

III. Messiah According to the Writings

COMMENT

The final section of Messianic prediction that we are merely touching, and certainly not being comprehensive in completion, is the Writings. Although Daniel is a prophet, in the Jewish Bible, his book is included in the Writings.

A. The student will read Daniel 9 and answer the following questions:

These sevens are actually “units of seven” or “seven years.” Seventy “sevens” would then be 490 years.

1. Daniel says that the Messiah will be cut off. In light of our questions in lessons one and two about the dying of the Redeemer, what does “cut off” imply?
2. The Messiah will be cut off before the destruction of what city?
3. What would be the purpose of the death of the Messiah? For whom is he dying?
4. Since the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem took place in 70 CE, then when did the Messiah have to die?

B. The student will read Psalm 22 and answer the following questions:

1. King David wrote this Psalm of anguish. Describe some of the physical problems of the suffering one. Describe some of the emotional pains that this servant had to endure.
2. Have you ever heard the words of verse 1 in any other context?
3. What might it mean, “they pierced my hands and my feet” (v. 16)

COMMENT

King David wrote this around the year 1000 BCE. Crucifixion was not even known until the Romans brought it to the world around 700 BCE. Therefore, King David was speaking prophetically. He was describing the piercing of hands and feet in a very simple crucifixion manner. *Does this remind you of anyone?*

In light of these studies that demonstrate the Messiah as one who would die for our sins and accomplish eternal salvation for us, one who would be born in Bethlehem and die before the destruction of the second Temple, *who do you think the Messiah is?*

Think of the finding of the Messiah like a jigsaw puzzle. When you go to the store, you want to buy a jigsaw puzzle that is complete, whether it's 24 pieces or 1,000 pieces. Putting the pieces together makes the picture come alive. As each piece represents part of the whole, when put together, it all "makes sense." Maybe seeing these messianic pieces of the puzzle have helped you put it together that Jesus is the promised Messiah of our Jewish people.

Consider this about Jesus not being taught us when we learned about the Messiah. If a store sold you a puzzle of 900 pieces as if it were 1,000, you would feel cheated and defrauded. You would at least demand your money back. Even if there were 999 pieces, it would be inappropriate to misrepresent the part as if it were the whole. Similarly, if you have not been taught that the Messiah must satisfy these particular credentials, then you have been sold a bill of goods that is incomplete. There was probably no malice intended, but people were basically passing on what they had personally received. So the question for you remains...

Is there any good reason you should not accept Y'shua now?