



Christ in the Old Testament

"I was before Abraham"

Introductory Reading: Acts 17:23-34

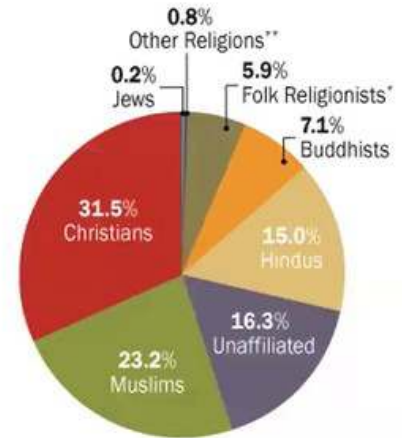
Christianity

- “Christians therefore read the Old Testament in the light of Christ crucified and risen. Such typological reading discloses the inexhaustible content of the Old Testament.” *Catholic Catechism*
- “The Old Testament is not to be despised, as some do, who say it is antiquated and no longer binding. For it is the Word of God, which remains forever.” *Martin Luther*
- “The Old Testament is the preparation for Christ; the New Testament is the fulfillment in Christ. You cannot fully understand the New Testament without the Old.” *Billy Graham*



Size of Major Religious Groups, 2010

Percentage of the global population



*Includes followers of African traditional religions, Chinese folk religions, Native American religions and Australian aboriginal religions.

**Includes Baha'is, Jains, Sikhs, Shintoists, Taoists, followers of Tenrikyo, Wiccans, Zoroastrians and many other faiths.

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life •
Global Religious Landscape, December 2012

Call To Action!



Act 17:24 **God that made the world and all things therein**, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

Act 17:30-31 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; **but now commandeth all men every where to repent**: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead

God's Message Has been Revealed



Act 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the **kingdom of God**, and the **name of Jesus Christ**, they were baptized, both men and women

- Gospel preached
- Message understood
- Response expected



**They have turned the world
upside down!**

Victoria Christadelph...

1st Century Expectations

Luk 3:15 And as the people were in expectation, and **all men mused** in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not;



Even the Leaders



John

Joh 1:19-20 And this is the record of John, when the **Jews sent priests and Levites** from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Chris

Jesus

Joh 10:24 Then came **the Jews** round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.

The Old Testament Spoke of Jesus



Joh 7:52 They answered and said unto him,
Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look:
for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet.

Joh 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye
think ye have eternal life: and **they are they**
which testify of me.

The Salvation Spoken of by the Prophets



1Pet 1:10-16 Of which salvation the **prophets have enquired and searched diligently**, who prophesied of **the grace** that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of **time the Spirit of Christ** which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the **sufferings of Christ**, and **the glory** that should follow. Unto whom it was **revealed**, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached **the gospel** unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the **angels desire to look into**. Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for **the grace** that is to be brought unto you at the **revelation** of **Jesus Christ**; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Jesus is The Messiah They Looked For



Mat 13:17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things **which ye see**, and have not seen them; and to hear those things **which ye hear**, and have not heard them.

Luk 10:24 For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things **which ye see**, and have not seen them; and to hear those things **which ye hear**, and have not heard them.

Their Response to Scripture Being Fulfilled



Act 10:39-43 And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom **they slew and hanged on a tree**: Him God **raised up the third day**, and **shewed him openly**; Not to all the people, but **unto witnesses chosen before of God**, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

The Promised Messiah



Gen 3:14-15 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between **thy seed** and **her seed**; it shall **bruise thy head**, and thou shalt **bruise his heel**.

How the Promises Would be Fulfilled



Gen 12:2-3 And **I will make of thee a great nation**, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and **in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed**.

Gen 15:4,6 And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but **he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir**. And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

A Miraculous Birth



Gen 17:16 And I will bless her, and **give thee a son also of her**; yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

Isa 7:14-15 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a **virgin shall conceive, and bear a son**, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

A Prophet, A King



Act 3:22-23 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, **A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren**, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

2Sam 7:12-14 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and **I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son.**

A Priest, Born in Bethlehem



Psa 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art **a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek**

Mic 5:2 But thou, **Bethlehem** Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet **out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel**; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

The Messiah would bring World Peace



Isa 2:1-4 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And **he** shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Messianic Foreshadowing



Joh 3:14-17 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the **Son of man be lifted up**: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

1Cor 10:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for **they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.**

Of Whom Speaketh the Prophet?



Act 8:27-37 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, -- Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, **How can I, except some man should guide me?** And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. -- The place of the scripture which he read was this, **He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.** And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of **whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?** Then Philip opened his mouth, and **began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.** And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; **what doth hinder me to be baptized?**

They Knew Him Not



Dan 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem **unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks**, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

Act 13:27-29 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, **because they knew him not**, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him. And though they found no cause of death in him, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain. And **when they had fulfilled all that was written of him**, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre.

He Must Suffer First



Luk 24:25-32 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: **Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?** And **beginning at Moses and all the prophets**, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures **the things concerning himself**. And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, **he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened**, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures

He Must Suffer First



Luk 24:44-48 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, **that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.** Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus **it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:** And **that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.** And ye are witnesses of these things.

The Messiah Would be Undesirable



Isa 53:1-3 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: **he hath no form nor comeliness**; and **when we shall see him**, there is **no beauty that we should desire him**. He is **despised and rejected of men**; a **man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief**: and **we hid as it were our faces from him**; **he was despised**, and **we esteemed him not**.

He Was Before Abraham He Is the Promised Messiah



Joh 8:56-58 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I am**

Gal 3:8-9 And **the scripture**, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, **preached before the gospel unto Abraham**, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.