

A long time ago prophets spoke of the coming of a great leader. He would be sent by God and would be called God's "Anointed One," The Messiah. The events currently taking place in the Middle East—especially the focus and emphasis on Israel—bring about a universal awakening of interest in Israel's Messiah. Let's read together key Old Testament Scriptures that without a doubt identify Him:

- **HE MUST BE ABRAHAM'S OFFSPRING.** Moses recorded the promise of God to Abraham this way: "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 22:18).

- **HE MUST BE OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH.** On his deathbed, Jacob said to his son Judah: "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people" (Genesis 49:10).

- **HE MUST BE OF THE HOUSE OF DAVID.** In Isaiah's prophesy of the Messiah we read:

"Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and justice" (Isaiah 9:7).

- **HE MUST BE BORN OF A VIRGIN.** The prophet also wrote: "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and shall call His name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

- **HE MUST BE BORN IN BETHLEHEM.** As the Prophet Micah foretold: "But you Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to me the One to be ruler in Israel" (Micah 5:2).

- **HE MUST BE GOD.** The Prophet Isaiah stated this when he wrote: "His name will be called ... mighty God, everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

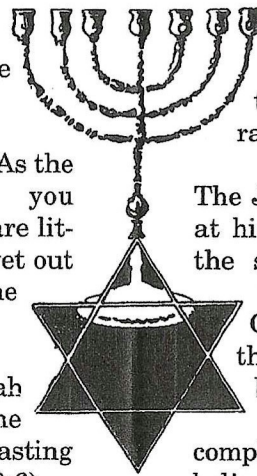
Over two thousand years ago a child was born in the town of Bethlehem

(Matthew 2:2,5-6). He was of the tribe of Judah and also of the house of David (Luke 1:32-33). His mother was a virgin (Matthew 1:23). Indeed, *Messiah has come!*

There is only one who ever was and ever will be, who can meet these requirements. His name is Jesus. He was not only a very devout Jew, but also lived a life like no one else. He restored sight to the blind, healed the sick and even raised the dead!

The Jewish leaders of the time marvelled at his insight, wisdom and knowledge of the scriptures. His wonderful miracles were divine proof that He truly is God's "Anointed One." Finally (as if this wasn't enough) Jesus Christ became God's Passover Lamb. He died on the cross making final and complete atonement for the sins of all who believe (Hebrews 9:26,28).

Isaiah prophesied: "He is despised and rejected by 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 ... He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. ” (Isaiah 53:3, 5-6).

What further proof can God give? Jesus Christ, His Son, suffered and died on the cross for your sins. On the third day He rose again, appearing to hundreds of eye-witnesses (1 Corinthians 15:3-7). By this greatest event in the history of man, God has clearly demonstrated that Jesus Christ is the Messiah.

He says in His Word, “Behold I stand at the door (of your heart) and knock. If anyone hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come in to him” (Revelation 3:20). He also says, “that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your

heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9-10).

Please don't wait another minute! Bow your head right now in prayer to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. In your own words confess your sins to the true Messiah who died on the cross as the final Passover Lamb and rose again on the third day.

If you pray from your heart, you will become a born-again child of God and a member of His family!

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