

January 19, 2025

Messianic Fulfillment Part 2

The Old Testament makes no sense apart from the new and the New makes no sense apart from the Old. Israel, God's people, have a long history of turning from God. They are waiting for all the promises to Abraham to be fulfilled. They await a savior. THEN "unto us a child is born" and he is named Jesus- which is another form of the name Joshua. Which means: God saves. Jesus is born. Not only is he a cute little human baby, but he is also GOD. An angel appeared to Mary to tell her she was going to have Jesus. Jesus taught people and HEALED people! Jesus began his public ministry at age 30 and it was just for 3 short years. He was challenging the way people did things. He was showing people that loving others and caring for others is more important than any "law". Jesus was showing us how to LIVE. The Jewish leaders felt threatened and they did not like it. As a result, they worked to have him killed.

WATCH: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkOZYIFY0I>

LESSON ON THE EUCHARIST

We've been talking about the prophecies in the OT that pointed to Jesus. We also have been talking about how Jesus is the fulfillment of everything in the OT. This is confusing even though we've just taken a birds eye view of the entire OT. I want to help you recall some things we learned and then I'll show you how they tie to Jesus.

The Eucharist

Exodus- a lot happened when the Israelites were in Egypt and in the desert that affected the story going forward. While in Egypt they really fell away from God as they were influenced by the Egyptians way of life and their deities and false gods. So when they had the Passover- this was huge.

What did they do?

The household priest would sacrifice an UNBLEMISHED LAMB. They smeared the lamb's blood on the door post. The Passover was something they were to celebrate every year. This was to remind them that God saved them from slavery AND to renew their covenant with God.

When they got into the desert at Mt Sinai, God renewed the covenant with them and they celebrated Passover again. WE talked about how a covenant is made between 2 people who are not blood related. The covenant in essence is making them blood related so they sacrifice an animal and its blood is shed. Moses sprinkled the animal's blood on the people and on the altar, signifying that they are now family. After the sacrifice, they eat the meal together. They place the burnt offering of meat on the altar for God and the people eat it as well. This was a sharing in the meal and covenant with God.

God also fed them everyday w/ bread from heaven called **manna**. It literally appeared on the ground each day for them to eat. He fed them.

When Moses went onto the mountain, God gave him the 10 commandments. Later, after they worshipped the calf and things went south- they had to renew the covenant again and God had them make the tabernacle & Ark of the Covenant. Inside the ark were kept the 10 commandments, some manna and Aaron's staff. The 10 commandments symbolize God's law, the manna symbolizes the food from heaven that God gave them and the staff of Aaron symbolizing God's leadership. God's presence dwelt in the ark of the covenant.

God had them create a tent, tabernacle and ark. The purpose of the tabernacle is to perpetuate God's presence on Mt Sinai w God's people wherever they went; the veil that separated the holy place.

Going forward, priests would sacrifice for sin offering- families would offer up a spotless lamb or something less costly if they were poor, the priests would sacrifice this in the temple to make up for their sin and renew their relationship w/ God

NOW JESUS!

Jesus fulfills all of it. This was an imperfect sacrifice and Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice. Jesus is the spotless lamb of God that takes away our sins. Jesus' death on the cross replaces the need for any more sin offerings.

He was crucified on Passover at the exact time that the lambs were being slaughtered for Passover. Jesus' crucifixion is Jesus BEING the new lamb, the sacrificial lamb, the lamb of God that is the everlasting payment for our sin

MASS- the last supper that Jesus celebrated before he died was the Passover meal. It was also the first Mass. It was there that he changed the bread and wine into his body and blood.

Remember- In a covenant, the people were sprinkled w/ blood and blood was placed on the altar and then they ate the sacrifice together- We are in a covenant w/ God. The Mass we are renewing that covenant, we are in that covenant. The sacrifice happens on the altar, the same one that took place 2000 yrs ago. We are there. Jesus' blood is poured out and we share in the sacrificed meal with God, that meal is Jesus' body and blood in the Eucharist. We are made one w/ God

Today we have a TABERNACLE in the church and Inside the tabernacle is the bread of life, is the Eucharist. Jesus also is the fulfillment of the law and he is the ruler

When Jesus died on the cross, the veil of in the holy of holies that separated the holy of holies where the ark of the covenant was kept, was torn in half. This signifies that Jesus removes the separation between God and us because Jesus is God and Jesus became man.

WATCH: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2Mnsxj2N7Y>

RESURRECTION (video)

Without the Resurrection, we would have no hope. Jesus died, went down to hell and defeated death forever and brought w/ him those who had died into heaven.

Adam and Eve's original sin resulted in the death of mankind. The separation from mankind and God. A broken relationship. Abraham, Moses, David, Israel- all failed to repair that relationship- so God had to repair it himself.

Jesus allowed himself to die. The punishment for sin is death but Jesus never sinned yet he took our punishment on himself and died. But God CANT die. His ultimate sacrifice paid the price for our sins and opened the gates to Heaven. He rose from the dead.

Walk to Emmaus- In the creation story, in the garden God used to walk w/ Adam and eve in the garden. When they ate the fruit, they sinned, their eyes were open and they felt shame. In the road to Emmau Jesus walked with this new couple and opened the scriptures to them, their eyes were prevented from recognizing him but when they ate the meal of the eucharist, their eyes were open and they recognized Jesus in the eucharist. It's a new creation and the relationship between God and man is restored.

ASCENSION- Jesus prepares them to keep working and bringing the kingdom of God on earth and he will send them a helper. Jesus ascended into Heaven. He told them to go out and make disciples, tell people about him, tell people the message of the bible and the scriptures. And that's what they did. That's what each of us is called to do. Jesus didn't just leave us. Firstly, he gave us the EUCHARIST and the Sacraments. The eucharist is Jesus' body and blood. Like God gave the Israelites bread from Heaven, or Manna, to keep them alive in the desert, Jesus gives us spiritual bread from Heaven, his body and blood, to give us his very LIFE while here on earth.

Jesus also sent his Holy Spirit.