

QUESTION 5: How is it you cannot see Christ's fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy is that of Jehovah God Himself?

As my fellow Bible-believing Christians and I study God's Word, we cannot help but notice how often we are reminded, not only Christ's fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies, but of Christ's appropriating the name of Jehovah for Himself.

A significant example of the former is found in Isaiah 40:3. Isaiah prophesied of a voice of one crying in the wilderness who would prepare the people for the coming of Jehovah, the God of Israel.

[All Scriptures cited are from 2013 Revised New World Translation.]

A voice of one calling out in the wilderness: "Clear up the way of Jehovah! Make a straight highway through the desert for our God.

John the Baptist admitted he was that prophet prophesied by Isaiah: *He said: "I am a voice of someone crying out in the wilderness, 'Make the way of Jehovah straight,' just as Isaiah the prophet said"* (John 1:19-23).

John the Baptist pointed to Jesus as the One whose coming he was preparing:

The next day he [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him, and he said: "See, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin

of the world! This is the one about whom I said: 'Behind me there comes a man who has advanced in front of me, for he existed before me.' Even I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing in water was so that he might be made manifest to Israel" (John 1:24-31).

Over time, John the Baptist became unsure Jesus was the One he prophesied to come:

So John summoned two of his disciples and sent them to the Lord to ask: "Are you the Coming One, or are we to expect a different one?" When they came to him, the men said: "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the Coming One, or are we to expect another?'"

Jesus then proves to them the Baptist prophesied correctly. He simply pointed them to the numerous supernatural miracles which could only be done by the power of Jehovah God.

We biblical Christians understand by comparing Isaiah 40:3 with the above cited Scriptures, we are to understand Jesus is Jehovah, the Coming One.

But Jesus does not stop there. He publicly cites Malachi 3:1:

"This is the one about whom it is written: 'Look! I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way ahead of you'" (Luke 7:19-27).

Jesus explains the Baptist is that messenger prophesied in Malachi.

The 2013 NWT of Malachi 3:1 reads:

Look! I am sending my messenger, and he will clear up a way before me. And suddenly the true Lord, whom you are seeking, will come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant will come, in whom you take delight. Look! He will certainly come,” says Jehovah of armies.

Jesus is also identifying Himself as ‘the true Lord’ sent by Jehovah.

Here we have two truths written by Isaiah and Malachi, which Mark 1:1-3 cites when beginning his Gospel: Jesus is *both* true Lord and Jehovah.

Yet Jesus did not send Himself to the temple. Jehovah the Father sent His Son, a truth which Jesus reiterates numerous times throughout the Gospels when He states, “... the Father who sent me...”

Thus, the Father and the Son are both identified as Jehovah. Two persons, yet one Jehovah God.

Jesus Appropriates Titles Specific to Jehovah

Look! He [Jesus Christ] is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, and those who pierced him; and all the tribes of the earth will beat themselves in grief because of him. Yes, Amen. ⁸ “I am the Al’pha and the O-me’ga,” says Jehovah God, “the One who is and who was and who is coming, the Almighty (Rev. 1:7-8).

In verse 7 we are told Jesus Christ is coming. In verse 8 we are told Jehovah God, the Almighty, is coming. By turning to chapter 19, verse 11, we discover who is actually coming: Jesus Christ, the Word of God, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Thus, we biblical Christians must conclude Jesus Christ is Jehovah God, the Almighty.

Furthermore, the same Alpha and Omega of verse 8 is quoted by Jesus in Rev. 22:12:

'Look! I [Jesus] am coming quickly, and the reward I give is with me, to repay each one according to his work. I [Jesus] am the Al'pha and the O-me'ga, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.'

Jesus is also citing Isaiah 44:6, *the first and the last*, appropriating yet another title of Jehovah to Himself.

By calling Himself 'the beginning,' we biblical Christians understand Jesus as the Word, Jehovah the Son, who, in the beginning created all things. He is the beginning of creation (Col. 1:18).

By calling Himself, 'the end,' we understand Jesus as the final objective and purpose for creation:

With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say: "Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his people. And God himself will be with them. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no

*more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore.
The former things have passed away (Rev. 21:3).*