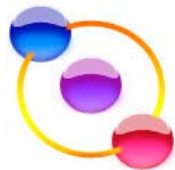


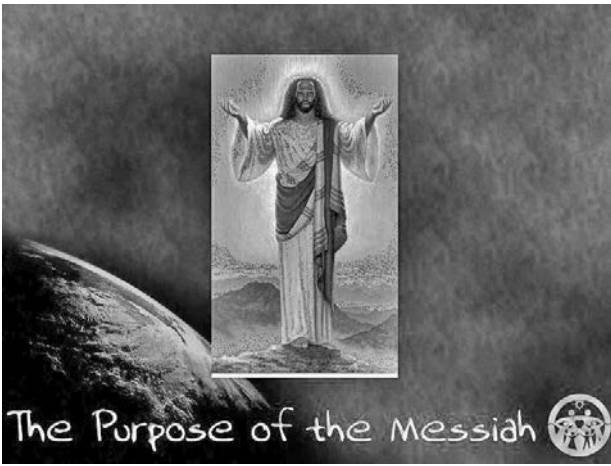


# Mission of Jesus

## Part One





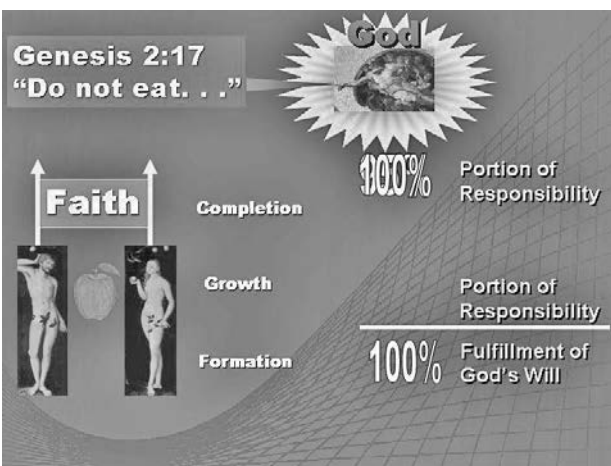


In this presentation we will examine the mission of Jesus. In most Christian theology, Jesus' mission is viewed strictly to be that of blood atonement for the sin of humanity. Therefore, the way of the cross is the singular, predestined from the "foundations of the world," purpose for his coming.



In our previous chapter, however, we discovered an important element in the manifestation of God's Will. God gave Israel a choice of Blessing or Curse contingent on faith or lack thereof. Despite this choice, God is not indifferent to which outcome he desires. Deuteronomy 30:19 makes it clear that God's Will is that they "choose life."

In Deuteronomy 29:24, God reveals that the curse in the law will only be invoked, not by His Will, but only if Israel were to relinquish faith in His Word. Ezekiel says that God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked.



The Chosen people must play a role in the accomplishment of God's Will. This is reflective of the dynamic that God had established with the first man and woman. Human responsibility is a key component in God's plan for humanity. It is the element that gives us the possibility to enter into a direct partnership with God, thereby inheriting his life, love and lineage.

Likewise, in God's Providence of Restoration, the providential people must fulfill a portion of responsibility in the completion of God's Will.



Thus the Jesus that begins his public ministry is not a Jesus that has resigned himself to the way of the cross at all. In fact, we can see that the possibility for faith, and therefore, the kingdom, is his initial focus and hope.

Mark 1:15  
Matthew 4:17  
John 8:28-29

Matthew 23:37



*"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing."*

The Purpose of the Messiah 

What is God's will? In this verse, Jesus establishes a clear distinction between what is his hope and expectations for the people compared to what the people wanted.

Gathering the people together "as a hen gathers her chicks" describes a dynamic community of faith that accepts Jesus as their king and messiah.

The people's will was to not enter into this relationship with Jesus and, instead, to reject him and crucify him


Which is God's will, then; Jesus' will or the people's will?

John 8:37-42

*I know you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word. I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father."*

*"Abraham is our father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do the things Abraham did. As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things.*


*You are doing the things your own father does." "We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself." Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me.*

The Purpose of the Messiah 

This verse shows that Jesus did not want the Chosen people to kill him. "Abraham would not do such things."

Clearly the children of Abraham "should do as Abraham did."

Matthew 21:35-37




*"The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said.*


This verse reveals God's motive and intention for sending his Son to Israel.

Jesus reviews the woeful history of Israel rejecting the prophets that God has sent. Finally, "he sent his son, saying 'surely they will respect my son.'"

The Kingdom was Meant to Unfold in Israel



- Matthew 21:43 *"Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.*
- Matthew 9:36-38 *When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."*

The Purpose of the Messiah 


Many say that it was not the providential time for the kingdom. . .the "fruits were not in their season." They say that Jesus must come for the kingdom at the end of the age, 2000 years later. However we can see that the kingdom was meant to unfold at the time of Jesus. When Jesus announced (Matt 21:43) that the kingdom would be given to another nation at a later time, he preceded this remark by indicating that "the kingdom of God will be "taken from you." This indicates that it had been theirs as was to be fulfilled at that time. Also, when Jesus said "the harvest is great. . .the laborers are few," he indicated it wasn't about timing. . .it was about a labor shortage (no workers)

The Kingdom was Meant to Unfold in Israel



**Matthew 10:5-6**  
 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.'"

**Matthew 15:24**  
 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

The Purpose of the Messiah 

Two times, Jesus stresses that he came "only" for the "lost sheep of the house of Israel." This is in keeping with the plan of God to "Bless" Israel and that Israel would be the head and not the tail. If Israel receives Jesus then the gentiles will come to Christ through the Jews, as per Zechariah 8:20-23 or Isaiah 49:6: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

It was the condition of faith or no faith of the blood descendants of Jacob that would determine the kingdom or the Cross.

The Kingdom was Meant to Unfold in Israel



**Luke 4:16-21**


*The men held up the scroll, gave it back to him, and all attended and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he rose began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing," proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

The Purpose of the Messiah 

Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah. "Unrolling it he found the place where it is written. . ." This shows that Jesus skipped over Isaiah 53 and it's imagery of the cross, in order to read Isaiah 61 and its imagery of the crown and a blessed people.

The Kingdom was Meant to Unfold in Israel

- **Matthew 23:13** "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to."
- **Luke 19:41-44** As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

The Purpose of the Messiah 

More evidence that the kingdom was meant to unfold in Israel at the time of Jesus:

**Matthew 23:13** In order for the gates "to be shut" they must be in the open position. The gates to the Kingdom of Heaven were open at that time.

**Luke 19:43-44** "If you had know what ON THIS DAY would bring you peace.

Isaiah 68:7-10

**The New Heaven and New Earth Comes to JERUSALEM, and if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, and if it does evil in As he approached, Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it, and said, "If you, seventy, hadibly known on this day what would bring you peace but now it is hidden from your eyes.**

The Purpose of the Messiah 

Jesus weeps over Jerusalem because the "intended good" that was to be done (Isa 65:17. . the new heaven and new earth) was reconsidered by God because the people did not recognize and respond to Christ.

Jesus's grief is genuine and fully justified. He is greiving over the loss of the kingdom in his lifetime and the coming prolongation of 2000 years.



We are illustrating that after two years of public ministry, Jesus' mission is at a pivotal moment. It is very similar to the pivotal moment at the time of Jeremiah and the turn toward the Babylonian exile. God had told Jeremiah that if Israel had repented "they could have remained in the land."



After two years of his ministry, Jesus finds himself in the same type of pivotal moment. For two years Jesus only spoke about the kingdom, calling for the repentance and belief of the Chosen people. However, after their faith was not forthcoming, "faith such as this, I have not found. . .no, not in Israel," in Matthew 16:21, Jesus announces FOR THE FIRST TIME his suffering to come.


The response of the disciples is very telling in Luke 18:34: "They did not know what he was talking about. . .it's meaning was hidden from them."



Thus as Jesus turns from the kingdom to the cross, from blessing to curse. . .we see also he begins to speak of a second coming of Christ in the future.

**From "Blessing" to "Curse"**

• Luke 23:28-31 *Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the barren wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' then they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on Luke 23:28-31 the hills,' 'Cover us!'"*


The Purpose of the Messiah 

As the providence turns from blessing to curse, kingdom to cross. . .likewise, we see that Israel's future is bleak. In fact, in 70 a.d., Jerusalem is sacked by the Romans and Israel is scattered until its reformation in 1948.

God had said in Deuteronomy 29:24 that such a catastrophe would only result from the faithlessness of the people, not as a manifestation of God's Will.

**Jesus and the Old Testament**

Luke 24:25-26 *He (Jesus) said to them, 'How foolish you are and how slow of heart you are to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not Christ have to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the scripture concerning himself.*

The Purpose of the Messiah 

What does the Old Testament say about the coming Christ and his mission. In Luke 24:25-26, the resurrected Jesus appears to be telling the disciples that the meaning of "all of the law and prophets" is that Christ's death was meant to be.

But, keep in mind, this was after his crucifixion. It was now a new beginning to a new 2000 year providence that would culminate in his return far into the future. He also told them "I am coming soon." This was said to encourage them because Jesus could see that his disciples were disheartened by the death of Jesus. . . ."we had HOPED that he was the one who was to redeem Israel," i.e. bring the kingdom.

**Jesus and the Old Testament**

Deut. 30:19

Jesus

Matthew 16:21

Deut. 29:24  
Eze. 33:11

Israel is Head  
Kingdom

Cross

Israel is Tail

if Faith

if no Faith


When we examine the first two years of Jesus' ministry, we can see that his view of the O.T. prophecy about his mission is entirely different than that after his resurrection (in John 24:25-26)

In the first two years of his ministry, Jesus highlights the prophecy that expresses God's primary will for Jesus to be received and established as king.

Dual prophecy reflects the contingency of blessing or curse depending on faith or no faith.


**Jesus and the Old Testament**

John 5:45-47 *But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?*


The Purpose of the Messiah 

Here Jesus states that belief in Moses can only result in belief in Jesus.

# Moses Wrote of Jesus



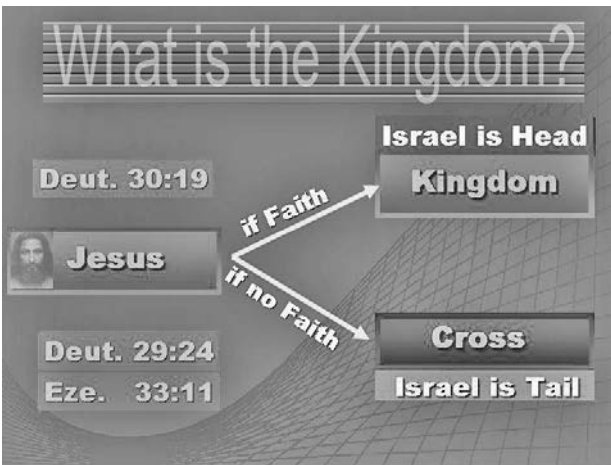
**Deuteronomy 18:15:**  
 He [The Lord your God] will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you."

The Purpose of the Messiah 

Here is how "Moses wrote of me."

Moses tells the people of Jesus' day to listen to him and receive him.

This is why Jesus said, "if you had listened to Moses, you WOULD have listened to me. . because he wrote of me."



What is the kingdom. . .how would Jesus have set it up had he been received and not rejected.


This is important. . .not to change the root of our faith. . which is the shed blood of Christ. . .Christ DID atone for our sin by his shed blood.

We need to know his original mission, not to change the root of our faith. . .but to understand the ultimate fruit. . .the mission for which Christ will return.

# Matthew 13:31-33

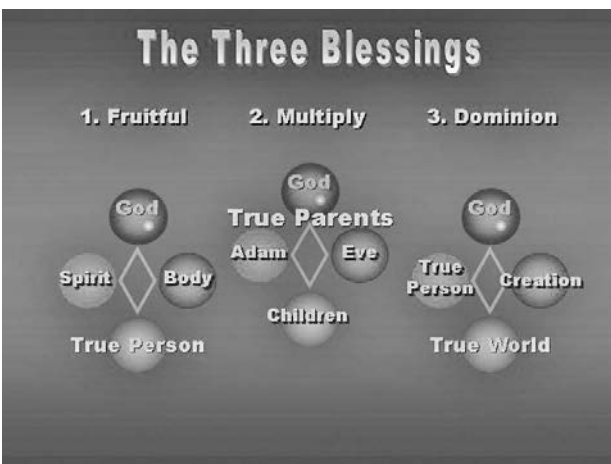
31 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. 32 Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

33 He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough."

The Purpose of the Messiah 

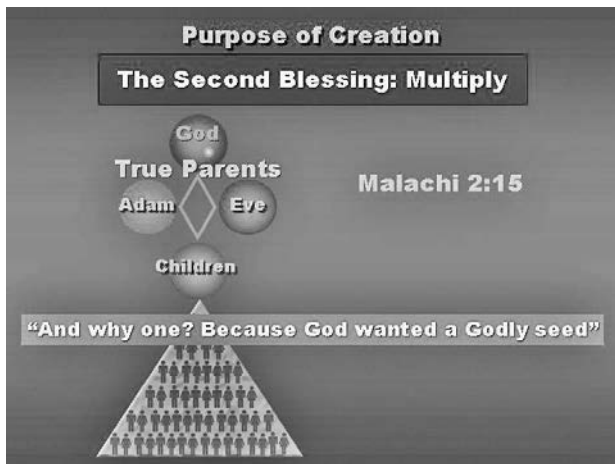
Jesus describes the kingdom in analogies involving growth and expansion. He is alluding to the multiplication of a "Godly seed." Malachi 2:15.

The kingdom is to be established through True Parents, a man and a woman,



In other words, the mission of the messiah is Adam's mission. To establish the three blessings. Therefore, Jesus was to take a bride and establish the position of True Parents.





God is seeking a “Godly seed” . . . a little bit of yeast placed in the dough. . . a mustard seed that became a tree with many branches.

**Psalm 45**

*9 Daughters of kings are among your honored women; at your right hand is the royal bride in gold of Ophir.*

*10 Listen, O daughter, consider and give ear; Forget your people and your father's house.*

*11 The king is enthralled by your beauty; honor him, for he is your lord.*

*16 Your sons will take the place of your fathers; you will make them princes throughout the land.*

*17 I will perpetuate your memory through all generations; therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.*

*The Purpose of the Messiah*

Scriptural evidence of the blessing of Christ and his bride.



The essential sorrow of God has always been that of the fall and the loss of His lineage.

This was Jesus sorrow in Gethsemene. He prayed for the cup of death to pass, not because he was reluctant to shed his blood. . . but because he knew that God’s lineage would have to be prolonged.

The cross of Jesus was not the just the sacrifice of one man, but was the sacrifice of God’s entire lineage. Jesus sacrifice much more on the cross than what we have ever known. That’s why we have not been able to comprehend his grief in the garden of Gethesemne.

