



PROPHETS OF MESSIAH

Please note that this teaching text has not been proofed.

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NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Display each illustration where indicated in text, laying volume aside when the story line continues beyond the picture.

Lesson #1

ISAIAH: THE MESSIAH PROVIDES SALVATION

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

For your study of these Major Prophets, we recommend the book *The Prophets Still Speak (Messiah In Both Testaments)* by Fred John Meldau. If your Christian bookstore does not have it, order directly from the publisher: Friends of Israel, Bellmawr, New Jersey 08099.

Occasionally in this series we have recommended that you obtain a *Ryrie Study Bible*. Because it is a *study Bible*, the notes throughout every book of the Bible are invaluable. It is presently available in the *King James Version*, *The New King James Version*, *New American Standard Version*, and the *New International Version (NIV)*. The *NIV* includes some additional pages of excellent teaching material. If this Bible is not available in your Christian book store, order from the publisher: Moody Press, Chicago, IL 60610.

A very helpful chart entitled *Messianic Prophecies* appears in this volume on page 12 of text.

All the Old Testament prophets warned God's people of punishment if they turned away from Him. The Israelites (the Northern Kingdom) ignored the warnings and worshiped man-made idols. So God allowed them to be captured by the cruel Assyrians. Oh, how the Israelites suffered for their sins! (*Teacher*: See in this series Old Testament Volume 25, lesson 4.)

The people of Judah (the Southern Kingdom) knew the awfulness of idol-worship. They remembered how severely the Israelites had been punished. They heard the warnings of the prophets, **Isaiah** and **Jeremiah**. But they, too, turned away from God. So, like the Israelites, the people of Judah were forced from their homeland. And for 70 years they were captives in far-away Babylon. (See Old Testament Volume 26, lessons 1, 2 and 4.)

The people of Judah turned from God. But He never turned from them. Indeed, He sent with them to Babylon His prophets, **Ezekiel** and **Daniel**, to speak for Him. From **Daniel** they learned of *Messiah*—*The Anointed One* who would come from God.

The title of this volume introduces the name Messiah. It is used only a few times in the English King James version of

the Bible. (See **Daniel** 9:25-26; John 1:41; 4:25-26.) *Messiah* (or *Messias*) is Hebrew word for the Greek word *Christ*. Both *Messiah* and *Christ* mean *The Anointed One*—One set apart by God for Himself. Anointing was well-known in Bible times. Prophets, priests and kings were anointed with holy oil. They were thus set apart for the work of God. (See 1 Kings 19:16b; Exodus 29:5-7; 1 Samuel 16:1, 12-13.)

So *Messiah*, *Christ*, *The Anointed One*, would be a Prophet. (See Deuteronomy 18:15-19; compare John 6:14.) Also He would be a Priest. (See **Zechariah** 6:12-13; compare Hebrews 4:14-15.) And He would be the King. (See **Isaiah** 9:6-7; compare Luke 1:31-33; Acts 2:29-30; Revelation 15:3.) The anointing of *Christ the Messiah* was not with ordinary oil, however. He was anointed by the Holy Spirit of God. (See Matthew 3:16-17; Mark 9:2-7; Luke 4:17-18; John 1:32-34.)

Through **Isaiah**, **Jeremiah**, **Ezekiel** and **Daniel**, God revealed amazing prophecies. Many of these have already come true. Others are even yet to be fulfilled. For this study, only a few chapters are used from each of these prophetic books. For example, the focus in lesson #1 is on the One who would come to save sinners. Although He is not named, we know from the New Testament that Isaiah prophesied of Christ.

Because many truths are included in this lesson, some of the illustration pages have multiple sketches. If these would confuse your students, cover all but the first illustration. (A tiny drop of paste or a paper clip would keep each cover in place.) Remove covers as you come to succeeding illustrations.

Each lesson in this volume may be divided into two, three or four lessons. The prophets' names are printed in bold type to help you spot them and their prophecies.

Display often the outside back cover so your students will remember:

MESSIAH = CHRIST
Old Testament New Testament
Hebrew word Greek word
meaning: **THE ANOINTED ONE**