.

 B-Hosea the prophet also gives us direction for this new king. He tells us ‘out of Egypt have I called

my son.’

We see that God prophesied about Messiah coming from Egypt hundreds of years before Mary

and Joseph took Jesus there.

**III-What Was He to Do?**

A-He would be God with us- Isaiah 7:14

 There was more spoken of about the purpose of this child.

 B- He was to be named Jesus.

 Not a family name or one that those at his birth suggested, but it speaks to His purpose.

 Means ‘Salvation is of the Lord.’

 He came to save His people from their sins.

 C-He came to fulfill the prophecies.

 The New Testament is printed to show that Jesus fulfilled the prophecies about him.

 Matthew wrote for the Jewish reader, the Jewish mind, but he wrote for each of us as well.

 That we would know who Jesus was, and that He came for us.

 *The main reason that Jesus came was to save His people from the punishment for their sins.*

 *He came to provide salvation and to dwell within us through His Spirit, as God with us.*