

Year 5 RE - Was Jesus the Messiah?

How is this important today?

Christians believe that Jesus is important to them today because through His Atonement, teachings, hope, peace, and example, He helps us change our lives, face our trials, and move forward with faith as we journey back to Him and His Father



Vocabulary and Glossary

	Old Testament	The Christian name for the writings that make up the first major part of the Bible. The Old Testament is also part of the Hebrew scriptures.
	New Testament	The books of the Christian Bible that tell of the life and works of Jesus Christ and his apostles.
	Exile	The condition of being sent away from one's country and not allowed to return as a punishment.
	Promised Land	In the Old Testament, the land of Canaan promised by God to Abraham and his descendants.
	Saviour	Someone who rescues or saves people from danger or destruction. Jesus Christ
	Messiah	According to the New Testament, Jesus Christ, regarded as the fulfilment of this prophecy; Christ.
	incarnation	The doctrine that Jesus Christ is the embodiment of God in man
	Gospel	Any of the four accounts of Jesus Christ's life, death, and teachings in the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
	Prophecy	An act of seeing into the future, or the ability to see into the future.

The Context

The People of God were taken into **exile** in Babylon in 586BCE. They return after about 50 years, but their **Promised Land** is still occupied by foreign forces. They begin to have a New Hope — God will rescue them! He will send a **rescuer, a saviour — a Chosen One or Messiah**. This is the situation when the **Old Testament** ends.

However, the land remains **occupied** by different forces — at the start of the **New Testament**, this is by the beastly **Romans**. The people have been waiting a long time — and some are despairing, but some still hope.

Incarnation

Incarnation means when a god or spirit becomes a real human. It's like they come down from the sky and live among people. Some religions believe that gods or important beings can do this to help and teach us. It's a special way for the divine to connect with us. Different religions have different ideas about why and how this happens. For example, in **Christianity**, **Jesus is believed to be the incarnation (human form) of God**.

Jesus was Jewish

Jesus, who is an important figure in **Christianity**, was actually **Jewish**. He was born into a Jewish family in **Bethlehem**, a town in what is now **Israel**. He followed Jewish customs and traditions, and he taught people about **love, forgiveness**, and being kind to others. Jesus and his disciples celebrated Jewish holidays like **Passover**, and he often spoke in **synagogues**. Even though Christianity became its own religion, it has its roots in **Judaism**. So, it's interesting to know that Jesus, who is so important to Christians, was part of the Jewish faith too.

The Big Frieze

In this section of the Bible's Big Story we look at the incarnation of Jesus.

The New Testament presents Jesus as the answer: the **Messiah and Saviour**, who will repair the effects of sin and the Fall and offer a way for humans to be at one with God again. **Incarnation** means that **Jesus is God in the flesh**, and that, in Jesus, God came to live among humans.



Stickiness of learning:

- To know what 'Messiah' means and who it refers to.
- To know the Old Testament story of the Jews and their hope for a saviour.
- Jesus was Jewish.
- Christians believe Jesus is God in flesh.
- Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection were part of a longer plan by God to restore relationships.
- Christians believe this is the true meaning of Christmas.

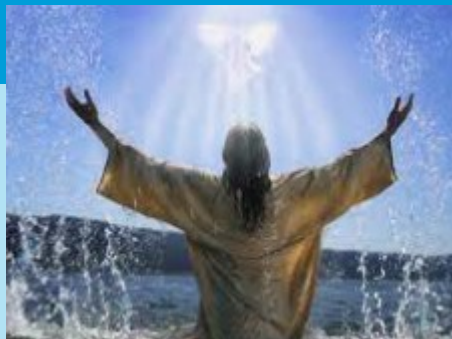


A Messiah – A Saviour

Messiah is a word used in relation to **Jesus**, and it means the "**chosen one**" or "**saviour**." According to **Christian** beliefs, Jesus is considered the **Messiah**. He is believed to be the one sent by God to bring **love, hope, and salvation** to the world. Christians think that Jesus came to show us how to live a good and meaningful life and to save us from our mistakes and wrongdoings. So, when people talk about Jesus as the **Messiah**, they mean that he is the **special person who was sent by God to bring light and goodness into the world**.

What you already should know:

- Jesus was Jewish.
- Christians believe Jesus is God in the flesh.
- They believe that his birth, life, death and resurrection were part of a longer plan by God to restore the relationship between God and humans.
- The Old Testament talks about a 'rescuer' or 'anointed one' – a messiah. Some texts talk about what this 'messiah' would be like.
- Christians see Jesus as their Saviour.
- Christians believe Jesus is one of the three persons of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Christians believe God the Father sends the Son who saves His people.



Christmas to Christians

Christmas is a special holiday for **Christians**, and it's more than just presents and decorations. It's about celebrating **the birth of Jesus Christ**, who Christians believe is **God in human form**. It's a time to remember that God sent Jesus to Earth to show us **love, kindness, and forgiveness**. Christmas reminds us to be thankful for what we have and to share joy with others. Christians believe that Jesus' birth brought hope and peace to the world. So, when we celebrate Christmas, we are celebrating the gift of Jesus and the love that God has for us all.

Art



Art can show representations that Jesus was more than just the son of God. Here we see this in **Raphael's** painting of the **transfiguration**.



And this representation of the **transfiguration** by