



**What Will  
Messiah  
Look Like?**



I come from an orthodox family and from a long line of Orthodox and Hasidic Rabbis. My paternal Grandfather came from Austria an Orthodox Rabbi after the Ashkenadic tradition. My Uncle Sol is a Hasidic Rabbi in Oak Park, Michigan, I have another Uncle in Chicago who is an Orthodox Rabbi. My Uncle Sol's two sons, my cousins, are both Hasidic Rabbis in Lakewood, NJ. No doubt if you went back to Austria you'd find this tradition going back generationally with the son always taking the father's place as the Rabbi in the community. Coming from this background, one can well imagine that the discussion of Messiah would be a topic of importance in our home.

Certainly among Jewish people this should be a topic of some importance. I was listening to one Rabbi who was speaking in response to the Messianic movement and stated that "all Jews are Messianic, we all believe Messiah is coming." This is most notably true of the Lubavitch, who are so convinced of this that they have determined that their great Rebbe, Rabbi Schneerson, is in fact Messiah and will raise from his grave to take his rightful place on David's throne as Messiah. This has become a rallying point in their community and cause for great excitement. It has certainly become a source of hope and strength among the Lubavitch, as the anticipation of Messiah's coming should be among all Jewish people.

The longing for Messiah is built into the very fabric of what defines us as Jewish people. As such, the topic of Messiah is one of some importance and can be an intriguing issue. In our desire to understand and even identify Messiah, it is well that we search the Tenach to discover what the Scriptures say specifically regarding the person and nature of the Messiah. It would seem needful to have an idea as to what Messiah should look like. Join us as we look at what the Prophets of the Tenach foretell of the Messiah.

### **Born of Abraham's Seed:**

#### **Genesis 18:18**

Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him."

Also See: *Genesis 12:3*

### **Born of the Lineage of David:**

#### **Isaiah 9:7**

Of the increase of his government and peace shall there be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The seal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this.

Also See: *Isaiah 11:1-5; II Samuel 7:13*

### **Born in Bethlehem:**

#### **Micah 5:2**

But thou, Bethlehem Ephrata, 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.

### **Born of a Virgin:**

#### **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.

### **Born God in the Flesh:**

#### **Isaiah 9:6**

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

### **Born a Prophet:**

#### **Deuteronomy 18:15**

The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken.

### **Born a Priest:**

#### **Psalms 110:4**

The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

### **Born with Specific Characteristics:**

#### **Isaiah 11:2**

And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and the fear of the Lord.

Also See: *Psalms 45:7; Isaiah 11:3-4*

### **Born to Suffer:**

#### **Isaiah 53:4-5**

Surely he hath born our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 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.

Also See: *Isaiah 53:6,12*

### **Born to be Betrayed by a Friend:**

#### **Psalms 41:9**

Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

### **Born to be a Sacrifice:**

#### **Isaiah 53:12**

Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

#### **Psalms 22:16**

For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me; they pierced my hands and my feet.

### **Born to be a Sacrifice, cont.:**

#### **Psalms 22:6-8**

But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, 'He trusted in the Lord that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.

#### **Psalms 69:21**

They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

#### **Zechariah 12:10**

And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

#### **Psalms 22:18**

They part my garments among them and cast lots upon my vesture.

#### **Psalms 34:20**

He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.

### **Born to Conquer Death:**

#### **Psalms 16:10**

But thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

These prophecies only touch the hem of the garment. There are over 300 prophecies concerning the coming and person of the Messiah. In all of man's history, there is only one in whom we find every prophecy fulfilled, and this one being Yeshua. As such, Yeshua is the only person in the entire history of the world whose life and ministry was prewritten in explicit detail before he came into the world.

As Canon Dyson Hague expressed it: "Who could draw a picture of a man not yet born? Surely God, and God alone. Nobody knew over 500 years ago that Shakespeare was going to be born; or over 250 years ago that Napoleon was to be born. Yet here in the Bible, we have the most striking and unmistakable likeness of a Man portrayed, not by one, but by 20 or 25 artists, none of whom had ever seen the Man they were painting." <sup>1</sup>

Herbert Lockyer continues, "The astounding miracle of these predictions of Yeshua proves that 'the inspiration of that portrait came from the Heavenly Gallery, and not from the studio of an earthly artist. Nothing but Divine prescience could have foreseen it, and nothing but Divine Power could accomplish it.'" <sup>2</sup>

David Barron states: "It is our endeavor to show that 'the Messiah of the New Testament is the fruit of Tree of Prophecy...the first outlines of which were sketched more than 1500 years before.'" <sup>3</sup>

Clearly in this limited space we could not possibly approach any full study of such an important topic. It is our hope to provoke your thinking and encourage you to begin to look more fully at what the Tenach declares regarding Messiah. We would count it a privilege to join you in your pursuit and invite you to contact us with your response.

*All Scriptures are from the King James Version*

Notes:

1. All The Messianic Prophecies Of The Bible, Herbert Lockyer, Zondervan, 1973, Page 58
2. Ibid
3. Ibid Pg 59

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