**Round Top Church Christian Fellowship**

**Sermon**

**The Incarnation – Part IX**

 ***Jesus Christ – Peace for All the World***

 **January 28th, In the Year of Our Lord 2024**

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(Unless otherwise noted, NAS is quoted – New American Standard Bible)

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 About two-thousand years ago, in Jerusalem. . . Jesus had been arrested and tried by a member of the Sanhedrin, Annas a former High Priest, and the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the current High Priest. Annas then sent Jesus to Caiaphas who then sent Jesus to Pilate. Annas and Caiaphas both used their power in a corrupt way to justify a conviction. To the Jews. . .claiming to be God and to destroy the Temple was the main charge. But the Jewish leadership did not have the authority to put a person to death. So, they appealed to Pilate, the Roman Governor, with a charge that Jesus declared himself King, which would be an affront to the Roman power. The responses Jesus gives Pilate reveals Jesus’ rejection of the role of *Mashiach* of whom the Jews were looking that had been prophesied in the Old Testament. What was really being fulfilled was the *suffering servant Messiah* of Isaiah 53.

**John 18:29-38**

 29 Therefore Pilate went out to them and said,

"What accusation do you bring against this Man?"

 30 They answered and said to him,

"If this Man were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him to you."

 31 So Pilate said to them,

"Take Him yourselves, and judge Him according to your law." The Jews said to him, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death,"

 32 to fulfill the word of Jesus which He spoke, signifying by what kind of death He was about to die.

 33 Therefore Pilate entered again into the Praetorium, and summoned Jesus and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

 34 Jesus answered,

 "Are you saying this on your own initiative, or did others tell you about Me?"

 35 Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I?

Your own nation and the chief priests delivered You to me; what have You done?"

 36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is,

 My kingdom is not of this realm."

 37 Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered,

"You say *correctly* that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

 38 Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

 And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to them, "I find no guilt in Him.

 The arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus reflects upon the mission of the Incarnation which fulfilled the prophetic *suffering servant* mission of the *Messiah*

**Names Having Meaning, Authority and Message**

From the context of a person reared in the Western World. . . the name alone, Jesus Christ, is the most compelling name on earth. When I mean “compelling’ I mean that once a person hears the name, they are challenged with *who, what, where, when, why* and the added *how*. Names come with meaning and project personalities and reflection upon life histories and the times in which they lived.

**Jesus** or Joshua, Yeshua = The Lord Saves

**Greek Word for Christ** = Hebrew: Messiah = **the Anointed One**

But the “**Anointed One**” in Hebrew = **Mashiach**

The name ‘Jesus’ is a representation of *peace on earth* and good will to all. Jesus is called the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

We see the title ‘Anointed One’ being reference by Jesus in Luke 4:18.

17 And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

 18 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE **HE ANOINTED ME**

 Anointed in Greek: Chrio – to anoint (Strong’s 5548)

TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, 19 TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD." (Isaiah 61:1)

 20 And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

This Hebrew word for *anointing* is Mashach (Strong’s 04886) and is used in Psalm 45:7 and referenced in the New Testament book of Hebrews 1:9 of which both citations refer to Jesus. Note that Mash**i**ach is listed in Strong’s under 04899 meaning “anointed”. Mashach (no “i” is listed in Strong’s under 04886 meaning to smear, anoint as in a ceremony of placing oil symbolically on a King at their coronation. Therefore, the King is someone who has been smeared with oil Mashach and then considered a Mash**i**ach. (see page 8 for Kings)

In contrast to a Messiah of peace. . . in the name of Jesus, wars have been started and people have been oppressed throughout history. This misuse of Jesus’ name and mission is in direct contradiction to His Gospel Message.

In disparity to Jesus’ peace mission. . . in our lifetime, those of us born in the mid-20th c. or before, there are other names that evoke a strong emotion but not in a positive peaceful way. Remember, names represent mission. If you voice the names of Hitler, Tojo, Lenin, Stalin, Mussolini, Castro, Marx, Mao Zedong and Pol Pot, it will bring forth memories of the worst atrocities ever inflicted upon the whole world. Yes, the Romans crucified thousands and Vlad the Impaler was horrific in executing thousands of defeated enemy soldiers, but these 20th c. monsters hold the historical world record for them and their followers being responsible for most of the 217 million deaths by war in the 20th c. Therefore, a leader whose life is directed by making themselves their own god or their self-proclaimed atheism resulted in mass genocide for no other reason than “they wanted their stuff” along with the prideful desire of wanting to be ruler of the world. By the way. . . this ruler of the world was exactly what the Devil offered Jesus in the *test in the wilderness* (Matthew 4:8-10).

So, now let us look at the Biblical Jesus Christ we know as compared to the Jewish anticipation of their version of the long-awaited Mashiach/Mashach. Remember, the Jews point to Old Testament Scripture to support their claims.

**Learning the Jewish Teaching of who the Mashiach/Mashach will be . . .**

**Judaism 101 web site** <https://www.jewfaq.org/mashiach>

**The Belief in the “Anointed One” – Mashiach (Strong’s 04899)**

Belief in the eventual coming of the mashiach is a basic and fundamental part of traditional Judaism. It is part of [Rambam](https://www.jewfaq.org/glossary?rambam)'s [13 Principles of Faith](https://www.jewfaq.org/glossary?13), the minimum requirements of Jewish [belief](https://www.jewfaq.org/glossary?beliefs). In the weekday [Shemoneh Esrei](https://www.jewfaq.org/glossary?shemoneh) 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](https://www.jewfaq.org/glossary?temple) service.

The term "mashiach" literally means "the anointed one," and refers to the ancient practice of anointing kings with oil when they took the throne. The mashiach is the one who will be anointed as king in the **End of Days.**

**The word "mashiach" does not mean "savior**." The notion of an innocent, divine or semi-divine being who will sacrifice himself to save us from the consequences of our own sins is a purely Christian concept that has no basis in Jewish **thought.**

 **But what about a basis in Jewish Scripture? (See attachment)**

The mashiach will be a great political leader descended from King David (Jeremiah 23:5). The mashiach is often referred to as "mashiach ben David" (mashiach, son of David). He will be well-versed in Jewish law, and observant of its commandments (Isaiah 11:2-5). He will be a charismatic leader, inspiring others to follow his example. He will be a great military leader, who will win battles for Israel. He will be a great judge, who makes righteous decisions (Jeremiah 33:15). **But above all, he will be a human being, not a god, demi-god or other supernatural being.**

**When Will the Mashiach Come?**

Before the time of the mashiach, there shall be war and suffering (Ezekiel 38:16)

In general, it is believed that the mashiach will come in a time when he is most needed (because the world is so sinful), or in a time when he is most deserved (because the world is so good). It has been said that in every generation, a person is born with the potential to be the mashiach. If the time is right for the messianic age within that person's lifetime, then that person will be the mashiach. But if that person dies before he completes the mission of the mashiach, then that person is not the mashiach.

**What Will the Mashiach Do?**

The mashiach will bring about the political and spiritual redemption of the Jewish people by bringing us back to Israel and restoring Jerusalem (Isaiah 11:11-12; Jeremiah 23:8; 30:3; Hosea 3:4-5). He will establish a government in Israel that will be the center of all world government, both for Jews and gentiles (Isaiah 2:2-4; 11:10; 42:1). He will rebuild the Temple and re-establish its worship (Jeremiah 33:18). He will restore the religious court system of Israel and establish Jewish law as the law of the land (Jeremiah 33:15).

**What About Jesus?**

Jews do not believe that Jesus was the mashiach. Assuming that he existed, and assuming that the Christian scriptures are accurate in describing him (both matters that are debatable), he simply did not fulfill the mission of the mashiach as it is described in the biblical passages cited above. Jesus did not do any of the things that the scriptures said the Messiah would do.

 **Question: But what about the Scriptures you ignored, like Isaiah 53?**

Notice that the Jewish teaching **excludes** a reference to Isaiah 53, and any other passages of Scripture that prophetically point to Jesus fulfilling of Old Testament Messianic prophecy. However, I do agree that their definition of Mashiach is different from the suffering servant described in Isaiah 53:5, 10. Perhaps the Scriptures quoted by Jewish scholars do apply to a “Deliverer” leader that will fulfill their identified goals based upon the Scriptures they quote. It is true that Moses, David and men like them (Bar Kokhba, Aramaic: “Son of the Star”, led Jewish revolt against the Romans in 135 A.D. cleansing the Temple) are historical examples of the *Mashiach* (for whom they are looking). But it is obvious that Jesus is a legitimate leader who fulfills Old Testament prophecies for a *Messiah* not a *Mashiach*. Perhaps both are accurate to fulfill God’s intention for the Jews and the world. It is true that God’s covenant with Abraham is to the whole world (Genesis 12:3). We know that Jesus rejected the *Mashiach* role, but His followers before the Resurrection identified Him as the traditional anticipated Jewish Mashiach.

**John 1:41** He found first his own brother Simon and said to him,

 "We have found the Messiah" [Greek = Messias]

(which translated means Christ [Christos] ).

John 4:25 The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah [Greek = Messias] is coming

(He who is called Christ [Christos]); when that One comes,

He will declare all things to us."

It is revealing to see the use of the Greek word Χριστοῦ in Matthew 1:1, 16, 17, 2:4 (Christ) is translated Messiah in a number of English Bibles (NAU, NIV, NLT). The same English word Messiah is used in Daniel 9:25-26 to translate the word Hebrew word Mashiach. In my opinion, this brings a misunderstanding of the application of the two leaders who are anticipated to come. One being a *suffering servant* to die on the Cross for the sins of the world and the other to be a political military leader of which Jesus rejected.

Daniel 9:25 "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah (Hebrew: Mashiach – Strong’s 04899) the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah (Mashiach) will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

 Therefore, Jesus, The *Messiah*  the *Suffering servant. . .* is in contrast to a world military-political leader (Mashiach). God’s Incarnation as Jesus, the Christ, fulfilled the mission of the prophesied *Messiah,* not the prophesied *Mashiach,* by His dying on the Cross as payment for the sins of the world. (See attached chart “Mashiach” on Old Testament prophecy for the Mashiach to be a Messiah Jesus fulfills.)

However, we need to be understanding of the Jewish anticipation of their perceived *Mashiach* is rooted in Scripture due to their kings being “Anointed Ones”. The Jews, in Jesus’ time, did not reject Him without some reason being long established in their history. It is reasonable to see that the Jews needed a God “anointed” political-military leader. I mean, all nations need this kind of leader.

The following passages detail that Jesus is anointed like previous kings of Israel but, in addition, God has anointed Jesus to take the place of the Temple and all its contents. ‎

**God anoints (Mashach) the Tabernacle and Kings**

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Shin (ש) is pronounced "sh" when it has a dot over the right branch and "s” –“sin” when it has a dot over the left branch.

The last letter in Mashach is a Cheit (ח ) which has a softer sound when pronounce. When you look are pronunciation guides they lend to giving a phonic ending of “shah” or ‘sah”for Mashach. However, Strong’s 4886 renders משׁח mashach {maw-shakh'} .

 <https://www.jewfaq.org/hebrew_alphabet#Ancient>

https://biblehub.com/interlinear/leviticus/8-10.htm

Leviticus 8:10 וַיִּקַּ֤ח מֹשֶׁה֙ אֶת־שֶׁ֣מֶן הַמִּשְׁחָ֔ה וַיִּמְשַׁ֥ח אֶת־הַמִּשְׁכָּ֖ן וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר־בּ֑וֹ וַיְקַדֵּ֖שׁ אֹתָֽם׃

Leviticus 8:11וַיַּ֥ז מִמֶּ֛נּוּ עַל־הַמִּזְבֵּ֖חַ שֶׁ֣בַע פְּעָמִ֑ים וַיִּמְשַׁ֙ח אֶת־הַמִּזְבֵּ֜חַ וְאֶת־כָּל־כֵּלָ֗יו וְאֶת־הַכִּיֹּ֛ר וְאֶת־כַּנּ֖וֹ לְקַדְּשָֽׁם׃

Leviticus 8:12 וַיִּצֹק֙ מִשֶּׁ֣מֶן הַמִּשְׁחָ֔ה עַ֖ל רֹ֣אשׁ אַהֲרֹ֑ן וַיִּמְשַׁ֥ח אֹת֖וֹ לְקַדְּשֽׁוֹ׃

  **10** Moses then took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it, and consecrated them. **11** He sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times and anointed the altar and all its utensils, and the basin and its stand, to consecrate them. **12** Then he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head and anointed him, to consecrate him. (Leviticus 8:10-12)

The Leviticus account is repeated in Numbers. Both written by Moses and is part of the Tora (The Law, Pentateuch, 1st Five Book)

Numbers 7:1, 10 וַיְהִ֡י בְּיוֹם֩ כַּלּ֙וֹת מֹשֶׁ֜ה לְהָקִ֣ים אֶת־הַמִּשְׁכָּ֗ן וַיִּמְשַׁ֙ח אֹת֜וֹ וַיְקַדֵּ֤שׁ אֹתוֹ֙ וְאֶת־כָּל־כֵּלָ֔יו וְאֶת־הַמִּזְבֵּ֖חַ וְאֶת־כָּל־כֵּלָ֑יו וַיִּמְשָׁחֵ֖ם וַיְקַדֵּ֥שׁ אֹתָֽם׃

Moses takes the anointing oil and anoints the Tabernacle and all instruments, furnishing, utensils, altar, vessels.

Three passages of Scripture where anointing oil is used to signify God’s choice for King of Israel.

‎ 1 Samuel 10:1 וַיִּקַּ֙ח שְׁמוּאֵ֜ל אֶת־פַּ֥ךְ הַשֶּׁ֛מֶן וַיִּצֹ֥ק עַל־רֹאשׁ֖וֹ וַיִּשָּׁקֵ֑הוּ וַיֹּ֕אמֶר הֲל֗וֹא כִּֽי־מְשָׁחֲךָ֧ יְהוָ֛ה עַל־נַחֲלָת֖וֹ לְנָגִֽיד׃

 Samuel anoints Saul with oil

1 Samuel 16:13 וַיִּקַּ֙ח שְׁמוּאֵ֜ל אֶת־קֶ֣רֶן הַשֶּׁ֗מֶן וַיִּמְשַׁ֣ח אֹתוֹ֘ בְּקֶ֣רֶב אֶחָיו֒ וַתִּצְלַ֤ח רֽוּחַ־יְהוָה֙ אֶל־דָּוִ֔ד מֵהַיּ֥וֹם הַה֖וּא וָמָ֑עְלָה וַיָּ֣קָם שְׁמוּאֵ֔ל וַיֵּ֖לֶךְ הָרָמָֽתָה׃ ס

 Samuel anoints David with oil

1 Kings 1:39 וַיִּקַּח֩ צָד֙וֹק הַכֹּהֵ֜ן אֶת־קֶ֤רֶן הַשֶּׁ֙מֶן֙ מִן־הָאֹ֔הֶל וַיִּמְשַׁ֖ח אֶת־שְׁלֹמֹ֑ה וַֽיִּתְקְעוּ֙ בַּשּׁוֹפָ֔ר וַיֹּֽאמְרוּ֙ כָּל־הָעָ֔ם יְחִ֖י הַמֶּ֥לֶךְ שְׁלֹמֹֽה׃

Zodak the priest and Nathan the prophet anoints Solomon with oil.

**Hebrews 1:9** "YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS **ANOINTED** (Greek: Chrio) YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS." (See Psalm 45:7 – “Mashach”)

 **The Mission and** **Purpose in a Name. . . Grew Throughout the World**

Names convey purpose, intention and mission. The historical conveyance of the name and life of Jesus Christ, through the Gospels and the rest of the twenty-three letters of the New Testament, not only impacted the immediate geographic region of the crossroads between Europe, Asia and Africa. . . the Levant, . . . but has spread through the world.

Considering the Romans were the executioners of Jesus Christ. . .it is ironic that within three-hundred years of the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus, the Christ, the Roman Emperor, Constantine, reached out to the name of Jesus Christ (Christianity) in order to save and unite the Roman empire under one belief (313 A.D Edict of Milan). Constantine made Christianity a legal religion of the empire. In 380 A.D., Emperor Theodosius made Christianity the official state religion at the exclusion of others (Edict of Thessalonica: Nicene Christianity).

 But what about the rest of the world? The apostles carried out the *Great Commission* given by Jesus Christ. Remember, these men had witnessed the life, ministry, teaching, and miracles of Jesus, the Christ, . . . then ran away after Jesus’ arrest and some denied knowing Him. These men, like most Jews, held on to a large degree that Jesus was going to prove to be the Deliverer *Mashiach*, like Moses or David who defeated their enemies. Even though Jesus taught that His kingdom was not of this world, (John18:35ff) the disciples did not receive in their heart the full impact of the Incarnation mission until Jesus’ tomb was found empty. Then Jesus was seen as the Messiah, Prince of Peace, Savior of the world. This is when the Disciples understood the significance of their role in carrying out the Great Commission. The Messiah’s role was not to be a military-political leader (Mashiach) for the Jews but a Spiritual Savior for the whole world.

**Matthew 4:14** "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

**Matthew 28:19-20** 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

**Luke 24:47** and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

**Acts 1:8** but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

 Remember that Judaism had been a localized belief and culture that had not spread outside of its blood-line culture. There were a few converts from the gentiles but nothing significant. But with the Gospel Message of Jesus the Christ, Christianity has spread around the world. Throughout the Age of Discovery, the Gospel has reached every continent due to exploration with Christians leading or on ships as they crossed the seas. Today, the Gospel is spread by airplane and modern technology (internet). During and shortly after the 1st c., the geographic spreading of the Gospel Message of Jesus Christ quickly spread through Europe particularly after the Roman Emperor Constantine legalized the Christian faith. This was a unique time in History in terms of its timing as the world population grew.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Yuxd-wdWZI>

<https://aleteia.org/2017/03/22/watch-christianitys-2016-year-spread-in-just-90-seconds/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPudO9NjdBE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obI0F-SMzUI> **AMEN**