



-"messiah" = "anointed" or "anointed one" or "one chosen by God to be used as His instrument

-Primarily used to refer to the ruling king of the time

-Translated into Greek as "christos"

Jewish expectation was shaped by their Scriptures

"the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom...And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

2 Sam 7:11-12, 16

Jewish expectation was shaped by their Scriptures

"You, O king...you are the head of gold. Another kingdom inferior to you shall arise after you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron, because iron breaks to pieces and shatters all things. And like iron that crushes, it shall break and crush all these...And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever, just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure."

Jewish expectation was shaped by their predicament

Jewish history is marked by oppression, violence and anguish

Time after time, a foreign king would rise up in power and push them down into oppression

A Warrior-King



"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15)

Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7)

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth...Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

"But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."

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"His mission, as well as His Messiahship, was a 'mystery'; it was not to bring the evil Age to its end and inaugurate The Age to Come. It was rather to bring the powers of the future Age to men in the midst of the present evil Age; and this mission involved His death...Although the old Age goes on, the Kingdom of God has invaded the realm of Satan to deliver men from his rule. This was the mystery, the new disclosure of the divine purpose in the mission of our Lord." -G.E. Ladd

The already, not yet Kingdom of God

A paradox; we are caught between two present realities

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The Kingdom confronts us

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." (Luke 9:23-24)

To live between the two Advents is to struggle

To live between the two Advents is to experience both the cross and the resurrection, both death and life; and, many times, to experience the cross and the resurrection in the very same circumstance

When reality doesn't meet my expectations, what am I going to put in the gap?