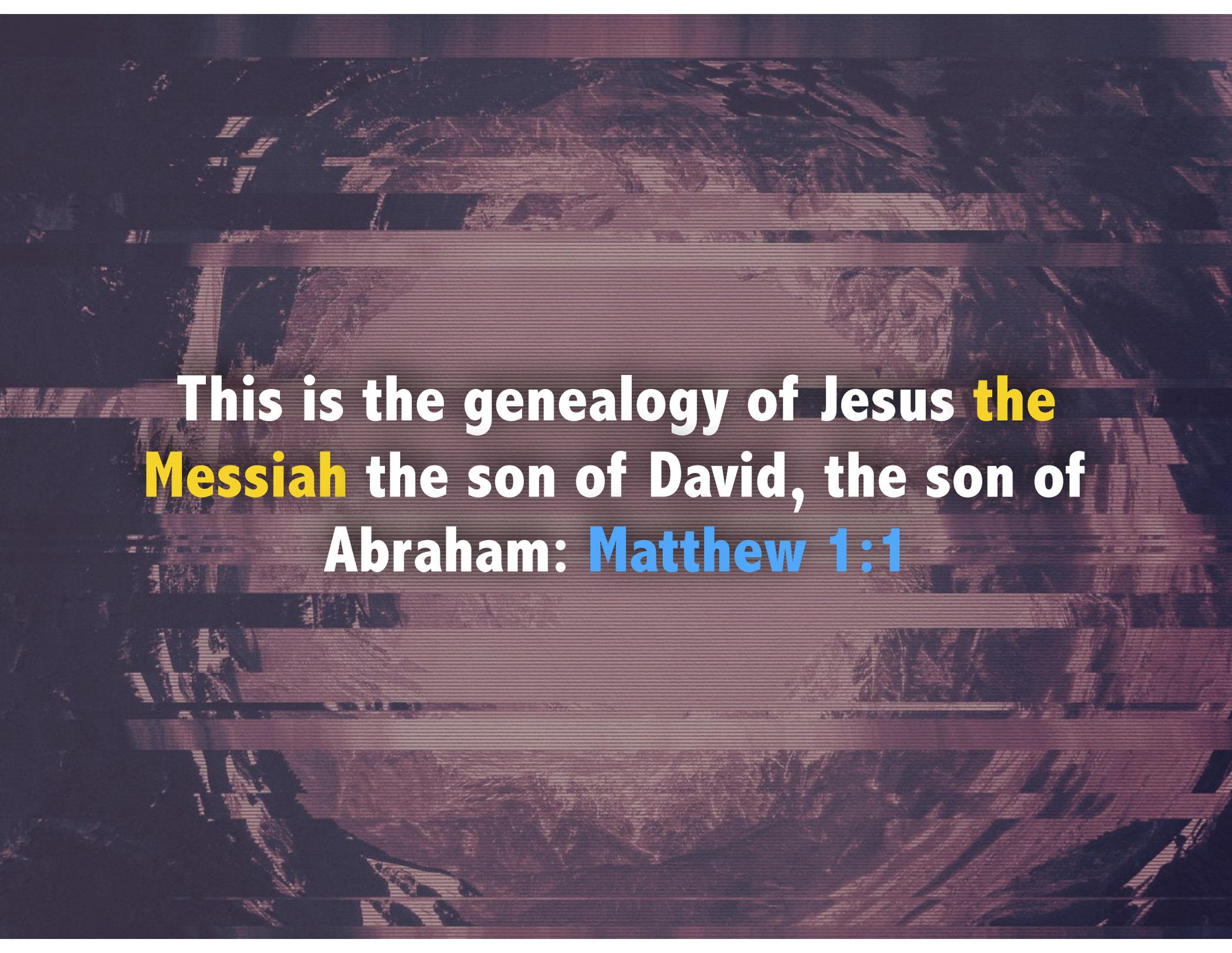




Path of the Messiah

Ancient of Days

An aerial photograph of a mountainous landscape, likely in the Andes, showing a deep valley with winding roads and some buildings. The image is dark and has a purple/blue tint.

This is the genealogy of Jesus **the
Messiah the son of David, the son of
Abraham: **Matthew 1:1****

Jesus did not enter into the world in a vacuum, rather He entered into Jewish history at one of its most critical time periods. Israel had been through a bitter exile in Babylon, nearly destroyed by the Greeks, both physically and culturally and now ruled by the Roman Empire. Although the Romans allowed for religious expression the religious leaders were given the responsibility of making sure such religious freedom did not threaten Roman control of Israel.

Belief in the eventual coming of the mashiach (messiah) is a basic and fundamental part of traditional Judaism. It is part of Rambam's 13 Principles of Faith, the minimum requirements of Jewish belief. In the Shemoneh Esrei prayer, recited three times daily, we pray for all of the **elements of the coming of the mashiach:**

- ingathering of the exiles; restoration of the religious courts of justice; an end of wickedness, sin and heresy; reward to the righteous; rebuilding of Jerusalem; restoration of the line of King David; and restoration of Temple service. **Judaism 101**

Messianic Expectations

Then the mashiach will bring about the **political** and **spiritual** redemption of the **Jewish people** by bringing all Jews outside Israel back to Israel

restoring Jerusalem

He will establish a Torah government in Israel that will be the centre of all world government, both for Jews and Gentiles

He will rebuild the Temple and reestablish its worship

Messianic Expectations

The Messiah and Passover are uniquely connected.

Understanding the concept of Messiah also helps us to understand Jesus, His mission and sacrifice

Messianic Origins

So the **Lord God** said to the **serpent**, “Because you have done this, **Genesis 3:14**

And I will put enmity between **you** and the **woman**, and between **your offspring** and **hers**; **he** will crush your **head**, and **you** will strike his **heel.**” **vs 15**

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between **your seed** and **her Seed**; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.” **NKJV**

Messianic Origins

The noun zera' (seed) never occurs in the plural in the OT. Accordingly, the singular term can be used "collectively," that is, the singular form is used for both an individual seed and a group of seeds. In the case of humans, **it can refer to a single descendant or to multiple descendants.**

The curse is justice and promise of redemption

**The two seeds are the two people on
this plant. Those who work with God
and those who rebel against**

This is the work of the Messiah

**The idea of the Messiah has its foundations in
the prophet, priest and king. God calls the
person to rally the nation**

Messiah and Passover

Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned against me. **Psalm 41:9, 1000 BC**

I told them, “If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.” So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.
Zechariah 11:12, 520 BC

I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. **Isaiah 50:6, 760 BC**

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” **Micah 5:2, 700 BC**

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. **Isaiah 7:14, 760 BC**

Messiah and Passover

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly
and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Zechariah 9:9, 520 BC

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in
his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any
deceit in his mouth. **Isaiah 53:9, 760 BC**

They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they
will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and
grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

Zechariah 12:10, 520 BC

Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce
my hands and my feet. All my bones are on display; people
stare and gloat over me. They divide my clothes among them
and cast lots for my garment. **Psalms 22:16-18, 1000 BC**

**1 person fulfilling 8 prophecies: 1 in
100,000,000,000,000,000**

**1 person fulfilling 48 prophecies: 1 chance
in 10 to the 157th power**

**Being struck by lightning in a year = 7×10^5
or 1 in 700,000**

**Becoming president = 1×10^7 or 1 in
10,000,000**

**A meteorite landing on your house = 1.8×10^{14}
or 1 in 180,000,000,000,000**

1 person fulfilling 300 prophecies: 1 in 1.5×10^{239}

Passover Meal

At this time when we recount the redemption of the Jews from Egypt in the Hagadah we also express our hope for the future redemption with the coming of the Messiah. **The tradition is that Elijah the Prophet will be the one to announce the coming of Messiah.** In fact, there's a tradition that Messiah will come in the month in which Passover occurs – “Nissan” on the Jewish calendar. The cup is called “Elijah's Cup” to express our hope that our guest will be Elijah himself coming to inform us of Messiah's coming and the rebuilding of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Anointed One

The word “Messiah” is from the Hebrew word “Mashiach” which means “**anointed one**”. In the Greek, this Hebrew word is literally translated as “Khristos” from which we got the English word “Christ”. So “Christ” exactly means “Messiah” or “Anointed One”.

Prophet: “anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet.” **1 Kings 19:16**

Priest: “Anoint them just as you anointed their father, so they may serve me as priests.” **Exodus 40:15**

King: “So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David.” **1 Samuel 16:13**

Prophet

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the Lord our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.” The Lord said to me: “What they say is good. **I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites**, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him.” **Deuteronomy 18:15-18**

Priest

The Lord says to my lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: “**You are a priest forever,** in the order of Melchizedek.”

Psalm 110:1, 4

King

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, **your king comes to you**, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. **Zechariah 9:9**

“thrones were set in place, and the **Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.” **Daniel 7:9-10****