

The Easter Story is Bigger than You Think **The Ministry of Jesus - Isaiah 61:1**

The Easter Story is bigger than you think, because Jesus is bigger than you think.

- Jesus is the pre-existent God.
- Jesus is the Creator and Sustainer of all things.
- Jesus reconciled all things to Himself in His work on the cross.
- Jesus is preeminent in all things.

The Easter Story is bigger than you think because it is the fulfillment of so many prophecies.

- There is one book.
- There are two parts.
- There are 66 Individual books—39 Old Testament Books and 27 New Testament books.
- There are 8,352 prophecies in these 66 books.
- Of these prophecies, 6,312 have already happened—to the letter—just like God’s Word said they would.
- That leaves 2,040 prophecies that are being fulfilled from now to the end of the world.

The biggest single prophecy that does not concern Jesus Himself, is that Elijah returns before Christ comes (both times!).

Among these prophecies is Isaiah’s prophecy of what the ministry of the Messiah would look like.

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| • The Spirit of the Lord will be upon Him. | Isaiah 61:1a |
| • The anointing of the Lord will be upon Him. | Isaiah 61:1b |
| • He will bring Good News to the poor. | Isaiah 61.1c |
| • He will heal the brokenhearted. | Isaiah 61:1d |
| • He will bring freedom to the captives. | Isaiah 61:1e |

Jesus declares Himself to be the fulfillment of this prophecy, and yet is rejected by his hometown because he points out their sinfulness.

Luke 4:16-30