

What is a Messiah?

Anointed One Who gets anointed?

What is Messiah in Greek?

Very close connection to King

Usually refers to God's representative within the covenant people. But—Isa 45:1!

Dead Sea Scrolls—messianic expectations

Psalms of Solomon 17-18 (probably ~50 BC) esp 17:23-24, 32; 18:6-10

Deut 18:15-20

Ps 2, 132, 110

Gen 49:10

The Promise to David 2 Sam 7:5-16, Ps 89:4-5

Numbers 24:17

Impact of the Exile on these Promises

Isaiah 11:1

Mic 5:2

Jer 23:5-6 , 33:14-18

Zechariah 9:9

What were the Jewish people hoping for?

What was scripture pointing to?

Why did Jesus seem to shy away from the title of Messiah? (see, e.g., Luke 4:41)

John 1:41

John 4:25-29

Luke 24:46-47

Matt 26:63-66

A Song to the King

17 A psalm of Solomon^a with a song to the King.

¹ O Lord, you are our King forever and further,
because in you, our God, our soul will boast.

^a Gk. *Salōmōn*

² And what is the time of a person's life upon the earth?
According to his time is also his hope in it.^b

³ But we will hope in God our savior,
because the strength of our God is forever with mercy,
⁴ and the kingdom of our God is forever over the nations.

⁵ You, Lord, selected David^c as king over Israel,
and you swore to him concerning his offspring forever,
that his royal place would not cease before you.

⁶ And sinners rose up against us because of our sins;
they laid hold of us and expelled us;
those to whom you did not promise removed *us* with force,
⁷ and they did not glorify your honored name;
with pomp they set a royal place because of their loftiness;
⁸ they desolated the throne of David^d in arrogance of a cost.
And you, God, will cast them down and remove their seed from the earth,
⁹ when a person foreign to our race rises up against them.

¹⁰ You will repay them according to their sins, God,
so that it will be found against them according to their works.

¹¹ God will have no pity on them;
he searched their seed and let not one of them go;
¹² the Lord is faithful in all his judgments that he makes upon the earth.

¹³ The lawless one desolated our land from its inhabitants.
They destroyed a young man and old woman and their children together.

¹⁴ He dismissed them to the west in the wrath of his beauty,
and the rulers of the land to a mockery; and he did not relent.

¹⁵ The enemy acted with estrangement, with arrogance;
and his heart was foreign from our God.

¹⁶ And all the things he made in Jerusalem,^e
just as the nations also *make* their gods in the cities.

¹⁷ And the descendants^f of the covenant controlled them among the mixed nations.
There was no one who acts with mercy and truth among them in Jerusalem.^g

¹⁸ Those who love the gatherings of the holy ones fled from them.

^b Refers back to "time"

^c Gk. *Dauid*

^d Gk. *Dauid*

^e Gk. *Ierousalēm*

^f Or "sons"

^g Gk. *Ierousalēm*

They were scattered from their bed like sparrows.

¹⁹ They were misled in deserts, for their souls to be saved from evil,
and a soul saved from them is a prized thing in the eyes of the sojourn.

²⁰ Those who love the gatherings of the holy ones fled from them;
their scattering by the lawless was into all the earth.

Because the sky withheld the dropping of rain upon the earth,

²¹ the eternal springs were stopped out of the abysses from high mountains;
because there was no one among them who was doing righteousness and justice;
from their rulers and the least of the people, *they were* in every sin.

²² The king *was* in lawbreaking, and the judge in disobedience,
and the people in sin.

²³ See, O Lord, and raise up their king for them,
a son of David,^h
for the proper time that you see, God,
to rule over Israel your servant.ⁱ

²⁴ And undergird him with strength to shatter unrighteous rulers.

²⁵⁻²⁶ Cleanse Jerusalem^j from the nations that trample it in destruction,
to expel sinners from the inheritance in wisdom, in righteousness,
to rub out the arrogance of the sinner like a potter's vessel,
to crush all their support with an iron rod;

²⁷ to destroy lawless nations by the word of his mouth,
for Gentiles to flee from his face at his threat,
and to reprove sinners by the word of their heart.

²⁸ And he will gather a holy people whom he will lead in righteousness,
and he will judge tribes of the people sanctified by the Lord its God.

²⁹ And he will no longer permit injustice to dwell among them,
and no person who sees wickedness will dwell with them.

³⁰ For he will know them, because all of them are sons of God,
and he will divide them among their tribes upon the earth.

³¹ And no longer will an expatriate or foreigner dwell among them;
he will judge peoples and nations by the wisdom of his righteousness.

Musical Interlude

³² And he will have peoples of nations to serve him under his yoke,
and he will glorify the Lord notably^k over all the earth.

^h Gk. *David*

ⁱ Or "for your boy to rule over Israel"

^j Gk. *Ierousalēm*

^k Literally "with notability"

- ³³ And he will cleanse Jerusalem^l with sanctification, as also from the beginning,
³⁴ for nations to come from the edge of the earth to see his glory,
bringing as gifts its utterly weakened sons,
³⁵ and to see the glory of the Lord that God glorified;
and he is a righteous king over them, taught by God,
³⁶ and there is no injustice in his days among them;
because they all are holy, and their king is the anointed Lord.
- ³⁷ For he will not hope in horse and rider and bow,
or multiply gold nor silver to himself for battle,
and he will not gather hopes by many for the day of war.
- ³⁸ The Lord himself is his King, the hope of the one who is mighty by the hope of God,
and he will show mercy to all the nations before him in fear.
- ³⁹ For he will bring down the earth with the word of his mouth forever.
⁴⁰ He will bless the people of the Lord by wisdom with joy.
- ⁴¹ And he will be clean from sin, to rule over a great people,
to reprove rulers, and to remove sinners by the strength of *his* word.
- ⁴² And he will not be weak in his days upon his God,
because God made him strong by the Holy Spirit
and wise by the counsel of understanding, with strength and righteousness.
- ⁴³ And the blessing of the Lord will be with him in strength,
⁴⁴ and his hope in the Lord will not be weak;
and who will be strong against him?
Strong in his works and mighty in the fear of God,
- ⁴⁵ shepherding the flock of the Lord in faithfulness and righteousness,
and he will not permit *any* among them to be weak in their pasture.
- ⁴⁶ He will lead them all with equality,
and there will be no arrogance among them for any among them to be oppressed.
- ⁴⁷ This is the propriety of the king of Israel that God knew,
to raise him up over the house of Israel, to discipline it.
- ⁴⁸ His words have been purged in fire more than first-rate gold.
He will judge the tribes of the sanctified people in the assemblies.
- ⁴⁹ His words *are* as words of holy ones in the midst of sanctified peoples.
- ⁵⁰ Blessed are those who live^m in those days,
to see the good things of Israel in the gathering of tribes; may God do it.
- ⁵¹ May God speed his mercy upon Israel;
he will rescue us from the impurity of profane enemies.
The Lord himself is our King forever and further.

^l Gk. *Ierousalēm*

^m Literally “become”

The Anointed of the Lord

18 A psalm of Solomon:^a another one of the Christ of the Lord.

¹ Lord, your mercy is upon the works of your hands forever.

² Your goodness upon Israel with a rich gift,
your eyes looking down upon them,^b and none of them will lack anything;

³ your ears hear the entreaty of the poor in hope;
your judgments are upon all the earth with mercy;

⁴ and your love is upon the offspring of Abraham,^c the children^d of Israel.
Your childhood is upon us like a firstborn unique son,

⁵ to return an obedient soul from rudeness in ignorance.

⁶ May God cleanse Israel for the day of mercy with blessing,
for the day of election _lwhen he brings up_j^e his anointed one.

⁷ Blessed are those who live^f in those days,

to see the good things of the Lord, which he will do for the coming generation;

⁸ under the rod of discipline of the anointed one of the Lord, in the fear of his God,
in the wisdom of spirit and righteousness and strength,

⁹ to direct men in works of righteousness by the fear of God,
to establish them all before the Lord.

¹⁰ A good generation in the fear of God in the days of mercy.

Musical Interlude

¹¹ Great is our God and of glorious, dwelling in the highest places,

¹² who appointed stars in course for occasions of times from days to days,
and they did not transgress from the way that you commanded them.

¹³ Their way is in the fear of God _levery_g day,
from the day God created them and to eternity.

¹⁴ And they were not led astray from the day he created them;

^a Gk. *Salōmōn*

^b I.e., the gifts

^c Gk. *Abraam*

^d Or “sons”

^e Literally “in the upbringing of”

^f Or “become”

^g Literally “according to each”

they were not removed from their ways from ancient generations, unless God commanded them by the command of his servants.¹

¹ Rick Brannan et al., eds., [The Lexham English Septuagint](#) (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012), Ps Sol 17:title–18:14.