The O.T. Predicts the Messiah

A vast portion of the Bible is given to predictive prophecy. It is said that 333 distinct prophecies were literally and exactly fulfilled at the first coming of Christ (the chances of this happening by accident have been computed as 1 in 87,000--plus 90 more zeros).

For every verse speaking of Jesus' first coming in Scripture, there are eight which speak of His second coming.

The World in general is quite familiar with some of the details involving Christ's birth.
Many know of the angels announcement to the shepherds…
Many know of the humble stable and manger…
Many know of the wise men who came to worship him…etc.

Did you know…

1. **The O.T. tells us WHERE the Messiah would be born:**
   Answer: **BETHLEHEM** (Micah 5:2)

   Micah 5:2
   But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

2. **The O.T. tells us WHEN the Messiah would be born:**
   Answer: **483 YEARS after Artaxerxes' degree to rebuild Jerusalem** (Dan.9:25; Neh.2:5)

   Da 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

3. **The O.T. tells us HOW the Messiah would be born:**
   Answer: **Of a VIRGIN** (Is.7:14; Mt.1:23)

   Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.
   Mt 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

4. The O.T. tells us <u>WHAT</u> the Messiah would be like and <u>HOW</u> He would be viewed and treated when He came into the world:
Answer: **Humble & Rejected** (Isaiah 53:1-3)

Isaiah 53:1-3
Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? [2] For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. [3] He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

5. The O.T. tells us <u>WHY</u> the Messiah would be born:
Answer: **To Suffer & Die for the Sins of the World** (Isaiah 53:4-12)

Jesus stated His purpose for coming with these words:
Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.
Mark 10:45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Paul stated the purpose for Christ's coming with these words:
1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

The writer of Hebrews stated the purpose for Christ's incarnation with these words:
Hebrews 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.
Hebrews 2:14 ¶ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;