

# LIVE! IN CONTEXT—SESSION EIGHT

## HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

### Profile of the Messiah

1 Corinthians 2:6-10 (ESV)

*Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*

*But, as it is written,*

*“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.*

#### PREPARATION FOR VIDEO

- ◆ Pray for wisdom and understanding of the content.
- ◆ Read Chapters: 26-30 from *The Unseen Realm*
- ◆ Review viewer guide and Questions for Deeper Understanding.

### Viewer Guide

**Did prophets have anything to do with sacred space? What was a prophet anyway?**

Even though prophets were not necessarily in close proximity to the temple, they are connected to sacred space. The normal test for a prophet was an \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

- ◆ In Isaiah 6, Isaiah was in God’s throne room before the heavenly host / divine council and is approved – “who will go for us?”
- ◆ Adam, Noah, Moses, and Joshua, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob each had divine encounters which approved and qualified them to speak prophetically on behalf of God. As did the disciples at Pentecost.

Christians each have their own encounter with God and are empowered by the indwelling Holy Spirit to be His spokespersons. We are a kingdom of priests and have each received the Great Commission.



#### POINT TO PONDER

Contrary to popular teaching, Gen 3:15 “*he shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel*” is not directly applied to Jesus in the N.T. but to believers.

The test of a prophet in Jer 23:16 – “Don’t listen to the words of the prophets... who fill you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the LORD... For who among them has stood in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the LORD to see and to hear his word.”

There is a consciousness that only those who have had a divine encounter to validate their ministry.

- ◆ Jeremiah had an embodied experience where Yahweh touched his mouth and legitimized his office as prophet. Unlike the other so-called prophets of his day.
- ◆ The prophet has had a divine encounter (either claimed or observed)
- ◆ Whatever a prophet says comes to pass (Deut 18)
- ◆ He is empowered to do miraculous things (Deut 12)

Jesus fulfilled all the requirements of a prophet. The encounter of the baptism was God’s public testimony of Jesus’ status.

### **Are there O.T. figures who would be considered prophets by this definition and some that might not?**

- ◆ In Jude 14 Jude quotes the \_\_\_\_\_ - “It was also about these that Enoch... prophesied.” (Enoch was a prophet)
- ◆ In Job 15:8 Eliphaz asks Job “have you listened in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God?” (Prophets must listen in the council of God) The pattern is that someone who claims to speak for God needs to have met with Him and been \_\_\_\_\_ by God.
- ◆ Deut 13:1-5 - Though a “prophet” may perform miracles, do not \_\_\_\_\_ if he teaches contrary to the word of the LORD.

*Jesus fulfilled all the requirements of a prophet. The encounter of the baptism was God’s public testimony of Jesus’ status.*

### **Many of the Jews of Jesus’ day referred to him as a Prophet – can we look more closely at His baptism?**

Acts 3:1 and Acts 7:37 both link Jesus with Moses. Moses said “The LORD God will raise up for you a prophet like me...” Act 7:37 – Stephen gives more details

- ◆ Moses encountered God at the burning bush, passed through the waters of the Red Sea, and went into the wilderness. This is the Moses who said “God will raise up a prophet like me from your brothers.”
- ◆ Stephen asserts Jesus is the “prophet like Moses.” The same elements Moses experienced are found in Jesus’ baptism:
  - ◆ Divine \_\_\_\_\_ when the Holy Spirit descends as a dove
  - ◆ Passing through the \_\_\_\_\_ of baptism
  - ◆ Immediately Jesus is driven into the \_\_\_\_\_ to be tested by Satan

These events form a template for the Israelites to recognize when they see the “prophet like Moses.” John the Baptist used the phrase “behold the lamb of God,” which was connected to the Passover and further linked Jesus to Moses. John needed to baptize Jesus “in order to fulfill all righteousness,” and connect these cryptic typologies.

## Given all the prophecy about him why didn't people recognize Jesus as the Messiah?

Some teach the expectations of the messianic profile in the O.T. did not match the N.T. death and resurrection of Jesus. Instead, these events were predicted, but were only seen by the disciples with the benefit of hindsight, after Jesus "opened their minds to \_\_\_\_\_ the scriptures." (Luke 24:45)

The O.T. prophecies were \_\_\_\_\_ splintered and cryptic. The messianic profile is never presented in one place, and key elements were never presented with complete clarity.

If everything was known ahead of time, the powers of darkness would have tried to foil the plan. It took the disciples time to understand the profile. After Pentecost when the new Covenant was enacted, they were able to reflect on things Jesus said and did, and make the connections with certain passages in the O.T.

*"All the puzzle pieces of the profile were there, left intentionally cryptic to foil cosmic intelligence."*

### Isaiah 53 does not seem cryptic?

There is no clear connection to Jesus in Isaiah 53 because the word \_\_\_\_\_ is not found.

In context, Isaiah chapters 40-55 are called the "Servant Songs." Servant is linked in other passages to the Messiah and the house of David. These passages are all splintered puzzle pieces that must be put together to form a coherent messianic profile.

Contrary to popular teaching, Gen 3:15 "he shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel" is not directly applied to Jesus in the N.T. but to believers: "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your {collective} feet." (Rom 16:20)

Since we are the Body of Christ, united with Christ and "in Christ" there is both an individual and collective aspect to the son of God, who is also the son of Adam and Eve. "Out of Egypt I have called my son" (Hos 11) applies to both the Israelites corporately and Jesus individually.

- ◆ The N.T. writers, guided by the Spirit, recollected their own \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus to put the pieces together.
- ◆ Ancient rabbis proposed various interpretations of O.T. passages, and which of these were correct were seen only later.

The puzzle pieces are there, \_\_\_\_\_ in plain sight, only able to be seen clearly with the benefit of hindsight.

### Is there a place in the NT that mentions cryptic prophecy specifically?

In I Cor 2:6 Paul writes "we impart a wisdom not of this age... a secret and hidden wisdom... none of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." Rulers is a term used elsewhere for cosmic powers. If the powers of darkness had known the outcome, they would not have provoked people to kill Jesus, triggering their own destruction and the restoration

of Eden. This is spiritual warfare, not spiritual surrender. The powers of darkness opposed God's plan and still do. So, the plan could not be telegraphed \_\_\_\_\_.

- ◆ Jesus "began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem...suffer and be killed and on the third day be raised." (Mt 16:21) after which Peter rebukes him and is told "get behind me Satan." This is the plan. After the triumphal entrance to Jerusalem, Jesus is dead within a week. Mission \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Another example was during Christ's temptation in the wilderness. Ironically, Satan quoted Ps 91, considered an exorcistic passage in Jesus' day, and said "throw yourself down; for it is written, He will command his angels concerning you." The death needed to happen, but Jesus had to die a certain way to fulfill the Passover sacrificial typology.

Satan was fishing for information, unsuccessfully. Satan and the demons knew Jesus was the son of God who planned to restart the kingdom on earth and restore Eden. They know who Jesus is and why he is there, but not how this will work.

So, their solution was to get rid of Jesus, which is exactly what needed to happen. The cryptic element is important. Paul was aware of it. Jesus kept certain information very close and only revealed his intentions at a certain point. The prophecies related to the trigger point of redemption was not overt. It was hidden in plain sight as part of the messianic profile.

*"Satan was fishing for information! They know who Jesus is and why he is here, but not how it will work."*

#### **What are some of the elements of the Messianic profile?**

The messianic profile is an important link between the Old and New Testaments. Elements include:

- ◆ The idea of the son of God: Adam, Israel (to Pharaoh, "let my son go"), out of Egypt I have called my son (Hos 11:1). Both Adam and Israel are supernaturally birthed. Paul calls Jesus the "second \_\_\_\_\_." The Messiah must be human and extended from Adam and Isaac who were also human and supernaturally birthed.
- ◆ Rulership: Adam and Eve were both given the mandate to be proxy \_\_\_\_\_, imaging God.
- ◆ Leadership activities of the patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob), Moses and King David – the leader of God's people and what they do are part of the messianic profile because Jesus is the second Adam, descendant of Abraham, the King, son of David.

All become template points in the messianic profile. These are also referred to as "my servant" like Isaiah 53. The servant in Isaiah 53 is both an individual and a nation. Isaiah has other language that refers to the Messiah, connecting the threads of the servant and the profile.

- ◆ In the Torah, Israel's failure in the desert mirrors Adam's failure in the garden. Supernatural beginning, created to be with God, failure, bondage, sent into the wilderness, end in exile. Jesus reverses these things. He is supernaturally birthed, does not fail, and is the solution to bondage and exile. He is the descendant from David Israel was hoping for.
- ◆ Vocabulary accrues about a divine / human element, certain lineages observed, rulership, sonship, servanthood; all pointing to two places - an individual and a people. This is why these are identified together consistently in the O.T.



## Questions for Deeper Understanding

What is the significance of Jesus wanting John to baptize him?

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What elements of the profile for being a prophet does Jesus fulfill?

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Even if a person fulfilled the three requirements for being a prophet, what is the ultimate test?

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Discuss all the elements that linked Jesus to Moses based on Acts 7:37 and the messianic expectations.

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According to Dr. Heiser, why was the messianic profile in the OT intentionally splintered and cryptic and when did the disciples finally make the connections with certain passages in the OT?

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Discuss the major problem why Isaiah 53 is NOT a clear description of the coming of the Messiah?

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How does Christ's temptation in the wilderness support the idea of supernatural warfare and the mission of Jesus?

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**Describe how Jesus is the second Adam and how it relates to the messianic profile.**

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**Discuss how Adam and Israel have the same template points leading to Paul calling Jesus the “second Adam.”**

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**How does David’s life have counterpoints to Jesus’ life?**

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### **Prayer Request**

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*Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.*

*Psalm 25:4-5 (ESV)*

### **Other Resources to Consider:**

- ◆ Naked Bible Podcast at : [www.nakedbiblepodcast.com](http://www.nakedbiblepodcast.com)
- ◆ Dr. Heiser Website: [www.drmsch.com](http://www.drmsch.com)
- ◆ [www.moreunseenrealm.com](http://www.moreunseenrealm.com)
- ◆ The Divine Council Worldview Facebook Group

*Lesson guides developed by Missy Chapman, Deborah Elmquist, and Duretta Anderson*