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# advance in the word - messianic passages and you – 080719

**Messianic Passages and You**

Praise the Lord for Messianic passages that describe the character of the Messiah, His purpose, when He will come and much more. In hindsight we look back and connect the Messianic passages to Jesus and how they were and are being fulfilled in Him. Yet, some are recorded as having understood them in foresight and identified Jesus as the promised One.

Now the tragedy is that with all the biblical information in the Old Testament as to who the Messiah would be, and all the religious leaders and common people looking for His arrival, the passages fell short because Jesus was *not* identified to be the Messiah by the religious leaders nor by most of the common people.

Identifying the Messiah was, indeed, one of the purposes of the Messianic passages. They do point Him out among the crowd of people in history. But the passages also do us a huge favor as Christians. They identify Christlikeness.

* God is omniscient, He knew the Messianic passages wouldn’t be of paramount use in identifying Jesus when He came. Some would understand. Most would not.
* God knew they would be of more help in identifying, giving confidence and strengthening faith in His people after the Spirit came and illuminated eyes and hearts to receive His Son as the promised Messiah.
* And perhaps most valuable are the Messianic passages in describing the character of Christ. The character we are to imitate. The character God makes possible when He fills us with His Holy Spirit.

What is Christ like character? We read it in passages like Isaiah 11 and Jeremiah 23. Then we must ask ourselves, if Jesus is like this and His Spirit lives in me … am I like this? If Jesus is “just” am I just? If Jesus lives right before God, do I? If Jesus exhibits heavenly wisdom, do I model Him in my daily life and choices?

The Messianic chapters seem far more helpful to us who follow Him now, than they did in identifying Jesus before He came. Be transformed into the image of the Son.