

Messiah

Christmas Eve | December 24, 2024
Pastor Tyler Williams

Messiah

mes·si·ah [mi-sahy-uh]; noun.

- any expected deliverer or saviour;
- a professed or accepted leader of some hope or cause;
- a zealous leader of some cause or project.

Messiah

Media Messiahs
Cultural Messiahs
Political Messiahs
Sports Messiahs
Hollywood Messiahs



Messiah

Set during Christmas
Has Christmas music
Has Holly
Ends with snow
Has a messiah!



Die Hard (1988)

Messiah (משיח)

The English word "Messiah" comes from the ancient Hebrew word *māšîach* (משיח).

- Means "anointed one."
- Refers to the process of becoming king through anointing with oil by the prophet to show they were chosen by God.

Messiah (משיח)

The expectations and hopes for a Messiah were grounded in the prior promise of God:

"Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever" (2 Samuel 7:16).

Messiah (משיח)

The expectations of the Messiah grew out of the disappointment with the Davidic kings.

"Messiah" came to be used for the prophetic hope for a coming King, chosen and sent by God, who would reign in righteousness and justice.

Messiah (משיח)

And this is what we celebrate at Christmas. The birth of the royal Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth.

"Jesus Christ" (Ιησους Χριστου) simply means "Jesus the Messiah."

Messiah: Expected

Descended from the house and family of David (Matt 1:1, 16–17, 20; Luke 1:27, 32, 69).

- Based on the promise of God in 2 Samuel 7 and reiterated by Isaiah 9:7, 11:1; Jeremiah 23:5; Amos 9:11; Genesis 49:10.

Messiah: Expected

Born in Bethlehem, David's birthplace and where he was anointed (Matt 2:4-6; Luke 2:4, 11; cf. 1 Samuel 16; 17:12).

- Based on the promise of God in Micah 5:2.

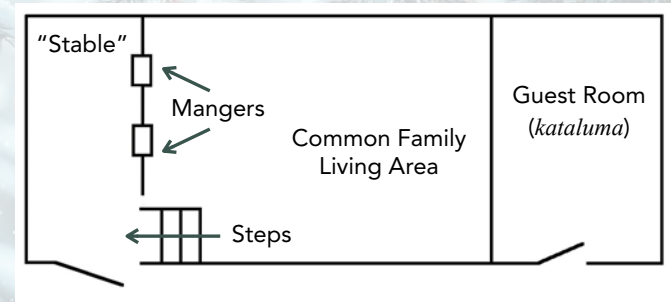
Messiah: Unexpected

A Humble Messiah

- Born in the common area of a home and with a feeding trough as a crib (Luke 2:6-7).
- The first witnesses to his humble birth were shepherds (Luke 2:8-20).

Messiah: Unexpected

A Typical Village House



Messiah: Unexpected

“God is not ashamed of the lowliness of human beings. God marches right in. He chooses people as his instruments and performs his wonders where one would least expect them. God is near to lowliness; he loves the lost, the neglected, the unseemly, the excluded, the weak and broken” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *God is in the Manger*, 22).

Messiah: Unexpected

A Divine Messiah

- God incarnate, Emmanuel, “God with us” (Matthew 1:22-23; quoting Isaiah 7:14);
- The Word of God (John 1:1-4, 14);
- The one and only Son of God (Luke 1:35).

Messiah: Unexpected

A Self-Giving Messiah

- God, in his great love, sent his Son into the world, and this Son humbled himself and willingly died on the cross, so that we may receive forgiveness and have life (John 3:16).
- Christmas is really the beginning of Easter.

Jesus the Messiah, God with Us

The Christmas story is not in the first instance about anything that we should do, but about what God has already done for us.

