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The Old Testament revealed the character of the coming Messiah and things that would prove who the true Christ is in a world mixed with deceivers.

In Isaiah 50:4 -9 New Century Version, there are some interesting Scriptures that were fulfilled through Jesus Christ during the last days of his earthly ministry. God's servant would be obedient and who would not finish his course until everything was fulfilled that He had been called to do. The Word says, "The Lord God gives me the ability to teach so that I will know what to say to make the weak strong. Every morning He awakes me. He teaches me to listen like a student. The Lord God helps me learn and I have not turned against Him. I offered my back to those who beat me; I offered my cheeks to those who pulled my beard. I won't hide my face from them when they make fun of me and spit at me. The Lord God helps me so I will not be ashamed. I will be determined and I know I will not be disgraced. He shows that I am innocent and he is close to me, so who can accuse me? If there is someone let us go to court together. If someone wants to prove I have done wrong he should come and tell me. Look! It is the Lord God who helps me so who can prove me guilty. Look! All those who try will become useless like old clothes; moths will eat them."

When Jesus was taken to the temple for the Passover feast at 12 years old, he stayed behind when his parents left to go home. They were a day's journey when they discovered that Jesus was not in the group of travelers. It took them 3 days of searching and they found him at the feet of the priests and experts of religion, asking questions. When asked why he had not followed them, he replied, "Don't you know that I must be about my Father's business?" Luke 2:49.

In Luke 9:51, Jesus knew it was close at hand to fulfill his Father's plan to redeem the world through Christ's death on the cross. When the time was near for Jesus to depart, he was determined to go to Jerusalem. He sent some men ahead of him into Samaria to make things ready for him, but the people would not welcome him there because He was set on going to Jerusalem. The disciples asked Jesus if He wanted them to call down fire from heaven to destroy those who rejected them, but Jesus rebuked them and declared that He hadn't come to destroy people but desired to save them.

In Mark 9:30, Jesus and his disciples walked through Galilee. He sought private time with his followers because He had some things to teach them before He was put to death. He said to them, "The Son of Man will be handed over to people and they will kill him. After three days, he will rise from the dead." But the followers didn't understand what He meant and they were afraid to ask him. As they walked through Capernaum, Jesus stopped at a house and asked his disciples, "What were you arguing about on the road?" No one answered him because they were arguing over who was going to be the greatest in

the kingdom of God. Jesus explained that whoever wants to be the greatest in the kingdom of God must become a servant and last of all.

In Mark 10:32. Jesus led the way into Jerusalem. He took his disciples aside and explained to them what was going to take place when they arrived in Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be turned over to the leading priests and the teachers of the law. They will say that he must die, and they will turn him over to non-Jewish people who will laugh at him and spit on him. They will beat him with whips and crucify him, but on the third day, He will rise to life again.

Even though Jesus spoke plainly to his followers, their thoughts were on the coming kingdom that they would rule with Jesus . James and John, sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and asked him for a favor.

When Jesus asked what they desired of him, they asked that one of them would sit on the right hand and the other on the left hand when Jesus set up his kingdom.

Jesus told them that they didn't understand what they were asking for. "Could they drink of the cup that he was going to drink of and be baptized with the baptism that he had chosen to be baptized with?" They answered that they could. They certainly didn't realize the depths of sorrow that was awaiting them in Jerusalem. Jesus told them that they would drink of the cup and be baptized with the baptism that he would partake of, but to give them top positions in his kingdom was not for him to designate. His father had prepared those for people that he had chosen.

The other disciples were angry with John and James for asking for the key positions in the future kingdom, but all of them had discussed what positions they should have when Jesus set up his kingdom. They didn't comprehend what was about to take place. Jesus once again repeated what he had talked to them previously concerning.

Those who wish to be great must serve the others like a servant. Those who want to be first must serve others like a slave. Jesus came not to be served, but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom. Mark 10: 42-45.

In Mark 11, Jesus entered Jerusalem as a King. He sent his disciples ahead to find the colt that was tied and they were commanded to bring it to him. If anyone questioned them about their untying the colt, they were to say, "The Master needs the colt" and permission would be granted. The followers found the colt, people who were standing there asked what they were doing and they answered as Jesus had instructed them and they were given permission to take the colt just as Jesus had told them.

After placing their coats on the colt, they placed Jesus on the colt and he rode into the city on the colt. People spread their coats in the road, some cut branches in the fields and spread them on the road. People began shouting, "Praise God! God bless the One who comes in the name of the Lord (See Psalm 118:26) God bless the kingdom of our father David! The kingdom is coming! Praise to God in heaven. Jesus entered the temple and

later returned to throw out the money changers. He declared, "My house is a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves.

The priests and religious leaders demanded to know where Jesus got the authority that He portrayed. Jesus told them to answer his question first and then He would answer them. He asked them where John the Baptist got his authority, was it of men or of God. They didn't dare to answer for if they said it was of men, they feared getting stoned for the people accepted John as a prophet. If they said "of God", then Jesus would have asked why they didn't listen and follow him. They simply said, "We can't say" and Jesus said that neither would He answer their question of where He got his authority.

Jesus loved Jerusalem and in Luke 13:31, some Pharisees came to Jesus and warned him that He should leave because Herod was going to kill him. Jesus said, "Go tell that fox I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow and on the third day I will reach my goal- for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem." Jesus went on to speak to Jerusalem, his beloved city. Prophets were killed and those who God sent were stoned, but how often Jesus longed to gather their children like a hen gathers her baby chicks, but they would not allow it. So their house would be left desolate and their rejection of their King would be to their own sorrow as the years went by.