

Messianic Prophecies

Zechariah

Messianic Prophecies Introduction

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- God keep his promises.
- **Zechariah**, like **Haggai** and **Malachi**, was written in days when it was not especially easy to be a Jew in their own land.
- But it is a book full of messianic promises.

Messianic Prophecies Introduction

- **Zechariah** is second only to **Isaiah** in the number of messianic prophecies it contains.
- There are more messianic references here than in the other eleven Minor Prophets combined.

Messianic Prophecies Introduction

- Prophecies like these gave the Jews hope for the future when the present was very uncertain.
- They could be filled with joyful expectation when they were surrounded by enemies on all sides.

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Questions to ask ourselves as we read these prophecies:

- How firm is my faith?
- How deep is my trust?

Messianic Prophecies Introduction

Questions to ask ourselves as we read these prophecies:

- Are we Christians because we find it easy to be Christians?
- Or are we Christians because we are convinced of the truth of God's Word?

1. My Servant the Branch

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Zechariah 3:8 (ESV)

Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch.

1. My Servant the Branch

Isaiah 4:2 (ESV)

In that day the branch of the LORD shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and honor of the survivors of Israel.

Isaiah 11:1 (ESV)

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

1. My Servant the Branch

John 4:34 (ESV)

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.”

John 17:4 (ESV)

I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.

2. A Priest on His Throne

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Zechariah 6:12-13 (ESV)

¹² And say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord. ¹³ It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”’

2. A Priest on His Throne

Romans 8:34 (ESV)

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Hebrews 8:1 (ESV)

Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven.

3. A King Coming in on a Donkey

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Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

3. A King Coming in on a Donkey

Matthew 21:8-10 (ESV)

⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?”

3. A King Coming in on a Donkey

John 12:12-13 (ESV)

¹² The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” ¹⁴ And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵ “Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!”

4. Cornerstone

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Zechariah 10:4a (ESV)

From him shall come the cornerstone ...

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Zechariah 10:4a (ESV)

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Ephesians 2:19-20 (ESV)

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

5. Israel's Unfit Leaders

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Zechariah 11:4-5 (ESV)

⁴ Thus said the LORD my God: “Become shepherd of the flock doomed to slaughter. ⁵ Those who buy them slaughter them and go unpunished, and those who sell them say, ‘Blessed be the LORD, I have become rich,’ and their own shepherds have no pity on them.

5. Israel's Unfit Leaders

Matthew 23:1-4 (ESV)

¹ Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, ² “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, ³ so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. ⁴ They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.

5. Israel's Unfit Leaders

Matthew 23:13 (ESV)

¹³ “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.

5. Israel's Unfit Leaders

Matthew 23:23-24 (ESV)

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. ²⁴ You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

6. God's Rejection of That Generation

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Zechariah 11:6 (ESV)

⁶ For I will no longer have pity on the inhabitants of this land, declares the LORD. Behold, I will cause each of them to fall into the hand of his neighbor, and each into the hand of his king, and they shall crush the land, and I will deliver none from their hand.”

6. God's Rejection of That Generation

John 19:13-16 (ESV)

¹³ So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" ¹⁵ They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶ So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

6. God's Rejection of That Generation

Luke 19:41-44 (ESV)

⁴¹ And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it,
⁴² saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day
the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from
your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you, when your
enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you
and hem you in on every side ⁴⁴ and tear you down to the
ground, you and your children within you. And they will not
leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not
know the time of your visitation."

7. Thirty Pieces of Silver

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Zechariah 11:12-13 (ESV)

¹² Then I said to them, “If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them.” And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. ¹³ Then the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD, to the potter.

7. Thirty Pieces of Silver

Matthew 26:14-15 (ESV)

¹⁴ Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver.

7. Thirty Pieces of Silver

Matthew 27:3-5 (ESV)

³ Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, ⁴ saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” ⁵ And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.

8. The One They Pierced

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Zechariah 12:10 (ESV)

And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

8. The One They Pierced

John 19:34-37 (ESV)

³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵ He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. ³⁶ For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” ³⁷ And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

9. Strike the Shepherd

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Zechariah 13:7 (ESV)

“Awake, O sword, against my shepherd,
against the man who stands next to me,”
declares the LORD of hosts.

“Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered;
I will turn my hand against the little ones.”

9. Strike the Shepherd

Matthew 26:31, 56 (ESV)

³¹ Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’”

⁵⁶ But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

10. His Feet Shall Stand on the Mount of
Olives ... the Lord Will Be King

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Zechariah 14:4-9 (ESV)

⁴ On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives ... and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward ...

⁸ On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem ...

⁹ And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one.

10. His Feet Shall Stand on the Mount of Olives ... the Lord Will Be King

- The prophecies in **Zechariah 14** deal with the Second Coming of Christ.
- Their fulfillment is yet to come.

Messianic Prophecies

Conclusions

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- For a very thorough resource on Old Testament prophecies about Jesus see: www.messiahrevealed.org

Messianic Prophecies Conclusions

- God keeps his promises.
- Promises like those that we have read motivated the Jewish people in the time leading up to the coming of the Messiah.

Messianic Prophecies Conclusions

- It gave them something to look forward to in days when it was not easy to be a Jew.
- Between the time of these prophecies and the coming of Christ Jerusalem was conquered by both the Greeks and the Romans.

Messianic Prophecies Conclusions

We can continually ask ourselves:

- How firm is my faith?
- How deep is my trust?

Messianic Prophecies Conclusions

We can continually ask ourselves:

- Are we Christians because we find it easy to be Christians?
- Or are we Christians because we are convinced of the truth of God's Word?

Messianic Prophecies Conclusions

- If we are waiting and watching for Jesus, the future gives us nothing to fear.
- Those promises should motivate us in the present and continually give us hope looking forward.
- This will be true even if we face days when it is not easy to be a Christian.