

21 NAMES AND TITLES OF A PROMISED MESSIAH IN THE TANACH (OT)

All the following terms have both a social usage and a predictive meaning. An example of each is cited below from the English Standard Version of 2011. Taken together, allusions such as these gave rise to messianic expectations amongst Jews in antiquity and to this day.

1. Anointed (Hebrew: Messiah, Greek: Christ)

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus. Isaiah 45:1

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, Psalms 2:2

2. Branch

And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Jeremiah, what do you see?" And I said, "I see an almond branch." Jeremiah 1:11

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. Isaiah 11:1

3. Cornerstone

The princes of Zoan have become fools, and the princes of Memphis are deluded; those who are the cornerstones of her tribes have made Egypt stagger. Isaiah 19:13

"Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: 'Whoever believes will not be in haste.'" Isaiah 19:13

4. Counselor

Jonathan, David's uncle, was a counselor, being a man of understanding and a scribe. 1 Chronicles 27:36

His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

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5. David

Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David. Ruth 4:22

They shall serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them. Jeremiah 30:9

6. God

King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. Genesis 14:18

His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

7. Holy one

The king saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven. Daniel 4:23

You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. Psalms 16:10

8. King

All the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them. 2 Samuel 5:3

The children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God, and David their king. Hosea 3:5

9. Light

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Isaiah 49:6

10. Lord

"After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" Genesis 18:12

The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool." Psalms 110:1

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11. Messenger

A messenger came to Saul, saying, "Hurry and come, for the Philistines have made a raid against the land." 1 Samuel 23:27

The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight. Malachi 3:1

12. Prince

Now I will return to fight against the prince of Persia; and when I go out, behold, the prince of Greece will come. Daniel 10:20

From the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Daniel 9:25

13. Righteous one

Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD and take refuge in him! Psalms 64:10

By his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Isaiah 53:11

14. Root

From the serpent's root will come forth an adder, and its fruit will be a flying fiery serpent. Isaiah 14:29

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. Isaiah 11:10

15. Ruler

"Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler over all the land of Egypt." Genesis 45:26

From you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Micah 5:2

16. Scepter

Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine; Ephraim is my helmet; Judah is my scepter. Psalms 60:7

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel. Numbers 24:17

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17. Seed

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring [seed] and her offspring [seed]; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”
Genesis 3:15

18. Servant

“Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers.” Genesis 9:25

By his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Isaiah 53:11

19. Shepherd

Cyrus, ‘He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose’. Isaiah 44:28

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. Ezekiel 34:23

20. Son (of God, of Man)

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son Hosea 11:1

“The appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods.” Daniel 3:25

Behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. Daniel 7:13

21. Star

You shall take up Sikkuth your king, and Kiyyun your star-god—your images that you made for yourselves. Amos 5:26

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel. Numbers 24:17