

1.3.1 Messianic Prophecies of the First Advent

The messianic prophecies in the Old Testament start with a promise of hope and a virgin birth in the Garden of Eden after the fall of humanity in Genesis 3:15 (see section 1.2.4 for a detailed explanation). As also addressed in section 1.2.4 above, the theme of the Messiah is woven into each book of the Old Testament as a part of Israel's salvation history specifically as follows: the seed of the woman in Genesis, the Passover lamb in Exodus, the high priest in Leviticus, the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night in Numbers, the prophet like Moses in Deuteronomy, the captain of salvation in Joshua, the judge/lawgiver in Judges, the kinsman-redeemer in Ruth, the trusted prophet in 1 and 2 Samuel, the reigning king in Kings and Chronicles, the faithful scribe in Ezra, the rebuilders of broken walls and shattered lives in Nehemiah, Mordecai in Esther, the everlasting redeemer in Job, Lord the Shepherd in Psalms, wisdom in Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, the lover and bridegroom in Song of Solomon, the Prince of Peace in Isaiah, the weeping prophet in Jeremiah and Lamentations, the four-faced man in Ezekiel, the fourth man in the fiery furnace in Daniel, the eternal husband married to the backslider in Hosea, the baptizer in the Holy Spirit in Joel, the burden-bearer in Amos, savior in Obadiah, the great missionary in Jonah, the messenger with beautiful feet in Micah, the avenger in Nahum, the evangelist pleading for revival in Habakkuk, the Lord Mighty to Save in Zephaniah, the restorer of the lost heritage of Israel in Haggai, the fountain opened to David for sin and cleansing in Zechariah, and the sun of righteousness rising with healing in his wings in Malachi (Roberts 1975).

The first four Old Testament feasts are eschatologically and prophetically fulfilled during the First Advent by Jesus' death, burial, resurrection, and His sending of the Holy Spirit to empower the Church (His Body). Passover is fulfilled by Jesus' death as the sacrificial lamb

(Lev 23:5—Matt 26:2; John 19:14; 1 Cor 5:7). Unleavened Bread is fulfilled by Jesus' body buried in the tomb/earth for three days and three nights per Matthew 12:39-40 (Lev 23:6-7—Mark 14:22; John 6:51; 1 Cor 10:16). The Feast of Firstfruits is fulfilled by Jesus' resurrection on the third day (Lev 23:10-11—Mark 16:1-6; John 20:1, 19-23; 1 Cor 15:20-23). The Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) is fulfilled by Jesus sending the promised Holy Spirit to empower the newly created Church/Body of Christ (Lev 23:15-16—Acts 1:1-5, 8; 2:1-4). Then, there is a "gap" (of approximately four months per Jesus' prophetic words in John 4:34-8) in the annual calendar between these four feasts in the spring and the last three feasts in the fall. This "gap" may be prophetically construed as the "Church Age" or "times of the Gentiles" between the two advents of Messiah Jesus (Deal 1981:124-141).

The New Testament then confirms that Jesus Christ fulfilled about eighty Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah. These prophecies relate to His incarnation, virgin birth, Davidic lineage, place of birth, flight to Egypt, ministry, eternal priesthood, cleansing of the Temple, triumphal entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, arrest, suffering, manner of death, pierced side, unbroken bones, resurrection, ascension, and exaltation (Elwell 1998:71; House 1981: 98-100). Some of these Old Testament scriptures are listed below, with their corresponding New Testament fulfillments:

<u>Messianic Prophecy</u>	<u>OT Reference</u>	<u>NT Fulfillment</u>
Son of God	Ps 2:7	Acts 13:33; Heb 1:5; 5:5
Son of Man	Dan 7:13	Matt 9:6; 12:8, 32, 40; 16:13
Incarnation	Ps 40:6-8	Heb 10:5-9
Virgin Birth	Isa 7:14	Matt 1:21-3
Born in Bethlehem	Mic 5:2	Matt 2:6; John 7:42
Lineage of Judah	Gen 49:10	Luke 3:23, 32
Lineage of David	Ps 110:1; Isa 11:1; 2 Sam 7:12	Matt 22:43-4; John 7:42

Flight to Egypt	Hos 11:1	Matt 2:15
Death of Babies by Herod	Jer 31:15	Matt 2:16-18
Anointing/Baptism	Isa 11:1-4; 61:1-3	Luke 3:21-2; 4:16-21
Use of Parables	Ps 78:2	Matt 13:35
Miracles	Isa 32:3-4; 35:5-6; 42:7	Matt 9:35; 11:4-5
Cleansing of the Temple	Ps 69:9	John 2:17
Triumphal Entry	Zech 9:9	Matt 21:5; John 12:14-5
<u>Messianic Prophecy</u>	<u>OT Reference</u>	<u>NT Fulfillment</u>
The Arrest	Zech 13:7	Matt 26:54-6
The Scourging	Isa 53:5	John 19:1; 1 Pet 2:24- 5
Casting Lots over clothes	Ps 22:18	John 19:24
Bones not broken	Ps 34:20	John 19:36
Pierced side	Isa 53:5; Zac 12:10	John 19:37
Death	Deut 21:23; Dan 9:26; Isa 53; Ps 22	Luke 18:32; Acts 8:32-5; 1 Cor 15:3; Gal 3:13
Burial	Isa 53:9	John 19:38-41
Resurrection	Ps 16:8-11; 30:3; 41:10; 2 Sam 22: 6-7; Hos 6:2; Isa 57:1	Luke 24:46; Acts 2:25-31; 1 Cor 15:4
Ascension	Ps 2:7; 16:10-1; 24:7-10; 68:18; 110:1	Mark 16:19; John 20:16-7; Acts 1:9-11; Eph 4:4
Second Covenant	Jer 31:31; Ezek 36:26	Matt 5:17; 26:26-8; John 5:43; 10:10; 1 Cor 11:23-6.

From the testimony outlined above, it may be seen that the Old Testament was written as a record of “salvation acts” for God’s chosen people, as well as a foretelling of the coming of the ultimate “Salvation Act” or Messiah—Jesus Christ. It has been commonly said, within the Body of Christ, that the history of the world is really “His-story”: Savior, Lord, Messiah, and Second Person of the Trinity—Jesus Christ (*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*)—and includes both of His Comings (of the Eschatological Gospel) and both Old Testament prophetic-historical concepts of this present age and the age to come (*olam habbah*).