

How to Recognize the Messiah



From the beginning,
 the Hebrew Scriptures (Tenach) promised a Messiah
 (Genesis 3:15), a Savior for both Jews and Gentiles (Isaiah 49:6).
 The Tenach reveals the specific qualifications of the Messiah
 so that we may recognize him.

He will be a Descendant of Abraham

Genesis 12:1-3

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. ² I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

He will come from the Tribe of Judah

Genesis 49:10

The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.

He will be from the House of David

2 Samuel 7:12-13

¹² When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

He will be a Prophet Like Moses

Deuteronomy 18:15

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet
like me from among your own brothers.
You must listen to him.

He will have Divine Titles

Isaiah 9:6-7 (9:5-6 in Hebrew)

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government
will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government
and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his
kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD
Almighty will accomplish this.

He will be Born of a Woman

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between
your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head,
And you shall bruise His heel.”

He will be Born in Bethlehem

Micah 5:2 (5:1 in Hebrew)

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of
Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

He will Come Humbly

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will Come at a Specific Time

Daniel 9:25

Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince will be seven weeks and 62 weeks.

Daniel 9:26

And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; (Messiah to be put to death as a vicarious sacrifice for the sins of His people. Messiah to come and be cut off (die) before the destruction of the Second Temple (Sanctuary), which was destroyed by Titus in the Roman Siege of Jerusalem in 70 CE (AD).

He will be a Suffering Servant

Isaiah 53

(Written by the Jewish Prophet Isaiah, 700 BCE, from the book of Isaiah in the Hebrew Bible).

¹ Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him.

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 did not esteem Him. ⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we reckoned Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. ⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

⁹ And they made His grave with the wicked - but with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth. ¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to crush Him; He has put Him to grief.
When You make His soul an offering for sin.

¹¹ He shall see His seed, He shall prolong bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. ¹² Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and He made intercession for the transgressors.

Read a detailed description of Messiah's Sufferings

Psalm 22:14-17

¹⁴ I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. ¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; and You have brought me into the dust of death. ¹⁶ ... they pierced my hands and my feet.
¹⁷ I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me.

He will be a Light To The Gentiles

Isaiah 42:6

I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand;
I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people,
As a light to the Gentiles,

Isaiah 11:10

And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious.

Isaiah 49:6

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.' "

He will be Resurrected**Psalm 16:10**

For You will not leave my soul in Sheol (grave), Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Israel will mourn for Him, (aharit hayamim)**Zechariah 12:10**

And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

He will establish a new covenant**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

³¹ Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: ³² Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴... for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more (By his sacrificial death and resurrection, Messiah **with his blood** instituted and ratified the new covenant between God and man promising a complete forgiveness of sin (Isaiah 53)).

The Hebrew Bible tells us how to have eternal life and peace with God.

God is holy and the source of eternal life

Isaiah 5:16: But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.

Psalms 16:11: You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Man experiences separation between himself and God because of sin

Isaiah 59:2: But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden *His* face from you, so that He will not hear.

Ecclesiastes 7:20: For there is not a just man upon earth, that does good, and sins not.

Isaiah 64:6: All our righteous acts are like filthy rags.

Ezekiel 18:4: The soul who sins will die.

Hebrews 9:27: And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Daniel 12:2: And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Removing the sin barrier requires blood atonement

Leviticus 17:11: For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that makes an atonement for the soul.

In the past, God temporarily atoned for man's sin by initiating the Levitical animal sacrificial system pointing forward to the perfect and final sacrifice for sin made by Messiah Himself (Leviticus chapters 1-7).

Messiah's sacrificial death for the atonement of our sins

Isaiah 53:5-12: ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: ⁶ ... and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷ ... he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, ¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he had put him to grief: when He shall make his soul an offering for sin, ¹² ... because he had poured out his soul unto death: ... and he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

New Covenant (Brit-Chadashah)

John 1:29: The next day John saw Jesus (Yeshua) coming toward him, and said, Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Hebrews 9:12: Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4: ... ³ how that Messiah died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Romans 5:9: ... being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Messiah was crucified on Passover, and his body, the sinless bread of life, was broken and buried during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Three days later, he was raised to life on the Feast of Firstfruits. God's plan of redemption was perfectly timed and thus we see that it was God's plan all along for Messiah to suffer, die and be resurrected as an atonement for our sins (Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 53, Psalm 16:10).

Salvation by Faith

We must believe God as our father Abraham did

Genesis 15:6: And he (Abraham) believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Habakkuk 2:4: ... but the just shall live by his faith.

New Covenant (Brit-Chadashah)

John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

1 John 2:25: And this is the promise that he has promised us, even eternal life.

John 6:29: Yeshua answered and said to them, This is the work of God, that you believe on Him whom He has sent.

John 3:36: He that believes on the Son has everlasting life; and he that believes not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob sent His Son Messiah Yeshua to provide the ultimate blood atonement for the remission of sin. He died, was buried and resurrected through providing salvation for both Jews and Gentiles who accept His final atoning sacrifice for the forgiveness of their sins. His free gift of salvation is for those who place their faith in His sacrificial death, burial and resurrection.

**Believe in Yeshua (Jesus) God's promised Messiah and Deliverer,
and the moment you do, like Abraham, God counts your faith
as righteousness and gives you the gift of eternal life
and peace with God.**

Shalom



‘Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known’ (Jeremiah 33:3).

And you
shall seek Me,
and find Me
when you shall
search
for Me with
all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:13