

# Evident Life Church

6/25/23

## Jesus the Messiah

- Encouragement of the elders
- Get your wrists ready to take notes
- **Is Jesus the Messiah?**
- This is an important question
  - Many people have claimed, and will continue to claim to be the Messiah
  - Matt. 24:4-5- And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. “For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.”
    - <https://medium.com/the-collector/8-men-around-the-world-who-claimed-to-be-jesus-5f749521c444>
      - We can take confidence knowing that there are requirements the Messiah must meet, so we can truly identify Him
- Let’s start in the NT to see how Jesus and the apostles used the OT
- Luke 24
  - Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him. And He said to them, “What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?” Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, “Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?” And He said to them, “What things?” So they said to Him, “The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, “and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. “But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened. “Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us. “When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. “And certain of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but Him they did not see.” Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! “Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.
    - Jesus is expounding on the scriptures starting in Genesis and working His way through the prophets
      - This is why Jesus can say: John 5:39-“You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.
    - If Jesus isn’t the Jewish Messiah, He isn’t the Savior of the world
      - The only way Jesus can save us from our sin is if He is the One spoken of throughout the OT as the Messiah
    - God wants us to see He is true through prophecy
    - Is. 41:22-24
      - “Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come. Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together. Indeed you are nothing, And your work is nothing; He who chooses you is an abomination.
    - Think of the Bereans

- Acts 17:11- Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.
    - This is why knowing the bible is important
- Acts 13:26-39
  - “Men and brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you the word of this salvation has been sent. **“For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him.** “And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death. **“Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb.** “But God raised Him from the dead. “He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. “And we declare to you glad tidings—that promise which was made to the fathers. “God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: **‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.’** “And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: ‘I will give you the sure mercies of David.’ “Therefore He also says in another Psalm: **‘You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.’** “For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption; “but He whom God raised up saw no corruption. “Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; “and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.
    - Side note: Rom. 8:3-4- For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
      - Again, if Jesus is not the Messiah in the OT, then He is not the One who can save us from our sins.
- Let’s Build our case
  - Gen. 22:15-18-Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—“blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. “In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”
    - Thankfully we get commentary on this in Gal. 3:16-Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.
      - So this Messiah figure will need to be a descendant of Abraham
        - **MESSIAH needs to be Jewish**
          - I think everyone from our earlier list has already been disqualified.
  - Gen. 49:9-10
    - Judah is a lion’s whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.
      - Shiloh-šîlô-Shee-lo-The One to whom it belongs, or He whose it is
        - People could also be translated nations

- The One to whom it belongs is coming, and all nations will be obedient to Him. Sounds like a King is coming, and what line is He coming from? Judah.
    - **MESSIAH comes from the tribe of Judah**
  - Interesting side note, the scepter departed from Judah centuries ago when they lost ruling power to the Romans. If Shiloh was going to come therefore, He would've already needed to come.
- Is. 11:1-5
  - There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.
    - Getting more narrow-Now he has to be a descendant of a particular family in the tribe of Judah-He must be a descendant from Jesse
      - God will be with Him
      - He is going to bring judgement in righteousness
    - **MESSIAH comes from the family of Jesse and His life should also be marked by-wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge**
- Micah 5:2
  - “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.”
    - Not only does He need to be a Jew from the Tribe of Judah and from the family of Jesse, He also needs to be born in Bethlehem
      - In addition, His going forths need to be of old, of everlasting?
      - What does this mean besides that He comes from Eternity?
        - **MESSIAH is born in Bethlehem Ephrathah yet exist eternally**
- Deut. 18:14-15
  - “For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you. “The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,
    - We may think this could be any prophet that came after Moses
      - Deut. 34:9-12- Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. But since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, in all the signs and wonders which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, before Pharaoh, before all his servants, and in all his land, and by all that mighty power and all the great terror which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.
      - There was still an expectation of this prophet arising in the days of Jesus
        - John 1:19-21- Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.”

- **MESSIAH must be a prophet who knows the LORD face to face, and who works mighty wonders before the people of Israel.**

○ Is. 49:1-6

- “Listen, O coastlands, to Me, And take heed, you peoples from afar! The LORD has called Me from the womb; From the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name. And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; In the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me, And made Me a polished shaft; In His quiver He has hidden Me.” “And He said to me, ‘You are My servant, O Israel, In whom I will be glorified.’ Then I said, ‘I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the LORD, And my work with my God.’ ” “And now the LORD says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, So that Israel is gathered to Him (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, And My God shall be My strength), Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ”
  - This One who is called Israel, is sent on a mission to bring Israel back to the LORD
  - **MESSIAH will be God’s Servant, the supreme Israelite through whom He will display His splendor. He will restore the tribes of Jacob and become a light to the gentiles**
    - Arnold Fructenbaum

○ Ps. 110:1-4

- A Psalm of David. The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth. The LORD has sworn And will not relent, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.”
  - Fun Fact: Psalm 110 is the most often quoted OT passage in the NT
  - David is saying the LORD said something to his Lord
    - David was the King of Israel, who was his Lord?
  - This is speaking of Messiah being exalted to the right hand of the Father
    - Mark 16:19- So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.
  - Messiah will also be a priest in the order of Melchizedek
    - Priests were from the line of Levi and kings were from the line of Judah, therefore priests could not be kings. Yet this Messiah will be both a priest and a king, like Melchizedek
      - Gen. 14:18- Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High.
        - **MESSIAH will be exalted to the right hand of God, and be both a Priest and a King**
  - In closing, I want to mention an interesting point in how the NT sometimes uses prophecy
    - We (in the west) like prophecy like Micah 5:2 straight forward and clear, but that’s not always how new testament authors used prophecy
      - We must remember we are reading an ancient Hebraic book, and interpret it accordingly
        - Let’s take Matt. 2:22-23
          - But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a

dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

- There is no passage in the OT that explicitly says Messiah will come from Nazareth, yet Matthew said that the Prophets as in multiple Prophets spoke of how Messiah would be a Nazarene
  - Some possible explanations:
    - Branch-  
<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h5342/nkjv/wlc/0-1/>
    - Nazareth-  
<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g3478/nkjv/tr/0-1/>
      - This seems to be a play on words in the Hebrew language. Kind of like, “He is Rad that must be why they named him B-rad, Brad”
  - OR
  - In regards to Nazareth, the city had a reputation of being rather insignificant. It was in a partially Gentile-settled region (Galilee) that the Pharisees looked down upon, as is evident by their erroneous assertion that “no prophet has arisen out of Galilee” (John 7:52). [NOTE: Jonah was from Gath Hepher in the southern part of Galilee (2 Kings 14:25).] What’s more, recall that when Philip informed Nathanael that he had found the Messiah, “Jesus of Nazareth” (John 1:45), Nathanael responded: “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (vs. 46). “To come from Nazareth, therefore, or to be a Nazarene, was the same as to be despised, or to be esteemed of low birth” (Barnes, 1997). The fact is, the Old Testament prophets foretold that the Messiah would be a “despised...root out of dry ground” with “no form or comeliness” (Isaiah 53:2-3; cf. Psalm 22:6-7). Similar to how cities such as Sodom and Corinth have been used to describe a particular activity (albeit wicked), Matthew likely assigned the term Nazarene to Jesus to adequately express the prophets’ predictions of His lowly, despised origins
    - Source: <https://apologeticspress.org/where-was-jesus-called-a-nazarene-3582/>
- Let’s take one more
  - See Matt. 2:14-15-When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”
  - If you go back to Hosea 11:1 the passage he is quoting
  - “When Israel was a child, I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son.

- He is talking about Israel, not the Messiah, and if you keep reading it's not even positive, it is in a negative connotation
  - So here we have an example where Matthew is saying "as it happened to Israel so it happened to Messiah. As God called His son Israel out of Egypt so He called His Firstborn Son Jesus out of Egypt"
- As we read the NT we should be aware of how the NT Authors are using the OT so we can better understand the scriptures.
- Other examples would be pictures from the life of Joseph/David, etc.
- In conclusion, we can make a strong case that Jesus is the Messiah spoken of in the OT
  - If that's true, it means a few things
    1. God proved Himself to be true through prophecy
    2. Jesus is who He says He is, and should therefore be listened to