



# Light of Messiah Ministries

...Bringing Jesus to the Jewish People

Volume 26 Issue 2

SAVE THE DATES ISRAEL TOUR 2019, MAY 18th-28th!!



February 2018

## Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus Part 1

**A** lady recently called me with a heavy burden. Her burden is her Jewish friend, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer several months ago. **She desperately wants to talk to her friend about Jesus.** We've talked a few times before the last call. Each time I walk her through steps on communicating the message of Jesus to her Jewish friend. The last call seemed a bit more urgent.

**Her friend has uniquely Jewish objections to Jesus.** Hopefully through the conversations we are having this lady will make some break through.

I have given her tips, encouraging her to ask her friend questions about God and Messiah. I have also counseled her to ask her friend about her personal beliefs regarding the afterlife, heaven and hell, atonement and forgiveness.

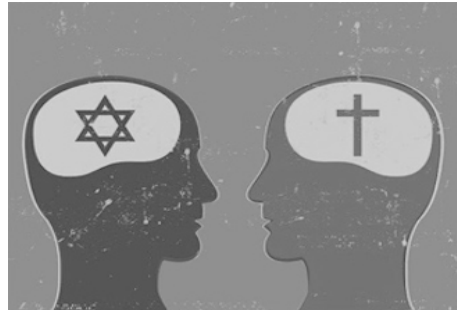
**The lady who called expressed her own concerns.**

She's afraid. Doesn't know what to say. Her Jewish friend is well educated and smart. **What if she loses the friendship?** My answer...God is not a God of fear. He will give you the right words to say. Your friend is dying, you have nothing to lose (she might not be here much longer) and everything to gain.

Finally and most importantly, at the end of the day **you need to know in your heart that you have done everything you can do to help her see Jesus.**

One of our jobs is helping others answer Jewish objections to Jesus. I'm often asked, "What exactly ARE those major objections?"

There are several general answers, biblical, historical, and cultural...



### Biblical

**There is a biblical explanation given for the general rejection of Jesus by the nation of Israel** (however of course national rejection does not equal individual Jewish rejection...many Jewish people have come to faith in Jesus during and since Jesus' day).

The reason is given to us in John chapter 12. There we are told that even after Jesus had done all of his miraculous signs "they still would not believe in him." "This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet..." (Isaiah 53).

**The prophet Isaiah foretold that there would be a general rejection of messiah Jesus by the nation of Israel. National rejection of Jesus as Messiah was foretold...prophesied.** The biblical reason for his rejection by the nation of Israel ultimately was the inclusion of the gentiles. It was a part of God's overall plan. Their rejection meant reconciliation for the world. (Romans 11)

### Historical

From a Jewish perspective, we have been persecuted in the name of Jesus for 2000 years. They might say that Jesus did the OPPOSITE of what the messiah was supposed to do. A religious Jewish person would say that contrary to the

job that the messiah was supposed to do, bring peace to the world and the end of war and hatred, countless Jewish people, and other people have been persecuted in the name of Jesus.

### Cultural

This objection is pretty simple and it goes like this. **Jewish people just can't and don't believe in Jesus. And if one does they cease to be Jewish.** They become a Christian and reject their religion which includes its history, culture, and traditions.

**My people approach Jesus with a negative commitment to him. In other words, Jesus has never been, is not, and will never be, the Jewish messiah.** When Jewish people approach the messianic prophecies in the Old Testament Jesus is automatically excluded as an answer.

**In this letter I am going to share with you an email that another friend of mine received from his Jewish friend posing some of the most common Jewish objections to Jesus.** I wrote an answer for my friend, who also happens to be like me, Jewish and a believer in Jesus. Being young in his faith he did not know how to answer the objections so I helped him. Next month I will share with you the response I wrote.

Both this month's letter and next month's letter are letters to help you understand my people and to use and **share with others who might have Jewish friends.**

Following is the email sent by a Jewish unbeliever to my Jewish believing friend (He, like many religious Jewish people do not write out God, preferring G-d out of respect...

*"The reason why Jews do not accept Je-*

*... as the messiah is straightforward: He did not meet the requirements in the job requisition! G-d outlined these requirements in the Bible. The key aspect of proof is in the state of the world.*

*According to the Bible, the greatest mission of the messiah includes returning the world to return to G-d and G-d's teachings; restoring the royal dynasty to the descendants of David; overseeing the rebuilding of Jerusalem, including the Temple; gathering the Jewish people from all over the world and bringing them home to the Land of Israel; reestablishing the Sanhedrin; restoring the sacrificial system, the Sabbatical year and Jubilee.*

*This simply has not happened. Judaism has no notion of the messiah not doing these things on the first visit, let alone needing a second visit to do these things. Whenever these things are described in the Tanach (note: Tanach is the name given by Jewish people to the Jewish scriptures, our Old Testament) the description says that the messiah will come and do these things—once.*

*According to Torah, the Messiah will:*

*Ezekiel 37:26-28: Build the Third Temple*

*Isaiah 43:5-6: Gather all Jews back to the Land of Israel*

*Isaiah 2:4: Usher in an era of world peace, and end all hatred, oppression, suffering and disease. "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall man learn war anymore."*

*Zechariah 14:9: Spread universal knowledge of the G-d of Israel - uniting the entire human race as one: "G-d will be King over all the world—on that day, G-d will be One and His Name will be One"*

*Jesus fulfilled none of these messianic prophecies. Additionally:*

*Jesus was not a prophet. Prophecy could only exist in Israel when the land is inhabited by a majority of world Jewry. During the time of Ezra (~300 BCE) the majority of Jews refused to move from Babylon to Israel, thus prophecy ended upon the death of the last prophets (Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi). Jesus appeared on the scene approximately 350 years after prophecy had ended.*



*Jesus was not descended from King David. Per Genesis 49:10 and Isaiah 11:1, the Messiah must be descended on his father's side from King David. However, according to the Christian claim that Jesus was the product of a virgin birth, he had no father -- and thus could not have possibly fulfilled the messianic requirement of being descended on his father's side from King David!*

*The Christian idea of a virgin birth is derived from a verse in Isaiah describing an "alma" as giving birth. The word "alma" has always meant a young woman, but Christian theologians came centuries later and translated it as "virgin." This accords Jesus' birth with the first century pagan idea of mortals being impregnated by G-ds.*

*Tradition teaches that the Messiah will lead the Jewish people to full Torah observance. Deut. 13:1-4 states that all mitzvahs (Old Testament commandments) remain binding forever, and anyone coming to change the Torah is immediately identified as a false prophet.*

*Throughout the New Testament, Jesus contradicts the Torah and states its commandments are no longer applicable. (John 1:45 and 9:16, Acts 3:22 and 7:37)*

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**Next month I will publish my response to this email.**

## Israel Tour May 18th-28th, 2019

**Were going back to Israel and would love you to join us for a tour of, in my opinion, the most amazing country in the world.** Words cannot communicate how one's understand of the scriptures is deepened by walking where it all happened. **As a Jewish believer in Jesus, and as a ministry engaged with the land and people on a regular basis, we will bring a unique perspective to the tour.**

We will be staying at a beautiful resort on the Sea of Galilee and at one of the nicest hotels in Jerusalem. Details will be on their way soon. Call us for info.

## Passover Banquet 2018

**The date for our ministry Passover seders is Friday night March 23rd at Fellowship Bible Church in Roswell, GA.** Our Passover seder is a very special night for our ministry and for our supporters.

**There is only space for 200 people.** Please use the enclosed flyer to make your reservations or you can make reservations online at [www.lightofmessiah.org](http://www.lightofmessiah.org).

## Thank You!!

Our ministry is here to encourage you to pray for the Jewish people and to help them hear the message of Jesus.

**As always, thank you for caring enough, and trusting us enough, to send us back to the Jewish people with the love of Messiah Jesus!**

In His service,

  
 Murray Tilles...for the staff  
 Light of Messiah Ministries

