

Lesson 9 – The Promised Messiah

¹ The LORD said to my Lord,
“Sit at My right hand,
Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”
² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion.
Rule in the midst of Your enemies!
³ 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.
⁴ The LORD has sworn
And will not relent,
“You *are* a priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek.”
⁵ The Lord *is* at Your right hand;
He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.
⁶ He shall judge among the nations,
He shall fill *the places* with dead bodies,
He shall execute the heads of many countries.
⁷ He shall drink of the brook by the wayside;
Therefore He shall lift up the head. (Psalm 110)¹

Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King!

Ancient Israel – during the time of the Judges – was the only legitimate theocracy that has ever existed on earth. During that time, there were three official offices in the land – Prophet, Priest and King. Israel was a theocracy, because Jehovah was King in the land, up until the time of Saul. Then starting with Saul, kings were humans.

The ordination ceremony of a new prophet or priest was anointing with oil. The inauguration ceremony of a new king was not coronation, but anointing with oil. This anointing signified that the new office holder had been set apart by God to serve in the office.

Throughout the Old Testament, God promised that He would send a special Person into the world Who would be anointed to fulfill all three offices –

1. Prophet – to turn the people to God
2. Priest – to reconcile the people to God
3. King – to rule over the people so they would enjoy the blessings of God – Lev. 26:3-13
 - a. Peace
 - b. Provision
 - c. Happiness

¹*The Holy Bible, New King James Version*, (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

Lesson 9 – Jesus the Messiah

The word *Messiah* is the Hebrew word for “Anointed One.” The word *Christ* is the Greek translation of *Messiah*. Therefore, when we say *Christ*, we are really saying *Messiah*, and vice versa.

When Jesus came, many people in Israel were eagerly anticipating the coming of Messiah. Several false messiahs had come and gone (Acts 5:36-37). Israel was occupied by Rome, and the people believed Messiah would come as a King who would overthrow Roman rule. They weren’t interested in getting right with God. They just wanted the freedom to govern themselves and their nation.

As it was then, so it is today. Many of the people who want the blessing of God in their lives do not want God Himself. They want His blessings, but they don’t want Him.

1. The Promise of His coming
 - a. The first promise – Gen. 3:15
 - b. God’s promise to Abraham (The Abrahamic Covenant) – Gen. 12:1-3
 - i. Abraham’s part – Gen. 12:1
 1. Leave your country
 2. Leave your family
 3. Follow Me to a land I will give you
 - ii. God’s promise – Gen. 12:3
 1. I will make you a great nation
 2. I will bless you
 3. I will make your name great
 4. You will be a blessing
 5. I will bless those who bless you
 6. I will curse those who curse you
 7. In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.
This refers to Jesus for dying on the cross for the sins of everybody in history.
 - c. The Place of His birth – Micah 5:2
 - d. The manner of His birth – Isa. 7:14
 - e. Who He would be – Isa. 9:6-7
 - i. Will come through birth as a Child
 - ii. The government will be on His shoulder – we’ll look at that more later in the lesson.
2. Messiah – Definition
 - a. Definition:
 - i. *Messiah* is the anglicized version of the Hebrew word meaning, “anointed One”
 - ii. Christ (Christos) is the anglicized version of the Greek word meaning “anointed One”
 - b. Anointing – the ceremony of setting a person apart for special ministry to God in the Old Testament
 - i. Prophet – 1 Kings 19:16
 - ii. Priests – Lev. 4:5, 16
 - iii. Kings – 1 Sam. 24: 6, 10
 - c. Messiah is the special anointed One of God to be Prophet, Priest and King.
 - i. **Prophet**

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1. Definition and function
 - a. A Prophet was a man through whom God spoke to the people
 - b. The Old Testament was written by God through His prophets
 - c. *The Law and the Prophets* was another name for the Hebrew Old Testament.
 2. Promised by God through Moses – Deut 18:15
 3. Jesus' first coming to earth was recognized as the fulfillment of that promise.
- ii. **Priest**
1. The function of a priest is to approach God and make offerings for the sins of the people.
 2. Beginning with Aaron, Old Testament priests were anointed when they began in their office – Lev. 8:12
 3. Jesus fulfilled this function – Heb 9:12
 - a. He made the offering
 - b. He WAS the offering
 4. Jesus was not anointed with oil, which symbolizes the Holy Spirit. He was anointed with the Holy Spirit. – Acts 10:38
 5. The Priesthood of Jesus described:
 - a. To make propitiation for the sins of the people – Heb. 2:17
 - b. He can identify with us in our weaknesses – Heb. 4:15
 - c. He came into the world to be our high Priest – Heb. 5:5-6
 - d. His priesthood is eternal and unchangeable – Heb. 7:22-24
 - e. He made the perfect and eternal Sacrifice that never needs repeating – Heb. 10:11-12
- iii. **King** – Isaiah 9:6
1. God said He would be King on earth
 - a. What government? Israel
 - b. On His shoulder – He will reign in Israel
 - i. Did this come to pass?
 - ii. If so, when and how?
 - iii. If not, why?
 - c. Characteristics of the King and His reign: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
 - d. He will reign on the throne of David – 9:7
 - e. This will be accomplished by God – 9:7
 2. The Catholic church says He is reigning now, through the (Catholic) church.
 - a. The Reformers took the Catholic teaching and applied it to the universal body of believers.
 - b. They didn't understand the Biblical teaching about the Millennial reign of Christ.
 - c. There isn't much evidence of Christ reigning in fulfillment of the prophecies of His reign. His reign is yet to come.
 3. This King shall be called THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS – Jer. 23:5-6

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4. He will come in humility and peace – Zech. 9:9
5. He came to offer the Kingdom to Israel – Matt 21:6-9
 - a. He was rejected by His own people – John 1:11
6. Israel will be restored after His Second Coming, and He will rule – Romans 11:25-28
 - a. He will come again to reign and crush all His enemies – 1 Cor. 15:25
 - b. He will reign for 1,000 years – the Millennium – Rev. 20:6