

Messianic Prophecy

Series: Prophecy

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It could be argued that the most important kind of prophecy is concerning Jesus' first advent, not His return. As Jesus said, "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." (John 3:17) Yet Paul wrote, "God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with His powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus." (2 Thess. 1:6-8) It can also be said that God gave us much more detail in prophecy about the circumstances of the first coming of Jesus the Messiah than He did about the details of the precise time of the second coming.

The word Messiah: **Messiah (n.)**

c. 1300, *Messias*, a designation of Jesus as the savior of the world, from Late Latin *Messias*, from Greek *Messias*, from Aramaic (Semitic) *meshiha* and Hebrew *mashiah* "the anointed" (of the Lord), from *mashah* "anoint." It is thus the Hebrew equivalent of *Christ*, and it is the word rendered in Septuagint as Greek *Khristos* (see **Christ**).

<https://www.etymonline.com/word/messiah>

The messiah (anointed) concept in the OT applied to priests (Lev.4), kings (Psalms), and then to one special person called The Anointed One.

The key passage identifying this Messiah is Daniel 9: 24 "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place. 25 "Know and understand this: From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem **until the Anointed One**, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. 26 After the sixty-two 'sevens,' **the Anointed One** will be put to death and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. 27 He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him. "

The association of the Messiah with David. Paul preached this in Acts 13:32-37, 32 “We tell you the good news: **What God promised our ancestors** 33 he has **fulfilled for us**, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm: “ ‘You are my son; today I have become your father.’ 34 God raised him from the dead so that he will never be subject to decay. As God has said, “ ‘I will give you the **holy and sure blessings promised to David.**’ 35 So it is also stated elsewhere: “ ‘You will not let your holy one see decay.’ 36 “Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed. 37 But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.

One of the passages this refers to is Isaiah 55:3-5, 3 Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, **my faithful love promised to David.** 4 See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of the peoples. 5 Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor.” This is in a section of Isaiah filled with Messianic promise.

Isaiah 52:13-53:12, the portion being read by the Ethiopian in Acts 8. Philip began with this Scripture and preached Jesus to Him. He asked a key question: “Tell me please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” (8:34) The death of the Messiah for transgression is clearly proclaimed and clearly fulfilled in Jesus.

Two weeks ago when talking about remembering the covenant of Jesus we read from Isa.54:1-10. Here Isaiah defines the redemptive nature of the Messiah who through His death will “bring them back.” When we begin to unpack the Messianic references and prophecies in the Old Testament we find them woven throughout this prophetic tapestry.

The website Jews for Jesus has a useful list of Messianic Prophecies:
<https://jewsforjesus.org/answers/top-40-most-helpful-messianic-prophecies/>

Some examples:

Resurrection Prophecy:

Psa.16:8-11, 8 I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, 10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. 11 You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Both Peter and Paul quoted this:

Acts 2:24-32, 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. 25 **David said about him:** “ ‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, 27 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’ 29 “Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

Paul spoke of this in the sermon in Acts 13.

Birth Prophecy:

Isa.7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (relate context)

Matt.1:21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

Forerunner Prophecy:

Mal.4: 5 “See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. 6 He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”

Matt.11: 10 This is the one about whom it is written: “ ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ 11 Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it. 13 For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. 14 And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. 15 Whoever has ears, let them hear.

<https://www.newtestamentchristians.com/bible-study-resources/351-old-testament-prophecies-fulfilled-in-jesus-christ/>

They record 351 prophecies of Jesus in the Old Testament. Jesus' identity is proven by these prophecies. Luke 24: 25-27, 44-47, 25 He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe **all that the prophets have spoken!** 26 Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in **all the Scriptures concerning himself.**

44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: **Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.**" 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, **beginning at Jerusalem.**

Our mission is to proclaim not only Jesus and His gospel, but the evidence that supports the truth of Jesus' claims. This is the heart of prophecy.