

## ***"The Story of the Messiah"***

*Sunday Morning Message by Ray Reynolds (December 22, 2013)*

Introduction: Have you ever had to write a letter of recommendation? It can be a very trying experience. If you are receiving one you might want to look between the lines! Consider all the details. Seeing Jesus Christ in the New Testament is important, but the Old Testament adds significant value and depth to how God is working to bring Christ into the world. Let's consider what the Old Testament has to say about Jesus...

Discussion:

### ***I. The Promise of the Messiah***

The Seed of Adam & Eve - **Genesis 3:15, Galatians 4:4**  
 The Seed of Noah - **Genesis 9:8, Luke 3:36**  
 The Seed of Abraham - **Genesis 12:3, Matthew 1:1**  
 The Seed of Isaac - **Genesis 21:12, Luke 3:23, 34**  
 The Seed of Jacob - **Genesis 28:14, Luke 3:23, 34**  
 The Seed of Judah - **Genesis 49:10, Luke 3:23,33**  
 The Seed of Jesse - **Isaiah 11:1, Luke 3:23, 33**  
 The Seed of David - **Jeremiah 23:5, Luke 3:23, 31**  
 Birthplace Was Bethlehem - **Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:1**  
 Many Children Killed - **Jeremiah 31:15, Matthew 2:16**

Called Out of Egypt - **Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:15**  
 Born of a Virgin - **Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18, 23-25**  
 Called Immanuel (God With Us) - **Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23**  
 He Existed Before the Earth - **Isaiah 9:6-7, Colossians 1:17**  
 The First & The Last - **Isaiah 44:6, Revelation 1:17**  
 Redeemer Out of Zion - **Isaiah 59:20-21, Romans 11:26-27**  
 A Presentation of Gifts - **Psalms 72:10, Matthew 2:1,11**  
 Called the Son of God - **Psalms 2:7, Acts 13:33**  
 Called the Lord - **Psalms 110:1, Luke 2:11**

### ***II. The Parallels Between Esther & Jesus***

Prepared the Way - **Esther 1, Matthew 11:7-15**  
 Raised by Godly Man - **Esther 2:5-7, Matthew 1:18-25**  
 Trials Tested Their Purity - **Esther 2:12, Matthew 4:1-11**  
 Sent at the Right Time - **Esther 4:14, Galatians 4:4**  
 Grew Physically & Spiritually - **Esther 2:9, 17, Luke 2:52**  
 Faced Difficult Enemies - **Esther 3:1, Revelation 13:8**

Were Sold Out & Betrayed - **Esther 3:9, Matthew 26:15**  
 Sacrificed for the People - **Esther 4:11, 16, I John 3:16**  
 Carefully Weighed Options - **Esther 4:11-16, Matthew 26:39**  
 Advocate & Intercessor - **Esther 5:1-2, I John 2:1-2**  
 Brought Life, Not Death - **Esther 8:16-17, John 20:30-31**  
 Sought to Nullify the Law - **Esther 3:13, Colossians 2:14**

### ***III. The Parallels Between Mordecai & Jesus***

Possessed Great Wisdom - **Esther 2:10, Luke 2:40**  
 Appointed as a Judge - **Esther 2:19, Acts 17:31**  
 Good Things Written - **Esther 2:21-23, Acts 1:1-2**  
 Refused to Bow to Men - **Esther 3:2, 5, Matthew 4:8-10**  
 Were Sentenced to Death - **Esther 3:6, Matthew 2:16**  
 Had Specific Dates for Death - **Esther 3:7, Matthew 26:45**  
 Falsely Accused - **Esther 3:8, Matthew 26:59**  
 Sold Out For Silver - **Esther 3:9, 11, Matthew 26:15**  
 Opposed by Powerful Princes - **Esther 3:10-11, John 12:31**  
 Men of Sorrows - **Esther 4:1, Isaiah 53:3**  
 Spent Time in Fasting & Prayer - **Esther 4:16, Matthew 4:2**  
 Despised For No Good Reason - **Esther 5:9, John 15:25**

Served Under Cruel Government - **Esther 5:14, John 19:15-16**  
 Triumphantly Rode in Streets - **Esther 6:7-11, Matthew 21:1-10**  
 Seed of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob - **Esther 6:13, Luke 3:23, 34**  
 Issued Unalterable Laws - **Esther 8:8, Revelation 22:18-10**  
 Brought Life, Not Death - **Esther 8:9, John 10:10**  
 Clothed in Purple - **Esther 8:15, John 19:5**  
 Brought Joy to the People - **Esther 8:15, John 15:11**  
 Grew Physically & Spiritually - **Esther 9:4, Luke 2:52**  
 Exalted to Great Authority - **Esther 9:29, Philippians 2:9-11**  
 Left Positive Words Behind - **Esther 9:30, John 14:26-27**  
 Sought the Good of the People - **Esther 10:3, John 3:16**

Conclusion: There is a reason why God allows us to see these parallels when we read the story of Esther. It's the same reason He wants us to recognize the prophecies of Jesus' birth. He wants us to see His story (**Luke 24:44-45, John 5:39**). If we see His story, we might see our story. The people in these days were awaiting the King (**Genesis 49:10, Numbers 24:17, II Samuel 7:16**). What are you waiting on? Are you willing to trust in Jesus the King of Kings?