

Jesus as Messiah (T.D.Alexander/the gospel coalition.org/essay)

Christian theology centers on the belief that Jesus of Nazareth is the “Christ” or “Messiah,” synonyms that highlight his status as a divinely appointed savior-king.

The N.T. writings abound with references to Jesus as the Christ. The English term “Christ” etymologically means “anointed one” in Greek, as does its synonym “Messiah,” which is derived from Aramaic/Hebrew. The idea that Jesus is the Anointed/Christ/Messiah permeates the N.T., but these same writings reveal that the title Anointed/Christ/Messiah was only applied to Jesus in a consistent way after his death, resurrection and ascension. Jesus himself largely avoided the designation because it had developed misleading connotations. During his lifetime Jesus re-educated his followers so that they would have a more accurate appreciation of how the concept of Anointed/Christ/Messiah should be understood in the light of O.T. teaching. While his contemporaries looked for a king who would exercise political and military control from Jerusalem, Jesus taught that his kingdom would not be defined by political boundaries but would embrace people from every nation. His followers believed that after his resurrection and ascension Jesus was seated as king at God’s right hand in heaven, from where they expected him to return in the future to judge all humanity. In recognition of his divinely-given royal authority, every person is under a genuine obligation to acknowledge personally that Jesus is Lord.

At the heart of the Christian faith, as its very name suggests, is the belief that Jesus is the Christ or Messiah. The English word Messiah is derived from the Greek term *Messias*, which comes only twice in the New Testament ([John 1:41](#); [4:25](#)), when it is used to transliterate the Aramaic word *Mešîḥā*. To aid his Greek-speaking readers, John explains the meaning of *Messias* by translating it as *Christos*, the Greek term for “one who has been anointed.”

Jesus and the title Anointed/Christ/Messiah - the idea of Jesus being the Anointed/Christ/Messiah permeates the N.T., but the title Anointed/Christ/Messiah was not usually applied to him prior to his death and resurrection. This is very apparent when the distribution of the term *Christos* is examined. It comes only seven times in Mark’s account of the life of Jesus, but 65 times in Paul’s letter to the church at Rome. For reasons that will be explained below, the title Anointed/Christ/Messiah was rarely applied to Jesus during his earthly life. Yet, in spite of this, all four gospels confidently affirmed that Jesus is the Anointed/Christ/Messiah. When the apostle John summarizes his reason for penning his account of Jesus’ life, he says: “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” ([John 20:30-31](#)). John wants his readers to be persuaded that Jesus is the Anointed/Christ/Messiah. A similar emphasis is found in the Synoptic Gospels. Matthew, Mark and Luke all highlight Simon Peter’s declaration: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ([Matt 16:16](#); [Mark 8:29](#); [Luke 9:20](#) has the briefer statement, ‘The Christ of God’). Not only does Peter’s affirmation that Jesus is the Anointed/Christ/Messiah mark an important turning

“... ca să se împlinească cuvântul Domnului ... Domnul a trezit duhul lui Cir ...” *Ezra 1:1*

Joi (7pm) Midweek service

7 Dan S.	Investiții înțelepte	Eclesiastul 11
14 Pavel P.	Examenul final al vieții	Eclesiastul 12
21 Iulian J.	Întoarcerea din robie	Ezra 1

ISUS HRISTOS ESTE MESIA!

Duminică, 3	Psalmul 75	CINA DOMNULUI & Binecuvântare de copil fam. Baci
am: îndemn	Iulian J.	
mesaj	Pavel P.	Să ne cercetăm 1 Corinteni 11:18-34
pm: îndemn	Dan S.	
mesaj	Adrian P.	God is faithful! Jeremiah 29:10-14
Duminică, 10	Psalmul 76	
am: îndemn	Florin C.	
mesaj	Dan S.	Gândul lui Hristos Filipeni 2:5-11
pm: îndemn	Cornel S.	
mesaj	Gabi Costea (Eklessia)	
Duminică, 17	Psalmul 77	
am: îndemn	Iulian J.	
mesaj	Cornel S.	Vestit prin prooroci Isaia 40:1-11
pm: îndemn	Moise Z.	
mesaj	Iulian J.	Zaharia 14:1-9
Duminică, 24	Psalmul 78	Christmas Eve Concert (am - lb. rom.; pm - lb. engl.)
am: îndemn	Iulian J.	
mesaj	Dan S.	Născut din fecioară Luca 1:26-38
pm: îndemn	Moise Z.	
mesaj	Richard P.	Born at the fullness of the time Galatians 4:4-7
Monday, 25 - ora 5pm	Christmas Day	
	Iulian J.	”I s-au închinat” Matei 2:1-12
Duminică, 31	Psalmul 79	New Year Eve
am: îndemn	Dan S.	
mesaj	Pavel P.	Vremelnicia și veșnicia Psalmul 90:1-17
pm: îndemn	Iulian J.	
mesaj	Moise Z.	Marcu 10:28-31
Monday, 1 - ora 5pm	New Year Day	Iulian J. O nouă călătorie Ezra 8:21-32