118. JUDAISM - 10 PROOFS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE MESSIAH

It is well known that the Jewish religion and the nation of Israel have rejected Jesus Christ's claim to be their Messiah. It matters not what men think, but what God says in His Word. What do the Old Testament Prophets, the Law and Psalms say about how we can **identify** Who is the true Messiah that Israel is looking for? Consider these 10 proofs that Jesus Christ is the Messiah:

1. <u>Daniel 9:24-27</u> states that the Messiah will <u>come</u> and <u>be killed BEFORE</u> the city of <u>Jerusalem</u> and its <u>Temple</u> are <u>destroyed</u> in 70AD.

a) "After 62 weeks (33AD) **b)** shall <u>Messiah</u> be **cut off** (killed), but not for himself: and the people (Romans) of the prince that shall come (future European Antichrist) **c)** shall destroy the **city** (of Jerusalem in 70AD) and **d)** the **sanctuary** (the Temple in 70AD)." (Daniel 9:26).

This teaches 4 things:

a) Messiah <u>offers himself</u> to Israel as their Prince in 33AD after 69 weeks (=7 + 62) of years. This occurs at the end of the 62-week interval (ie: 69 x 7 x 360 = 173,880 days).

5 March 444BC 0 week	7 weeks	30 March 33AD 69 weeks	<u>70AD</u>
•	•	<u>173,880</u> days	•
Artaxerxes' command to restore and build Jerusalem.	Street and wall rebuilt	a,b) Messiah comes Messiah killed	c,d) Jerusalem destroyed Temple destroyed.

b) Messiah will be <u>rejected</u> by Israel and <u>killed</u>. This happened in 33AD.

c) Romans will destroy Jerusalem.

d) Romans will destroy the **<u>Temple</u>**. This happened in 70AD.

Here, Jesus Christ fulfils Daniel's prophecy that <u>Messiah will come</u> and be <u>killed</u> before <u>Jerusalem</u> and the <u>Temple are destroyed</u> in 70AD.

2. Psalm 22:8-16 contains six prophecies fulfilled by Jesus Christ at His first coming:

a)	The Jewish Chief Priests, scribes and elders would mock the Messiah, while on the		
	Cross.		
	Psalm 22:8 'He trusted on the LORD	Matthew 27:43 'He trusted in God;	
	that He would deliver him: let him deliver him.'	let him deliver him now.'	
b)	Psalm 22:14 'all my bones are out of joint.'		
C)	Psalm 22:15 'my tongue cleaveth to my jaws.'	John 19:28 'I thirst.'	
d)	Psalm 22:15 'they pierced my hands and my	Matthew 27:35 'they crucified	
	feet	him.'	
e)	Psalm 22:18 'they part my garments among	Matthew 27:35 'parted his	
	them, and cast lots upon my vesture.'	garments, casting lots.'	
f)	Psalm 69:21 'they gave me also gall for my	Matthew 27:34 'They gave me	
	meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to	vinegar to drink mingled with	
	drink.'	<u>gall</u> .'	

3. <u>Zechariah 13:6</u>. When Messiah returns to earth, someone will ask him about His hand wounds: "And one shall say unto him, What are these <u>wounds in thine hands</u>? Then shall he answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends." The context of Zechariah chapters 13,14 refers to the Messiah returning to earth to rescue Israel.

Question: If the returning Messiah has hand wounds, doesn't this fit Jesus Christ as being the Messiah?

4. Micah 5:2. The Messiah would come from Bethlehem.

Once again, Jesus Christ qualifies as the Messiah by being born where the prophet Micah prophesied: "But thou, <u>Bethlehem</u> Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be <u>ruler in Israel</u>; whose goings forth have been from of old, from <u>everlasting.</u>" The Messiah would be:

- a) Born in Bethlehem,
- b) Become Israel's future ruler,
- c) Have existed everlasting in the past. Only God is everlasting.

This shows that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, and is also God.

5. <u>Zechariah 9:9</u>. <u>Messiah</u> the <u>King of Israel</u> would enter <u>Jerusalem</u> in a humble manner, riding on an <u>ass</u>, and on the <u>foal of an ass</u>.

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of <u>Jerusalem</u>: behold <u>thy King cometh unto thee</u>: he is just, and <u>having salvation</u>; lowly, and <u>riding upon an **ass**</u>, and upon a <u>colt</u> the <u>foal of an ass</u>." Jesus Christ again fits the description of being Israel's Messiah, because He entered Jerusalem in 33AD on an ass and her foal, to offer Himself as King. This is described in Luke 19:28-44; Matthew 21:1-9; Mark 11:1-10; John 12:12-19. When Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem on a colt, the people addressed Him as, "Blessed be the <u>King</u> that cometh in the name of the Lord." (v.33).

After the Pharisees rejected Jesus Christ as King, He then prophesied Jerusalem's soon destruction. This came to pass in 70AD, because Israel failed to recognise that this was the day that Daniel prophesied that Messiah would come (Daniel 9:26). This day was 173,880 days after 5 March 444BC.

6. Zechariah 11:12,13. God said that 30 pieces of silver would be:

a) The price that Israel would put on their God,

- b) cast to the potter.
- c) cast in the house of the LORD.

"Thus saith the LORD my God; . . .(v.4) If ye think good, give me my price; . . .so they weighed for my price 30 pieces of silver (v.12). . and the <u>LORD</u> (Jehovah) said unto me, 'Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that <u>L</u>was priced at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and

cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD." (v.13).

Notice here that Jehovah God states that Israel priced Him at 30 pieces of silver. Jesus Christ fulfilled each of these 3 prophecies, proving that He is Jehovah, the God of Israel:

Zechariah 11:12,13	Jesus Christ (Matthew 26:14-16 & 27:3-7)
a) God valued at <u>30 pieces of</u> <u>silver</u> .	'they covenanted with him (Judas) <u>for</u> <u>30 pieces of silver</u> .' (Matthew 26:14-16).
b) Money will be cast to a <u>potter</u> .	'Chief priests took the silver pieces and bought with them the <u>potter's field</u> .' (Matthew 27:6,7).
c) Money will be cast in the <u>Temple</u> .	'He (Judas) cast down the pieces of silver in the <u>Temple</u> .' (Matthew 27:3-5).

7. Isaiah 40:3. Messiah would be preceded by a messenger.

This messenger would warn people that Israel's Messiah was about to come and they should prepare to welcome Him. The messenger's message would be:

'The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.' (Isaiah 40:3).

This was the message of John the Baptist: 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' (Matthew 3:3; Mark 1:3; Luke 3:3; John 1:23).

Because Israel's leaders rejected John the Baptist's message, the warning of <u>Malachi 4:6</u> came true in the destruction of Jerusalem in 70AD: "Lest I come and smite the earth with a <u>curse</u>." Israel's sad history over the past 1930 years is due to the curse that Malachi said would come on them for rejecting Jesus Christ as their Messiah.

8. <u>God's servant</u>. Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12 describe the Messiah as God's servant that would be exalted very high. Details of this passage match Jesus Christ as being the Messiah.

Question: If this does not refer to Jesus Christ, then to whom does it refer?

- i) 'his <u>visage</u> was so marred more than any man.' (v.14). This fits the brutal disfigurement that Jesus Christ received from His persecutors.
- ii) 'He is <u>despised</u> and <u>rejected</u> of men; a man of sorrows...we esteemed him not.' (53:3).

This fits how Israel's leaders rejected Jesus Christ.

iii) 'the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.' (53:6).

- This fits how Jesus Christ was killed on the same night as the Passover lamb was slain.

- This fits the Old Testament animal blood sacrifices that pointed to the once for all sacrifice of Jesus Christ as the Saviour for all mankind's sins.

- iv) 'he made his grave with the <u>wicked</u>.' (53:9) This fits how Jesus Christ was crucified between two thieves (Luke 23:39-43).
- v) 'he made his grave . . . with the <u>rich</u> in his death.' (53:9). This fits how Jesus Christ was buried in a rich man's tomb, (Joseph of Arimathaea). Luke 23:50-53.
- vi) 'he was <u>cut off</u> out of the land of the living.' (53:8).
 This fits how Jesus Christ's life was brutally cut off in his prime.

 viii) 'he had <u>done no violence</u>, neither was any <u>deceit</u> in his mouth.' (53:9). This fits how Jesus Christ showed no violence or deceit, with nobody finding any fault in Him. This 'no fault' testimony was made by Pilate, Pilate's wife, a Roman Centurion, a repentant thief. viii) 'when thou shalt make his soul an <u>offering</u> for sin.' (53:10).
 This fits how Jesus Christ fulfilled, in his sacrificial death, the many kinds of offerings for sin that Moses commanded.

ix) 'he shall <u>prolong his days</u>.' (53:10). This fits how Jesus Christ <u>rose from the dead</u>, was seen by hundreds of witnesses over 40 days, ascended to heaven from the Mount of Olives, will return to the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4) and will have nail prints in his hands at his return.

x) 'he was numbered with the <u>transgressors</u>.' (53:12).
 This fits how Jesus Christ was considered a sinner by many Jews, even to today.

9. Hosea 5:15 to 6:1,2

God addresses Israel in Hosea 5:15 as being <u>displeased with an offence that Israel has</u> <u>committed</u>.

God promises to return to His place until Israel acknowledges that offence.

a) 'I will go and <u>return to my place</u>, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their <u>affliction</u> they will seek me early.' (5:15).

Question 1: What was the offence that Israel committed?

Answer: That of rejecting and crucifying their Messiah.

Question 2: What does God mean by 'returning to my place'?

Answer: God's place is heaven, to which Christ ascended 40 days after His resurrection. **Question 3**: Why is the word 'return' used?

Answer: Because Jesus Christ came from heaven to earth, then returned to heaven.

Question 4: What is the <u>affliction</u> that God says will cause Israel to repent and seek God's face?

Answer: The trouble that is happening now in the Middle East will culminate in the Antichrist's invasion of Israel and the suffering they will experience.

b) Hosea 6:1,2 are Israel speaking:

Verse 1 is a <u>call by Israel</u> to return to God to be healed and bound up.

Hosea 6:2 is an amazing verse that fits perfectly with the timing of Israel's return to their homeland after about 2000 years of being scattered among the nations.

"<u>After two days</u> will he revive us: <u>in the third day</u> he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight."

Notice that this appears to be saying that:

-After about two days (or 2000 years) God would revive Israel spiritually as a nation by their acknowledging their offence of crucifying Jesus Christ.

This would be followed by them receiving Him as their Messiah, and

-In the third day (about 2000-3000AD) Israel will be raised up as the chief nation when Messiah returns.

10. Isaiah 9:6 states that the child that would be born would be "the Mighty God."

"For unto us a **child** is born,his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, **The Mighty God**."

Jehovah calls Himself "The Mighty God" in Psalm 50:1 ("The Mighty God, Jehovah hath spoken,.."); Jeremiah 32:18 "the Mighty God, Jehovah of hosts, is his name"; Isaiah 10:21. This proves Jesus Christ to be Israel's Messiah and God.

<u>Conclusion</u>: Have you received Jesus Christ as your Saviour, Messiah and God? Why not do so right now today?