**The Messiah (Moshiach) Part 2 – The New Testament**

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# **Introduction**

This is the second of the two-part message on the concept of the Messiah from a Christian perspective and what I believe.

The first part was an important message as it demonstrated the key facets and ways of identifying the Messiah from mainly Rabbinic and purely Jewish Theology.

In this message I will discuss Jesus in the New Testament and how his life fulfilled the role of the Messiah in Old Testament prophesies as well as writings in the Psalms.

# **Definition**

Jesus is often referred to as Christ and the Greek word ‘Christos’ is originally a translation of the Hebrew ‘Mashiah (Messiah) which means anointed one and Jesus is anointed when he is baptised by John the Baptist in **Matthew 3:13-17.**

Jesus never actually calls himself the Christ or the Messiah but asks for confirmation from his disciples in;

**Mark 8:29 - And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.**

# **God the plural**

One of the key concepts is whether Jesus is God and here I have used the Hebrew word for God in;

**Genesis 1:1 – In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.**

Translation of word God is Elohim (אֱלהִים) and is the masculine plural of the word Eloah and the ‘im’ at the end indicates a plurality in male.

It is interesting that even at creation, Christ was there and from this viewpoint it is my belief in the concept of a trinitarian divine God, i.e., God the Father (Adonai), God the Son (Yeshua) and God the Holy Spirit (Ruach Hakodesh)

I hold on to this belief when I speak to Jehovah’s Witness or Jewish Rabbis and have never really got a suitable answer as to why this basic concept is constantly overlooked to show the plurality of God.

# **Lineage – Son of David and Royalty**

Jesus’ lineage to David is detailed the first chapter of Matthew shows that Jesus is a direct descendent of David.

**Mathew 1:1 - The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.**

As well as people giving clear indicators that they recognised him as the messiah in

**Matthew 12:23 - And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?**

As well as:

**Matthew 21:9 - And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus is stated as David’s son who sits at the right hand of God as detailed in

**Mark 12:35 - And Jesus answered and said, while he taught in the temple, How say the scribes that Christ is the Son of David?**

**36.For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The LORD said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool.**

**37. David therefore himself calleth him Lord; and whence is he then his son? And the common people heard him gladly.**

The verse in 35 is quoted from **Psalm 110:1** which is a key verse and where ‘My Lord’ may indicate that David is referring to his superior i.e., his descendent Jesus Christ.

As the Jewish writer Sforno states that ‘this Psalm is dedicated to the future King Messiah. He is on Gods right hand and the angels on the left’

Paul refers to the lineage of Jesus in;

**Romans 1:3 - Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;**

This is a reference to

**Psalms 2:7 - I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.**

The implication for the Jewish people as the Messiah being royal is in;

**Psalm 2:8 - Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.**

The Messiah had to come from a royal line as detailed in Genesis as the sceptre of Judah.

We are then told in the book of Acts that ultimate fulfilment of this in;

**Acts 13:22 - And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.**

**23. Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus:**

This is combination of;

**1 Samuel 13:14** and **Psalm 89:20**

God shows whoever he sends is both a saviour as well as faithful to the promise as in

**2 Samuel 22:51 - He is the tower of salvation for his king: and sheweth mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his seed for evermore.**

When Jesus was asked if he was a King by Pilate, he confirmed this fact by answering:

**Mark 15:2 - And Pilate asked him, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answering said unto him, Thou sayest it.**

# **The Root**

Within the book of Revelation, Jesus is confirmed as the root;

**Revelation 22:16 - I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**

The Greek word for root is ‘rhiza’ and is Strongs defines this as a shoot or source; that which comes from the root and a descendent.

The root is mentioned several times in the Old Testament.

The Hebrew word is ‘shoresh’ and is detailed in;

**Isaiah 11:10 - And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.**

# **Born to a Virgin.**

For the Messiah to be a born a virgin would need to conceive him and bear a son whose name was Immanuel and the definition from Hebrew means ‘God is with us’ as in;

**Isaiah 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.”**

We know Mary was virgin as stated in the gospels including.

**Luke 1:27 - To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.**

# **Birth / Place**

The messiah’s birthplace would need to be in David’s city Bethlehem in

**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.**

Hebrew word for ‘ruler’ is ‘mo-wo-sel’

We know where Jesus was born as is detailed in the gospels:

**Matthew 2:1 - Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,**

# **How Jesus addressed himself**

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem and the crowd were singing ‘Please deliver us’ they were quoting **Psalm 118:25-26** which saw Jesus as the Son of David and ultimately the Messiah.

When the leaders questioned Jesus, he answered that even the children could identify him as the Messiah.

**Matthew 21:16 - And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?**

This is a clear reference to;

**Psalm 8:2 - Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.**

Jesus knew that the crowds knew who he was even though the religious leaders did not.

# **Rejection**

The Messiah’s rejection is detailed within the book of Isaiah.

**Isaiah 6:9. And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.**

**10.Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.**

Isaiah is giving a warning to his people that they fail to comprehend what they have been told from the prophets and they have failed to see the miracles as from God (Rashi)

The Israelites will hear Isaiah’s word but fail to comprehend his message and God will deny them the opportunity to repent as God did with the hardening of Pharoah’s heart.

Fattening of the heart is a metaphor for insulating the heart so that the words of reproof cannot penetrate.

Further in Isaiah a description of the Messiahs mistreatment by man is given;

**Isaiah 53:3 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.**

There are many references in the New Testament that Jesus was;

1. A Man of sorrows – The Hebrew word is ’ish makh’ovot means, literally, “man of pains” which we know he felt on the cross.
2. Acquainted with grief -there are many stories such as the story of Lazarus in John 11 where Jesus grieved.
3. Despised and did not esteem him **Matthew 12:14**

# **Priest**

**Hebrews 6:20**

Jesus was the priests who from the order of Melchizidek offered the final and ultimate sacrifice for our sin.

# **Betrayal**

The quantity of money is stated in the book of Zechariah for how much Jesus was betrayed by. As we know Judas was his betrayer

**Zechariah 11:12. And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So, they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.**

**13.And the LORD said unto me, cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.**

This is confirmed in.

**Matthew 26:15 - And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.**

# **Suffering**

It was foretold that the Messiah would suffer as in;

**Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.**

Peter discusses this fulfilment of suffering in the book of Acts.

**Acts 3:18 - But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.**

# **Crucifixion**

It was foretold that the Messiah would be crucified, and the events of the crucifixion are listed very distinctly within **Psalm 22**. I have detailed the aspects of Christs suffering on the cross by the appropriate subheading;

## Mocking

**Psalm 22 - 7/8**

‘They open their lips to mock me and they shake their heads as mockers do”

‘They tell me to go away, they reject me’

Sons of Haman in the boof of Esther who derided the Jews by shaking their heads and taunting ‘Tomorrow you shall die”

**Matthew 27:39**

## Body

**Psalm 22:14/15**

Judaica press

Because of fear my body was like water which could not be collected, ‘Wax’ in the sense that it was as though he had lost his mind and strength is related to bodily water content.

This is a vivid description of Jesus as he lay dying on the cross.

## Thirst

**Psalm 22:15/16**

Strength is related to bodily water content and “When a person is distressed, he has no water in his mouth”

‘My tongue is paralysed’

‘set down the pot’ as in Ezekiel 24:3

**Matthew 27:48**

## Piercing

**Psalm verse 16/17**

It was common practice within the Roman Empire whilst in Israel to crucify offenders within cities under their control.

**Matthew 27:35**

## Emaciation

Psalm 22:17/18

Ibn Ezra states the verse translates as ‘I am so emaciated that my bones protrude, and I can count them’

This Psalm contains 248 words which is same number of limbs on human body

Many paintings show Jesus as emaciated, and we know that through bleeding and dehydration his body would have been under tremendous stress.

## **His clothes gambled over.**

Psalm 22:18/19

**Matthew 27:35**

# **Death**

Ultimately, we are told he gave up the ghost and his physical body died in Matthew.

**Matthew 27:50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.**

His death was foretold within the symbolism of the Passover in the book of Exodus in the Old Testament.

**Exodus 12:21. Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover.**

**22. And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.**

**23. For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.**

Reference to;

**John 19:29**

# **Resurrection**

Jesus was foretold to be resurrected in;

**Psalm 118:17. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

**18.The LORD hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death.**

As well as in:

**Isaiah 25:7. And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations.**

**8.He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.**

We are told in all the gospels very clearly that Jesus was resurrected from death as in;

**Matthew 28:7**

**Mark 16:9**

**Luke 24:15**

**John 20:14**

When Jesus was crucified, he defeated death and promises those who love him eternal life.

# **Olam Haba – In the world to come.**

The messianic age when Jesus will return (details of the events of Christs return are detailed in another message titled Jesus Second Coming’)

Jesus will rule in the messianic age as we are told in the book of Revelation, and you can review this in the first part of this message (Moshiach Part One)

# **Summary 1**

In summary I have shown both through the first part of this message as well as this one that Jesus I believe to be the Messiah spoken about in the Old Testament who would come to save his people.

Famous Jewish writers identify all the facets of the Messiah but still await their Messiah or Messiahs in some cases to deliver them and do not realise that he has already come.

# **Summary 2**

We are told where he would be from, the virginal status of his mother as well as his life and subsequent death on the cross.

The purpose of the Messiah was for God to come to earth as Man as save him as man could not save himself due to his nature and his affinity to sin.

# **Summary 3**

I find it sad that after spending some time with Jewish people that they do not read their Tanakh’s or as we call the Old Testament that much of the references to the Messiah within the Old Testament are not checked against the life of Jesus Christ.

The Jewish Messiah was expected to deliver the Jewish people from their enemies i.e. Roman empire but Jesus came to deliver us from the spiritual enemy sin and save mankind from itself which was open to both Jews and Gentiles.

The Messiah would also lead his people and establish an eternal kingdom with them which Jewish people see the kingdom as one of physical and not a spiritual kingdom which Jesus himself told us when he left in:

**John 14:2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.**

**3.And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.**

**Amen**

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