

JESUS THE JEWISH MESSIAH OF ISRAEL



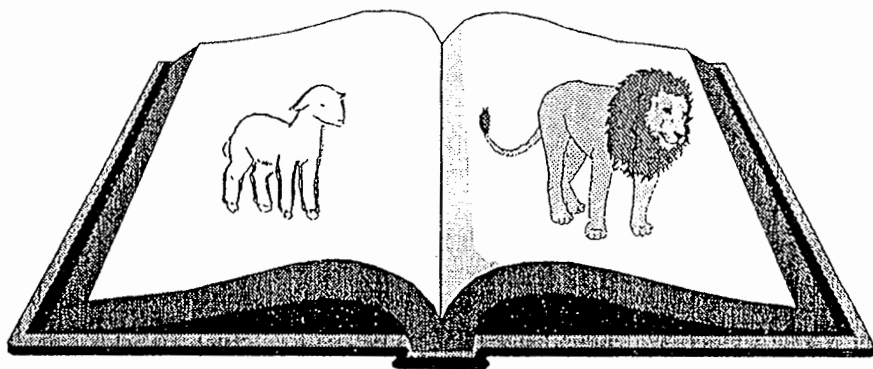
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by Rev. Moshe Elijah
Fulfilled Messianic Jew



JESUS **the JEWISH MESSIAH** **of ISRAEL**



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THE JEWISH MESSIAH OF ISRAEL

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1. Brief introduction

I am a Messianic Jew (other terms are "fulfilled Jew", "completed Jew", "True Jew", "Hebrew Christian", "Jewish Christian"), who is a Jew who believes that the Jewish Messiah of Israel, as foretold by the Jewish prophets of the Old Testament (Hebrew word for Old Testament is TENAKH), is Jesus Christ (Yeshua Ha Mashiach).

There are over 300 prophecies in the Jewish scriptures (i.e. Old Testament - Tenakh) about the Jewish Messiah of Israel, and only one person in history has fulfilled them. That person is Jesus Christ.

2. My background

I come from a fairly orthodox Sephardi Jewish family. My father was ultra-orthodox who had studied to become an orthodox Rabbi. He nearly completed his Rabbinical studies, with one year left to finish, when he had to stop due to his father's illness.

My grandfather was a "Haham" - a learned "master" Rabbi of high standing. One of my grand uncles was a Chief Rabbi of a middle Eastern country, according to my father. I have a second cousin

in England who is a Rabbi.

I had my "Brit Milah" (circumcision) as a baby, and had my "Barmitzvah" as a teenager.

As a child, my father told me stories out of the Jewish Old Testament (Tenakh) and taught me to deeply respect the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - the God of Israel - "Yahweh", which means "I AM THAT I AM", or "I AM", the ever-existing, Almighty Creator of Heaven and Earth.

My father also taught me to greatly respect the Jewish prophets of the Old Testament, who were holy men of God, serving God with honour and righteousness, such as Moses, Samuel, Elijah, Elisha, etc.

This teaching developed in me a deep heartfelt faith in God and His holy Jewish prophets of the TENAKH (Old Testament).

3. Childhood indoctrination on Jesus Christ

However, with the subject of Jesus Christ, my father told me not to read any literature on him, or listen to any talk about him. When I asked him why, my father ignored me. However, when I persevered with questions, my father finally said that Jesus Christ was a great learned Rabbi, a "HAHAM", highly respected by the Jewish people of his time. Also Jesus (Yeshua) could perform many miracles which caused great awe amongst the Jews.

However, my father said that this was not unique, and that there were other great learned "master" Rabbis, who could also perform similar miracles through deep study of the Tenakh (Old Testament) and applying some mystical Biblical principles.

My father said that Jesus (Yeshua) became so successful with the performance of miracles and the theological debates with other great Rabbis, that Jesus (Yeshua) became inflated with a big ego, and became very proud, and began to be arrogant towards other Jewish leaders. Finally, my father said, Jesus (Yeshua) began to have delusions of grandeur, thinking and declaring that he was God. This is considered to be blasphemy and the punishment for blasphemy was death. Thus Jesus was put to death.

Not knowing anything else about Yeshua (Jesus), as I was an innocent child, I accepted this story as being the truth, and consequently shunned everything connected with Yeshua (Jesus) throughout my life.

At this stage, I had a lot of faith and trust in God, saying my "Shema" (Israel's great proclamation of faith as described in Deuteronomy Chapter 6, verse 4 onwards) every night, with my prayerful requests and petitions. Contrary to what many Christians may believe, most of my prayers were answered, as the Jews are still in a covenant relationship with God through Abraham Isaac and Jacob. However, "salvation" - everlasting life with citizenship in heaven, and all the other blessings relevant to having peace with God, etc. - I now know, can only come through

the Messiah, Yeshua, and His atoning blood sacrifice on the Cross at Calvary.

4. Unfruitful Jewish witnessing by Gentile Christians

Throughout my life I was approached by many Gentile Christians preaching the Gospel to me. I tried to avoid them as much as possible, due to my father's warning. However, I noticed that they approached Jews in a very foolish and unsuccessful way.

The proper way to witness to Jews, in my opinion, is to get some common ground and use it. Now the Jews do not believe in the New Testament, but highly respect the Old Testament. Also, due to traditional upbringing and indoctrination (such as, for example, the 13 Jewish principles of faith), the Jews do not believe in the Holy Trinity, the plurality of persons in the Godhead.

The Jewish Messiah of Israel is the most important and respected figure in Judaism. The subject of Israel's Messiah is the core of Judaism, and the dream of the Jews over the centuries, being very precious to Israel.

Thus to get the interest and attention of many Jews, emphasise the MESSIAHSHIP of Yeshua (Jesus), and prove it with the Messianic prophecies in the Jewish Old Testament. Also use the Jewish version of the Old Testament - the Jewish Masoretic Text - which can be bought at the Jewish bookshops. The Masoretic text is recognised and highly respected by the orthodox Rabbis, who

do not respect the Christian versions, declaring that they have been tampered with, to prove that Jesus is the Messiah. However, there is negligible difference, in reality, between the two versions. Also, leave the subject of the deity of Christ last, as this is a hard obstacle in the path of Jewish witnessing.

Instead of using the above wise strategy, gentile Christians immediately start with the deity of Christ, saying Christ is the Almighty SON OF GOD, creator of Heaven and Earth. Even though this is the truth, it would instinctively set up a barrier in the Jewish mono-theistic mind, just like it did in myself, before I was "born-again". Also, these same evangelists use the New Testament which the Jews do not believe in. Incidentally, most gentile Christians do not know about the Old Testament Messianic prophecies.

5. How I believed in Messiah Yeshua (Jesus)

God works in strange and mysterious ways. The born-again Gentile Christians did not cause me to be much interested in the subject of Jesus, as they never stated that Jesus claimed to be the Jewish Messiah (Mashiach). God used a member of an ill-reputed sect to tell me this. This shocked me with a spiritual thunderbolt and abruptly "quickened" my interest and attention.

For the first time, I became interested in this person, Yeshua, and wanted to know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth about Him, as I considered this matter to be of the utmost

importance to any God-fearing Jew who sincerely loves God with his whole heart, soul and might, in obedience to the greatest commandment in the Bible, as stated in the "Shema" [Deuteronomy 6/(4-9)].

The Lord, by His Grace (favour), took me further along the road of understanding, when I was transferred to a Technical College up north, in my profession as a teacher of Electronics Engineering in New South Wales, Australia. There I met two Christian colleagues who discussed religion with me. I decided to challenge them with a seemingly impossible task. I asked them to prove to me logically and objectively, without using any emotionalism, or faith in the New Testament, but using only the Jewish Old Testament, that Jesus (Yeshua) is the Jewish Messiah of Israel as foretold by the Jewish prophets. I chuckled to myself, with an attitude of arrogance and scepticism, as I thought I had given them an impossible mission to accomplish. In disbelief, I started to walk away from them.

They stopped me and opened the Old Testament at Isaiah Chapter 53, and asked me to read it. I read it three times. The first time, I noticed a mist before my eyes, hindering me from seeing the words properly. The second time, as I began to understand the meaning of the scripture, holes started to appear in this hindering mist. The third time, when I fully understood the scripture, the mist disappeared.

I was shocked by what I read. This scripture stated the Gospel story which I had known from street preachers, evangelists, and movies (e.g. "The King of Kings"). I thought my two colleagues had tricked me and given me the New Testament, so I threw it back to them, telling them I did not want to read the New Testament. They gave the scripture back to me and told me it was from the Book of Isaiah, Isaiah being one of the Jewish prophets of the Old Testament.

When I realised this, I received a great surprise, and the spiritual shock and enlightenment dissolved my attitude of arrogance and scepticism. I was struck dumb and became as meek as a lamb. I could not speak, so I excused myself and went away. For a few hours I was in a state of spiritual shock, as I deeply respected the Old Testament and the great, holy Jewish prophets - the spokesmen of God - as this had been impressed upon me by my learned father.

Now here before my very eyes, was a passage by one of these same great servants of God, the prophet Isaiah, pointing to the death of Yeshua, a highly exalted servant of God, the "arm of the Lord", as a human sacrifice for the atonement of the sins of others - the sacrificial Passover Lamb of God who died for the sins of the people. The passage even gave graphic details, such as "He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter ... so he opened not his mouth". Also, "for the transgression of my people was he stricken", and "when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin", the Hebrew word "ASHAM", meaning 'trespass offering', is used

here.

Other words are "shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities ... because he hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was numbered with the transgressors (two thieves were crucified together with Yeshua); and he bare the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors". Remember that Jesus said, while on the Cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" - this is the meaning of the phrase "made intercession for the transgressors". The Hebrew word for sacrifice is "Korban", and the Messiah Yeshua is described as being killed as a sacrifice (Korban) for the atonement of sins. The Hebrew word "Kaparrah" means "atonement of sins", as in Yom Kippur - the Jewish Day of Atonement.

6. The Messiah is the Passover Lamb of God

This scripture indicates the Messiah, Yeshua, as the Passover Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the people. He was sacrificed - a lamb without spot or blemish, the sinless Messiah - as an atonement for the sins of the people.

All the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament pointed to this one true sacrifice, acceptable by God. The others were only a shadow of the real sacrifice. They were a symbolic picture of the true sacrifice of the holy Messiah - the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1/29).

Leviticus 17/11 indicates that without the shedding of blood, there is no atonement for sins, as repeated in the New Testament in Hebrews 9/22. This is also indicated in the Jewish Talmud - the book of Yoma, Ch. 5a.

In the first incident of the Passover Lamb sacrifice, when the Jews were preparing to leave Egypt under the leadership of the prophet Moshe (my namesake), the blood of the lamb was put on the two doorposts and lintels of every Jewish house. When the Angel of Death saw the blood, he "passed over" that house, not killing anybody within (Exodus 12).

Thus, when we accept Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) as our Lord and Saviour, and as our Passover Lamb, His shed blood atones for our sins, giving us peace with God, and God's judgement will "pass over" us and not touch us.

The Messiah Yeshua died for our sins, so that we would have peace with God (Romans 5/(1-2)) and everlasting life (John 3/16). Psalm 49/(7-9) indicates no normal human being could be used as a redeeming sacrifice. Psalm 49/(7-9): "No man can redeem the life of another, or give to God a ransom for him - the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough - that he should live on for ever and not see decay (i.e. eternal life)." Thus the person must be the Holy Messiah, the sinless Son of God, the Holy divine Passover Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, as John the Baptist said in John 1/29 - "Look, the (Passover) Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

A relevant scripture in the New Testament is 1 Corinthians 5/7 - "For Christ (Messiah) our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed". Another scripture is 1 Peter 1/(18-19) - "For you know that it was not with perishable things, such as silver or gold, that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ (Messiah), a (Passover) Lamb without blemish or defect".

Other relevant scriptures in the New Testament: Hebrews 9/28, Colossians 1/(19-22); (13-14); Ephesians 1/7; 2/13; Romans 3/(24-25); Romans 5/9; Hebrews 2/(14-17); 1 John 1/(5-9); Revelation 1/(4-6); Revelation 5/(9-10); 12/11.

In the Last Supper, which was a Passover celebration, modified by Messiah Yeshua to usher in the New Covenant, Yeshua said in Matthew 26/(26-28): "While they were eating, Jesus (Yeshua) took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat. This is my body.' Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins'.



7. Yom Kippur - Messiah's role as the two goats

Isaiah 53 also refers to the Messiah as the two goats of Yom Kippur - one is the divine scapegoat, the sin bearer, and the other is the sacrificial slain goat, its blood shed for the atonement of sins. The high priest of Israel would put his hands on the scapegoat and confess the sins of Israel on to it. Then this "azazel" scapegoat was taken away into the wilderness, bearing the sins of Israel. The second goat, the sacrificial goat, was slain and its blood taken into the Holy of Holies in the Temple by the High Priest, and sprinkled on the Mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant, to obtain Mercy and forgiveness from God for all the sins of the people (Leviticus 16).

It is interesting to note that the Festivals and ceremonies in the Old Testament point to Messiah Yeshua.

8. Back to Messianic Prophecies

- (i) Isaiah 53 pointed to a meek, suffering Messiah, not a glorious one, as I and many Jews have been indoctrinated to expect. This scripture is analysed in detail afterwards. Other Old Testament passages pointing to Messiah Yeshua were shown to me, such as:
- (ii) Daniel 9/(25-27): This gives the time of the coming of the Messiah, which will be before the destruction of the Temple, at which time the rebuilt city of Jerusalem

(previously destroyed in 586 B.C. with the First Temple), would also be destroyed. This happened in 70 A.D. under the Roman General Titus.

Daniel 9/26: "And after sixty and two weeks will Messiah be cut off (i.e. killed) and not for Himself, and the City (of Jerusalem) and the sanctuary (i.e. the Second Temple) will the people of the prince (i.e. the Roman General Titus) that is coming, destroy." This happened in 70 A.D. The Messiah was predicted to come before 70 A.D., and would be killed. This points to Yeshua (Jesus).

- (iii) Micah 5/2: This gives the birth place of the Messiah, Bethlehem, which is the Hebrew word for "house of bread". What a co-incidence, because Jesus said he was the "bread of life". There are now virtually no Jews living in this city, as it is now an Arab town. Thus, it is very unlikely for a Messiah to be born there now. Also, it would rule out a certain ninety year old Rabbi, presently declared as King Messiah, because he was not born in Israel.
- (iv) Zechariah 9/9: This is about the Messiah coming to Jerusalem on a donkey (which is what Jesus did). It is difficult to imagine Israel's Messiah coming to the Knesset (Israel's Parliament) on a donkey in this modern age and time! Also, the above-mentioned ninety year old Rabbi recently declared by some Jews as the Messiah, is driven in

an automobile.

- (v) Psalm 22: This gives a graphic description of the crucifixion of the Messiah, e.g. 'I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint ... they have pierced my hands and my feet ... people stare and gloat over me they divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.' The Psalm starts with the words "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me (in Hebrew, it is - Eli, Eli, lama sabathani). On the crucifixion cross, Messiah Yeshua spoke these same words. Yeshua was referring to King David's Psalm 22, which had been written 1000 years previously under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (Ruach Ha Kodesh). This incident is packed with great significance, as it indicated that Messiah Yeshua was the divine scapegoat, the great sin-bearer, who bore the sins of mankind. While He bore the sins in His own body, as explained in Isaiah 53, God the Father had to withdraw and forsake His Son Yeshua. God, being holy, cannot look on sin. Also God the Father had to allow Messiah Yeshua to bear the sins of mankind by Himself. Thus Messiah Yeshua spoke these words which had been predicted 1000 years previously, to point towards this important principle of "sin bearing".
- (vi) Zechariah 12/10: This is about the return of the Messiah at Armageddon. 'They will look on me (i.e. the God of Israel - the subject of the Passage), the One they have

pierced'. This passage indicates the Messiah is divine and was crucified.

There are others, but the above scriptures should be sufficient to convince many Jews of the Messiahship of Jesus (Yeshua).

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9. On the Deity of Christ, and the Holy Trinity

- (i) Zechariah 12/10 (see 6 above).
- (ii) Micah 5/2 shows that the Messiah is immortal 'whose origins are from of old, from ancient times (i.e. eternity).'
- (iii) Isaiah 9/(6-7) indicates that the Messiah is God and will reign on David's throne as King of Israel, during the Millennial Kingdom of Peace.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace, there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his Kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness, from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this."

The orthodox Jewish books - Aramaic Targums - recognised this scripture as a reference to King Messiah. The Targum stated the above, as follows:

"The prophet said to the house of David, 'For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and he shall receive the law upon him to keep it, and his name is called from eternity, Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Continuing for ever, The Messiah; for peace shall be multiplied upon us in his days'."

Thus the orthodox Jewish book recognises the Messiah as divine.

- (iv) Daniel 7/(13-14), 27 is similar to Isaiah 9/(6-7).

"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man (Messiah Yeshua), coming with the clouds of heaven (compare with Matthew 26/(63-64)). He approached the Ancient of Days (God the Father) and was led into His presence. He was given authority, glory, and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his Kingdom is one that will never be destroyed." ...

... Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the Kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High (God). His (God's) Kingdom will be an everlasting Kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey Him."

These scriptures indicate that there are two divine beings, the "Ancient of Days" (God the Father), and "one like a son of man" (also the Most High - i.e. God the Son). The scriptures indicate that "one like a son of man" - i.e. Messiah Yeshua, is the Most High, and will be worshipped by the whole earth as God, and as emperor of the world - Lord of Lords and King of Kings.

Messiah Yeshua also referred to Daniel 7/(13-14), in Matthew 26/(63-64): "The high priest said to him

(Yeshua), 'I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the son of God.'

'Yes, it is as you say', Yeshua (Jesus) replied. 'But I say to all of you: In future you will see the Son of Man (Yeshua Ha Mashiach - Yeshua was also referring to Daniel 7/(13-14) sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One (i.e. God the Father - the Ancient of Days), and coming on the clouds of heaven.' "

(v) Proverbs 30/4 shows that God has a divine son.

(vi) Psalms 2 explains that the Messiah is the son of God, and is to be honoured.

"The Kings of the earth take their stand, and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against His Messiah. ... The One enthroned in Heaven (God the Father) laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. Then He rebukes them saying, 'I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill (i.e. in Jerusalem, during the millennial reign of Messiah Yeshua, on David's throne).'

I will proclaim the decree of the Lord: He said to me, 'You are My Son, today I have become your Father. Ask of Me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. You will rule them with an iron sceptre, ... Therefore, you Kings, be wise; be

warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear (i.e. the Son of God - Messiah Yeshua), and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son (in another version, it is 'worship the Son'), lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him."

In the orthodox Jewish book of the Zohar (principal work of the Kabala; it was issued by Moses ben Shemtob de Leon in Spain (1250-1305) as "the Midrash of Rabbi Simeon ben Yochai", a Tana of the second century - disciple of Rabbi Akiva) its comments on Psalm 2 are:

"This Son is the faithful Shepherd, and He is the Prince of Israel, the Lord of things below, the Lord of ministering Angels, the Son of the Highest, the Son of the God of the Universe, the gracious Shechinah: He is the King Messiah.'

This is quoted in the Jewish orthodox book - Zohar at folio 88, column 384 - textbook of Jewish mysticism.

- (vii) Jeremiah 23/(5-6) states the name of the Messiah is Yahweh, the name of the God of Israel. It also states that He will bring peace to Israel, reigning as its King, on the throne of David, during the Millennial Kingdom.

" 'The days are coming', declares the Lord, 'when I will raise up from David's line a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: Yahweh Tsidkenu (Our Righteousness).' "

With regard to the above scripture, the Talmud states that there are three who are called Shem ha Meforash - the Tetragrammaton - the Distinguished Name of God Almighty - Yahweh. Thus one can deduce that this points to the Holy Triune God - One God manifested in three persons - Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

The Zohar pictures the Supreme Throne occupied by Three Figures, one is the Voice who speaks, one the Messiah, and one the Bird. This seems to relate to the New Testament scripture, Matthew 3/(13-17):

"And Jesus, when he was baptised, went up straightway from the water: and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon him; and lo, a voice out of the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased.' "

This describes the Holy Trinity.

- (viii) Genesis 1/2: "Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."

On this scripture, the orthodox Jewish book - Midrash Rabbah to Bereshit, Parashah 2 - says: 'the Divine Spirit of the King Messiah'. Thus this Jewish book attributes divinity to the Messiah, and connects King Messiah with creation, as Genesis is the scripture on creation.

- (ix) Psalms 110: King David indicates there are two Lords or Gods, thus pointing to the Christian concept of the Holy Trinity. This startled me due to my monotheistic Jewish background.
- (x) Genesis 1/26: Indication of the plurality of God ELOHIM, pointing to the concept of the Holy Trinity. The words are:

"And God (ELOHIM) said, Let US make man in OUR image, after OUR likeness".

The Hebrew word for God is "EL" or "ELOH", and its plural form is "ELOHIM" as, for example, is used in the First Commandment of the Decalogue (10 Commandments), "Thou shall have no other Gods (Elohim) before me".

Note also that plural verbs are used with JEHOVAH ELOHIM, as in Genesis 20:13 and Genesis 35:7.

- (xi) Isaiah 48/16: This passage indicated 3 divine beings, the third one being the Holy Spirit. This is the Holy Trinity.
- (xii) Hebrew letter "SHIN" (ש). This is the first letter in the Hebrew word "SHADDAI", which means "Almighty", a term for God. The Hebrew letter "SHIN" (ש) is used on "Mezuzahs". Note that it is one symbol, with *three* arms or branches, which is analogous to the concept of the Holy Trinity - a *triune* God, *three* divine persons in *one* God.
- (xiii) Isaiah 6/3: The word "holy" is repeated *three* times. "*Holy, holy, holy* is Jehovah of hosts." It is interesting to wonder why the word "holy" is repeated three times in other places in the Bible. It is not repeated twice or four times, or even seven times, etc., but *three* times.

Maybe this is done to refer to *three* divine persons, making one God, all three persons having the same name Jehovah? What do *you* think, reader?

- (xiv) Isaiah 44/6: 2 Jehovahs mentioned.
"Thus saith Jehovah, the King of Israel (this refers to the divine Messiah, Jehovah the Almighty Son of God) and His Redeemer, Jehovah of Hosts (this is God the Father, the Commander-in-Chief of all the hosts of Heaven). I am the

first and I am the last and besides me there are no Gods (the word *Elohim* was used here).

In this passage of the *Old Testament*, two Jehovahs are mentioned, indicating *two* divine beings with *one* name Jehovah. It is interesting to note that Jesus claimed in the New Testament to be the Alpha (first) and the Omega (last) - e.g. see Revelation 1/8; 22/13.

(xv) Isaiah 49/7: God and his Holy Messiah.

"Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and His Holy One (the Messiah, the second divine person) to Him whom man despiseth, to Him whom the nation abhorreth (describing the despised and rejected Messiah, as stated in Isaiah 53, which points to Yeshua (Jesus)), to a *servant* of rulers, kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the *Lord* that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel (i.e. the Messiah), and He shall choose thee".

Here two Lords are mentioned, the second one being called the *Holy One of Israel*, who is despised by man, i.e. the Messiah mentioned in Isaiah 53. The "Holy One" is also mentioned in Psalm 16/10, describing the resurrection of the Messiah, from the dead.

- (xvi) Genesis 19/24: The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah - two Jehovahs mentioned.

"Then Jehovah rained down burning sulphur on Sodom and Gomorrah - from Jehovah out of the heavens."

Two divine beings with one name Jehovah are mentioned, pointing to the Holy Triune God Jehovah.

- (xvii) Zechariah 2/(10-13): Similar to Genesis 19/24. Two Lords are mentioned.



10. My "born again" Christian (Messianic) experience

The enlightenment I received from these Old Testament prophecies created in me a burning desire to search the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth about Messiah Yeshua. I have always respected and highly valued the truth of any matter, regardless of what it was. My hunger and desire to know the truth, was my only inherent motivation, leading me on until I found it, because I valued it even above human reputation, pride, vanity, etc.

Then I read the New Testament with great interest. I soon became aware that this was not a dead book of symbols, but alive and powerful, with a ring of truth and sincerity. The words appeared to come alive and penetrate into me with a supernatural power. I was amazed that while I was reading it, I literally felt an invisible spiritual sword (which I understood later to be the sword of the Holy Spirit, the word of God), cut through my remaining mental and spiritual walls of doubt, scepticism and disbelief. It was like a laser beam cutting through a brick wall. Some of the words of Messiah Yeshua which I found in the New Testament, were: "I am the Way, the Truth and the (everlasting) Life; no man comes to the Father (in Heaven); but by ME."

To my amazement I soon believed with a heart-felt faith, that Jesus (Yeshua) is the foretold Jewish Messiah of Israel, and that the New Testament is the word of Truth - the most powerful, dynamic and penetrating book I have ever read.

I had become "born again" in my spirit as described in Ezekiel 36/(25-27). I felt a metamorphosis type of change had occurred to my spirit, like a caterpillar being transformed to a butterfly. I had become a born again, fulfilled, Messianic Jew, and the dramatic spiritual transformation amazed me for a long time.

11. The SHEMA points to the Holy Trinity

Deuteronomy 6:4; This is the "SHEMA", Israel's great confession of faith. In literal Hebrew, it is:-

"Shema Yisrael, Jehovah (Adonai) Eloheinu, Jehovah (Adonai) echad." The Hebrew word "Eloheinu" has a Hebrew symbol "yod" in it (underlined) making it plural. Thus it is literally translated "our Gods". Compare this with the singular Hebrew word "Elohenu", without a "yod", which is translated "our God".

The Hebrew word "echad" means "one", or a *unity*. The Hebrew word "yachid", which means *an absolute single one*, was not used here, in the "SHEMA", but the word "echad". Note that "echad" was the word used by the great prophet Moses in *Genesis 2/24*, when he said: "And they (husband and wife) shall be *one* flesh (basar echad)". Echad also was used by God when he tells the prophet Ezekiel in *Ezekiel 37:17*: "They (the *two* sticks for Israel and Judah) shall become *one* (echad) in thy hand." Hence the above phrase of the "SHEMA" is translated: - "Hear O Israel, Jehovah is our Gods, Jehovah is a *unity*." Thus this indicates a united Holy Trinity, with a plurality of persons in God - i.e. three divine persons in one "Godhead", with one name Jehovah.

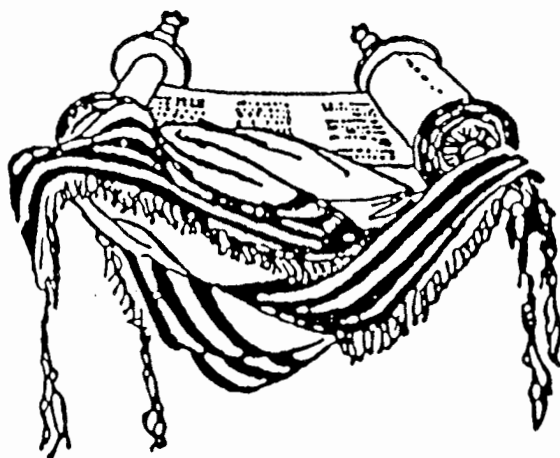


12. The Jewish Masoretic Text version of the Old Testament

The orthodox Jews claim that the Christian version of the Old Testament had been deliberately changed to a substantial degree, to make the Messianic prophecies in it to point to Jesus Christ.

Thus I acquired a copy of the Jewish Masoretic Text version of the Old Testament, which is very highly respected by the orthodox Jews as being the correct, authentic Word of God. I wanted to check out this strong claim of the orthodox Jews.

To my surprise, I found both the Christian version and the Jewish Masoretic Text versions of the Old Testament to be astonishingly similar, thus confirming the Messiahship and Divinity of Yeshua (Jesus).



13. The two comings of the Messiah

Both the Old and New Testaments predict two comings of the Jewish Messiah of Israel - the Saviour of the world. The Messiah, in both comings, is the same person, the Lord Jesus Christ (Adonai Yeshua Ha Mashiach), the Almighty, divine Son of God.

The first coming of the Messiah occurred nearly 2000 years ago, as the suffering servant - the Passover Lamb of God, who was sacrificed for the atonement of sins. Through His sacrificial blood of atonement, mankind receives peace with God with everlasting life in Heaven.

Three days after His crucifixion, Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) rose up from the dead, walked amongst men for forty days, then left the planet earth, in full view of about 500 disciples and flew through space back to Heaven, to sit at the right hand of God the Father (Mark 16/19; Luke 24/51; Acts 1/(9-11)).

At the Second Coming of the Messiah Yeshua, He will not return as a Lamb, a suffering Servant, but as the Lion of the tribe of Judah, a conquering Almighty, glorious Son of God, with great power. This will happen in this last generation - Luke 21/(24-36); Matthew 24/(30-34); Mark 13/(26-30); Psalm 102/13, 16, 18.

The Messiah Yeshua will come back to the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem - Acts 1/(9-12); Zechariah 14/(3-4).

This will occur at Armageddon, the climax of The Great Tribulation - the worst distress the world would have ever experienced throughout its history.

Messiah Yeshua would then judge the earth and then usher in the Millennium of peace - 1000 years of peace on earth, under the reign of Messiah Yeshua - the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, emperor of the world.

Messiah Yeshua would also sit on the throne of David as King of Israel - Isaiah 9/(6-7); Jeremiah 23/(5-6); Luke 1/(30-33). He would reign from Jerusalem - Jeremiah 3/17; Zechariah 2/(10-13); Zechariah 6/(12-15).

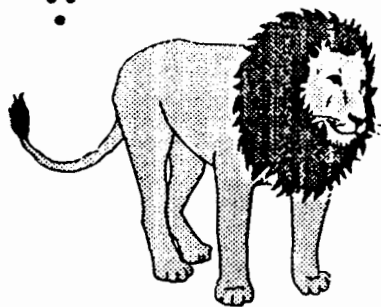
There would be no more war, but peace on earth amongst mankind for 1000 years, under the Millennial reign of the glorious Messiah Yeshua - Isaiah 2/(1-5); Revelation 20/(1-4). All Israel would be saved, and become Messianic Jews - Romans 11/(25-27). Dangerous animals would become harmless - Isaiah 65/25, Isaiah 11/(6-9).



Now the orthodox Jews claim that Jesus cannot be the Messiah, because there is not peace on earth but wars. However, they are not aware that both the Old and New Testaments indicate that the same Messiah, Yeshua (Jesus), would come twice:

- (i) The first time to bring peace vertically - between God and man.
- (ii) The second time to bring peace horizontally - between man and man - with no more wars on earth for 1000 years.

יֵשׁוּעַ



14. The name of Yeshua in the Tenakh (Old Testament)

Jewish people have challenged me many times to show them the mention of the name of Jesus (Yeshua) in the Tenakh (Old Testament). They declare that if Jesus is the Jewish Messiah of Israel, then surely his name would have been predicted in the

Tenakh, since there are over 300 Messianic prophecies in the Tenakh, describing different aspects of the Messiah.

Well, the Hebrew name of Jesus - Yeshua - is mentioned scores of times in the Tenakh, from Genesis to Habakkuk. Yeshua is Hebrew for "salvation" or "Yehovah (Jehovah) is saviour", as Yeshua is an abbreviation from "Yehoshua".

First let us look at the New Testament scriptures, e.g. when the angel Gabriel told Mary to call her son "Yeshua".

- (i) Luke 1/31: "You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name 'Yeshua (Jesus)'."
- (ii) Matthew 1/(20-21): "But after he (Joseph) had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name 'Yeshua (Jesus)', because he will save his people from their sins'."
- (iii) Luke 2/(25-32): "Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah ... when the parents brought in the child Yeshua (Jesus) ...

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: 'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, ... for my eyes have seen your Yeshua (salvation), which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.' "

Now let us look at a translation of the Hebrew text of the Jewish Masoretic version of the Tenakh:

(i) Habakkuk 3/13:

"You went forth with the Yeshua of your people; with Yeshua your Messiah (Anointed One); you wound the head of the house of the wicked one (i.e. Satan)."

(ii) Isaiah 62/11: "Behold Yahweh (Jehovah) has proclaimed unto the end of the world, 'say to the daughter of Zion, Behold your Yeshua (salvation) comes; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him'."

Here, Yeshua (salvation), is a Person and not a thing or happening. Consider the pronouns used: "Your Yeshua comes; His reward is with Him, and His work before Him."

(iii) Isaiah 12/(2-3): "Behold, mighty is my Yeshua; I will trust and not be afraid; for Jah-Jehovah is my strength and my song; He (Jehovah God) is become my Yeshua (compare with John 1/14 - 'and the word became flesh (Immanuel)

and dwelt among us." See also John 1/4, 9, (12-13)).
Therefore with joy shall you draw water out of the wells of
Yeshua (salvation)."

Messiah Yeshua declared that those who believe in Him,
would receive rivers of living waters from Him (see later).

- (iv) Genesis 49/18: "I (Jacob) am looking, O Lord, to your
Yeshua."

There are many other scriptures in the Old Testament which
indicate that the name of the forthcoming Messiah was Yeshua,
which means "Salvation" or it is an abbreviation of "Yehoshua"
which means "Yehovah - the saviour".

Many orthodox Jews who do not believe in Jesus, call their
forthcoming Messiah "Yeshua" which seems to refer to the above
scriptures.

New Testament references to:

"wells of salvation", "springs of living waters", "springs of water of
life" and similar phrases:

In Isaiah 12/(2-3) in the Tenakh, the phrase used was:

"Therefore with joy shall you draw water out of the wells of
Yeshua (salvation)."

Messiah Yeshua declared that those who believe in Him, would receive rivers of living waters (river of life) from Him.

Scriptures from New Testament:

(a) John 4/(10-13):

"Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water'.

... 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him, will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' "

(b) John 7/(38-39):

" 'Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.' By this he (Yeshua) meant the (Holy) Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive."

(c) Revelation 21/6:

"He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the

water of life.' "

(d) Revelation 22/1, 17:

"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ... The (Holy) Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come'. Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."

Other similar scriptures from both the New and Old Testaments are: Revelation 7/17; Psalm 65/9; Jeremiah 2/13; 17/13.

YESHUA יֵשׁוּעַ
HA MASHIACH



the JEWISH MESSIAH

15. Yeshua (Jesus), himself, claimed to be the Jewish Messiah and divine Son of God

Many non-believing Jews have declared that Jesus (Yeshua) never claimed, himself, to be the Jewish Messiah, or the divine Son of God. These Jews declare that the Apostle Paul and other disciples fabricated the story of the Messiahship and Deity of Jesus (Yeshua).

However, Jesus (Yeshua) himself, declared his Messiahship and Deity. Here are some relevant scriptures.

(i) John 4/(25-26):

"The woman said, 'I know the Messiah (called Christ) is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' Then Jesus (Yeshua) declared, 'I, who speak to you, am he.' "

(ii) Mark 14/(61-64): At His trial, He was asked the following question by the High Priest:

" 'Are you the Christ (Messiah), the Son of the Blessed One?' 'I am', said Jesus (Yeshua). 'And you will see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of the Mighty One, and coming on the clouds of heaven.'

The High Priest tore his clothes. 'Why do we need any more witnesses?' he asked. 'You have heard the blasphemy (i.e. the claim of the Deity of Yeshua). What do you think?' They all condemned him as worthy of death."

The High Priest correctly recognised that Jesus (Yeshua) claimed to be no less than God Incarnate (Immanuel - the Word become flesh - God in a human body - John 1/1), and that if he was not what he claimed, then he was a blasphemer.

- (iii) John 8/(56-59): Yeshua says " 'Your Father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.'

'You are not yet fifty years old,' the Jews said to him, 'And you have seen Abraham!'. 'I tell you the truth', Jesus answered, 'before Abraham was born, I am!' At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus (Yeshua) hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds."

Here Yeshua claimed to be alive 2000 years previously, in the time of Abraham, and used the words "I am" which is the name of God - Yahweh. That was why the Jews picked up stones to stone him, thinking that Yeshua had blasphemed.

(iv) John 10/(29-33)

" 'My Father (i.e. God the Father), who has given them to me, is greater than all; no-one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.'

Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus (Yeshua) said to them, 'I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?'

'We are not stoning you for any of these,' replied the Jews, 'but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.'

(v) Matthew 16/(15-17), 20:

" 'But what about you?' he (Yeshua) asked. 'Who do you say I am?'

Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Christ (Messiah), the Son of the living God'.

Jesus (Yeshua) replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.' ...

... Then he (Yeshua) warned his disciples not to tell any one that he was the Christ (Messiah)."

(vi) Revelation 1/17:

"When I (Apostle John) saw him (Yeshua), I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: 'Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last (a title of God). I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.' "

(vii) John 9/35:

"Jesus (Yeshua) heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of God?'

'Who is he, sir?' the man asked. 'Tell me so that I may believe in him.'

Jesus (Yeshua) said, 'You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.'

Then the man said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him."

Yeshua accepted this worship, to confirm his divinity.

16. Some relevant scriptures from the Tenakh (Old Testament)

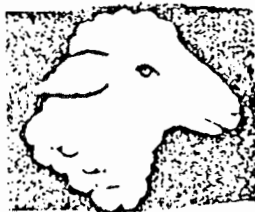
(N.B. In some of the scriptures, throughout this book, the writer has inserted in brackets his personal comments, for clarification, explanation, and special attention.)

- (i) "I (God) will raise up for them a prophet like you (Moses) from among their brothers; I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. If anyone does not listen to My words that the prophet speaks in My name, I, Myself (God) will call him to account." [Deuteronomy 18/(18-19)]. (This prophet is Messiah Yeshua.)
- (ii) "Blessed are they that keep His testimonies and that seek Him with the whole heart." (Psalm 119/2).
- (iii) "And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29/13).
(Deuteronomy 4/29 is similar.)
- (iv) "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a *new* covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. Not according to the Covenant that I made with their fathers, in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the Land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was a husband unto them, saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 31/(31-32)). (This is the New Covenant of the Lord Yeshua Ha Mashiach.)

(v) **OF WHOM DOES THE PROPHET SPEAK?**

"See, my *servant* will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. Just as there were many who were appalled at him - his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man, and his form marred beyond human likeness - so will he sprinkle many nations, --- Who has believed our message, and to whom has the arm of the Lord (Messiah) been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. --- He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But *he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities* (like a sacrificial lamb of God for atonement of sins); the punishment that brought us peace was upon him (reconciliation of man to God in peace), and by his wounds (blood) we are healed (atoned for, made whole). We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way (transgressing Commandments of God - not doing God's will); and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity (sins) of us all (i.e. sin-bearing scape-goat). He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter (like Passover Lamb), and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. From

arrest and judgement, he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression (sins) of my people he was stricken (killed as an unblemished sacrifice). He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth (i.e. the person was a good, decent man). Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him, and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering (sacrificial atonement for sins - ASHAM in Hebrew), he will see his offspring (i.e. after resurrection from the dead) and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand. After the suffering of his soul, he will see the result of the suffering of his soul and be satisfied; by knowledge of him, my righteous servant (Messiah) will justify (make right with God for their sins) many, and he will bear their iniquities (sins - i.e. this righteous servant of God is a sin-bearer - a scapegoat like in Yom Kippur). Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, --- For he bore the sin of many (scape goat) and made intercession for the transgressors." - Isaiah 52/(13-15); 53/(1-12).





17. What some modern Rabbis are saying about Isaiah 53

Some orthodox Rabbis today are saying that the old Testament (Tenakh) scripture Isaiah 53 (including Isaiah 52/(10-15), which precedes Isaiah 53) points to the suffering nation of Israel.

Others say it points to the Jewish prophet Isaiah, who wrote the book.

Well, tradition states that the prophet Isaiah was killed by being "sawed" into two pieces, for preaching "bad news" to the King and elders of Israel. The prophet Isaiah himself acknowledged that he was not a sinless person, but like everybody else in Israel, he was "a man of unclean lips" - see Isaiah 6/5. Hence he could not be offered as a pure, holy, sinless sacrifice for atonement of sins, as the Lord God of Israel demands a holy one, without sin, as exemplified in the demand of the animals being sacrificed in the Tenakh, to be without spot or blemish, e.g. see Exodus 12/5; Leviticus 9/3; 14/10; 23/12.

The Messiah of Israel is the Holy One of Israel - unique in being pure, holy, sinless. Thus the Messiah is the only one acceptable to God for the sacrificial atonement and forgiveness of sins of sinful people.

The person described in Isaiah 52/(10-15) and Isaiah 53 cannot refer to the whole nation of Israel, as some modern Rabbis say. This opinion is not based on sound logical reasoning; as the scripture definitely describes a single person, and compares this single person to the whole nation of Israel. Examples of some parts of the scripture:

"But he was pierced for our (the Nation of Israel) transgressions, he was crushed for our (the nation of Israel) iniquities (like a sacrificial lamb of God for atonement of sins); the punishment that brought us peace was upon him (for reconciliation of man to God in peace), and by his wounds (blood) we (the nation of Israel) are healed (atoned for, made whole). We all (the nation of Israel) like sheep, have gone astray, each of us (the nation of Israel) has turned to his own way (transgressing the Commandments of God - not doing God's will); and the Lord has laid on him (one singular person - the Messiah) the iniquity of us all (the nation of Israel and the gentiles). (My comment: this describes the Messiah as the sin-bearing scapegoat, as symbolised in Leviticus 16 on Yom Kippur). --- For he was cut off from the land of the living (i.e. killed; when was the Nation of Israel totally killed?); for the transgression of my people (the nation of Israel) he (the Messiah) was stricken (killed as an unblemished, sinless

sacrifice) --- though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth (the Messiah is pure, holy, sinless - the Holy One of Israel - Yahweh Tsidkenu (our righteousness), Jeremiah 23/(5-6))". Note that singular pronouns are used for the person described (he, him, his), while plural pronouns are used for the nation of Israel (we, our, us, us all, my people). Also, the singular person is compared with the Nation of Israel.

Hence the scripture cannot point to the Nation of Israel or the prophet Isaiah, but to the holy Messiah of God.

18. Leading Rabbinical scholars of the past believed Isaiah 53 pointed to the singular Messiah

There were many leading Rabbinical scholars of ancient times, who declared their belief of Isaiah 53 pointing to the singular suffering Messiah, sacrificed for the sins of Israel. These views were written in different books of orthodox Judaism, including the Talmud, Midrash, Targum, Zohar, Pesigta Rabbati. Some of the most famous leading Rabbis who believed, were: Maimonides (Rabbi Moses ben Maimon - Rambam), Rabbi Elijah de Vidas (Zohar, Part 2, fol. 212a and Part 3, fol. 218a), disciples of the school of the Rabbi Jehuda Ha-nassi, the author of the Mishnah, Radak, Rabbi Moses Alshech, Rabbi Jonathan Ben Uziel, Rabbi Moshe Kohen Iben Crispin, Herz Homberg.

Some relevant references from the established Jewish books of standing are:

Midrash to Ruth 2/14; Sanhedrin 98b; a Pesigta; Zohar Part 2, fol. 212a and Part 3, fol. 218a; Luchoth Habberith 242a; Sebanim 6a; Yoma 5a; Sukkah 52a; Midrash Tanchuma; Neve Shalom.

Elaboration of some of the above points

- (a) Rabbi Jonathan ben Uziel, a disciple of Hillel (a very famous leading Rabbi) who lived early in the second century A.D., made an Aramaic translation of Isaiah 53, beginning with:-

"Behold my servant Messiah shall prosper; he shall be high, and increase, and be exceeding strong; as the house of Israel looked to him through many days," (TARGUM JONATHAN).

- (b) Babylonian Talmud interpretation

"The Messiah - what is his name? ... The Rabbis say, the leprous one; those of the house of Rabbi say, the sick one, as it is said, 'Surely he hath borne our sicknesses'." (SANHEDRIN 98b) - 500 A.D.

(c) Midrash Rabbah - 6th Century

In an explanation of Ruth 2:14, 'He' is speaking of the King Messiah: 'Come hither draw near to the throne; and eat of the bread', that is, the bread of the kingdom; 'and dip thy morsel in the vinegar', refers to the chastisements, as it is said in Isaiah 53, 'But he was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities.'

(d) Yalkut, a later Midrash

'Who art thou, O great mountain?' (Zechariah 4:7). This refers to the King Messiah. Why does he call Him the great mountain? Because He is greater than the patriarchs, as it is said in Isaiah 53, 'My servant shall be high, and lifted up, and lofty exceedingly.' He will be higher than Abraham who says, 'I raise high my hand unto the Lord' (Genesis 14/22); lifted up above Moses, to whom it is said, 'Lift it up into thy bosom' (Numbers 11/12); loftier than the ministering angels, of whom it is written,

'Their wheels were lofty and terrible' (Ezekiel 1/18). And out of whom does He come forth? Out of David.

- (e) Rabbi Moshe Kohen Iben Crispin, of Cordova, Spain explains Isaiah 53

'This passage, the modern commentators explain, speaks of the captivity of Israel, although the singular number is used in it throughout. Others have supposed it to mean the just in this present world, who are crushed and oppressed now but these, too, for the same reason, by altering the number, distort the verses from their natural meaning. And then it seemed to me that having forsaken the knowledge of our Teachers, and inclined 'after the stubbornness of their own hearts', and of their own opinion, I am pleased to interpret it, in accordance with the teaching of our Rabbis, of the King Messiah."

- (f) Rabbi Moshe Alsheikh - Rabbi of Safed - during the late 16th century

"I may remark, then, that our Rabbis with one voice, accept and affirm the opinion that the prophet (Isaiah) is speaking of the King Messiah."

- (g) Herz Homberg - great Jewish educator (1749-1841)

"According to the opinion of (etc.) it (Isaiah 53) relates to Israel at the end of their captivity. But if so, what can be the meaning of the passage, 'He was wounded for our transgressions'? Who was wounded? Who are the

transgressors? Who carried the sickness and bare the pain? The fact is that it (Isaiah 53) refers to King Messiah.

Here let me add that the ones who interpreted the passage as referring to Israel had an insurmountable difficulty in verse 8 (of Isaiah 53) which reads:

‘He was taken from prison and from judgment; and who shall declare His generation, for he was cut off of the land of the living for the transgression of my people (i.e. the Jewish people) was he stricken.’

Were the Jewish people, God forbid, ever cut off from the land of the living? No, we are proud that Am Yisrael hay - ‘The people of Israel are much alive’, and in Jeremiah 31/(35-37), God promised that they will exist forever. It is again impossible to say that Israel suffered for the transgression of "my people", which clearly means Isaiah’s people. Surely Isaiah’s people are not the Gentiles, but the Jews. Then consistency demands that we interpret this chapter as referring to (King) Messiah."

(h) Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) prayer of Kether

Here is a paraphrase of Isaiah 53 by one of our greatest Jewish religious poets - into rhyme and metric poetry - part of traditional orthodox liturgy.

"Messiah, our righteousness, hath turned from us: We are in terror and there is none to justify us! Our iniquities and the yoke of our transgressions He did bear, for He was wounded for our transgressions: He carries our sins upon His shoulders, that we may find forgiveness for our iniquities and by His stripes we are healed. O eternal One, the time is come to make a new creation: from the vault of heaven bring Him up, out of Seir draw Him forth, that He may make His voice heard to use in Lebanon, a second time by the hand of Yinnon (one of Messiah's names will be Yinnon according to Rabbinic interpretation of Psalm 72/19)."

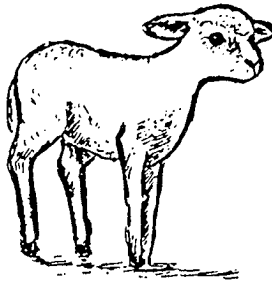
By Eliazer Hakalir - 9th century Jewish religious poet

(i) The Zohar 2:212a - 1270 to 1300 A.D.

"In the hour in which they tell the Messiah about the sufferings of Israel in exile, and about the sinful among them who seek not the knowledge of their Master, the Messiah lifts up his voice and weeps over the sinful among them. This is what is written (in Isaiah 53): 'He was wounded because of our transgressions, he was crushed because of our iniquities (Isaiah 53/5)'. The Messiah enters and summons all the disease and all the pains and all the sufferings of Israel that they should come upon him, and all of them come upon him."

(j) Maimonides

"(Isaiah 53) was given of God as a description of the Messiah, whereby, when any should claim to be the Messiah, to judge by the resemblance or non-resemblance to it, whether he were the Messiah or not ... "



19. Many orthodox Rabbis believe in Jesus Christ as the Jewish Messiah of Israel

Scores of orthodox and ultra-orthodox Rabbis have in the past believed in Yeshua as being the foretold Jewish Messiah as proclaimed by the Jewish prophets in the Tenakh. One such Rabbi was Rabbi Michael Solomon Alexander, who later became the first Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem. You can read about his

powerful and interesting testimony in the book "From Rabbi to Bishop", by M.W. Corey - the Olive Press, London.

Some other Rabbis who believe in Yeshua (Jesus) as the Messiah, are:

Rabbi Max Wertheimer, D.D.

Rabbi Philipp Philips

Rabbi Rudolf Hermann Gurland

Rabbi Asher Levy

Rabbi Leopold Cohn, D.D.

Rabbi Berg

Rabbi Charles Freshman

Rabbi Chil Slostowski

Rabbi Isaac Lichtenstein

Rabbi George Benedict

Rabbi Jacobs

Rabbi Ephraim Ben Joseph Eliakim

Rabbi Dr T Tirschtiegel

Rabbi Henry Bregman

You can read their exciting and enlightening testimonies in the book "Rabbis who found the Messiah", published by Jewish Voice Broadcasts, Inc., P.O.B. 6, Phoenix, Arizona, 85001.

Also, another believing Rabbi is Rabbi Sam Stern and you can get a copy of his interesting testimony from Good News Society, P.O.B. 7848, Johannesburg, 2000, South Africa.

20. What Flavius Josephus said about Yeshua

Flavius Josephus, a famous and respected Jewish army general and historian, born 37 A.D. and died after 100 A.D., said the following about Yeshua in his book "Jewish Antiquities", chapter XV111, p.63-64:

"About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man, for *he was a doer of wonderful works*, - a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. *He was the Messiah*" ... "When Pilate upon hearing him accused by men of the highest standing amongst us, had condemned him to be crucified, those who had in the first place come to love him did not give up their affection for him. *On the third day he appeared to them restored to life*, for the prophets of God had prophesied these and countless other marvellous things about him."

21. Major Jewish consensus is not always right

Many famous Jewish prophets and leaders were initially rejected, and later were given due recognition and respect. Some examples are: the prophets Jeremiah, Isaiah, Zechariah; Theodore Herzl (founder of Zionism); Hassidic Jews. In addition, many ultra-orthodox Jews will not believe in Zionism until the Messiah comes (yet they make Aliyah - immigrate to Israel).

22. Persecution of Jews by professing Christians

Throughout the centuries millions of Jews have been persecuted and even slaughtered brutally and cruelly by numerous numbers of anti-semitic people, professing to be Christians. Jews were called "Christ-killers" and many other names, in the name of Christ.

Many Christian leaders spoke evil about the Jews, and some Christian priests led pogroms (march against Jews to persecute them) to the Jewish suburbs, to destroy their properties and to massacre or injure the Jewish people.

The crusades against the Jews were organised by Christian leaders, during which many countless thousands of Jews were killed in the name of Christ. The Spanish Inquisition and the Nazi holocaust are other examples of slaughter and brutal treatment of Jews, in the latter case six million Jews were killed.

How can these cruel, devilish people call themselves Christians? Christ said in Matthew 7/21: 'Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord', will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father in heaven.'

In Matthew 7/16, 20, Christ said "By their fruit you will recognise them".

A true, born-again, Holy Spirit led Christian, must walk in obedience to the Commandments of God. They are:

- (i) Matthew 22/(37-40): which are taken from the Old Testament - Deuteronomy 6/5, Leviticus 19/18. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. ... You shall love your neighbour as yourself."
- (ii) Matthew 7/12: "In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you." This is the Golden Rule taught in many primary schools in Australia and elsewhere.
- (iii) Matthew 5/(44-45): "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven."
- (iv) John 15/(12-13): Christ said "This is my commandment, That you love one another, even as I have loved you."
- (v) John 13/(34-35): Christ said: "A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another."

- (vi) Luke 6/46: A warning of Jesus. "Why call me Lord, Lord, and not do the things which I say?" Then back to Matthew 7/21: "Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord", will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father in heaven."

Thus professing Christians who do not show the love of Christ in actions, are not true disciples of Christ, and are "wolves in sheep's clothing". They are puppets of the devil, doing the will of Satan. They have given a bad reputation to the name of Christ. That is why many Jews hate the name of Jesus Christ, because it is a symbol of Jewish persecution by anti-semitic professing Christians.

However there are many thousands of true Christians today, who support Israel and Jews worldwide. They are praying for the peace of Jerusalem in obedience to the scripture - Psalm 122/6. They are supporting financially the return of Jews from Russia (Exodus 2), paying millions of dollars for their air-plane tickets. They are helping the Jews in various ways, including providing clothing, etc. to the immigrants in Israel, under the names of "Christian Friends of Israel", "International Christian Embassy, Jerusalem", etc. Many have come to the Jews in repentance, confessing the sins of their forefathers. Many are working in the Kibbutzim in Israel, free of charge, to help the Jews. These true Christians are showing the love of Christ in action. Actions speak louder than words. While many pseudo-Christians speak of love and faith in Christ, but do not put their words into action, and "talk is cheap". The apostle James, brother of Christ, said in

James Chapter 2, "Faith without corresponding good works, is dead". Christ also said similar things in Matthew 25/(31-46):

"When the Son of Man (Yeshua) comes in His glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people, one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on His left. Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine (and they include Jewish brothers in the flesh), you did for me.'

Then He will say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was

thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in. I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these (including Jewish brothers in the flesh of Yeshua), you did not do for me.'

Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

There are many committed Christians who are helping the Jews in various ways. One group has formed a bus service, called "Good News Travel", which have bases in Russia, Ukraine, and other strategic locations. These buses go deep into the Republics of the old Soviet Union, in the middle of the ethnic fighting, fraught with danger, and bring the Jews out. These Jews are then transferred to the Jewish agencies to be transported to Israel. These Christian-manned buses also take the Jews to half-way houses at intermediate points, to feed and clothe them.

Many Christians also charter boats and planes, paying for them, to transport the Jews to Israel. These actions are fulfilment of scriptures, such as:

Isaiah 49/22

"This is what the Sovereign Lord says:

'See, I will beckon to the Gentiles, I will lift up my banner to the peoples; they will bring your sons (the Jews) in their arms and carry your daughters on their shoulders.' "

These committed Christians do these deeds of compassion without any ulterior motives, but out of goodwill and putting the love of Christ in action.

During the Holocaust of the Second World War, there were many thousands of true Christians who helped the Jews, at the risk of their own lives. Some example are:

(i) Corrie Ten Boom and her family:

They hid Jews in their house and fed them, until they were discovered by the Nazis. Corrie and her family were taken to the concentration camps, where they died, except for Corrie. Corrie wrote a book of this story titled "The Hiding Place". A film has been made of this story.

(ii) Raoull Wallenberg

A Swedish diplomat, he used his position to save about 100,000 Jews from the gas chambers giving them passports out of the Nazi-occupied countries in Europe. He also

helped the Jews in various other ways. A film has been made of this story, and there is a memorial stone of him at the "Raoull Wallenberg Garden" Park in Woollahra, Sydney.

(iii) Ann Frank and her family:

Ann Frank wrote a diary and a film has been made of the story in her diary, called "The Diary of Ann Frank". Ann Frank and her family were Jews in Holland during the Holocaust. They hid in a room behind a bookcase, from the Nazis. Christian friends helped them at the risk of their lives, by bringing food to them, and providing for their various needs. When the family was discovered by the Gestapo, they were taken to the concentration camps with their Christian friends.

(iv) Mr. O. Schindler

The Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors provided some of the above facts, and also stated that Mr Schindler, an Austrian Christian, had saved some hundred of Jews during the Holocaust. This story is described in the book "Schindler's Ark".

(v) King of Denmark

When the Jews in Denmark were ordered by the Nazis, occupying the country, to wear the Star of David on their arm or coat, the King of Denmark did this also. Then the whole population of Denmark followed the example of their King, and wore the Star of David on their sleeves and coats. The Star of David was ordered by Hitler so that the Nazis could readily identify Jews from non-Jews.

(vi) Dutch Clergymen

Many Dutch church leaders protested against the Nazis for their inhumane treatment of the Jews. The Dutch clergymen issued a powerful statement against the Nazi atrocities.

(vii) Various monasteries and convents and churches

Many clergymen, monks and nuns hid Jews in monasteries, convents and churches.

(viii) Australian artist saved

In the book "Australian Jews of Today", a well known Australian Jewish artist was saved from the Nazi Holocaust by being hid by some Christians.

(ix) Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial

This is a museum on the Holocaust, and is in Israel. There, are written the names of many thousands of Christians, called "Righteous Gentiles", who had helped and saved Jews from the Nazi Holocaust. These Christians are highly honoured by the Nation of Israel.

Today there is an international group of Christians who support Israel and the Jews, with no ulterior motives. The name of this group, which has branches in scores of countries in the world, is ICEJ - "International Christian Embassy Jerusalem". It is based in Jerusalem, and its scriptural basis is Isaiah 40/1: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God."

This group helps Israel in various ways, including correcting media misinformation, combating anti-semitism, and also in various practical ways. They encourage Christians to bless Israel, according to the scriptures - Genesis 12/3; 27/29; Number 24/9, "I (God) will bless those who blesses Israel". They also stress the obligation of the church to pray for the peace of Jerusalem - Psalm 122/6.

There is a similar Christian group with branches all over the world, called "Christian Friends of Israel". They provide food, clothes and other assistance for the new Russian and Ethiopian Jewish immigrants, as well as other needy Jews. They educate other Christians of their obligation to support Israel, informing

them of the above scriptures, with Joel 3/(1-3),
Matthew 25/(31-46).

23. High Cost for Jews to believe in Jesus

A Jew can believe in Buddha, Gurus, Yogis, Swamis, Evolution, Communism or even be an atheist or agnostic etc., and still remain a Jew. But when a Jew believes in Jesus as the Jewish Messiah (which is supported by scriptures from the Tenakh - Old Testament), he is no longer considered to be a Jew by Israel and many orthodox Jews, and is considered to have become a gentile. This view is ridiculous, irrational, unreasonable, and Biblically incorrect.

Yet if a Jew believes that a certain Rabbi of an orthodox Jewish sect is the Messiah, he is still considered and accepted as a Jew. (Incidentally, Yeshua predicted in Matthew 24 that in the last days - i.e. today - many will claim to be the Messiah.)

Messianic Jews are ostracised by the Jewish community for their belief in Yeshua as the Jewish Messiah. Messianic Jews are denied Israeli citizenship and, recently, some have been ordered to leave the country of Israel, made to feel rejected and outcasts.

24. Christianity is the fulfilment of Judaism

Christianity is considered to be (even though incorrectly) diametrically opposite to Judaism. Also many Jews declare that a

Jew cannot be a Christian, and still remain a Jew. "How is that possible?" - they would say, due to their traditional upbringing and indoctrination. Some Rabbis even say that it is a contradiction in terms, or that a Hebrew-Christian or Messianic Jew, is a "spiritual schizophrenic".

But according to the Bible, the inspired Word of God, which is the only TRUTH, and is the *supreme authority*, Christianity is the fulfilment of Judaism, being the New Covenant as declared in the Old Testament in Jeremiah 31/(31-34) ("The time is coming", declares the Lord, "when I will make a *new* covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the Lord. "This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts ...").

Yeshua (Jesus), the mediator of this New Covenant, is the Jewish Messiah as prophesied by the Jewish prophets in the Tenakh, Old Testament, there being over 300 prophecies to confirm this. Even the prophet Moses declared this with a warning not to disobey this prophet in *Deuteronomy 18/(15-19):-*

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a *prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him ...*"

"I (God) will raise up for them a prophet like you (Moses) from among their brothers; *I will put my words in his mouth*, and he will tell them everything I command him. *If anyone does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself (God) will call him to account.*"

Moses also foreshadowed the New Covenant of Messiah Yeshua in *Deuteronomy 29/1 and 30/(1-6)*, where the *second* Covenant of God with Moses was declared, dealing with the "*circumcision of the heart*" (spiritual rebirth as indicated in *Ezekiel 36/(24-27)*, and also in the New Covenant of Messiah Yeshua).

God also fore-shadowed the New Covenant of Messiah Yeshua, through Abraham in *Genesis 22/18*:-

"and through your offspring (Messiah Yeshua) *all* nations on earth (i.e. including all *Gentile* nations) will be blessed, ..."

The New Covenant was foreshadowed also to Jacob in *Genesis 28/14*:-

"All peoples on earth (including Gentiles) will be blessed through you and your offspring (Messiah Yeshua)."

There are many other scriptures in the Tenakh, Old Testament, indicating the New Covenant of Messiah Yeshua would bless *all* the nations of the world, including the *Gentiles*, e.g. *Isaiah 42/(6-7)*:

"I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make *you* to be a *covenant* for the people and a *light* for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness."

Also *Isaiah 49/6* indicates this:

"I will also make *you* a *light* for the *Gentiles*, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

It is amazing, and a gross paradox, that a Jew can believe in Buddha, Gurus, Yogis, Swamis, a certain Rabbi of an orthodox sect, etc., and still remain a Jew, but when he believes in Jesus (who is the *TRUTH*), he is no longer considered to be a Jew by many orthodox Jews, even though this view is irrational, unreasonable, and biblically incorrect by the Tenakh.

We should all bear in mind that on the Day of Judgement of the God of Israel, all of us will have to give an account of ourselves and our actions, based on the *TRUTH* of the Bible - the inspired Word of God; human traditions and philosophies will burn like chaff here.

This view of Yeshua being the Jewish Messiah is shared by over 100,000 "Messianic fulfilled Jews" or "Hebrew Christians" in America and also by between 10,000 and 50,000 Israeli Messianic Jews today. Also scores of Orthodox and ultra-orthodox Rabbis

have in the past believed in Yeshua as being the foretold Jewish Messiah as proclaimed by the Jewish prophets in the Tenakh. One such Rabbi was Rabbi Michael Solomon Alexander, who later became the first Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem. You can read about his powerful and interesting testimony in the book "From Rabbi to Bishop", by M. W. Corey - the Olive Press, London.

It is a fact that some Jews have the opinion that when one of their brothers believes in Yeshua as being the Jewish Messiah, then that Jew must be "mad", or "stupid", or "deceived". The truth of the matter is that the Jews who do not believe, have a "*veil over their eyes*", according to Isaiah 6/(9-10); 29/(10-12). Also the powers of darkness have put clouds of spiritual and mental unbelief and blindness over them to hinder them from believing with a *heartfelt faith*. All these barriers will hinder them from knowing the TRUTH, unless they sincerely love God with all their heart and soul, and love the truth above the opinions of man and human reputation, and wholeheartedly seek God. This is indicated in the following scriptures:

(i) Deuteronomy 4/29:

"But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find Him, *if thou seek Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.*"

(ii) 2 Chronicles 15/2:

"The Lord is with you, while ye be with Him; and if ye seek Him, He will be found of you; but if ye forsake Him, He will forsake you."

(iii) Psalm 119/2:

"Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, *and that seek Him with the whole heart.*"

(iv) Jeremiah 29/13:

"And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me *with all your heart.*"

(v) 2 Chronicles 7/14:

"If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, *and seek My face*, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

The New Covenant (in more detail)

Jeremiah 31: (31-34); New covenant with Jews.

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a *new* covenant (this refers to *New Testament of Messiah Yeshua*) with the house of *Israel* and with the house of *Judah*.

Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the

land of Egypt (this refers to the *Old Testament* Sinai Covenant of Law with the prophet Moses, - i.e. in the Torah): which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord.

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the *house of Israel* (i.e. the Jews): After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will *forgive their iniquity*, and I will remember their *sin* no more (achieved by atoning death of Messiah Yeshua as stated in Isaiah 53)".

This passage indicates the ushering in of the New covenant or Testament, and the forgiveness of sins through the atoning death of the "Lamb" of God, Yeshua Hamashiach, whose shed blood atones people of their sins, if they receive Jesus as Lord.

It specifically refers to the *salvation* of the *Jewish people* in the Messianic time.

The lifting of the Veil over the Eyes

Isaiah 29:18; "Veil" over eyes of Jews lifted. The "veil" over the eyes of the Jews will be lifted in the end time as stated in this passage, and the Jews will see and hear the truth. The exact words are:

"And in that day the deaf will hear the words of a book; and out of their gloom and darkness, the blind will see my plans (referring to Gospel of salvation of Yeshua Hamashiach) ... etc."

Another verse in this chapter is:

Verse 24:

"Those in error will believe the truth and complainers will be willing to be taught".

That is why, since 1967, when the Jews recovered Jerusalem, to mark "the fullness of the Gentiles" as mentioned by Jesus Christ in the New Testament (Luke 21:24; "And Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled"),

there are over 6,000 Jews believing in Yeshua every year in America, and calling themselves Messianic Jews or Hebrew Christians or *fulfilled completed Jews*. Now there are several decades of thousands of them in America.

Christianity is Jewish

Yeshuah is the foretold Jewish Mashiach, and the Gospel of Salvation of the New Testament is the new covenant mentioned in Jeremiah 31:(31-34). Hence when a Jew believes in Jesus Christ (Yeshua Hamashiach) he *completes* his Judaism and becomes a *fulfilled Jew*, not "converted" *out of* Judaism, but "converted" from Kingdom of darkness and sin into the Kingdom of God and light.

25. Signs and wonders (Miracles) in the name of Messiah Yeshua

Now I would like to mention the miracles performed in the name of Messiah Yeshua, which I personally witnessed. These miracles greatly strengthened and confirmed my faith in Yeshua, the foretold Messiah, Who is still *ALIVE* now, and is Lord and omnipresent by His Spirit. I saw verification of the New Testament Scripture, *Mark 16:(17-18)*, spoken by Yeshua, which states:

"And these signs shall follow them that believe: In my name shall they cast out demons: ... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

I saw legs and arms lengthened, aches and pains healed, headaches healed, instant and complete healing of injured backs, psychological traumas cured, partial deafness healed, blindness and catatonics healed, asthma, arthritis and cancer healed, etc., all in the Name of Jesus Christ, which greatly impressed me and deepened my faith in Him.

Also I witnessed screaming powerful demons, which are evil spirits of Satan, cast out of oppressed people, the demons being completely subjected to the Name of Jesus, just like in the New Testament. I, myself, ministered some miracles of healing and deliverance from demons in the Name of Messiah Yeshua, which greatly moved me when I saw the miraculous results. The fact of demons being cast out in the name of Jesus, with loud screams and convulsions, proves the existence of the devil, which amazed me. Not everyone who desires Divine healing obtains it, for God grants or withholds it according to His wisdom and purpose. However the scriptures indicate that God's will is to heal everybody. Incidentally, unforgiveness, bitterness, resentment, unconfessed sins, non-repentance, doubt unbelief, etc., tend to block or hinder God's healing power.

My spiritual growth by prayer, fasting, and continuous searching of the Scriptures, together with the study of other books concerning the Anointed One, has led me to discover many more pointers to Him and His Divinity, confirming the truth in my heart, that indeed He, *Yeshua Hamashiach*, is the Messiah and the Saviour of the World.

He said, "Seek and you shall find". Nowhere is this more true than in searching the Old Testament. Anyone can simply ask God in prayer to help him find the Messiah, and God will answer him without fail, especially the Jews, the "chosen race", because He loves the Jews, the "apple of his eye" (Deut. 32/10, Zechariah 2/8), and wants everyone of His covenanted people to

find His Son. Especially now, as we are living in the "Last Generation", close to the Second Coming of the Messiah - the Return of Israel's Messiah to establish the Millennial reign of peace on earth, with Christ sitting on the throne of David.

One Scripture in the Old Testament which indicates that we are now in the last generation, is *Psalms 102/13, 16, 18*:

"the *appointed time* has come ... for the Lord will *rebuild* Zion (i.e. Israel - which became an independent nation in 1948, for the first time in 2600 years) and appear in His glory (the second coming of Christ - the Jewish Messiah, the Holy One of Israel) ...

Let this be written for a *future* generation (however the literal Hebrew means *last* generation, which is this *present* generation)."

The Second Coming of Christ is also described in *Zechariah 14/3,4*:

"Then the Lord will go out ... His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two ..."

The Second Coming occurring in this last generation is also indicated in Luke 21/(24-36), Matthew 24/(32-34), Mark 13.

26. Salvation

Blessings and curses depend on whether one obeys or disobeys God, as stated in Deuteronomy 30: (19-20) by the prophet Moses: "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you *life and death, blessing and cursing*: therefore *choose* life, that both you and your seed may live.

That you may *love* the Lord your God, and that you may *obey* his voice (which is expressed in the Bible, both Old and New Testaments), and that you may cleave unto Him: for He is your *life*, and the length of your days". (Note in the New Testament Jesus said, "I am the life" - see John 11/25; 14/6).

Thus if one *desires* blessings and eternal life, one must *obey* God. A personal, favourable relationship and fellowship with God will bring you his abundant life of peace, meaning, happiness, purpose, joy and other manifold blessings. However, according to Isaiah 59:2: "But your *iniquities* (sins) have separated between you and your God". Now man was created to have a favourable fellowship with God (just like Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, in the beginning). But man *stubbornly* chose to go his *own* independent way, to "do his own thing". This *self-will*, expressed by either *active rebellion*, or *passive indifference*, towards God, is an evidence of what the Jewish Bible calls "SIN". Some examples of SIN are: adultery, hate, lies, stealing, witchcraft, cruelty, unforgiveness, idolatry, involvement in the occult, pride, selfishness etc. ... etc.

Sin, the transgression of God's Laws and Commandments, separates you from a personal and favourable relationship with God. Everyone has sinned (see 1 Kings 8/46 and Psalm 53/(2-3). Sin can be removed by FAITH in the "Blood of atonement" (see Leviticus 17/11 - "For it is the BLOOD that maketh an atonement (covering) for the "soul".) God has provided the BLOOD of atonement through the perfect sacrifice of the unblemished, sinless Lamb of God, Messiah Yeshua, as stated by Isaiah 53/(5-6): "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities (sins): the chastisement of our peace (i.e. punishment for our welfare) was upon Him; and with His wounds (stripes, BLOOD), we are healed (atoned for) --- and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity (sins) of us all."

If you repent from your sins and renounce all works of darkness, and accept Yeshua (Jesus) as your Lord, Messiah and Saviour, with believing faith, then the Lord God will cleanse you from your sins and reconcile you in peace with God.

This will give you a personal and favourable relationship with God. God's Holy Spirit enters your heart, and gives you eternal life.

27. Prayer for salvation

For those who are non-Christians (unsaved) and after reading this thesis, you *believe* in Yeshua Hamashiach (Jesus Christ), the Almighty Son of God, and would like to *receive* Him as your Lord

and Saviour, and thus appropriate the blessings of God; all your sins forgiven, your conscience cleansed, peace with God and the attainment of eternal life in Heaven, and all the other promises of God mentioned in the Bible, then say the following prayer:

"Dear Lord Yeshua Hamashiach (Jesus Christ), the Almighty Son of God, I believe you died on the cross near Jerusalem for the atonement of my sins, and that you rose from the dead, on the third day. I accept and receive you, by your Holy Spirit, into my heart and life as my Lord and my Saviour. Please forgive all my sins and transgressions with the atoning power of your shed BLOOD on the cross. I repent of, and turn away from all my sins and wrongful attitudes. I now turn to you to create in me, through the power of your Holy Spirit, a life of obedience, love and holiness. I forgive everyone who has ever done me wrong, including those who provoked me to anger and resentment. I renounce all powers of darkness.

I thank you now, Lord Yeshua (Jesus), for cleansing me with the power of your BLOOD of atonement and giving me new life, according to your word in the Bible. From now on, I shall pattern my life, with your help and guidance, on your teachings of "love my neighbour as myself", and "forgive those who do me wrong", and other words of wisdom as expressed in the Bible.

In your name, Lord Yeshua Hamashiach (Jesus Christ), Amen."

28. Reviews

(i) John Heininger

"It was fascinating to read about Jesus Christ of the New Testament in its authentic, true, Jewish framework, as presented by a true son of Israel, not only as King of Kings, but also as the Jew of all Jews.

Jesus Christ is a Jew who has influenced the course of history, more than any other."

John Heininger's credentials:

- (a) Chairman of the Evangelical Apologetics Society of Australia.
 - (b) Graduate of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.
 - (c) Further post-graduate studies at Simon Greenleaf Theological University of California.
- ### (ii) Tony Le Maistre

"It is very educational - e.g. on how to approach an orthodox Jew. The New Testament means nothing to him, but he has a solemn respect for the Tenakh - Old Testament.

Thus to show him Messianic Prophecies from the Tenakh, is a good method for witnessing to Jews about their Messiah.

I also appreciated the comments about the two comings of the same Messiah. His First coming was to establish peace between God and man, His second coming will be to establish peace between peoples and nations.

This is a book that every believer in Christ should read, as well as the non-believing Jew."

Tony Le Maistre is a leader of a regular intercessory prayer group for Israel. He is also a friend of Israel.

29. Further reading recommended by Moshe Elijah

Messiah in Both Testaments, by Fred John Meldav (Christian Victory Publishing Co., USA).

Witnessing to Jews, by Milton B. Lindberg (American Messianic Fellowship, 7448 North Damon Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60645).

How to Recognise the Messiah and Special Rabbis Edition: 22 Jewish Rabbis who found the Messiah. Both these books are published by Good News Society, P.O. Box 7848, Johannesburg, 2000, South Africa.

Betrayed by Stan Telchin

The Promise by Hal Lindsay

Out of the Clouds by Zevi Ben Avraham (Lawrence Duff - Forbes, David House Fellowship).

Y'shua by Moishe Rosen of Jews for Jesus.

The Three are One by Stuart Olyott, published by Evangelical Press, England.

The Hiding God - Jesus in the Old Testament by Raymond L. Scott (Master's Press Inc., 20 Mills St., Kalamazoo, MI, USA).

My Search for Truth by Moshe Elijah.

The Truth Shall Set You Free by Moshe Elijah.

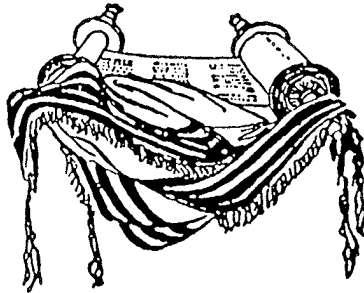
Who is the true Jewish Messiah of Israel? by Moshe Elijah.

Jesus Named in Old Testament by Athur E. Glass, published by Australian Evangel, April 1988.

The Case of Mistaken Identity by Rachmiel Frydland.
(Messianic Literature Outreach, PO Box 37062, Cincinnati,
OH 45222, USA.)

The Second Coming of Christ is Very, Very Soon by Moshe Elijah.

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30. Concluding Remarks

Messiah Yeshua said the following words in HaBrit He Hadashah (the New Testament).

- (i) John 5/39: "Search the scriptures (Tenakh - Old Testament); for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which bear witness of me."
- (ii) Luke 24/(44-47): " 'All things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Law of Moses (Torah), and in the prophets (Neviim), and in the Psalms (Tehilim), concerning Me.' Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures; and He said unto them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ (Messiah) to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.' "

There are over 300 Messianic prophecies in the Tenakh (Old Testament) and they all point to Yeshua Ha Mashiach (Jesus Christ), as the true Jewish Messiah of Israel, and saviour of the world. Yeshua (Jesus) is the Truth, and the only way to Heaven, like He said in John 14/6: "I am the Way and the Truth and the (eternal) Life. No-one comes to the Father (in Heaven) except through Me."

Also Yeshua has had more influence upon world history, than all the Jews combined. His influence even changed the basis of the calendar for most of the world, acknowledged by the vast majority of nations. Even the nation of Israel uses this calendar in commerce and other fields.

So influential has Messiah Yeshua been, that the date attributed to His birth adorns the Jewish calendar beside the Hebrew calendar dating system, though expressed in different terms, such as:

BCE	-	Before Common Era
CE	-	Common Era.

This Jewish calendar with symbols, terms, pointing to the birth of Christ, are used in Jewish synagogues and Yeshivas (Jewish places of learning Judaism).

The influence of Jesus Christ is worldwide and He is indeed the Jewish Messiah of Israel.

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Shalom and may the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - the God of Israel, bless you and make His Face shine upon you.

Moshe Elijah

(Fulfilled Messianic Jew)

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