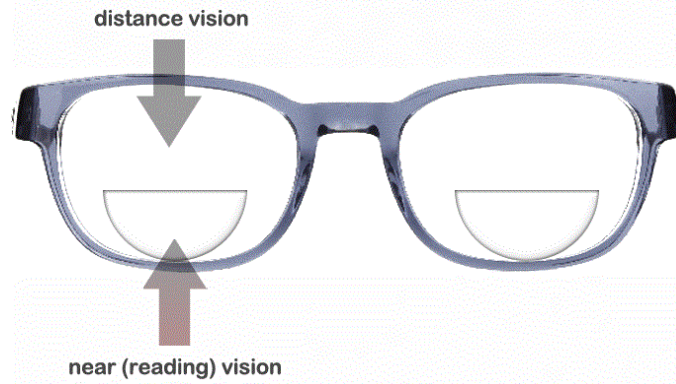
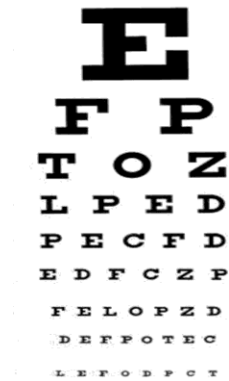


## How bifocals work



Think of bifocal glasses as the perfect combo of Revelation and Reason. **Revelation** helps with **distant things** while **reason** shows what's **up close** and personal.

### HOW'S YOUR VISION?



**If you think you know it all, if you think you can see it all, you should probably stop reading. While you're at it, drop out of school, tell everyone to shut up and run for president of the world, cuz you're perfect.**

But if you've learned there's always more to learn, get bifocals. Look through the lenses of revelation and reason and you'll be amazed at what you were missing!



**INSPIRATION-** “God guiding man’s pen to insure the truth is correctly written down. If The Bible is God's Word, it must be inspired. **Is the Bible inspired?**

**Revelation-** “All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right.” 2 Timothy 3:16

I believe this is true. I believe it because I’ve seen it. The people I respect most in the world are people that live by the Bible. How about you?

**Reason-** “God is not a man, that He should lie. He is not a human, that He should change His mind. Has He ever spoken and failed to act? Has He ever promised and not carried it through?” Numbers 23:19

This is HUGE! **Think Whisper Down the Lane!**  
That verse said that unlike people, God never lies. That means His Word must always be true. Is the Bible always true?

- **Does the historical evidence support the Bible?**

*\*as a record of history-* If we can back up the historical record found in the Bible, we should be willing to accept the spiritual claims of the Bible.

*\*as prophetic-* Foretold & Fulfilled.

There’s no better way to put this to the test than to look at prophecy (what the Bible said would happen), history and archeology (what physical evidence shows has happened).

*A record of history-*



The 1995 December edition of Time magazine looked into one of the most contested historical claims in the bible; the destruction of the city of Jericho. The book of *Joshua*, chapter 6, records the destruction of the ancient biblical city of Jericho. As the story goes, when Jericho's walls fell, the Jews also known as the Hebrews conquered the city. According to the Bible, Joshua, received word from God telling him a strange solution to overcome the giant walls that surrounded the city of Jericho. God told Joshua to march the Jews around the entire city once each day for six days. On the seventh day, they were to march around the city seven times while the priests blew trumpets. Then, at the appointed time, horns, trumpets and the people's great shout would cause the giant walls surrounding the city to fall. **If this were all true, it would be a miracle, unlike any other military victory in history!**



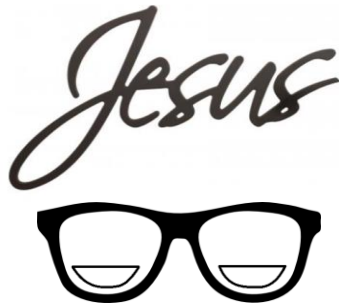
*Time* magazine says after extensive excavations at ancient Jericho, many archaeologists have determined that the Bible account is incorrect. It appears that city was abandoned before the Jews marched into it. While ancient pottery fragments were found, the remains of city walls never were. *Time* claims that since no walls were found, Joshua and the Jews entered a ghost town; there was no miracle of God. That makes the Biblical account political and religious fiction; just lost Jews wandering in a wilderness that happened to find an empty city, a place to live. Could *Time* be correct? Reason alone would seem to say yes because the giant ancient walls are nowhere to be found. If the walls did fall, there would certainly be rubble, but there isn't any of that either. Is the Bible wrong?

**Enter revelation.** “so the people shouted when the priest blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man strait before him, and they took the city. And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city...they burned the city and all that was in it with fire. Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord.” Joshua 6:20-24

Archeologist reason that a conquered ancient city would leave ancient remains. This is true for every other conquered city, even every other city listed in the Bible. Every city except Jericho. **In Jericho, things would be different. Different because God said so!** In Jericho, God would do a miracle. The wall would be leveled **FLAT. UTTERLY DESTROYED. BURNED.**

**What remains at the site of Jericho today? A ribbon of solid ash that outlined a city. WOW! It's just as God revealed in the Bible! When Revelation comes first, reason fits just fine!**

*Recorded Prophecy-*




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### **The Lineage and Location of Jesus Messiah**

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- The Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel (God with us)." Isaiah 7:14 "When the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman..." Galatians 4:4.

Babies are born from women, but without a miracle, they aren't born from virgins! While there wasn't any DNA testing at the time, the way Mary, the virgin mother of Jesus was treated by Joseph, her fiancé is a good testament to her virginity. The law of the day allowed for Joseph to marry another person under the suspicion that his fiancé was pregnant by another man. Joseph rejected this. In fact, the Bible says he had a vision from God that convinced him Mary hadn't been unfaithful, but that she was the virgin ancient prophecy had foretold!

- The Promise of Abraham-

The Bible makes bold prophecy that Jesus Messiah would be a descendant of certain families. In Genesis 12:3, the Messiah would descend from Abraham. The bloodline is further refined to Isaac, son of Abraham in Genesis 17:19 and 21:12, to Jacob, son of Isaac in 28:14 and to Judah, son of Jacob (or Israel) in 49:10. Matthew, in the first chapter of his Gospel, begins his account of the life of Jesus by describing His lineage as coming from Abraham to Isaac to Jacob to Judah and so on. Luke echoes this lineage for Jesus in Luke 3:33-34. **Perfect. Try to set that up!**

- From the throne of King David-



Building on the specificity of Messiah's lineage, God promises King David, through Nathan the prophet in 2 Samuel 7:12-13, that Messiah will not only come from his own bloodline, but will also inherit his throne. David's throne is again promised as the seat of Messiah's government in Isaiah 9:6-7, and in Jeremiah 23:5. Taking a look at the accounts of Jesus shows Him to be a descendant of King David in Matthew 1:1, 1:6 and in Luke 3:31.

**Jesus, King for eternity!**

- Born in Bethlehem/From Galilee-



Micha 5:2 says, "But you, Bethlehem, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel, who's going forth have been from old, from everlasting." Isaiah 9:1 says that Messiah's ministry would begin in the region of Galilee. "Nevertheless, that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever... there will be a time in the future when Galilee of the Gentiles, which lies along the road that runs between the Jordan and the sea, will be filled with glory. The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine... For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!" All the gospels confirm to us that Jesus began His ministry in Galilee. All this after being born in Bethlehem, fleeing to Egypt (which is ANOTHER prophecy were not even going to look at for the sake of time). **Jesus, right time, right place. Plan that!**

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## Messiah Will Be A

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- Healer- 

Isaiah describes in Isaiah 61:1-2 some aspects of the ministry the Messiah will have. Compare this to the passage in Luke 4:18 where Jesus not only quotes the Old Testament passage but also claims to be its fulfillment. More specifically, Isaiah 35:5-6, describes a wonderful ministry of *healing* for any who need it. Jesus describes the works He has done in almost the exact same words in Matthew 11:5. Over and over and over again, all throughout the gospels, Jesus *never* turned away anyone who needed healing, even when He knew they would not turn to Him (Luke 17:12-19). All this for the deep love He feels for each one of them, and each one of us. He healed us even at the cost of His own life.

The Bible documents many more parallels between the traits and actions of the Messiah and of Jesus. The following table shows just a few of these.

The Messiah must...	Prophecy	Fulfillment by Jesus
Bear the sin of others	Isaiah 53:12	Romans 15:3
Be a priest	Psalms 110:4	Hebrews 5:5-6, 6:20, 7:15-17
Enter Jerusalem on a donkey	Zechariah 9:9	Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; John 12:12-16
Enter the Temple with authority	Malachi 3:1	Matthew 21:12; John 2:13-22

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## What Will Be Done To Messiah

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The Old Testament speaks about the things which would be done to Messiah. These are important to understand as most of them would be impossible for a false Messiah to fake since they would be out of a normal person's control. These things make it clear that Jesus is the Messiah foretold by the Old Testament.

- He would come-



One of the first things to note in the Old Testament is that God tells us exactly when Messiah would come to earth! In Daniel 9:24-26, he gives us a total of 69 “weeks” (a euphemism of the day meaning a period of 7 years) or 483 years after Jerusalem and its wall were commissioned to be rebuilt for when the Messiah would be “cut off” for our sins. The best archaeological evidence dates the rebuilding of Jerusalem at approximately 453 B.C. Four hundred and eighty three years after the city was rebuilt, Jesus was being crucified outside its walls. We are given the historical information we need to accurately place Jesus’ birth in Matthew 2:1, 16 and 19 and Luke 3:1 and we know He was crucified 33 years later.

- He would die-



At the other end of His earthly ministry, we are given several details about His execution. The Old Testament tells us that He will be “pierced.” The prophet Zechariah associates this with the death of the Messiah in 12:10 and Psalms 22:16 tells us that this piercing will be in the Messiah’s hands and feet. In Matthew 27:35 and John 19:18, we are told that Jesus is executed by crucifixion, which requires the piercing of the hands and feet. Luke confirms in 24:39 the piercing really did happen by asking His disciples to inspect the holes *after* His resurrection. John even claims this as fulfillment of Zechariah 12:10 in John 19:34-37.

Despite the cruel nature of His execution, we are promised that none of the Messiah’s bones would be broken. In the Law of Moses, we are told that the Passover lamb should not have any of its bones broken (see Exodus 12:46 and Numbers 9:12). Since the Messiah is the ultimate Passover Lamb whose blood protects the doorposts of our hearts, then His bones must remain unbroken as well. This is reiterated in Psalms 34:20. In John 19:33-36 we are told how the Roman soldiers did not need to break any of Jesus’ bones and that this was in direct fulfillment of the Scripture.



- He would rise again-



Matthew, Mark, Luke and John give account of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. They don't do so in the same way, but they do it in harmony. They do not contradict. All Gospel books say that after Jesus death on the cross there was an Easter resurrection! How can this ever be proved? Beside the historical fact that people were in an uproar after Jesus death and supposed resurrection, beside the fact that eye witnesses stated seeing Him, besides the fact that there was a conspiracy to fabricate a false narrative, the greatest proof for the resurrection is in the heart of every Christian believer. Salvation is the proof! Sin forgiven is the proof! The fruit of the Spirit is the proof! What's all that, and how can it be seen? This is the most intimate learning you'll ever do. Ask God to show you! Follow the Romans road.

### **Romans 3:23**

"All have sinned and fallen short of God's glorious standard."

### **Romans 6:23**

"The payment for our sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord."

### **Romans 5:8**

"God demonstrates His love in this, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

### **Romans 10:9**

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

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## So Where Does All This Leave Us?

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An author and speaker named Josh McDowell calculated the odds of Jesus fulfilling only eight of the Messianic prophecies as 1 out of  $10^{17}$  (a one followed by 17 zeros). This is equivalent to covering the entire state of Texas with silver dollars two feet deep, marking one of them, mixing them up and having a person blindly select the marked one at random the very first time!!!

Only a few of the Messianic prophecies in the Bible have been presented here. There are many more, not even including the ones (mostly from the book of Revelation which are still out-standing (have not been fulfilled yet).

**If Jesus then is true prophecy foretold  
and fulfilled, we can confidently  
examine all other biblical prophecy  
that has yet to be fulfilled!**

