

A JEWISH CRITIQUE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

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HOW DO WE KNOW IF SOMEONE IS A TRUE PROPHET?

Exodus 19:9 God said to Moses: Behold! I will come to you in a thick cloud and the people will hear as I speak to you. They will then believe in you forever... (cf. Exodus 14:31, Deuteronomy 4:9-12, 32-33; 34:10-12)

Deuteronomy 13:2-6 When a prophet or a person who has visions in a dream arises among you and produces a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder comes about of which he spoke to you saying: Let us follow other gods that you did not know and we shall worship them". Do not listen to the words to the words of that prophet or to that dreamer of dreams, for Hashem your God is testing you to know whether you love Hashem your God with all your heart and all your soul. Hashem your God shall you follow and Him you shall fear. His commandments you shall observe and to His voice you shall hearken. You shall serve Him and cleave to Him. And that prophet or dreamer of dreams shall be put to death for having spoken rebelliously against Hashem your God... (cf. Deuteronomy 18:20-22)

Deuteronomy 17:8-11 If a matter is hidden from you, in a case involving capital punishment, litigation, leprous marks – matters of dispute in your cities, then you shall rise up and go to the place that Hashem your God shall choose. You shall come to the Priests, the Levites and to the judge that exists at the time; and you shall inquire and they will tell you their legal decision. You shall do according to the word that they will tell you, from the place that Hashem will choose, and you shall be careful to do according to everything that they shall teach you. According to the teaching that they shall teach you and according to the judgment that they will tell you do not stray right or left. (cf. II Chronicles 19:5-10)

TORAH LAW AND COMMANDMENTS

NEW TESTAMENT VIEW ON WHY ABRAHAM WAS CHOSEN

Even so, "*Abraham believed God and it was reckoned to him as righteousness*". Therefore, to be sure that it is to those who are of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham saying, "*All the nations shall be blessed in you*". So, then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham the believer. For as many as are of the works of the Law (Torah) are under a curse... (Galatians 3:6-10. cf. Romans 4:1-6)

TORAH VIEW OF WHY ABRAHAM WAS CHOSEN

For I have chosen him in order that he may command his children and his household after him *to keep the way of the L-rd by doing righteousness and justice*, in order that the L-rd may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him. (Genesis 18:19) And in your seed all the nations of earth shall be blessed, *because you have obeyed My voice.*" (Genesis 22:18)

And I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendant all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; *because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws.* (Genesis 26:4-5)

And it will be righteousness for us if we are careful to observe all these commandments before the Lord our God, just as He commanded us. (Deuteronomy 6:25) If he walks in My statutes and my ordinances so as to deal faithfully – he is righteous and will surely live, says the Lord God." (Ezekiel 18:9 cf. Deuteronomy 24:13 and Psalm 106:30-31)

Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the people, for all the earth is mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel... (Exodus 19:5-6)

See, I have taught you statutes and judgments just as the L-rd my God commanded me, that you should do this in the land where you are entering to possess it. So, keep and do them, for they are your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say: 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what great nation is there that has a God so near to it as is the Lord our God whenever we call on Him? Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole Torah which I am setting before you today? (Deuteronomy 4:5-8)

Know, therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments. You shall therefore keep the commandments and the statutes, and the judgments that I command you this day to do them.

And, it shall come to pass, if you hearken to these judgments and keep them and do them, then the Lord your God shall keep to you the covenant and the mercy that He swore to your fathers. (Deuteronomy 7:9, 11-12 – also see Daniel 9:4)

This day the Lord your God has commanded you to do these statutes and judgments; you shall therefore keep and do them with all your heart; and with all your soul. You have avouched the Lord this day to be your God, and to walk in His ways, and to keep His statutes, and His commandments, and His judgments, and to hearken to His voice. And

the Lord has avouched to you this day to be His peculiar people, as He has promised you, and that you should keep all of His commandments. And to make you high above the nations that He has made, in praise and in name, and in honor; and that you may be a holy people unto the Lord your God, as He has spoken. (Deuteronomy 26:16-19)

And it shall come to pass, if you will hearken diligently to the voice of the Lord your God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command you this day, then the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. The Lord your God will establish you as a holy people to Himself, as He swore to you, if you will keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and walk in His ways.” (Deuteronomy 28:1, 9)

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him and His righteousness to children’s children. To such as keep His covenant, and to those that remember His commandments to do them.” (Psalms 103:17-18)

But this is what I commanded them, saying: ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you will be My people; and you will walk in all the way which I command You, that it may be well with you.” (Jeremiah 7:23)

NEW TESTAMENT VIEW ON OBLIGATION TO OBSERVE TORAH

And they are informed of you (Paul) that you teach all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs. (Acts 21:21 cf. verses 27-28)

Therefore, we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the Law. (Romans 3:28)

You are not under the Law, but under grace. For the law of the spirit of life in Messiah Jesus has made me free from the Law of sin and death. (Romans 8:2)

For Messiah is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone that believes. (Romans 10:4)

Wherefore the Law was our schoolmaster to bring us to the Messiah, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. (Galatians 3:24-26)

Stand fast therefore in the liberty with which Messiah has made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Behold, I, Paul, say to you, that if you be circumcised, Messiah shall benefit you nothing. (Galatians 5:1-2)

For he is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility; by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances ... (Ephesians 2:14-15)

When he said a new covenant, he has made the first one old. Now that which decays and waxes old is ready to vanish away. (Hebrews 8:13)

THE ETERNAL OBLIGATION TO OBSERVE TORAH IN THE TANACH

So you shall keep His statutes and His commandments which I am giving you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may live long on the land which the Lord your God is giving you *for all time*. (Deut. 4:40)
You shall therefore love the Lord your God, and *always* keep His charge, His statutes, His ordinances, and His commandments. (Deut. 11:1)

These are the statutes and the judgments which you shall carefully observe in the land which the Lord, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess *as long as you live on the earth*. (Deut. 12:1)

Be careful to listen to all these words which I command you, in order that it may be well with you and your sons after you *forever*, for you will be doing what is good and right in the sight of the Lord your God. (Deut. 12:28)

The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons *forever*, that we may observe all the words of this Torah (Law). (Deut.29:29)

And the statutes and the ordinances and the law and the commandment, which He wrote for you, you shall observe to do *forever*; and you shall not fear other gods. (II Kings 17:37)

The works of His hands are verity and judgment; all His commandments are sure. They stand fast *forever and ever*, and are done in truth and uprightness. He sent redemption to His people: He has commanded His covenant *forever*. Holy and revered is His name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all they that do His commandments; His praise endures forever. (Psalms 111:7-10)

Concerning Your testimonies, I have known of old that You have founded them *forever*...The sum of Your words is truth; and everyone of Your righteous ordinances endures *forever*. (Psalms 119: 152, 160)

NEW TESTAMENT ON THE VALUE OF THE TORAH COMMANDMENTS

The Messiah redeemed us from the curse of the Law. (Galatians 3:13)

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that were against us, which were contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to a cross. (Colossians 2:14)

...how turn you again to the weak and worthless elements to which you desire to be enslaved to all over again? (Galatians 4:9)

Who also has made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter kills, but the spirit gives life. But if the ministry of death written and engraved on stone... (2 Corinthians 3:6-7)

For there is an annulling of the commandments going before because of their weakness and uselessness. For the Law made nothing perfect, but the bringing of a better hope did... (Hebrews 7:18-19)

You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors... (I Peter 1:16)

TANACH'S VIEW OF THE COMMANDMENTS:

And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require from you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, and love Him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. And to keep the Lord's commandments and His statutes ***which I am commanding you today for your good.*** (Deut. 10:12-13)

Only be strong and of good courage, that you may observe to do according to the Torah which Moses, My servant commanded you: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left hand, ***that you may prosper wherever you go.*** This book of the Torah (Law) shall not depart out of your mouth; but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein; ***for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.*** (Joshua 1:7-8)

And keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, and His commandments, and His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Torah (Law) of Moses, ***that you may prosper in all that you do,*** and wherever you turn your self. (I Kings 2:3)

Then You did come down on Mt. Sinai and did speak with them from heaven; You did give to them **just ordinances and laws, good statutes and commandments.** (Nehemiah 9:13)

I have not departed from the command of His lips; I have **treasured** the words of His mouth more than my necessary food. (Job 23:12)

How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers. But his **delight** is in the Law of the Lord, and in His Law he meditates day and night. (Psalms 1:1-2. See also Psalms 25:10, 103:17-18, 112:1-4)

The Torah (Law) of the Lord is **perfect, restoring the soul**; The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, **rejoicing the heart**, the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the Lord are true, they are righteous altogether. They are **more desirable than gold**, yes, than much fine gold. **Sweeter also than honey** and the drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them Your servant is warned; **in keeping them there is great reward**. (Psalms 19:7-11)

Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained, but **happy is he who keeps the Torah** (Law). (Proverbs 29:18. See also Proverbs 10:8)

PSALM 119

Psalms 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible, with 176 verses. The entire focus of this magnificent chapter is an appreciation of the beauty and greatness of the Torah and its commandments.

Praiseworthy are those whose way is perfect, who walk with the Torah of the Lord. Praiseworthy are those who keep His testimonies, they seek Him wholeheartedly. (Ps 119:1-2)

I rejoined in the way of Your testimonies as much as in all riches. (Psalm 119:14)

Lead me on the path of Your commandments, for that is my desire. (Psalm 119:35)

I will be preoccupied with Your commandments that I love. And I will lift up my hands to Your commandments which I love and I will discuss Your statutes. (Psalm 119:47-48)

Your statutes were music to me in my dwelling place. (Psalm 119:54)

At midnight I rise to thank You for Your righteous ordinances. (Psalm 119:62)

The Torah of Your mouth is better for me than thousands of gold and silver. (Psalm 119:72)

Had Your Torah not been my preoccupation, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget Your precepts, for through them You have preserved me. (Psalm 119:92-93)

Oh how I love Your Torah – all day long it is my conversation. (Psalm 119:97)

How sweet to my palate is Your word, more than honey to my mouth. (Psalm 119:103)

I have taken Your testimonies as my eternal heritage, for they are the joy of my heart.
(Psalm 119:111)

I opened my mouth and swallowed deeply, because I crave for Your commandments.
(Psalm 119:131)

Salvation is far from the wicked, for they have not sought not Your statutes. (Psalm 119:155)

There is abundant peace to the lovers of Your Torah, and there is no stumbling block for them. (Psalm 119:165)

WHO IS GOD?

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God and the word was God...
And the word became flesh and dwelt among us... (John 1:1 and 14)

He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God...For by him all things were created, both
in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or
rulers or authorities – all things have been created by him and for him. And he's
before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:15-17)

For in him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form. (Colossians 2:9)

Looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and
savior, Jesus the Messiah. (Titus 2:13)

And by common confession great is the mystery of Godliness: He who was revealed
in the flesh... (I Timothy 3:16)

IS THE MESSIAH DIVINE IN THE TANACH?

...for no human can see Me and live. (Exodus 33:20)

God is not a man that He should be deceitful, nor a son of man that He should change
His mind...(Numbers 23:19; cf. I Samuel 15:29)

Hashem spoke to you from the midst of the fire; you were hearing the sound of words,
but you were not seeing any likeness, only a sound...But you shall greatly beware for
your souls, for you did not see any likeness on the day Hashem spoke to you at Horeb,
from the midst of the fire. Lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved
image, a likeness of any shape, a form of a male or a female...(Deuteronomy 4:12-16)
You have been shown in order to know that Hashem, He is God! There is none beside
Him! (Deuteronomy 4:35)

To whom can you liken God, and what likeness can you attribute to Him? (Isaiah 40:18)

I am Hashem, that is My Name; I shall not give My glory to another, nor My praise to graven idols. (Isaiah 42:8)

I am Hashem and there is no other; other than Me there is no God...know that there is nothing besides Me; I am Hashem, and there is no other. (Isaiah 45:5-6)

...For I am God and not a man... (Hoseah 11:9)

Then a shoot will come from the stem of Jesse and a branch from his roots will bear fruit. And the spirit of Hashem will rest upon him, a spirit of counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and the fear of Hashem. And he will be imbued with a spirit of fear for Hashem... (Isaiah 11:1-3)

Afterward, the children of Israel will return and seek out Hashem their God and David their king; and they will tremble for Hashem and for His goodness in the end of days. (Hoseah 3:5)

But they shall serve Hashem their God, and David their king, who I shall raise up for them. (Jeremiah 30:9)

My servant David shall be king over them and they shall all have one shepherd. They shall follow My commandments and be careful to observe My statutes. They shall live in the land that I gave to My servant Jacob in which your fathers dwelled; they and their children and their children's children will dwell on it forever; and My servant David will be a leader for them forever. I will seal a covenant of peace with them, it will be an eternal covenant with them; and I will emplace them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary among them forever. My dwelling place will be among them, I will be a God to them and they will be a people to Me. Then the nations will know that I am Hashem Who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary will be among them forever. (Ezekiel 37:24-28)

THE MESSIAH

IN THE TANACH:

Hundreds of passages describe a future utopian world where:

1. The Jewish people will turn to God in national repentance and embrace Torah
2. Jewish people will be gathered and reunited in their ancestral homeland
3. They will live there in peace
4. The Holy Temple in Jerusalem will be rebuilt and in full use
5. The nations of the world will turn to Israel for spiritual guidance
6. The nations of the world will all come to a knowledge of God
7. Peace will spread throughout the entire world

Several passages describe a descendant of King David who will be wise and righteous and rule as the King of Israel during this utopian age. (Isaiah 11: 1-12; Jeremiah 23:5-6, 30:7-11, 33:14-17; Ezekiel 34:23-30, 37:24-28; Hosea 3:4-5; Zechariah 9:9-10). This person is the Biblical Messiah.

THE NEW TESTAMENT ON THE ROLE OF THE MESSIAH

And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)

For I delivered to your first what I received, how the Messiah died for our sins according to the scriptures. (I Corinthians 15:3)

The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said: Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (John 1:29)

And he himself bore our sins in his body on the cross that we might die to sin and live to righteousness...(I Peter 2:24, cf. I Peter 1:19-20, Romans 3:21-26)

He himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. (I John 2:2)

ATONEMENT FOR SIN:

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

And according to the Torah, almost all things are cleansed by blood. And without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. (Hebrews 9:22)

FORGIVENESS OF SIN IN THE TANACH:

Now you, Son of Man, say to the House of Israel: Thus you have spoken, saying, Since our sins and our iniquities are upon us and we are wasting away because of them, how can we live? Say to them: As I live – the word of the Lord Hashem – that I do not desire the death of the wicked one, but rather that the wicked one turn from his way that he may live. Repent, repent from your evil ways! Why should you die, O House of Israel? (Ezekiel 33:10-11)

If my people who are called by My Name humble themselves, pray, seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways – then I will hear from heaven and forgive their sin and heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

But if the wicked turns away from all their sins that they have committed and keep all My statutes and do what is lawful and right, they shall surely live, they shall not die. None of the transgressions that they have committed will be remembered against them, for by the righteousness they have done they shall live. Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord God, and not rather that they should turn from their ways and live? (Ezekiel 18:21-23. cf. 33:14-16)

It may be that when the house of Judah hears all the disasters that I intend to do to them – all of them may turn from their evil ways so that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin. (Jeremiah 36:3)

Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that He may have mercy on them – to our God that He will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:6-7)

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God relented concerning the evil that He said He would bring upon them and He did not do it. (Jonah 3:10)

THE NATURE OF MAN:

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. As it is written: *There is none righteous, no, not one. There is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; they have all together become unprofitable; there is no one who does good, no, not one.* (Romans 3:10-12)

I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness could come through the Law, then the Messiah died in vain. (Galatians 2:21)

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Messiah, who is the exact likeness of God. (2 Corinthians 4:4)

THE NATURE OF MAN: IN THE TANACH:

And Hashem said to Cain: Why are you angry and why are you despondent? Surely, if you improve, you will be forgiven. But if you do not improve yourself, sin will lay at the door. It's desire will be toward you, but you can conquer it. (Genesis 4:6-7)

These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, perfect in his generation, and Noah walked with God. (Genesis 6:9. cf. 7:1)

There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright and one that feared God and turned from evil. (Job 1:1)

...and you have not been as My servant David, who kept My commandments and followed after Me with all his heart, to do only what was right in My eyes. (I Kings 14:8) Because David did that which was right in the eyes of Hashem, and turned not aside from anything that He commanded him all the days of his life, except for the matter of Uriah the Hittite. (I Kings 15:5)

Seven times the righteous person will fall, and they will rise; but the wicked ones will stumble through evil. (Proverbs 24:16)

Indeed, there is not a righteous person on earth who continually does good and who never sins. (Ecclesiastes 7:20)

You that love Hashem hate evil; He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hands of the wicked. Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart. Rejoice in Hashem you righteous, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness. (Psalm 97:10-12)

OTHER PROBLEMS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

(1) And Joseph sent word and invited Jacob his father and all his relatives to come to him, seventy-five persons in all. And Jacob went down to Egypt and there passed away, he and our fathers. And from there they were taken to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham had purchased for a sum of money from the sons of Hamor in Shechem. (Acts 7:14-16)

- Seventy people went down to Egypt, not seventy-five (Genesis 46:27, Exodus 1:5, Deuteronomy 10:22)
- The cave purchased by Abraham was in Hebron, not in Shechem (Genesis 23:19)
- The cave purchased by Abraham was from Ephron the Hittite, not from Hamor (Genesis 23:17, 50:13)

(2) You who received the Law as ordained by angels and yet did not keep it. (Acts 7:53) Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels, by the agency of a mediator, until the seed should come to whom the promise was made. (Galatians 3:19)

For the word, spoken through angels, proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense. (Hebrews 2:2)

- The Torah was revealed directly by God to Moses and not via angels (Exodus 20:1-22, Deuteronomy 4:9-13, 32-36; 5:4-24)

(3) Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and 23,000 fell on one day. (I Corinthians 10:8)

- 24,000 people died in the plague (Numbers 25:9)

(4) Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He does not say, “and to seeds” as to many, but as of one, “and to your seed” that is, Messiah. (Galatians 3:16)

- For all the land that you see, I will give to you and to your seed forever. And I will make your seed as the dust of the earth, so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your seed can also be numbered. (Genesis 13:15-16)

- This is My covenant that you shall keep, between Me and your seed after you; every male among you shall be circumcised. (Genesis 17:10)

- Indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand that is upon the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice. (Genesis 22:17-18)

(5) And thus all of Israel will be saved, just as it is written: *The deliverer will come out of Zion, He will remove ungodliness from Jacob. And this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins*”. (Romans 11:26-27)

- A redeemer will come to Zion, and to those of Jacob who turn from sin – the word of Hashem. And as for me, this is My covenant with them, said Hashem, My spirit which is upon you and My words that I have placed in your mouth will not be withdrawn from your mouth nor from the mouth of your offspring nor from the mouth of your offspring’s offspring, said Hashem, from this moment and forever. (Isaiah 59:20-21)

(6) Now, all this took place that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying: *Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel*” which translated means, God with us. (Matthew 1:22-23)

- Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the young woman is pregnant and will bear a son, and she will name him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

(7) Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The spirit who dwells in us yearns jealousy”? (James 4:5)

(8) Therefore, when he came into the world he said: *Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body you have prepared for me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.* (Hebrews 10:5-6)

• Neither feast-offering nor meal-offering did You desire, but You opened my ears; burnt-offering and sin-offering You did not request. (Psalm 40:7)

(9) Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith. (2 Timothy 3:8)

(10) And he was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when he opened the book, he found the place where it was written: *The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.* (Luke 4:17-19)

• The spirit of my Lord, Hashem, is upon me, because Hashem has anointed me to bring tidings to the humbled; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from bondage for the imprisoned. To proclaim a year of favor to Hashem and a day of vengeance for our God, to comfort all mourners. To bring about for the mourners of Zion to give them splendor instead of ashes and oil of joy instead of mourning ... (Isaiah 61:1-3)

(11) He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said: *Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.* (John 7:38)

(12) Then Judas, his betrayer, seeing that he had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the 30 pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, I have sinned by betraying innocent blood. And they said: What is it to us, see to it yourself. Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the Temple and departed and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury because they are the price of blood. And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore, that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet saying, *“And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me.”* (Matthew 27:3-10)

• I said to them: If it is proper in your eyes, give Me My fee, and if not, refrain. So they weighed out My fee: thirty silver coins. Hashem said to me: Throw it to the treasurer of the Precious Stronghold which I have divested from them. So I took thirty silver coins and I threw it into the Temple of Hashem to the treasurer. (Zechariah 11:12-13)

- My cousin Hanamel came to me, according to the word of Hashem, to the Courtyard of Confinement, and he said to me: Please buy for yourself my field that is in Anathoth, that is in the territory of Benjamin, for yours is the law of inheritance and yours is redemption; buy it for yourself. And I knew that it was the word of Hashem. So I bought the field that was in Anathoth from Hanamel, my cousin. I weighed out the money for him: seven shekels and ten silver pieces. (Jeremiah 32: 6-9)

(13) And again Isaiah says: *There shall be a root of Jesse; And he who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, in him the Gentiles shall hope.* (Romans 15:12)

- A staff will emerge from the stump of Jesse and a shoot will sprout from his roots ... It shall be on that day that the descendant of Jesse who stands as a banner for the peoples, nations shall seek him, and his resting place will be glorious. (Isaiah 11:1, 10)

(14) Therefore he says: *Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, and Messiah will give you light.* (Ephesians 5:14)

- May your dead come to life, may my corpses arise. *Awake* and shout for joy, you who rest in the dirt! For Your dew is like the dew of vegetation. May You topple the lifeless to the ground. (Isaiah 26:19)

(15) For the scripture says: *Whoever believes in him will be put to shame.* (Romans 10:11)

- Therefore, thus says the Lord God: I am going to lay a stone for a foundation in Zion; a sturdy stone, a precious cornerstone, a secure foundation. The believer should not expect it soon. (Isaiah 28:16)

(16) For the Messiah is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness, which is of the Law, *“The man who does those things shall live by them”*. But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, *Do not say in your heart: Who will ascend into heaven?* (that is, to bring Messiah down from above) or, *Who will descend into the abyss?* (that is, to bring Messiah up from the dead). But what does it say? *“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”* (that is, the word of faith which we preach). (Romans 10:4-8)

- You shall return and listen to the voice of Hashem, and perform all His commandments that I command you today. Hashem will make you abundant in all your handiwork – in the fruit of your womb, the fruit of your animals, and the fruit of your land – for good, when Hashem will return to rejoice over you for good, as He rejoiced over your forefathers. When you listen to the voice of Hashem, your God, to observe His commandments and His decrees that are written in the Book of the Torah, when you shall return to Hashem, your God, with all your heart and all your soul.

For this commandment that I command you today – it is not hidden from you and not distant. It is not in heaven, to say: Who can ascend to the heaven for us and take it for us, so that we can listen to it and perform it? Nor is it across the sea, to say: Who can cross to the other side of the sea for us and take it for us so that we can listen to it and perform it? Rather, the matter is very near to you – in your mouth and in your heart – to perform it. (Deuteronomy 30:8-14)

(17) And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. (Matthew 23:35)

You are of your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. (John 8:44. cf. Revelation 2:9; 3:9).

You suffered from your own countrymen the same things those churches suffered from the Jews, who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out. They displease God and are hostile to all men in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved. In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The wrath of God has come upon them at last. (I Thessalonians 2:14-16)

You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him. (Acts 7:51-52)

For there are many rebellious people, full of meaningless talk and deception, especially those of the circumcision group. They must be silenced, because they are disrupting whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach—and that for the sake of dishonest gain. (Titus 1:10-11)

(18) And as you go, preach, saying : The kingdom of heaven is at hand. (Matthew 10:7) And he was saying to them: Truly, I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power. (Mark 9:1) And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. (Romans 16:20) You too be patient, strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand (James 5:8) And he said to me: Do not seal up the words of the prophesy of this book, for the time is near. (Revelation 22:10) Behold, I am coming quickly... (Revelation 22:12)

(19) “Only 400 of the 150,000 variant readings caused any doubt about the textual meaning, and only 50 of these were of great significance.” (Josh McDowell, “Evidence that Demands a Verdict”, page 267)