

CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT
MESSIAH – ANOINTED ONE
JESUS

When you go to the Book of Genesis, look for the Lord Jesus Christ there. The promise is given that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpents head (3:15). Then turn to Exodus and you find that He is the One, and the only One, that can lead a soul out of the land of bondage into the liberty of the sons of God. You study that wonderful Book of Leviticus, those forms and ceremonies, those types and shadows, and they are all an enigma until you get the golden key and find that they all point to the coming of Him who shall fulfill them in His one great sacrifice on the Cross of Calvary. You read the Book of Deuteronomy, and you remember that "the law is our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ."

You go on and study the Book of the Kings, and find that all the kings were imperfect and more or less failed, because all were types of the coming of the King of kings, the only perfect Ruler of His people.

You read the beautiful Book of the Psalms, and more or less directly they all center in the one great Messiah who is to come. The Song of Solomon is an entire book that shows Jesus as the Bridegroom and the Church His bride in a beautiful love story.

Then go on and study the Major and the Minor Prophets, and each in turn points on and on to the fullness of time when He of whom they speak shall come, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Isaiah reveals Jesus as the Suffering Servant the One who was "stricken, smitten, and afflicted" for our sake. Throughout Isaiah we read of the virgin birth, the name "Immanuel," the description of Him as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God. Isaiah is full of images of Jesus.

Christ as seen in Hosea:

In Hosea, Messiah is presented as the **Son of God** (cf. 11:1 with [Matt. 2:15](#)), as the only Savior of His people (cf. 13:4 with [John 14:6](#)), as the one who will ransom us from the dead (cf. 13:14 with [1 Cor. 15:55](#)), as the one who loves us with great compassion (11:4), and as the one who heals those who will return to Him (6:1).

Christ as seen in Joel:

In Joel, Christ is presented as the one who will give the Holy Spirit (cf. 2:28 with [John 16:7-15](#); [Acts 1:8](#)), who judges the nations (3:2, 12), and who is the refuge and stronghold of Israel (3:16).

Christ as seen in Amos:

Amos presents Christ as the One who will rebuild David's dynasty (9:11) and as the one who will restore His people (9:11-15).

Christ as seen in Obadiah:

Christ is seen in Obadiah as the judge of the nations (15-16), the Savior of Israel (17-20), and the Possessor of the kingdom (21).

Christ as seen in Jonah:

Through Jonah, Christ is portrayed in His resurrection ([Matt. 12:40](#)), seen as a prophet to the nations (though obviously not reluctantly like Jonah), and as the Savior of the nations. In Jonah's life, He is seen as the Savior and Lord (2:9).

Christ as seen in Micah:

Micah presents Christ as the God of Jacob (4:2), the Judge of the nations (4:3), and the Ruler who would be born in the city of Bethlehem (cf. 5:2 with [Matt. 2:1-6](#)). The priests and scribes quoted [Micah 5:2](#) in answer to Herod's question about the birthplace of Messiah.

Christ as seen in Nahum:

While there are no direct Messianic prophecies in Nahum, in keeping with the basic Christological spirit of all prophecy, Nahum sees Christ as the jealous God and avenger of His adversaries (1:2f).

Christ as seen in Habakkuk:

Again in the light of the Christological nature of prophecy, Christ is portrayed as the Savior. The word "salvation," which appears three times in 3:13 and 18, is the root word from which the name "Jesus" is derived (see [Matt. 1:21](#)). He is also seen as the Holy One (cf. 1:12 with [John 1:9](#)), the one who justifies the righteous by faith (2:4), and the one who will one day fill the earth "with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (2:14).

Christ as seen in Zephaniah:

Though not specifically mentioned in this book, Messiah is presented as the Righteous One within the nation of Israel (3:5) who is also their King (3:15).

Christ as seen in Haggai:

Here Messiah is portrayed as the Restorer of the Temple's glory (2:7-9) and the Overthrower of the kingdoms of the world (2:22).

Christ as seen in Zechariah:

Perhaps no Old Testament book is more Messianic than Zechariah. Zechariah presents Messiah or Christ in both of his advents and as both Servant and King, as Man and God, as the Angel of the Lord (3:1), the Righteous Branch (3:8), the Stone with the seven eyes (3:9), the Crucified Savior or the pierced One (12:10), the coming and humble King (9:9-10), the smitten Shepherd who will be abandoned (13:7), and the coming Judge and righteous King (14).

Christ as seen in Malachi:

Regarding the Messianic focus of Malachi, Wilkinson and Boa have an excellent summary: The Book of Malachi is the prelude to four hundred years of prophetic silence, broken finally by the words of the next prophet, John the Baptist: "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ([John 1:29](#)). Malachi predicts the coming of the messenger who will clear the way before the Lord (3:1; cf. Is. 40:30). John the Baptist later fulfills this prophecy, but in the next few verses (3:2-5) jump ahead to Christ in His second advent....

The whole Bible is about Jesus from beginning to end. And what I plead is that you will go back to your churches, back to your Bible class, back to your Sunday School, and try by God's grace to create a new interest in Bible study, a Bible study that is more and more centralized in a search for the beautiful face and character of Jesus Christ.