

# Proof of God

What is proof? It is factual evidence that establishes a truth or conclusion. Many say that the existence of God cannot be proven, just believed to exist. But that would mean there is no evidence at all. But is this true or just assumed?

## Atom and Eve

Do you believe in atoms? How do you know they exist? Have you ever seen an atom? Democritus proposed the possibility of the existence of atoms in 400 BC and was obviously read up by the Apostle Paul when he confirmed this as an analogous support model.

...the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. - Hebrews 11:3

Unfortunately, Democritus did not have the means to prove his hypothesis. Many years later, during the late 1600s, Newton proposed a corpuscular, or atomic, model. But again, no means on which to prove his hypothesis. In the early 1800s, John Dalton showed, through a variety of tests, that atoms are present in all matter and have atomic weight. Still, the proof could not be attained just yet. The actual answer came 100 years later when Ernest Rutherford was able to provide the scientific proof of that which existed long before Dalton, Newton, or even Democritus. So did unbelief of Democritus make atoms non-existent? Of course not, they existed, but just without means of confirmation. So lack of proof does not equate to non-existence. Just lack of means for testing and research.

The truth is, atoms would never have been realized or proven had there not been a passion to discover them. Without a passion for discovery, there will be no care or desire to research. The reading of this study shows at least a desire to find out, and that is an important beginning.

## The Democritus-like Proposition

So, like Democritus, let us consider first the possibility that there is indeed a God. We can first examine the complexity of our current systems. As of the 21st century, mechanical engineers have successfully developed robots that actually walk. The walk is rather slow and deliberate, however the mechanics are no-doubt astounding. But such complexity could not occur without advanced degrees in physics, electromagnetics, and industrial engineering. How much more the systems of balance, optics, mechanics, and computer technology that we take for granted in the human body? The systems are so advanced, we have yet to even discover a fraction of its potential and operation. To this day we can barely comprehend the advanced nature of the brain. Let alone its ability to remember and recall.

Lets turn the focus off the body as a whole down to the absolute smallest unit, the DNA strand. DNA, as we understand it today, is an advanced, organic computer code. Computer code cannot generate from random HEX character generation. It requires a language that the host can understand, and the modeling of the code structure to provide the necessary information transfer. One cannot come in to existence without the aid of the others. A computer will not work without code. Yet the code on paper will not work without the established code language and the hardware to make it operate. My wordprocessor cannot work without the application code that makes it a wordprocessor. It cannot be an application without a host operating system. It will not work without an agreed upon language structure. That is, my word processor on a Macintosh refuses to run on Microsoft Windows--the language is different. And the operating system will not run without hardware that agrees with the language and operational code. How much more advanced is the human DNA with its language and communication with the physical hardware systems of reproduction, immune, muscular, and cardiovascular systems.

Is this proof of God? To some, yes, but it is more like Democritus bringing up the possibility, but just without the means to prove it just as yet.

## The Dalton Experiment

Dalton was able to accurately model the form of the atom, thereby opening the door for more advanced experimentation to come. With a concrete model, this set assigned rules and guidelines in which to research. In our discovery process, we must also have a set of guidelines by which to follow. Just as there were hundreds of possible models by which to form the shape and makeup of the atom, we see today hundreds of religions with various gods and deities. Many of these religions have some beneficial rules for meditation, societal law, and rules for living with their fellow man. However, where all seem to fail is providing a model of not only who God is, but how He reacts to His creation and what He says about Himself regarding personal discovery. That is, except One. The God found within the pages of the Hebrew Tonach, what many refer to as the "Old Testament". Within these pages are found, not platitudes, but precise modeling of not only what God is, but Who God is, in extreme detail. It reveals that God is not only the Creator of all that is of the physical plane—that is of matter, gas, liquid and energy—but the advanced levels of thought, poetry, song, and worship as well. Even more so, the pages of scripture describe His nature even above our ability to comprehend. God describes His nature, as well as the domain in which He dwells in Isaiah 57:15,

"For thus says the High and Lofty One *Who inhabits eternity*, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit.'"

Now don't take that passage as an opinion by Isaiah. When a prophet says "thus says the Lord", it carries a death penalty if it is not directly from God Himself.<sup>1</sup> Here now we have a very important qualifier for our model of God. If God dwells in the realm of eternity as God states in Isaiah, then He must be able to declare future events as if they had happened in the past. We who live in the physical restraints of time-space have the disadvantage of seeing the world according to a linear timeline. But God sees the past and the future as one complete picture. Einstein proved that time is a physical property. God is not of the physical world, but is a Spirit. He is saying that He can hold all of time like a large scroll. While all we are but letters in the story, God states that He has both read and written the story in advance.

The text that illumines the model found in the Tonach is so detailed and abundant, that many take issues regarding how this God reacts, judges, and protects. Many assume that the model was merely a creation of man due to an ancient need for a diety higher then themself. This is a point to consider, so though we have the model, we still are without sufficient, and established proof.

## The Rutherford Proof

Based on the model found within scripture, God, as He describes Himself, dwells outside the restraints of time-space.

"Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, *declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done*, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,'" - Isaiah 46:9-10

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1. ref. Deut. 18: 20

This vantage point allows God to view all of the past, present and future in one shot—that is, eternity. He declares that through the vehicle of prophecy one can research the proof that He is speaking from the eternal realm. To scientists who have always wanted some kind of view into another dimension, this is it! Not only that, but God Himself throws down the gauntlet to all the other "holy books" and all the other "gods" that dare to claim the title.

"Let [the other so called gods] bring forth and show us what will happen; let them show the former things, what they were, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare to us things to come. *Show the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that you are gods; yes, do good or do evil, that we may be dismayed and see it together.*" - Isaiah 41:22-23

The above scripture is one of the most in-your-face challenges from the God of the Bible over any so-called man-made god or philosophical deity. In fact, you can view this as taking out a glove and slapping the face of any other god or non-Bible-based religion.

So the proof of God's existence is not coming from the intellect of man, but rather from God Himself. He is saying in effect, "*Prophecy separates the true from the counterfeit--the extraterrestrial from the terrestrial.*"

So now we know that evidence of proof exists. It is now time to examine the evidence with a critical eye. However, first we must define what a "prophecy" truly is, and the criteria that separates it from a "prediction". A prediction is an estimation based on past criteria. Businesses use prediction all the time to predict trends in the market place. Those that successfully read the economic forecast can then get a jump on the competition with new and better products and services.

A prophecy is much different. A prophecy is, in effect, "history written in advance". That is, it is going to come true whether you want it to or not. That is why God is selective in what He reveals. He wishes to keep free will intact, yet give us the overview in advance.

## **Defining Prophecy**

So, prophecy has to maintain a 100% track record. Prophecy must also be repetitive as well as specific. Without repetition, you are playing the odds. Without specifics, the pronouncement is no different than a fortune cookie fortelling of a "coming long journey".

I can pose many examples of multiple-fulfilled prophesies. So let us focus on the event that had no less than 10, specific prophecies that took place just a mere 60 years ago—the reestablishment of the nation of Israel.

### **Prophecy #1**

Amos 9:14-15 (written around 755 BC)  
I will bring back the captives of My people Israel;  
They shall build the waste cities and inhabit them;  
They shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them;  
They shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them.  
I will plant them in their land,  
And no longer shall they be pulled up  
From the land I have given them,"  
Says the LORD your God.

Specifics:

God will regather the Jews from all over the world back to Israel.

They will rebuild the ancient cities. (archeology is #1 tourist attraction)

They will prosper agriculturally. (Israel is #3 exporter of fruit in the world)

God firmly plant them in the land and no one shall pull them up from it. (Read up on the Yom Kippur War)

The land belongs to them as given by God.

## Prophecy #2

Ezekiel 37:11-14 (written: between 593-560 BC)

Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD.'"

### Specifics:

Israel will be left as a dry bone. - The land of Palestine was described by Mark Twain as a desolate and worthless wasteland in his 1867 book "The Innocents Abroad."

God will bring the land back to life via the Jews. The Jewish people began to drain the swamps, and condition the soil. The Jews collected donations from all over the world to plant trees and reforest the regions.

The Jews will be regathered into the land again.

By this miraculous event it will be evidence that the God of the Bible is the true and living God.

## Prophecy #3

Isaiah 66:7-8 (written: between 593-560 BC)<sup>2</sup>

Before she was in labor, she gave birth;

Before her pain came,

She delivered a male child.

Who has heard such a thing?

Who has seen such things?

Shall the earth be made to give birth *in one day*?

Or shall a nation be born at once?

*For as soon as Zion was in labor,*

*She gave birth to her children.*

### Specifics:

The nation of Israel, like a woman in labor will be born in one day. On May 14, 1948, the Jews declared independence for Israel as a united and sovereign nation for the first time since 70 A.D.. On that day, a United Nations mandate expired, thus ending British control over the land. A few hours later, the United States issued a statement recognizing Israel's sovereignty. So during a 24-hour period of time, foreign control of the land of Israel had formally ceased, and Israel had declared its independence and modern Israel was born in a single day.

## Prophecy #4

Ezekiel 37:21-22 (written: between 593-560 BC)

"Then say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all; they shall no longer be two nations, nor shall they ever be divided into two kingdoms again."

### Specifics:

Under the tyrannical reign of Solomon's son Rehoboam, the disgruntled people of Israel split into two kingdoms, Judah and Israel. After being scattered to the surrounding nations after the diaspora, God promised to bring them back in to the land from the countries where they had been exiled, back into the land of Israel. Only no longer two kingdoms, but one—Israel.

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2. Entire and intact, 2,000-year old Isaiah scroll was found at the Dead Sea in 1947

## Prophecy #5

Jeremiah 16:14-15 (written: between 627 - 585 BC)

“Therefore behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that it shall no more be said, ‘The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘The LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.’ For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers.”

### Specifics:

Jeremiah was the prophet that witnessed Babylon's sacking and burning of Jerusalem. He wept over the city and noted his grief in the book of Lamentations. God gave Jeremiah hope that He was not finished with Israel yet, and that there will be a day when they will be scattered to various nations, then regathered again.

## Prophecy #6

Ezekiel 4:3-6 (written: between 593-560 BC)

Moreover take for yourself an iron plate, and set it as an iron wall between you and the city. Set your face against it, and it shall be besieged, and you shall lay siege against it. This will be a sign to the house of Israel.

“Lie also on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it. According to the number of the days that you lie on it, you shall bear their iniquity. For I have laid on you the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days; so you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. When you have completed them, lie again on your right side; then you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days. I have laid on you a day for each year.”

### Specifics:

God established the timing in this prophecy, that each day Ezekiel lay on his side, it represented a year. This prophecy points to the actual year of 1948 when Israel regained its independence.<sup>3</sup>

## Prophecy #7

Ezekiel 34:13 (written: between 593-560 BC)

And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country.

### Specifics:

Again, God prophesied the regathering of His people in the land. But even more, He would also feed them from the hills and valleys. There are presently only six countries that can provide enough food to feed both their own people, as well as export the surplus to surrounding nations. The United States, Canada, Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, and Israel.

## Prophecy #8

Jeremiah 31:10 (written: between 627 - 585 BC)

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
And declare it in the isles afar off, and say,  
"He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
And keep him as a shepherd does his flock."

### Specifics:

This was a work of God. That He would scatter Israel into the surrounding nations in the diaspora of 70 A.D., but will also be the one to bring them back as a nation once again.

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3. For specifics, read my study "The Lying Prophet".

## Prophecy #9

Deuteronomy 30:3-5 (written in 1405 BC)

The LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you. Then the LORD your God will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers.

### Specifics:

God will bring back a scattered Israel from the diaspora of 70 A.D. and will gather them again back in to the land of Israel. They will prosper and multiply their population more than before. As of 2008, the population of Jews living in Israel was 5.472 million. Their gross domestic product has a per capita estimate of \$31,767 with a steady growth rate of 5.2% (2006-2007 figures). This small country excels in agriculture, industry, and medical technology.

## Prophecy #10

Isaiah 11:11-12 (written: between 593-560 BC)

It shall come to pass in that day

That the Lord shall set His hand again the *second time*

To recover the remnant of His people who are left...

He will set up a banner for the nations,

And will assemble the outcasts of Israel,

And gather together the dispersed of Judah

From the four corners of the earth.

### Specifics:

There is the mention of "a second time"; this is a two-fold prophecy. The first prophecy deals with earlier pronouncements by Isaiah that Israel will be taken in to captivity to Babylon. The second would not be a captivity, but rather a "dispersal" among the nations. This was seen in the diaspora of 70 A.D.. Isaiah then speaks of God regathering the remnants from the four corners of the earth back into the land of Israel.

There are more prophecies regarding Israel's regathering after being scattered all over the world. But ten is more than enough to prove the point that hundreds of years before the fulfillment, God proved that He could see from the vantage point of the eternal and prophesy future events with accuracy, specifics, and redundancy.

An event such as this has never happened before in all of history. In fact, Robert Anderson, who was the inspector for Scotland Yard (who almost caught Jack the Ripper) took the book of Daniel as providing the date Messiah was to come. His incredible calculations pinpointed the day Jesus rode in to Jerusalem.<sup>4</sup> For this, he was knighted by Queen Victoria and became *Sir* Robert Anderson. However, he read other prophecies regarding Israel becoming a nation again and thought that this was much too preposterous. No nation, after being conquered and scattered ever returned again to form a nation and a people. So it must have had some "allegorical" meaning to it. In 1948, Sir Robert Anderson was proven wrong. Sir Robert Anderson believed the Bible, but his doubt in a wild claim such as Israel becoming a nation was too much for him. That is how accurate prophecy is. Before the fulfillment took place, Anderson assumed it was wrong (having lived in the Victorian era pre 1948). It was just too far beyond the realm of possibility to accept.

Prophecy is history written in advance, from the vantage point of One who sits outside of the constraints of the physical, terrestrial domain of space-time. This is the proof that is required of any writing or pronouncement to say it is a Word from God. Anyone can say it. It is quite another for them to prove it. The Bible is the only book in history that can, and continues to do so to this day.

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4. ref. The Coming Prince by Sir Robert Anderson

## Explaining It Away

I have had atheists and others try to explain away the evidence. I understand their need to do this, but much of their logic is horribly flawed. Here are a few...

*"Prophecy is just lucky guessing."*

A lucky guess cannot maintain a 100% track record, nor can it contain specifics.

*"The Bible fulfills itself. That is just circular reasoning."*

If the Bible was written in one shot, yes. However, the Bible was written at various historic intervals. There are numerous prophecies in Isaiah that speak of Babylon coming in and sacking Jerusalem. At the time the book was written, Babylon was a very small city on the Euphrates. Hardly a threat. However, in other books written later, this event is recorded, and eye-witnessed by Jeremiah himself. Were they written at the same time? No. Some of the writers, such as Daniel, were just children at the moment it happened. There are more than 300 prophecies that describe the coming Messiah, as well as the day He was to reveal Himself as such.<sup>5</sup> All this was written in the Old Testament, for which we have copies dating back 2,000 years. The fulfillments took place in 33 A.D. and were recorded 40 years later, yet the prophecies were fulfilled to the letter. Even if you do not believe that, all would agree that the Bible was written before 1948, right? So with the above 10 prophecies, the argument is baseless.

*"If millions of people guessed the numbers in the lottery, chances are high someone will win."*

This was actually postulated to me, but it is quite backward in its logic. The stats of prophecy would be the same as hundreds of people placing their numbers for the lottery, and all of them guessed the correct number sequence.

*"Scripture can be twisted to say anything."*

Yes, this is true. But you have to be of a mind that seeks to twist and not use proper exegesis. Did I twist the above prophecies regarding Israel? Read them again. Am I pushing the text, or just paraphrasing its fulfillment in the specifics? It is very difficult to assign the fulfillment, for example, to any other nation besides Israel. Can it be twisted? Yes! There are many false doctrines that state the church is "spiritual Israel" and that all prophecies and promises to Israel now refer to the church. So when in all of history is God going to gather the Christians back in to their land? What land? Oh, the United States! Now that, my friend, is twisting the text!

*"Scripture has been corrupted, and/or edited by man."*

This is cult talk. The major cults always say this in order to peddle their addendum's such as The Book of Mormon, or a "custom" translation such as the New World Translation. Of course, the Book of Mormon and all the other books in the LDS library, have zero prophecy to prove that they are from God. And the New World Translation is written to accommodate the false doctrines of the Watchtower Organization. So, is the Bible truly corrupted from its original text? Well, if the Author is God, would He not be able to protect and preserve it? If not, those that make the accusation do not have a very powerful deity upon which they put their faith. If he cannot preserve his collection of 66 books, how can one trust that he can preserve the soul for eternity? Here is where prophecy comes in to play once more. Can corrupted text prophesy with accuracy? The answer is no. Corruption comes from man. If the Bible was written by man, and not God, or if the Bible text was corrupted by man, then prophecy would not exist within the text because man cannot prophesy since he is limited to the physical restraints of a timeline. People shout this accusation all of the time, but with prophecy intact and easily verified, the evidence speaks against them and the text remains sound.

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5. See my study "The Seventieth Week of Daniel"

## What Are the Odds?

Keep this number in mind before proceeding. One in 10 to the 50th power or  $1$  in  $10^{50}$ . Ten to the fiftieth power is ten with 50 zeros after it. Now, why is that number important? Because science has defined that anything that has the odds of such a number is a complete and utter impossibility.

So let's look at the probability of one man fulfilling some of these specific and redundant prophecies. The following probability assessment was tabulated by Dr. Peter Stoner in an analysis that was carefully reviewed and pronounced to be sound by the American Scientific Affiliation. I also wish to acknowledge Chuck Missler at Koinonia House where it was gleaned.

To determine the chances of any one person in history fulfilling the Messianic prophecies entirely due to chance and coincidence, we must use combinatorial probabilities. For example, assume that in a room 50% of the people are male and 50% are female. Also assume that the males and females are 50% left-handed and 50% right-handed. What is the probability that the next person to leave that room is male? Intuitively it is  $1/2$ , or one chance in two. What is the probability that the next person to leave that room is male and left-handed? Again the probability that the person is left-handed is  $1/2$ , and the probability that the person is male is  $1/2$  so the probability, at random, that the next person to leave that room is male and left-handed is 25% or one chance in 4; the way you compute combinatorial probabilities is to multiply the denominators of the odds of each singular event occurring - so  $1/2 * 1/2$  is  $1/4$  or one chance in 4.

Combinatorial probabilities allow us to examine the occurrences of seemingly random events and determine if the fact that the events occurred together was just some extremely rare occurrence or if they have been deliberately caused by some unknown force or design. Let's take a look at just 48 prophecies, out of over 300 Messianic prophecies, fulfilled by Jesus Christ and determine if Jesus fulfilled them by some fluke or if they were fulfilled by supernatural design. Remember that many of these predictions are things over which a mere man would have no control; such as where you are born.

Let's start with eight of them.

Micah 5:2 - The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.

What is the probability that one person, picked at random was born in Bethlehem? A reasonable estimate would be to divide the population of the world at that time (two billion) by the population of Bethlehem (10,000).

$2 \times 10^9 / 10,000 =$  one chance in 200,000. That is to say you would have to collect a random sample of 200,000 people before finding one born in Bethlehem.

Zechariah 9:9 - The Messiah would present himself to Jerusalem as a king riding on a donkey.

There is only one King I know of who presented himself to Jerusalem riding on a donkey. However, let's assume that less than one person in 100 chosen at random would just happen to be a king who presented himself to Jerusalem on a donkey.<sup>6</sup>

Zechariah 11:12 - The Messiah would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver.

This was exactly the amount Judas received for his betrayal of Christ. How many historical leaders were betrayed for 30 pieces of silver? There is no historical tally, but it is safe to assume no more than one in 1000.

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6. Specifically, a colt, the foal of an ass, or an unbroken donkey.

Zechariah 11:13 - The Messiah was betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, but also the transaction will take place in the temple and the money would be ultimately be given to a potter.

This is exactly what happened to Jesus. The odds of this happening to any other person, who also fulfilled the over 300 other prophecies, is beyond human comprehension, but let's assign a probability of one chance in 100,000 of this particular event happening by chance alone.

Zechariah 13:6 - The Messiah will have conspicuous wounds in his hands.

What is the probability that someone, selected at random, would have conspicuous wounds in their hands? Conservatively we'll assign a probability of one in a thousand.

Isaiah 53:7 - The Messiah at His trial, though innocent, will not open His mouth to defend himself.

Not many people facing the death sentence would remain silent before their accusers. Jesus was the only one I know of, but we'll assign a probability of one in one thousand.

Isaiah 53:9 - The Messiah would die with the wicked and make His grave with the rich.

This is exactly what happened. Jesus was crucified between two thieves and buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, one of the richest persons in the area. Let's assign a chance of one in a thousand, which is ridiculously conservative.

Psalms 22: 16,17 - The Messiah would be crucified.

Psalms 22, written about 800 years before the birth of Jesus, reads as if it were written in the first person singular by Jesus himself hanging from the cross. And crucifixion was not even invented until about 90 B.C.—123 years before the prophesied event.

What is the probability that a person being executed, selected at random, throughout history, was crucified? Let's say one chance in 1000; again, ridiculously conservative.

The composite probability of all eight events occurring at random is  $10^{28}$  (again that's a 10 with 28 zeros after it). To compute the odds of one person chosen at random fulfilling all eight of these predictions, we have to divide by the population which yields  $10^{17} \cdot 10^{28} / 10^{11} = 10^{34}$ .  $10^{17}$  is a large number; it is roughly equivalent to covering the state of Texas with silver dollars two feet thick, marking one coin on the bottom with an "X", sending out a blindfolded man to wander the state and then reach down and pick up the silver dollar we have marked.

But this is just eight prophecies. Let's consider 16 prophecies, with the next eight having the same probability of occurring at random as the first eight (the second eight are most certainly more rare).

For sixteen prophecies, the odds are one in  $10^{28} \cdot 10^{28} / 10^{11}$  or  $10^{45}$ . Now if we use silver dollars to perform the same experiment, we would need a ball of silver dollars 30 times the distance from the earth to the sun or  $30 \cdot 93,000,000$  which is a ball of silver dollars 2,790,000,000 miles in diameter. Now mark one dollar and send out a blindfolded person in a space suit. The chance that he would pick the silver dollar we marked is about the same odds of one person in history at random fulfilling 16 of the Messianic prophecies due purely to chance. For 48 prophecies we would have  $10^{28} \cdot 10^{28} \cdot 10^{28} \cdot 10^{28} \cdot 10^{28} \cdot 10^{28} / 10^{11}$  or  $10^{157}$ . To visualize these odds, we need to use atoms.

- 1) To do this we would make a "ball" of each atom in the universe [estimated at  $10^{66}$  atoms].
- 2) Make many such balls; make one such ball for each atom in the universe or  $10^{66} * 10^{66} = 10^{132}$  balls.
- 3) keep repeating steps one and two once each second since the universe was created:

$10^{132} * 10^{17} = 10^{149}$  and we're still  $10^8$  short. Now mark an atom, get into your space suit and pick the atom we marked. You can see the odds are getting ridiculous, but let's continue

And that's with only 48 prophecies individually estimated with very conservative odds. In fact, we were very conservative -- to the point of being absurd -- in establishing probabilities. If you don't like the probabilities assigned, then compute the result yourself using whatever numbers you like, but remember over 300 prophecies were fulfilled by Jesus Christ. In the final analysis, you will demonstrate to yourself that anyone rejecting Jesus Christ as the Son of God is rejecting a fact proven more absolutely than any other fact in the world. Jesus' fulfillment of the 300 prophecies was by supernatural design, not by chance.

And do not forget that over 300 Messianic prophecies were fulfilled by Jesus Christ in His lifetime. Any other candidate would also have to do so, all in one lifetime.

Remember that scientists have concluded that any occurrence with odds of  $10^{50}$  is an utter impossibility. This probability was very near to the fulfillment of only 16 prophecies. However, there are over 300 regarding Jesus Christ and His first coming! My own private tabulation of many of these prophecies can be found in my study "In the Volume of the Book" for more reference material.

## How Should I Respond?

I am not one to dictate how one should respond to the small amount of sample evidence I have provided. However, I believe that intellectual honesty could say without reservation that the statement that there is "no proof of God" should no longer be our excuse for ignoring or belittling the possibilities. If you choose not to put your faith and trust into God's care for salvation and eternal life, that is your free will choice, and I for one will not belabor the point. The point is to examine the evidence and come to a decision based on knowledge, not on unfounded agendas by the myriad of nay-sayers.

I used to watch a TV series called CSI (Crime Scene Investigation). I learned a very important lesson from that show. "Let the evidence tell you how an event occurred. Do not start with a premise and skew the evidence to fit your view." The violation of this principle (within the episodes) always turned out wrong and were based on personal prejudice. Do not make the same mistake in your response. The evidence proves with overwhelming odds that 1) There is a God, 2) The Bible is God's Word and 3) Jesus is the Messiah sent to save us and bring us into contact with this living God.

Let us return to our initial analogy. Based on incremental discovery, we know that atoms exist. We examined the evidence, and found that yes indeed, atoms truly exist. But have we actually seen atoms? Actually, yes. In fact, there are experiments today that are used to observe the orbit of the electron! Could anyone 50 years ago imagine such a thing? How much more coming in contact with your Creator? They say that "Seeing is believing", when in reality, "Believing is seeing". It warns in Hebrews 11:6 not to put the cart before the horse...

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

God will reveal Himself only to those who wish to find Him. Conversely, He will hide His face from those who only wish prove He is but a fairy tale. When asked by Moses for His name, God replied, "I AM". The actual translation is "The Becoming One". His name reveals His nature. He will become what you decide in your free will that He is. If to you God is a fairy tale, then God will give you plenty of reasons to solidify your decision. If to you God is all and nature is god, then he will solidify you in that decision as well. However, to be a part of the true and living God, you must come by faith, and you must seek Him in spirit and in truth. And it starts by believing the proof of God.