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Did the Old Testament Writers Believe that He Would also be God?

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Did the Old Testament writers who predicted the coming Messiah believe that He would also be God?

In a word, YES! There are (at least) eleven key Old Testament passages which directly connect the coming Messiah with the eternal God.

- **Psalm 2:1-7**

“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the LORD shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.”

- **Psalm 45:6-7**

“Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.”

Here we read of God the Father calling His Son God!

- **Psalm 72:17**

“His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.”

- **Psalm 102:25-27**

“Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.”

This passage is quoted in Heb. 1:10-12 and associated with Jesus Himself.

- **Psalm 110:1**

“The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”

Here again the Father refers to the Son as Lord (Jehovah).

- **Isaiah 9:6-7**

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there

shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."

This is undoubtedly the clearest Old Testament passage connecting the coming Messiah with God Himself!

- **Isaiah 40:3-5, 9-11**

"The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it ... O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

In this remarkable prophecy, John the Baptist (see Mal. 3:1 and Matt. 3:3) is given the divine assignment to prepare the way for God the Messiah's first coming (see also John 1:29).

- **Daniel 7:13, 14**

"I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed."

The Son of man (Jesus) who will someday rule over all men is elsewhere associated with God Himself (see Dan. 4:17; 5:21; Joel 3:21).

- **Jeremiah 23:5, 6**

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."

Jeremiah here predicts the Messiah's name during the Millennium will be JEHOVAH TSIDKENU, meaning, "The Lord Our Righteousness."

- **Zechariah 9:9; 14:9**

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass ... And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one."

In Zech. 9:9 the prophet refers to the Messiah as king and in 14:9 he equates this king with the Lord God!

- **Zechariah 12:1, 10**

“The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him ... And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.”

This entire chapter records the words of Jehovah God, describing how He had once created all things (12:1), and how He will someday defend Jerusalem (12:8), and defeat His enemies at Armageddon (12:9). Suddenly, in the midst of all this, we read the amazing words, *“and they shall look upon upon **me** whom they have pierced ...”*