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**JESUS IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The writers of the Old Testament bore witness to the gospel pattern that was to be fulfilled by the Messiah and they were looking forward to it. The entire OT is filled with events, people, and places that serve as arrows pointing to the Messiah, the Christ.

The flood and the ark, the Passover and the Red Sea, the wilderness and the Promised Land, exile and return, war and peace, kingdom and kings, prophets and priests, the temple, its sacrifices, and its rituals, the lives of faithful sufferers and the blood of righteous martyrs — the Old Testament is extraordinarily Jesus-shaped.

* The “I Am” in whom Abraham rejoiced was Jesus (John 8:56–58).
* The Lord who motivated Moses was Christ (Hebrews 11:26).
* The Rock in the wilderness was Christ (1 Corinthians 10:4).
* The King of Isaiah’s temple vision was the Son (John 12:40–41).
* The Redeemer who brought them out of Egypt was Jesus (Jude 5).

**Jude 1:5, ESV**

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.

Jesus is woven in the pages of the OT and NT. Heaven wants us to clearly understand that the story of the human race revolves around Jesus Christ. That is why His ministry, character, nature, purpose, salvation, and victory stand central in the OT.

**JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**

We see a focus on Jesus from Genesis to Revelation.

* **Genesis** - He is the prophesied One that will crush the serpent’s head and redeem mankind to the Father (Gen 3:15).
* **Exodus** - He is the Passover Lamb who is slain and whose blood saves people from God’s wrath and judgment (cf. 1 Cor 5:7-8, John 1:29).
* **Leviticus** - He is the High Priest making intercession for man in the Holy of Holies (cf. Heb 4:14-16).
* **Numbers** – He is the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night that guide God’s people (Numbers 9:15-22).
* **Deuteronomy** – He is a prophet unto Moses that will arrive at the fullness of time (Deut 18:15, cf. Acts 3:22).
* **Judges** – He is the Captain of our salvation, the Judge, Lawgiver and Kingsman Redeemer.
* **1 & 2 Samuel** – He is the coming Messiah, exalted by God in power (1 Sam 2:18, 3:1, cf. Luke 2:46-50)
* **1 & 2 Kings** – He is the King who would reign with ultimate power (cf. John 19:19)
* **1 & 2 Chronicles** - He is from the Tribe of Judah, His wisdom greater than that of Solomon (cf. Matt 12:42)
* **Ezra, Nehemiah, Ester, Job, Psalms, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes** – He is the Day-spring from on high and the Lord our Shepherd whose Kingdom is and will be from everlasting to everlasting (cf. Luke 1:78; 2 Pet 1:11).
* **Song of Solomon** – He is the beloved Bridegroom whose marriage to the Bride is forthcoming (Song of Songs 4:1-7, Eph 5:31-32, Rev 19:6-9).
* **Isaiah** – He is God with us, the seven-fold Spirit of God is upon Him. He cures the blind, makes the lame walk, and makes the deaf hear, He becomes a light to the Gentiles who die as a guilt offering for sin but who rise from the dead to live forever. (cf. Luke 4)
* **Jeremiah and Lamentations** – He is the Righteous Branch (Jer 23:5; Jer 33; cf. Mat 2:23).
* **Ezekiel and Daniel** – He is the Son of Man coming in the clouds of Heaven (Dan 7, cf. Rev 1:7, Matt 24:30)
* **Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obediah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi** – He is the Pierced Son, the Burden Bearer, the Mighty Saviour, the cleansing Fountain who becomes a Priest-King. He is the one who embraces us and clings to us through the confusion and disappointment this world can bring.

Malachi is the 39th book of the Bible and is the final book of the Old Testament. The context of Malachi is that the Jews had been back in the land for more than 100 years after having returned from Babylonian captivity. They were looking for the blessings they expected to receive when they returned. During those 400 years of the inter-testament period, God remained silent.

Malachi was the last prophet before John the Baptist followed him 400 years later and he left the people with these words”

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.”

Malachi predicts the coming of John the Baptist who would be the last Old Testament-era prophet before Jesus Christ. Jesus was the one who would fulfil the New Covenant through his life, death, and resurrection. Jesus was the Refiner of which Malachi spoke.

Again, the Messiah's (Jesus Christ’s) ministry, character, nature, purpose, salvation and victory stand central in the OT. Now we get to the New Testament.

**JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

* **Matthew** – He is the promised Messiah, wrapped in cloth, lying in a manger, the fulfilment of the prophecies of Isaiah, born of a virgin (Micah 5:2; Hosea 11:1; cf. Matt 2)
* **Mark** – He is a miracle worker. The key word throughout this first half of Mark’s Gospel is “authority.” He is the Suffering Servant through which God's authority is demonstrated (Mark 8:31).
* **Luke** – He is the Son of Man, the Perfect Man and physician that is without sin (Luke 19:10).
* **John** – He is the Only Begotten Son of God, the Lamb of God, Bread of Life, the Light of the world, the Door to the sheepfold, the Word made flesh (John 1:1,14)
* **Acts** – He is the Ascended Lord and the judge of the living and the dead (Acts 1:6-11)
* **Romans** – He is the Root of Jesse who becomes a Rock cut out without hands and who becomes an offence to many but a deliverer to others (Rom 9:33).
* **1 & 2 Corinthians** – He is the Firstfruits of the Resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:20-23)
* **Galatians** – He is the One who sets us free and who bestows grace on us (Gal 1:6).
* **Ephesians** – He is the Head over all things and the Cornerstone of the body of believers (church). He bestows upon us His gift of grace in His death and resurrection.
* **Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians, and Timothy** – He is the image of the invisible God who meets our every need. The Mediator between God and man and the soon-coming King (Phil 1:6).
* **Titus, Philemon** – He is the Blessed Hope and a Friend that is closer than a brother (Titus 2:13).
* **Hebrews, James** – He is the Author and finisher of our faith. The key to patience and wisdom and the Blood that washes away our sins (Heb 12:2).
* **1 & 2 Peter** – He is the Living Stone and the Chief Shepherd that watches over the church (1 Pet 5:4).
* **1, 2, 3 John** – He is everlasting love and everlasting life for those who know Him (1 John 2:17).
* **Jude** – He is the only wise God and our one and only Saviour (Jude 1:25).
* **Revelation** – He arrives the second time in all power and majesty.
* He is the Faithful Witness ….. Revelation 1:5
* First Begotten of the Dead ….. Revelation 1:5
* Prince of the Kings of the Earth ….. Revelation 1:5
* Alpha and Omega ….. Revelation 1:8-13
* First and Last ….. Revelation 1:8, 11, 13
* Son of Man ….. Revelation 1;13
* He that liveth and was dead ….. Revelation 1:13, 18
* He that holdeth the seven stars ….. Revelation 2:1
* He who hath the sharp sword with two edges ….. Revelation 2:12
* Son of God ….. Revelation 2:18
* He that is holy and true ….. Revelation 3:7
* He that hath the key of David ….. Revelation 3:7
* He that openeth and no man shutteth ….. Revelation 3:7
* He that shutteth and no man openeth ….. Revelation 3:7
* The faithful and true witness ….. Revelation 3:14
* The beginning of the creation of God ….. Revelation 3:14
* Lion of the tribe of Judah ….. Revelation 5:5,9
* The root of David ….. Revelation 5: 5,9
* He is the Lamb of God ….. Revelation 5: 8,9
* He is the Lord of Lords ….. Revelation 17:14
* He is the King of Kings …… Revelation 17:14
* He is Faithful and true ….. 19:11
* He is the Rider of the white horse ….. 19:11
* He is The Word of God ….. Revelation 19: 13-16
* He is the Christ ….. Revelation 20: 4
* He is the Beginning and the end ….. Revelation 22:13
* He is the bright and morning star ….. Revelation 22: 16
* He is the One who destroys His opponents with the breath of His mouth and the brightness of His second coming.
* He is the One before whom every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father….

**CONCLUSION**

The focus of Scripture is Christ. Going into a new year we can have confidence for the future. Our confidence is not based on wealth, on any government’s promises, on organizations, and the wisdom of man nor the false securities that this world offers us, but our confidence is based on the unshakable, immovable Great I AM who created everything and who will end everything in due time.

This year is going to be unlike any other year we have encountered. Tremendous shaking is coming! Our only hope and security are to stay closely connected with Jesus. There is no stability or security outside of Him. We must see and know Christ for who he is. The Sum of His Word is Truth. What is Truth? It is a person. He is Truth and therefore He is the only Source of Truth.

The spirit of the antichrist is sweeping the earth and society’s departure from Judeo-Christian values and ethics is clearly visible today. Satan and his minions can try to destroy humanity, but we know how the story ends, we win! And that victory is eternal. How do we win? By staying connected with the Source and Ultimate Authority, Jesus Christ, for He is the Victor.

Remember this: For every 1 prophecy about His 1st coming there are 8 prophecies about His second coming. The entire Bible builds to a crescendo with the return of Christ!