

Matthew 1:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

Analysis

Matthew's formula 'that it might be fulfilled' appears repeatedly in his gospel, demonstrating that Jesus' life was the realization of Old Testament prophecy. This establishes Jesus as the true Messiah and proves that Scripture is divinely inspired. The fulfillment is not coincidental but the outworking of God's eternal decree, showing the unity of the Bible's testimony to Christ.

Historical Context

Matthew wrote primarily to Jewish Christians, using fulfillment quotations to prove Jesus was the promised Messiah. He quotes or alludes to the Old Testament over 60 times, more than any other gospel.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does the fulfillment of prophecy strengthen confidence in Scripture's divine inspiration and Christ's messianic identity?

2. What does this pattern of fulfillment teach about reading the Old Testament through the lens of Christ?

Interlinear Text

Τοῦτο δὲ ὅλον γέγονεν ἵνα πληρωθῇ τοῦ ῥηθὲν
this **Now** **all** **was done** **that** **it might be fulfilled** **which** **was spoken**
G5124 G1161 G3650 G1096 G2443 G4137 G3588 G4483

ὑπὸ τοῦ Κυρίου, διὰ τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος,
of **which** **the Lord** **by** **which** **the prophet** **saying**
G5259 G3588 G2962 G1223 G3588 G4396 G3004

Additional Cross-References

Luke 24:44 (Prophecy): And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Matthew 2:23 (Prophecy): And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

1 Kings 8:15 (References Lord): And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which spake with his mouth unto David my father, and hath with his hand fulfilled it, saying,

1 Kings 8:24 (Parallel theme): Who hast kept with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him: thou spakest also with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand, as it is this day.

Acts 3:18 (Prophecy): But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

Matthew 13:35 (Prophecy): That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

John 18:9 (Parallel theme): That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none.

Ezra 1:1 (References Lord): Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

Matthew 13:21 (Parallel theme): Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.

Matthew 12:17 (Prophecy): That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,

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