

Jerusalem Catechism

A Faith Worth Living

A Calling to the Kingdom	1	
The Way into the Kingdom	2	
THE WORD OF GOD		2
THE COVENANT OF GOD		4
THE MESSIAH OF GOD		6
The Coming of the Messiah	8	
THE PROMINENCE OF THE MESSIAH		8
The Miracles of the Messiah		8
The Message of the Messiah		9
THE BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH		10
The Wonder of His Birth		10
The Place of His Birth		12
The Time of His Birth		14
THE PURPOSE OF THE MESSIAH		15
The First Temple		15
The Babylonian Captivity		15
The Second Temple		16
The Temple Destruction		17
The Loss of Autonomy		18
The Peace Promised		18
THE PEOPLE OF THE MESSIAH		20
The Diaspora		20
The Capital		22
The Diplomats		23
The Restoration		24
The Person of the Messiah	25	
THE HUMAN NATURE OF THE MESSIAH		25
The Promised Son		25
The Heir to the Throne		27
THE DIVINE NATURE OF THE MESSIAH		29
The Holy Spirit	30	
The Official Roles of the Messiah	31	
THE MESSIAH AS PRIEST		31
THE MESSIAH AS PROPHET		33
THE MESSIAH AS KING AND JUDGE		34
The States of the Messiah	35	
The Identity of the Messiah	36	

A Calling to the Kingdom

1 How does the Messiah call us to God's Kingdom?

"The time has been fulfilled and the Kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe in the good news!"

"Seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness."

"What does it profit a man to gain the whole world yet lose himself?"

Mark 1:15 · Matthew 6:33 · Matthew 16:26

2 So why do you remain part of the community of the Messiah?

I believe that the Messiah, whom God promised, already came long ago and is about to return. Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham, is the true Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit. God calls me to be one with Jesus and the people He gathers so I do not waste any privilege of His Kingdom.

Hebrews 10:25 · Psalm 45:7 · Matthew 1:1 · John 10:10 · John 17:21
· Revelation 22:20 · Matthew 10:37 · Hebrews 13:14

The Way into the Kingdom

The Word of God

3 How do you inherit the Kingdom of Heaven?

By God's undeserved grace: The Holy Spirit has brought me to know and trust in Jesus the Messiah and thus made me God's heir. This same grace now enables me to be grateful and to love God back.

John 17:3 · Jeremiah 31:18 · 1 John 2:3-6 · Titus 3:7

4 How do you know God and learn to love Him truly?

By listening carefully to what God reveals about Himself.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

5 How does God first reveal Himself?

God calls all things into being so that they speak truth about Him.

Genesis 1:1 · John 1:1 · Colossians 1:15-17 · Psalm 33:6 · Psalm 19:2

6 How can you be sure that you are also speaking truth about Him?

By giving His written Word priority.

Psalm 1:1-2 · Proverbs 3:5 · Joshua 1:8 · Psalm 119:105

7 What is God's written Word called?

The Holy Scriptures, also known as the Bible. It was written by imperfect men under the perfect inspiration of the Holy Spirit, who enlightens its reading.

2 Peter 1:21 · 1 Corinthians 2:10-16

The Covenant of God

8 What holds the Scriptures together as one book?

God's Eternal Covenant with Israel, revealed by the Holy Spirit in two stages: originally in the First Covenant, as recorded in the Old Testament, and then in the promised New Covenant, fulfilled in the New Testament.

9 Why did God make the First Covenant with Israel?

To show His eternal love toward a fallen people. With Israel, the Holy Spirit held up a mirror for all peoples. God appointed Israel to reveal human sin and rebellion, and to proclaim God's promise to restore humanity.

Isaiah 40:9-10 · Exodus 24:7-8 · Jeremiah 31:31-34

10 What makes the New Covenant better?

The Messiah, who fulfilled for us the law and the prophets, and the Holy Spirit, who creates in us what the law cannot: a clean heart that responds to God in love.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 · Matthew 26:28 · Hebrews 8:6,13
Matthew 5:17 · Romans 8:7-8

- 11** But why are both covenants also called “testaments”?

Because death seals their promises and warnings.

Psalms 50:5

- 12** What kind of death sealed the First Covenant?

Animal sacrifices that pointed to the Messiah.

Exodus 24:5 · Hebrews 9

- 13** What kind of death seals the New Covenant?

The sacrifice of the Messiah Himself.

Hebrews 9:15-17 · Isaiah 53

- 14** What does one learn from the law, the prophets, and the writings?

That they point to the Messiah as the one who fulfills God's Eternal Covenant.

Deuteronomy 18:15 · Hebrews 1:1-2

The Messiah of God

- 15** What does “Messiah” mean in Hebrew and what does “Christ” mean in Greek?

Anointed one.

Acts 10:32 · John 1:41

- 16** What did God anoint Him with?

With the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 45:7 · Mark 1:10

- 17** What is written about this in the book of Isaiah?

“The Spirit of My Lord God is upon Me, for the Lord has anointed Me to give good news to the humble. He sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom to the captives, and to the prisoners the opening of jail, to announce the year of the Lord’s grace.”

Isaiah 61:1-2 · Luke 4:18-19

18 To what end did God anoint Him with the Holy Spirit?

To be recognized as the Messiah among the people and empowered to save us.

Matthew 7:28-29 · Acts 10:38

19 What exactly do Moses and the prophets teach concerning the Messiah?

They teach about His coming, His person, His official roles, and His states.

The Coming of the Messiah

The Prominence of the Messiah

- 20** How would the coming of the Messiah be known?

Through His miracles and message.

The Miracles of the Messiah

- 21** What did the Messiah have to do?

Make the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, and the mute speak.

Isaiah 35:5-6

- 22** Did the Lord Jesus do all this?

Yes, in front of the whole world. That is why even the faction of the Jews who did not believe in Him did not deny His miracles, although they blasphemed against them.

Luke 7:18-23 · Mark 3:22

The Message of the Messiah

23 What did the Messiah have to announce?

Free forgiveness of sins and eternal life for whoever repents and trusts in the Messiah's sacrifice for him as sinner: "For You are my Lord, good and forgiving, very merciful to all who call upon You."

Mark 1:15 · Psalm 86:5 · Isaiah 55:1 · Romans 10:9

24 How does Isaiah call us to trust God?

"Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil person his thoughts to return to the Lord, who will have mercy on him, and to our God, for He will forgive much."

Isaiah 55:6-7

25 Who is "the wicked" and "the evil person"?

Who is not? "For there is no one in the world so righteous as to do good and at the same time not sin."

Ecclesiastes 7:20 · Isaiah 64:6 · Psalm 53:3 · Psalm 130:3
Psalm 143:2 · Psalm 51:5 · 1 Kings 8:46 · Romans 11:32

The Birth of the Messiah

The Wonder of His Birth

- 26** What kind of woman would give birth to the Messiah?

An ordinary, humble, virgin young woman.

- 27** What is written about this in the book of Isaiah?

“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, whom she will call ‘God with us.’”

Isaiah 7:14

- 28** Did a virgin conceive our Lord Jesus?

Yes, Mary of David's royal line.

Luke 1:32,34

- 29** How could a virgin conceive?

By the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit, so that in His very nature the Messiah was completely without sin and thus able to bear the sins of others.

Luke 1:35

30 What happened to Joseph?

He, also of David's royal line, became Jesus' adoptive father and the biological father of His siblings.

Matthew 1:24-25 · Luke 3:23 · Matthew 13:55-56

The Place of His Birth

- 31** Where did the Messiah have to be born?

In Bethlehem.

- 32** What does the prophet Micah say about this?

“And you, Bethlehem Ephratha, though young among the thousands of Judah; from you will come One who will rule for Me over Israel.”

Micah 5:2

- 33** Why did the Messiah have to be born in Bethlehem?

For He is the Son of David and the Bread of Life – and Bethlehem, David’s hometown, means “House of Bread.”

1 Samuel 16:1 · John 6:48 · Revelation 22:16

- 34** Did the Messiah first begin to exist at birth in Bethlehem?

No. Micah adds: “His origins are ancient, from the days of eternity.”

Micah 5:2 · Genesis 1:1 · John 1:1-4

35 What does that mean?

The Messiah is both the true man and the true God. As man, He was born in Bethlehem when the time was ripe, and since His resurrection, He lives eternally. As God, He always has been and always will be.

Colossians 1:17 · Colossians 3:10 · Colossians 2:9 · 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

36 Since He was born in Bethlehem, why is He called Jesus “of Nazareth”?

Because He grew up in Nazareth after living as a refugee in Egypt.

Isaiah 11:1 · Matthew 2:15-23 · Luke 4:16 · Hosea 11:1

The Time of His Birth

- 37** What is written about the time of the birth of the Messiah in the book of Daniel?

“A devoid Messiah will be cut off. And the people of the coming ruler will destroy the city and the temple.”

Daniel 9:26 · Philippians 2:7

- 38** Which temple was the prophet Daniel referring to?

To the temple that Zerubbabel rebuilt after the Babylonian captivity.

Ezra 5:2

- 39** So when did the Messiah have to be born?

When the time was fulfilled: before the destruction of the Second Temple.

Galatians 4:4

The Purpose of the Messiah

The First Temple

40 Who built the First Temple?

King Solomon.

1 Kings 6:1

41 Who destroyed the First Temple?

Nebuchadnezzar, who took the Jews captive to Babylon.

2 Kings 25:9

The Babylonian Captivity

42 How long were the Jews captive in Babylon?

Seventy years.

2 Chronicles 36:21

43 Who set them free from the Babylonian captivity?

Cyrus the Great, first king of the Persian Empire.

2 Chronicles 36:22-23

The Second Temple

44 What did the Jews do upon their return?

They built the Second Temple under the leadership of Zerubbabel.

Ezra 3:8

45 Which temple became more glorious, the First or the Second?

At first glance: the First Temple, since the glory of the Lord dwelt there openly.

1 Kings 8:10-11 · Ezekiel 10:18-19 · Ezekiel 11:23

46 But didn't the prophet Haggai say that the Second Temple would be more glorious than the First?

That's why the Messiah had to appear and teach in the Second Temple, entering from the east as the true glory of the Lord: "I will fill this house with glory." "And suddenly the Lord, whom you seek, will come to His temple."

Haggai 2:7-9 · Malachi 3:1 · Isaiah 40:5 · Ezekiel 43:1-5 · Hebrews 1:3
John 1:14 · Luke 19:29-48 · Mark 12:37 · John 12:20-21

The Temple Destruction

47 What had to happen to the Second Temple?

It would be destroyed after the death of the Messiah.

Daniel 9:26

48 How much time elapsed between the death of the Messiah and the destruction of the Temple?

About forty years.

Matthew 24:1-2

49 Why not right away?

God was patient and first called His people to repent and believe in their own Messiah.

Luke 13:6-9 · Matthew 15:26 · Acts 2:38-40 · Acts 3:17-26

50 Who destroyed the Second Temple?

Titus, who later became Roman emperor.

The Loss of Autonomy

- 51** What would happen to the Jewish government at the coming of the Messiah?

It was to be abolished.

John 19:15

- 52** How did Jacob foresee this?

“Neither government nor legislator of his own will disappear from Judah until Shiloh comes, to whom the peoples will obey.”

Genesis 49:10

The Peace Promised

- 53** Who is “Shiloh”?

The Messiah.

- 54** What does the word “Shiloh” mean?

Peacemaker.

55 What kind of peace has the Messiah brought us?

The one the Father longs for, that is: true reconciliation with God, who loves each one deeply, complete forgiveness of sins and peace in conscience, with the guarantee of the Holy Spirit to one day drown all our sorrows into the quiet of heaven eternal.

Luke 15:11-32 · John 3:16-17 · Isaiah 66:13 · Romans 5:1-8 · 2 Corinthians 5:18-19
1 Timothy 2:4 · Leviticus 19:18 · Psalm 103:12 · Isaiah 1:18 · 1 John 1:9
Colossians 2:13-14 · Isaiah 26:3 · Hebrews 10:22 · 1 John 3:19-20
Ephesians 1:13-14 · 2 Corinthians 1:22 · Romans 8:16 · 1 John 4:13

The People of the Messiah

The Diaspora

56 What would happen to the non-Jews at the coming of the Messiah?

They would obey and return to God.

Genesis 49:10 · Acts 10:45 · Ephesians 2:19 · John 1:11-12

57 What did King David say in the name of the Messiah?

“Let all the ends of the earth remember to return to the Lord! Let all the tribes of the peoples kneel before You!”

Psalms 22:27

58 When were the non-Jews ever with the Lord?

Before our rebellion in Paradise, from which God expelled all mankind.

Genesis 1:26-31 · Genesis 3

59 How would the non-Jews follow the Messiah?

Just like the Jews: by true faith in all that the Messiah did, does, and will do for them.

Joel 2:32 · Romans 3:22 · Romans 10:12 · Galatians 3:28
Ephesians 2:8-9 · Acts 10:34-35

60 What did the prophet Isaiah say about the homecoming of the peoples?

“At the end of time the mount of the house of the Lord will be set on the top of the mountains, it will be raised above the hills. All peoples will stream toward it. Many peoples will go and say: Come, let us go up to the mount of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us His ways and we may walk in His paths! For out of Zion will go forth the teaching and the Word of the Lord, out of Jerusalem.”

Isaiah 2:2-3 · Isaiah 52:10

The Capital

61 How has Mount Zion been set “on top of the mountains“?

Spiritually, for the Messiah, Zion’s cornerstone, was lifted up into heaven and yet by the Holy Spirit remains present wherever His faithful people gather – a people who were, are, and always will be the true temple of God.

Revelation 21:2 · Isaiah 28:16 · Psalm 118:22 · Ephesians 2:20 · John 12:32
Matthew 21:42 · John 4:21-24 · Matthew 18:20 · Hebrews 10:25
2 Chronicles 6:18 · Isaiah 5:7 · 1 Peter 2:5 · Isaiah 66:1-2

62 How do the peoples stream toward Zion?

They believe in Jesus the Messiah and long to live more and more according to His teaching.

Psalm 2:8 · Genesis 49:10 · Philippians 3:12-14

63 When did the teaching go forth “out of Zion“?

When the disciples of the Messiah received the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem and then passed on the same message to Jews and non-Jews.

Luke 24:47-49 · Acts 2:1-4 · Joel 2:28-29 · Romans 1:16-17
Romans 3:29-30 · Ephesians 2:14

The Diplomats

64 What else did Isaiah say about the homecoming of the peoples?

“It is too small a thing that You serve Me to raise up the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel, therefore I am going to make You a light of peoples that You may be My salvation unto the ends of the earth.”

Isaiah 49:6

65 How did the Messiah become “a light of peoples”?

He revealed the one God to the peoples while they were still in the darkness of idolatry, united them with Himself by the Holy Spirit, and then began to shine through them as well, as promised to Abraham: “I will multiply your offspring beyond measure, like the stars in the sky.”

Genesis 15:5 · Genesis 22:17-18 · Isaiah 42:1-9 · Matthew 5:14
Ephesians 2:18 · Acts 10:44-45 · Acts 14: 12-17

The Restoration

66 What did the prophet Haggai say about this?

“I will shake all peoples and they will come to the longing of all peoples.”

Haggai 2:7

67 Who is meant by “the longing of all peoples”?

Jesus, our dear Lord, the Messiah, who in life and death is the only comfort for all His own, Jew and non-Jew.

John 12:20-21 · Acts 4:12 · Revelation 14:13 · Romans 14:7-9 · Romans 8:14
1 Corinthians 6:19 · 1 Corinthians 3:23 · 1 Peter 1:18-19 · 1 John 2:2

68 How does the homecoming of the peoples comfort the Jewish people in their suffering?

By believing in the Messiah, the peoples are already part of the New Jerusalem's spiritual comfort. Zion will ask herself: “Who gave birth to these for me? For I was childless and barren, naked and forsaken. Who raised these up?”

Isaiah 49:21 · Isaiah 40:1 · Isaiah 43: 6-7 · Isaiah 49:13-19 · Isaiah 51:3
Isaiah 54:5-8,11 · Isaiah 60:3-5 · Isaiah 61:3 · Romans 9-11
Luke 23:31 · Ephesians 2:14-16 · Revelation 21

The Person of the Messiah

69 What was known about the origin of the Messiah?

That He had to be Son of man and Son of God.

Psalms 2:2-7 · Proverbs 30:4 · Matthew 3:16-17 · Revelation 22:16 · Mark 8:31

The Human Nature of the Messiah

The Promised Son

70 How did the prophets hint that He would be a man?

They call Him “offspring of the woman,” “offspring of Abraham,” “offspring and scion of David,” “offshoot of Jesse,” and then explicitly “man.”

Galatians 3:16 · Genesis 3:15 · Genesis 22:18 · Isaiah 11:1-2 · Jeremiah 23:5
Psalms 89:3-4 · 2 Samuel 7:12-15 · Daniel 7:13-14

71 What did God say to the serpent in front of Eve?

“I will put hatred between you and the woman, between your offspring and her offspring. He will crush your head, and you His heel.”

Genesis 3:15

72 How has God kept His promise?

On the cross, where Jesus took upon Himself the sentence of death for the sin of His people, thus depriving Satan of any basis to accuse and shame them all again or to continue to control them through the fear of death.

Psalm 22 · Romans 8:1-2 · Colossians 2:13-15 · Revelation 12:10-11
Hebrews 2:14-15 · 1 John 2:1-2 · Isaiah 38:17

The Heir to the Throne

73 What did God promise to David?

“I will raise up your offspring after you, who will come forth from your bowels, and I will establish His kingdom. He will build a house to My name, and I will confirm the throne of His kingdom for all eternity. I will be a father to Him, and He will be a son to me, whom I will judge with a rod of men and with whips of men if He does evil. But my grace will not depart from Him.”

2 Samuel 7:12-15 · Psalm 89:3-4

74 Did not Solomon build a house for God?

Yes, but Solomon’s kingdom did not survive his death.

1 Kings 12

75 Then whose kingdom will God confirm “for all eternity”?

The spiritual kingdom of the Messiah. God His Father condemned Him once for the sin of His people and raised Him again just three days later. So much did God love His Son and so perfectly had Jesus done the will of His Father.

Psalm 69:4 · Isaiah 53 · Isaiah 11:4 · Mark 1:15 · Luke 2:49 · 2 Corinthians 5:21

76 How did the prophet Daniel foresee the Messiah's kingdom?

"I saw in a night vision one like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He came to the Ancient of Days. They brought Him before Him. He was given rule, glory, and kingship. All peoples, nations, and tongues will worship Him. His rule is an eternal rule that will not pass away. His kingdom will not be destroyed."

Daniel 7:13-14

77 When did the Messiah begin to reign over His eternal kingdom?

Forty days after His resurrection from the dead, when the Lord Jesus ascended the throne of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Acts 1:9-11 · 1 Peter 3:22

78 What did God then say to the Messiah according to David?

"Word of the Lord to my Lord: Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool."

Psalms 110:1

79 Who owns the throne in heaven and on earth?

God alone: "O God, Your throne will be eternal. The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of justice. You loved justice and abhorred wrong. O God, therefore Your God anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your friends."

Psalms 45:7-8 · 1 Samuel 12:12 · Isaiah 42:8 · Ezekiel 20:33

The Divine Nature of the Messiah

80 But how is a man allowed to sit on the throne of heaven?

Because the Messiah is God Himself and not just a man. The Lord Jesus is heir of all and gives generously to His friends.

John 10:33 · Psalm 68:18 · John 17:22 · Hebrews 1:2

81 How did God reveal that the Messiah had to be both man and God?

God spoke to the Messiah: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You.” And the prophets credited the Messiah with divine glory and attributes by giving Him specific pairs of names. They called Him simultaneously: “Child and Mighty God,” “Offshoot and Root of Jesse”, “David’s Scion and David’s Lord, The Lord Our Justice,” and finally simply “God with us.”

Jeremiah 23:5-6 · Psalm 2:7,12 · Jeremiah 17:5 · Proverbs 30:4 · Isaiah 11:1-10
Isaiah 9:5 · Isaiah 7:14 · Revelation 22:16 · Psalm 110:1 · Mark 12:35-37

82 If the Messiah is “God with us,” why then did He go away to heaven?

Entirely for our good, until by the Holy Spirit He has forged for Himself a people before the eyes of His enemies—a new mankind for a new creation: “You ascended on high, took captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.”

Psalm 23:5 · Ephesians 4:8 · Psalm 68:18 · Zechariah 13:9 · John 16:4-15
Isaiah 43:1-7 · Deuteronomy 4:20 · Daniel 3-4 · Matthew 28:20
1 Peter 4:12 · Revelations 19:7-8 · John 14:18

The Holy Spirit

83 What are some of the gifts which Jesus gave His people?

Especially the Holy Spirit, who adopts us into God's family and bequeaths to us eternal life; as well as His fully revealed Word, through which the Spirit bears much fruit in us for God.

John 1:12 · John 17:23 · John 3:1-3 · John 3:16 · John 10:28-30

84 When did Jesus pour out the Holy Spirit upon His people?

On Pentecost, fifty days after the resurrection of the Messiah, who had sacrificed Himself as the true Passover Lamb.

Joel 2:28-32 · Luke 24:49 · Luke 22:7 · Acts 1:4-8 · Acts 2

85 What does God the Holy Spirit do in you?

The Holy Spirit gave new birth to me and walks with me for all eternity. He cleanses me from my sins by making me listen and persevere in the faith that Jesus' life and sacrifice count as my righteousness. The Holy Spirit unites me to Jesus and His people and strengthens my faith through His Word and the Covenant signs: baptism and holy supper. The Holy Spirit guides my thoughts and helps me pray and worship, to comfort, heal and renew me little by little into the image of the Messiah.

John 14:16-17 · Romans 8 · John 17:21-23 · 1 Corinthians 6:11 · 2 Corinthians 3:18
Mark 14:24 · John 6:51 · Romans 6:3-4 · Colossians 1:15 · Isaiah 26:12

The Official Roles of the Messiah

86 What are some of the Messiah's official roles?

Priest, prophet, king and judge.

Exodus 3:14

The Messiah as Priest

87 What did God the Father swear to His Son the Messiah?

"You are a priest for eternity like Melchizedek."

Psalms 110:4 · Genesis 14:17-24 · Hebrews 7:17

88 What did the Messiah have to do for us as a priest?

Sacrifice Himself for our sins once for all, intercede for us before the Father, and by the Holy Spirit assure us of God's grace through the Covenant signs of water, bread, and wine.

Genesis 14:17-24 · Isaiah 53:10

89 How did Jesus fulfill this as a priest?

The Lord Jesus offered Himself as the final Passover lamb to remove all fear, shame, and guilt from us. He represented us in the hell of the cross and represents us now in heaven. There Jesus lays His sacrifice before the Father as the valid price for the acquittal of all who trust in Him.

John 10:18 · John 19:30 · Luke 23:34 · Hebrews 4:14-10:31 · 1 John 2:1-2
Romans 5:6-8 · Matthew 26:17-29 · John 17 · Romans 8:34

The Messiah as Prophet

90 What did God say to Moses with respect to the Messiah?

“I will raise up for them from among their brothers a prophet like you. I will put My words in His mouth. He will tell them all that I command Him. And whoever does not obey My words that He will speak in My name, I Myself will hold him accountable.”

Deuteronomy 18:18-19

91 What did the Messiah have to do for us as a prophet?

First of all, He had to teach all rebels that God still owns the law and He alone determines its interpretation. He also had to reveal to us, according to the law, the way of our salvation, and then encourage us to confess that we are His before the world.

Isaiah 53:11 · Psalm 40:9-10 · Psalm 129:1-2 · Psalm 50:15-16
Deuteronomy 26:5-10 · Zechariah 13:9 · Psalm 124

92 How did Jesus fulfill this as a prophet?

To this day the Lord Jesus announces to us in the power of the Holy Spirit that He is the purpose of the law and the way to the Father. Jesus calls us through the preachers of His Word and the covenant signs to believe only in Him to exempt us from the curse, guilt, and punishment we deserve.

Matthew 12:8 · John 14:6 · John 15:15 · Ephesians 4:11-12 · Romans 10:9-10,15
Acts 3:20-22 · Acts 1:8 · John 17:6-8 · John 20:21-22 · 1 John 2:27
Matthew 10:32-33 · 1 John 4:15 · Revelation 22:17

The Messiah as King and Judge

93 What did the prophets Zechariah and Isaiah say about the Messiah?

“Shout for joy, daughter of Zion! Make noise, daughter of Jerusalem! Your King will come for your good. He is righteous and victorious.”

“For the Lord our Judge, the Lord our Lawgiver, the Lord our King, He Himself will save us.”

Zechariah 9:9 · Isaiah 33:22

94 What did the Messiah have to do for us as king and judge?

Defeat sin, death, the world, and the devil; protect us, apportion the spoils of His victory at His discretion; and finally condemn unbelievers.

Hosea 13:14 · Isaiah 25:7-8 · Isaiah 11:3-5 · Isaiah 32:1-4
1 Samuel 30:23-25 · Exodus 33:19

95 How did Jesus fulfill this as a king and a judge?

The Lord Jesus defeated death on the cross. His sacrifice as Son of God and blameless man atones for all our sin, which demands eternal death. He lives and, through the Holy Spirit, gives life to everyone who honours and confesses Him as his only Saviour, as King, who one day will judge and reward every thought, every word, and every deed.

Luke 1:33 · John 16:33 · John 10:28 · Matthew 28:18 · Ephesians 3:16
Luke 23:43 · Matthew 20:15 · Luke 19:27 · John 3:14 · John 5:22

The States of the Messiah

96 How many Messiahs were to come?

Only one—yet in two separate states: first humbled, to redeem us and perfect our faith; then glorified, in great power and majesty, so that His redeemed ones may reign with Him.

2 Timothy 2:11-13 · 1 Peter 1:7 · Revelation 5:10 · Revelation 22:5

97 What did Isaiah say about the humbled Messiah?

“We thought of Him as being punished with sickness, beaten and tormented by God. But He was pierced for our crime, crushed for our offenses. The penalty price for our peace fell upon Him, and by His wound we were healed.”

Isaiah 53:4-5

98 What did Isaiah say about the glorified Messiah?

“I will give Him a share in the many. He will divide spoil with the powerful because He gave Himself up to death and was counted among criminals, even though He bore the sin of many and pleaded for the criminals.”

Isaiah 53:12

The Identity of the Messiah

- 99** What follows from all that the Holy Scriptures reveal about the Messiah?

Surely the Messiah has already come once since the Temple was destroyed long ago. He cannot be other than Jesus of Nazareth, for only in Him are the rest of the prophecies fulfilled. Israel's King is reigning and about to return. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!