

Christmas, 2010 Special

Lesson #2

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Dean Bible Ministries

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A starburst light in a dark, colorful sky over a silhouette of mountains. The sky transitions from dark blue at the top to purple and pink near the horizon. The mountains are silhouetted against the lower part of the sky.

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What is So Important About a Messiah?

**“Scepters, Shiloh,
a Star, and a Booth”**

What is a Messiah?

מָשִׁיחַ. (*māšîaḥ*) *anointed one, appointed one.*

Used of priests, kings, and others whom God appoints to a task; also used of Cyrus and the pre-fall Satan—the anointed cherub.

Psa. 2:2, “The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,”

Dan. 9:25, “Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.

Dan. 9:26, “And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.”

**Every prophet prophesied only of the days of the
Messiah (b. Berachot 34b)**

~Rabbi Jochanan ben Zakkai

- 1. The writer of the Torah focuses on the Messiah. Though this may not be apparent at first, it only takes a small amount of analysis to discover this.**

2. Not only is this clear in the details, but also in the overall organization and structure.

Narrative
Gen 1–48

Poem
Gen 49
Last Days

Epilogue
Gen 50

3. The exclamation points in the Torah are 4 key poetry sections. These each indicate they are fulfilled in the last days. Gen. 49, Ex. 15, Num. 23–24; Deut. 32–33.

All except Exodus 15 focus on the last days and a coming King.

- 4. Each of these poems focuses on a coming ruler, a coming king who will eventually be worshipped by all the people (Gen. 49:8–11).**

5. This ruler will also rule over all the nations including the kingdom of Gog (Num. 24:7) who is the end-time enemy of Israel and God (Ezek. 38–39; Rev. 20:8).

6. This ruler is identified by the term “seed” which is traced meticulously through the pages of the Pentateuch.

7. By the end of the Torah, Moses identifies the coming King as also a Prophet who will be like him. (Deut. 18:15–19). He, too, will speak with God face to face as Moses did.

8. Conclusion

One of the major themes of the Torah is the promise, lineage, and predictions for the identification of this end-time ruler who will bring glory to God's people Israel.

Gen. 3:15, “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

Gen. 22:17, “indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their [HIS] enemies.”

Gen. 35:11, “Also God said to him: ‘I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body.

Gen. 35:12, “ ‘The land which I gave Abraham and Isaac I give to you; and to your descendants after you I give this land.’ ”

Gen. 49:10, “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.”

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1. Shiloh is a place name

JPS 1917;

the spelling is different from that of the place (BDB)

2. Shiloh is a proper name for the Messiah.

Talmud, Sanhedrin 98b which answers the question,
“What is the Messiah’s name? Shiloah is his name,
as it is said, ‘Until Shiloh come.’ ”

Targum Pseudo-Jonathan, and the Qumran
community

Gen. 49:10, “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.”

3. Shiloh means “his son”

Calvin, Jerusalem Targum, some Rabbis

No word as שִׁיל *shil* attested in Hebrew.

4. Shiloh means “until what belongs to him comes”

Gen. 49:10, “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.”

ESV margin notes:

By a slight revocalization; a slight emendation yields (compare Septuagint, Syriac, Targum) until he comes to whom it belongs; Hebrew until Shiloh comes, or until he comes to Shiloh.

NAS

Or Until he comes to Shiloh; or Until he comes to whom it belongs

JPS Tanakh, 1985

Or Until he comes to Shiloh; or Until he comes to whom it belongs

Gen. 49:10, “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.”

Until what belongs to him comes

Targum Onqelos,

Greek translations of Aquila, Symmachus, and Theodotion

38 ancient mss support this reading incl. LXX

Shi+L+O

Gen. 49:10, “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.”

The text 4Q252 has “until the messiah of righteousness, the branch of David, comes, for to him and to his descendants the covenant of the kingship of the people has been given for the generations of eternity”

**Ezek. 21:24, “Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
‘Because you have made your iniquity to be
remembered, in that your transgressions are
uncovered, so that in all your doings your sins
appear—because you have come to
remembrance, you shall be taken in hand.**

**Ezek. 21:25, “ ‘Now to you, O profane, wicked
prince of Israel, whose day has come, whose
iniquity shall end,’ ”**

Ezek. 21:26, “thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Remove the turban, and take off the crown; nothing shall remain the same. Exalt the humble, and humble the exalted.

Ezek. 21:27, “ ‘Overthrown, overthrown, I will make it overthrown! It shall be no longer, until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him.’ ”

Numbers 24:14, “And now, behold, I am going to my people. Come, I will let you know what this people will do to your people in the latter days.” (ESV)

Num. 24:7, “He shall pour water from his buckets, and his seed shall be in many waters. His king shall be higher than Agag [Gog], and his kingdom shall be exalted.

Num. 24:8, “God brings him out of Egypt; He has strength like a wild ox; He shall consume the nations, His enemies; He shall break their bones and pierce them with His arrows.

Num. 24:9, “He bows down, He lies down as a lion; and as a lion, who shall rouse Him? ‘Blessed is he who blesses you, and cursed is he who curses you.’ ”

Num. 24:17, “I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; a Star shall come out of Jacob; a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and batter the brow of Moab, and destroy all the sons of tumult.”

Amos 9:11, “ ‘On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and repair its [fem plural] damages; I will raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old;

Amos 9:12, “ ‘That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the Gentiles who are called by My name,’ says the LORD who does this thing.

Amos 9:13, “ ‘Behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘when the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it.’ ”

2 Sam. 7:12, “When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

2 Sam. 7:13, “He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”