

The Promised Seed

God created heaven and earth and every living creature but the crown of His creation was man and woman. And he created man and woman in His image. They were not gods, but they had God's creative capabilities. They could also think and reason which animals could not do. God loved them and He had a close relationship with them, giving only one condition: Do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for the day you eat you will die.

However, they both ate from the tree and were cursed by God and separated from His presence. They were cast away from their home in the Garden of Eden, and from their close fellowship with God. Did God continue to love them? Yes, He always loves His creation, but He is holy and perfect and cannot go against His Holy nature and allow sinful people in His presence. All men and women, because of the sin of our first parents, are spiritually separated from God. We also have inherited Adam and Eve's sinful nature. One sin is enough for this eternal separation.

“But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.”¹

How can one be saved from hell and have a restored relationship with God?

Man could try to keep from committing more sin do good deeds, feed the poor, help the needy, pray, offer sacrifices, and fast. However, it was only one sin committed by Adam and Eve that caused eternal separation. Mankind cannot save or purify themselves; they need a savior who can do it for them. God's love provides the way to restore mankind to Himself.

God made a promise that through the “seed” of the woman, Eve, one would come and crush the head of Satan, the serpent.² This promised “seed” would come and restore all things anew and destroy the power of Satan. Eve had two sons but they were not the “seed”. Cain killed Able. Seth, the third son, was thought to be the promised “seed”. His name in fact meant, “the substitute” in place of Able.³ However, Seth had sons, and God planned to destroy the whole earth by flood because of sin. Noah was a descendant of Seth and God called him to build an ark and save his family and the animal kingdom; he may have been the “seed” because his name meant “rest, or comfort”,⁴. Would he be the one to bring peace and restore man to God?

He had three sons and out of those three Shem was chosen to carry the good “seed” line and both his brothers would serve him.⁵ From Shem's descendants Abraham was chosen, and God made a promise to him. God would give Abraham land, and through Abraham's “seed” all the nations of the earth would be blessed.⁶ We learn from God's promise that this “seed” would come from the woman, crush the power of Satan and also be a blessing to the whole world, reversing the curse of our first parents.

¹ Isaiah 59:2.

² Gen. 3:15.

³ Gen. 4:26.

⁴ Gen. 6:8.

⁵ Gen. 9:26-27.

⁶ Gen. 12, Gen. 22:18.

Who was the “seed” that came from Abraham? Abraham had two sons and God said that the promise of the “seed” would come through Isaac.⁷ Isaac also had two sons and God chose his son Jacob to bring the promised “seed”.⁸ Jacob had twelve sons and out of the twelve sons one was chosen for the “seed” to come from but in this son we see more details of what this “seed” would look like. The son’s name was Judah and the promise was of a King who would come from him and rule for eternity.⁹

Moses even spoke of this promised “seed”. He stated clearly that a prophet like himself would come and work miracles and would be a Jew.¹⁰ The Prophet David was from the line of Judah and was “anointed” King. Many people thought that the prophecy of the “seed” was fulfilled, for he was from the line of Judah and was a Jew. However, God promised David that from him, a King would come and this King would be a son to God and God would be a father to him. This King’s reign would never end.¹¹

The place where the King of Judah was going to be born was named by the prophet Micah. He would be born in a little village called Bethlehem¹² to a virgin and his name would be Immanuel meaning, “God with us.” The prophet Zechariah prophesied when this eternal King was to be born and that he would be a priest. Kings from the east would come and worship him bringing gifts.¹³ Isaiah said this child would be known as the Almighty God, Prince of Peace and Everlasting Father.¹⁴

According to the prophet Zechariah when the Messiah would be inaugurated as King he would come in to Jerusalem riding a donkey.¹⁵ David prophesied that evil men would pierce the hands and feet of the promised one and that men would cast lots for his garment.¹⁶ Isaiah explained in detail that mankind would be healed by his suffering, that he would take the punishment of our sins on his body, and that he would remove our guilt.¹⁷ The Messiah’s face would be marred beyond recognition.¹⁸ Isaiah also stated that he would open the eyes of the blind, make the deaf hear, and cause the lame to walk.¹⁹ David also prophesied that this Messiah would not stay dead but rise again.²⁰ The prophets Ezekiel and Isaiah also spoke of a time when God would send his Holy Spirit to live inside men and give them a new and clean heart.²¹

All of these prophets pointed to one person. He would be the promised “seed” of the woman, he would bless all nations, he would be from the tribe of Judah in the line of David, and be an eternal King called the Messiah. He would defeat the power of Satan, and take away the sins of the world. The prophets were either lying or telling the truth.

Who was born of a virgin conceived by the Spirit of God?²² Who was born in the village of Bethlehem, from the tribe of Judah?²³ Who was the baby that kings came and worshiped and gave

7 Gen. 17:19-21 (21:10-12).

8 Gen. 28:10-15, 14.

9 Gen. 49:8-12, 10.

10 Deut. 18:15-19, Deut. 34:10-12

11 I Chron. 17:10-14.

12 Mic. 5:2.

13 Zech. 6:11-14.

14 Isaiah 9:6.

15 Zechariah 9:9.

16 Psalm 22:16-18

17 Isaiah 53.

18 Isaiah 52:14.

19 Isaiah 35:5-6.

20 Psalm 16:10.

21 Jer. 31:31-34, Is. 44:1-4, Ez. 37:14, 29:39, Joel 2.

22 Mathew 1:18-25.

gifts to?²⁴ Who entered Jerusalem as a King riding on the back of a donkey?²⁵ Who was the one that made the lame walk, the blind see, the deaf hear, and drove out demons, showing that he had authority over Satan?²⁶ Who was this man that was like Moses in miracles and speech?²⁷ Who was the one that said, “I and the Father are One”,²⁸ “before Abraham was I am”,²⁹ the one whose hands and feet were pierced,³⁰ and that while on the cross men cast lots for his garment?³¹

Who was this person that said he took our sorrows and pains, the punishment for our sins, and our guilt and shame? Who was the man that said to us, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”³²

Who was the one that was raised from the dead and by blowing upon his disciples said, “Receive the Holy Spirit” as was promised?³³ Who was the man that was the promised “seed” that all the nations of the earth would be blessed through?

Listen to the preacher Peter concerning this Messiah:

“But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.' And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.' God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

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Is Jesus not the Messiah? Is Jesus not the promised “seed”?³⁵ If yes, what is holding you back from believing in him and following him today? Are the prophets liars? If not, why not believe in their words today? God so loved the world that he gave Jesus the Messiah (his son) that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.³⁶ Ask Jesus the Messiah for eternal life He

²³ Luke 2:1-7.

²⁴ Mathew 2.

²⁵ Mat. 21:2-10

²⁶ Mathew 4:24.

²⁷ Acts 3:22.

²⁸ John 10:30.

²⁹ John 8:58.

³⁰ Luke 23:33.

³¹ John 19:24, Matt. 27:35.

³² Mathew 11:28-30.

³³ John 14:26, 15:26, 20:22.

³⁴ Acts 3:18-26, 4:12.

³⁵ Galatians 3:13-16.

³⁶ John 3:16.

will freely give this gift to any gender, any age and any race, for he was the promised “seed” to bless all nations. This is God’s plan to purify, save and restore you to Himself.