

## Messiah Season (Combined Sermon)

**\*\*Bumper Video –**

**What does it really mean to keep Christ in Christmas?**

Is it just a word game? Semantics? Big Arguments...

**We have argued to keep Christ in the WORD  
Christmas, but have failed in keeping Christ in us.**

It is impossible to keep Christ in Christmas if we don't understand what the promise of Christ is.

Christ isn't Jesus' last name. Christ is the Greek word for Messiah.

This is just another holiday without a messiah.

Nothing wrong with a holiday and family get-togethers... Those can be very positive...

But other holidays provide this...

Nothing wrong with having some time off from work...

But other holidays provide this...

Nothing wrong with buying gifts for one another...

But other special days provide this... BTW my birthday is coming up...

**This is just another holiday without the promise & presence of messiah.**

**Let's do more than keep the word Christ in Christmas...  
Let's make the promise of Messiah the focus of this season.**

Matthew 2:11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.(NIV)

The Magi understood the importance of Messiah. They brought Him **3 gifts**

**These 3 gifts... Gold, Frankincense, and myrrh, encapsulate the 3 fold promise of Messiah. There are 3 things that all the prophecies promised Messiah would be. There are over 300 prophecies about Messiah and**

in them we see 3 specific promises that are represented in the Gold, Frankincense, & Myrrh.

## **A Gift of Myrrh**

**Myrrh is an expensive spice, used for making perfume, incense, medicine, and for embalming & anointing the dead. A very strange gift for a young child.**

**The Magi's gift of Myrrh prophesied the Death & Burial of Jesus. In fact Myrrh shows up 2 other times in the story of Jesus. While He was on the Cross and when He was in the tomb.**

**The gift of Myrrh is in agreement with Messianic prophecy. There is a major theme among the 300 plus prophecies that Messiah will be a Suffering Servant.**

Isaiah 52:13-15 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, and kings will shut their mouths because

of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.(NIV)

Isaiah 53:3 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.(NIV)

Isaiah 53:4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.(NIV)

Isaiah 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.(NIV)

## Messiah is the suffering Servant

This prophecy declares Messiah to be a servant who must suffer... That through His suffering the lost would be found, healed, restored, and saved.

Jesus lived the life of a suffering servant.

## A gift of Gold

**Gold was and still is the currency of kings. The Magi's gift was a recognition of royalty.**

## Messiah is a Conquering King

The prophet Daniel saw a prophetic vision of the Messiah.

Daniel 7:13-14 "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.(NIV)

There is much prophecy that describes Messiah as a conquering King. The prophecies center on Messiah being a rightful heir to the throne of Israel, and that as King He would defeat our enemies & reign in authority & power for eternity.

There are prophecies that predict Messiah will be from the lineage of Abraham, from the nation of Israel, and

born in the city of Bethlehem. Many times the Old Testament prophecies that Messiah will be a King whose Kingdom will have no end.

**Isaiah 53 describes Messiah as a suffering servant and Daniel 7 describes Him as conquering king. Are they describing the same messiah? What do you think? How many Messiahs are there?**

There are large segments within Judaism who have interpreted the suffering servant and the conquering king as 2 separate messiahs.

It's understandable to us why some would do this.... How can the king be punished alongside thieves? How can the servant be on the throne? How could the king be born in a manger? How can the one with the power and authority to heal and forgive sins die on the cross?

**Ben Yosef Ben David**

The teaching is growing in popularity and goes a little like this... The 1<sup>st</sup> Messiah, the suffering servant of Isaiah 53 who they call Ben Yosef, will come and through his service and death will prepare a way for the

2<sup>nd</sup> messiah... The 2<sup>nd</sup> messiah, the conquering king of Daniel 7 who they call Ben David, will come and rule and reign a Kingdom that will not end.

I find this really interesting... Because to me it is obvious that because they reject Jesus as messiah they have to reinterpret scripture to represent 2 messiahs. So now rather than worship the 1 true messiah they are hoping for 2 messiahs... neither which have come yet.

**Jesus is the 1 true messiah**

**Every prophecy is fulfilled in Jesus. Every promise is received through Jesus.**

There are over 300 prophecies of Messiah... **The science of probability calculates that the chance of any one man having lived to fulfill 8 of these prophecies is...**

**1 in 100,000,000,000,000** That's just 8 prophecies fulfilled.

**Jesus is the 1 true messiah**

The Magi knew it. Do you know it?

The Magi brought a **Gift of Frankincense**

Frankincense is a gum or resin from Boswellia Tree. It is used for making perfumes and incense.

Frankincense is symbolic of Holiness. It is used throughout the temple... Whenever they say incense was used in the temple they were referring to Frankincense. Without Frankincense you couldn't come into the presence of God. When Psalms talks about worship and prayer being fragrant like a perfume... that was a reference to Frankincense.

**Frankincense was used all throughout the Temple of God's presence except... Sin offerings. They were ordered to never bring the incense into contact with sin.**

**Frankincense represents Holiness and the Deity of God. When they brought it to Jesus they were declaring Jesus to be Holy and Deity.**

Not only is Jesus the suffering servant and the conquering king... He is God.



Prophecy foretells that **Messiah would be called Immanuel... Isaiah 7:14**

Immanuel means **GOD WITH US**

## **MUSICIANS**

Jesus is more than a man... teacher... prophet. He is God come in the flesh.

The Magi recognized the Christ Child as the Messiah. Do you?

Matthew 2:11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.(NIV)

They opened their TREASURES and presented Him with Gifts.

