

A CHRISTMAS SERIES
“A CLOSER LOOK AT THE MESSIAH”
PART ONE
“THE NEED OF THE MESSIAH”
MATTHEW 1:18-25

+++++

INTRO: We live in a time when many people think that culture and the combined intelligence of society is so great that mankind can solve any problem that comes along. It is true that God has given to humanity a lot of intelligence that is seen in technology, medicine, science, etc., but the point to be recognized is that there is one thing that humanity CANNOT DO IN ANY POSSIBLE WAY, AND THAT IS TO **PROVIDE SALVATION FROM SIN**. It took a Messiah to do that and in Jesus Christ the whole world has a Messiah through which to find salvation. I am sure most of us know that, but let's take a CLOSER LOOK AT WHY A MESSIAH IS NEEDED AND **WHY ONLY JESUS CHRIST IS THE NEEDED MESSIAH**.

+++++

FACTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. The word “MESSIAH” means **“ANOINTED ONE.”** In the N.T. the word for “Messiah” or the “Anointed One” is “Christ.”
2. Old Testament Israel looked forward to the coming of the “MESSIAH” due to the many prophesies indicating His appearance. When Christ came, Israel rejected Him as they wanted a **POLITICAL MESSIAH** to deliver them from their enemies, NOT a **SPIRITUAL MESSIAH** to deliver them from their sin. John 1:1-4,11,12.
3. One of the GREAT PROPHECIES given about the ministry of the MESSIAH is Isaiah 61:1,2 which was uttered in 689 BC. When Jesus began His ministry He referred to this prophecy and indicated that **HE WAS THE MESSIAH WHO CAME TO FULFILL THE PROPHECY**. Luke 4:16-19.
- 4) Christ's first coming into the world as the Messiah only fulfilled the **REDEMPTIVE ASPECT** of His Messiah-ship. AT HIS SECOND COMING Christ will completely fulfill His MESSIANIC ROLE and Israel will recognize Him and submit to Him. Jeremiah 23:5,6
- 5) Bible Prophecy stipulated specific components about the Messiah including: He must be of the Tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10); He must be of the house of David (Isaiah 11:1), He must be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), He must be born in Bethlehem of Judea (Micah 5:2), He must die a sacrificial death (Isaiah 53:1-12), He must die by crucifixion (Psalm 22:1-12), He must rise from the dead (Psalm 16:8-11), and He must come to the earth the second time (Deuteronomy 30:3).

+++++

WHY IS A MESSIAH NEEDED?

I. THE INDISCRIMINATE FALL INTO SIN OF MANKIND

This speaks of humanity through Adam and Eve falling from a pure holy state and righteous relationship with God to sinfulness and separation from God.

- A. The Declaration of God – Genesis 2:16,17
- B. The Disobedience of Adam and Eve – Genesis 3:1-7
- C. The Dispensing of Judgment – Genesis 3:14-19
- D. The Disclosure of the Future Messiah – Genesis 3:15

BECAUSE OF THE FALL OF MANKIND INTO SIN, A MESSIAH IS NEEDED FOR RESTORING A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP BACK TO GOD.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE INDIVIDUAL ACTS OF SIN OF MANKIND

This speaks of the fact that everyone that has been born since Adam and Eve have been born with the sin nature and is in need of the Messiah.

- A. The Imputed Nature of Sin – Romans 5:12

1. The word “IMPUTATION” means to “PLACE ON ONE’S ACCOUNT.”

2. Adam and Eve’s sin was placed on the ACCOUNT OF ALL HUMANITY. In other words, their sin brought sin into the entire human race and upon all of their posterity right down to the newest born baby today. Why? **BECAUSE ADAM AND EVE WERE THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE AT THE TIME OF THEIR SIN**

-Romans 5:19

3. It is because of Adam and Eve’s sin that WE came into the world with a **DEPRAVED NATURE AND UNDER GOD’S CONDEMNATION** meaning we are so sinful that we cannot save ourselves - **Psalm 51:5**

B. The Individual Acts of Sin

1. Because of the IMPUTED SIN NATURE we all commit acts of sin. That is, we DO NOT become SINNERS when we SIN, BUT rather we SIN because we are BORN SINNERS. **Acts of Sin is a struggle for all of us – Romans 7:22-25**

2. To say that we have NOT SINNED is to DENY THE TRUTH – 1 John 1:8-10

3. To blame our sin on our sin nature and to shift it away from our personal responsibility is SPIRITUAL IGNORANCE.

BECAUSE OF THE PERSONAL SIN OF EACH OF US, A MESSIAH IS NEEDED TO BRING US INTO A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD!

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF “SELF- PRODUCED SALVATION” FROM SIN FOR MANKIND

This speaks of the fact that humanity in general and individuals specifically cannot save themselves and consequently a Messiah is needed

A. Because we are SINNERS by nature, there is NO POSSIBILITY we can save ourselves. Titus 3:5

B. Because we are SINNERS and SINFUL we need a SAVIOR and JESUS CHRIST **IS THAT SAVIOR – LUKE 19:10**

BECAUSE OF THE IMPOSSIBILITY FOR US TO SAVE OURSELVES A MESSIAH IS NEEDED TO BRING US TO GOD.

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION/APPLICATION:

Because of the INDISCRIMINATE FALL INTO SIN of Humanity, and because of the INDIVIDUAL SINFULNESS of each of us and because of the IMPOSSIBILITY FOR us to save ourselves, **A MESSIAH IS NEEDED AND JESUS CHRIST IS THAT MESSIAH**, as it was announced by the ANGEL OF THE LORD to JOSEPH in Matthew 1:21: **“FOR HE SHALL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS.”**

1) Never cease to Praise God for Jesus Christ the Messiah!

2) Do not reject Jesus Christ as your personal Messiah!

3) Proclaim the TRUTH that Jesus Christ is the Messiah of the World!