

APOLOGETICS

IN ONE LESSON

↑
almost

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Lesson 19

Out of Context I Called My Prophecy?

IDEA IN BRIEF

What?

Understand the particulars of how the Gospel authors understood Jesus to have fulfilled prophecies

Why?

So that we are not swayed by arguments that assume the prophecies are **taken out of context**

How?

By showing that the fulfillments are not all simple 1-to-1 prophecies are sometimes require knowing ***more context***

“...this happened to **make clear the full meaning** of what the Lord said through the prophet”

MATTHEW 1:22

Easy-to-read version

1

Matthew 1:22-23 / Isaiah 7:14

1. "house of David" is at risk
2. Isaiah tells Ahaz that God will defend him
3. Isaiah tells Ahaz to ask for substantial sign
4. Ahaz rejects (he has his own plan)

↑
bigger sign

5. God gives him a sign anyways (a timeframe)
6. God says Israel will be defended

7. Isaiah predicts a child that will bring in an everlasting kingdom

↑
bigger fulfillment

Ahaz's day

Jesus' day

3

Matthew 2:17-18 / Jeremiah
31:15 (and Genesis 35:16-19)

Death

Hope for offspring

12

Matthew 27:9-10 / Zechariah 11:12
13 and Jeremiah 19:1-13

Theme

Zechariah 11

Leadership (shepherds)

Zechariah was a shepherd

Pottery/potter

Salary is given to a potter

Value

Zechariah's services are valued at 30 pieces

Judgment

Flock is destined for destruction

Theme

Jeremiah 19

Leadership (shepherds)

Elders and leaders are present

Pottery/potter

Potter sells pottery to Jeremiah

Value

Pottery is destroyed, discarded

Judgment

Israel to be delivered to their enemies

Theme

Matthew 27

Leadership (shepherds)

Leadership has turned on Jesus

Pottery/potter

Money used for potter's field

Value

Jesus is sold for 30 pieces

Judgment

Judas / Jerusalem destined for destruction

2

Matthew 2:15 / Hosea 11:1

5 Matthew 4:14-15 / Isaiah 9:1-2

11

Matthew 26:54, 56 (does not include a specific text that this is a fulfillment of)

4

Matthew 2:23 (as a possible fulfillment of Isaiah 11:1
or just that Jesus would come from a no-name town)

6

Matthew 8:17 / Isaiah 53:4

7

Matthew 12:17-18 / Isaiah 42:1 and
following

8

Matthew 13:14 / Isaiah 6:9-10

9

Matthew 13:35 / Psalm 78:2

10

Matthew 21:4 / Zechariah 9:9

13

How might shadows and types help us to understand Matthew's use of the Old Testament passages?

14

What are some things that you may suggest to someone who is confused by Matthew's prophetic fulfillments?

Key Takeaways

1

Prophecy fulfillments come in a **variety of forms**

2

Don't give up quickly, some of the fulfillments **require lots of context**; expect open questions

3

Some fulfillments make a better case for defending the Gospel than others