
SERIES 1: KNOWING JESUS AS MESSIAH

BOOK 1: Needing Messiah (Law)

Genesis 1-Deuteronomy 18

Book 1: Needing Messiah (Law)

Introduction

Why should you discover Messiah in the Old Testament *Law (Torah)*, the first five books of Moses? If you start from the very *beginning* of God's revelation to His people, you will see that Messiah has always been the focus of the Biblical story, not a side-note. These days, it is far too easy for you as a disciple of Jesus Christ (Messiah) to know him simply through your personal experience as an *individual* faith. However, neither God's story nor the person of the Messiah centers around you. Instead, discover how the Lord God designs the very fabric of His story around the revealing of His Son, the promised Seed, your Messiah. Then, you will find your place in His story, not as the center but in shared family and kingdom relationship with your glorious Messiah!

STEPS of a *Devoted Disciple*:

Your *Devotion* matters to the Lord. For, there is only one Lord and God, and He deserves creation's highest honor and praise. So, you were made to give yourself to the Lord God in loving devotion of heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). In this same devotion to the Lord, Jesus Christ calls you to follow Him as His disciple. These short devotionals guide you in the Word to cultivate a heart devotion to the Lord as His disciple.

- First, **discover** what His life-giving Word has to say to you personally, being careful to write down your insights to share with others.
- Then, **discuss** His Word with those closest to you: your family, your friends, and in your home fellowship group (your spiritual family).
- Next, **dialogue** to compare views on key passages with a partner—either another disciple, or an older mentor or younger mentee.
- Finally, **develop** key skills as you abide in the Word by applying it to your life as you read the devotional, notes, and footnotes.

START HERE: *Humble Yourself in Prayer:*

Devote yourself to the Lord to hear and do His Will for you.

☐ *Do I want to humble myself under the Lordship of God by faith?*

☐ *Or, will I live as my own Lord, relying on my own understanding?*

PRAYER OF DEVOTION

Lord God, I devote my life to you today. I offer you my soul to live humbly under your Lordship; my mind to seek your will and Spirit; my heart to love you and others; and, my strength to obey your Word and Will!
Amen.

Chapter 1: GOD THE MAKER: Family Heir

Genesis 1

Step 1. Discover: Preview and View God's Word for yourself then **Write Insights** to Share with others.

a. Preview **Genesis 1**

God the Maker: Messiah in the Beginning. Messiah is God, the Son who made the *heavens* and *earth* at the Father's command to become Heir of all things (Col. 1:15-16; Heb. 1:1-3). So, in Genesis 1, see Messiah as God, who makes real all the Father's good purpose for you! Starting with his name "God" - *Elohim** - God is revealed as a perfected unity of persons, which you will see as a *family unity at work*! First, notice the *family relationship* to create this world, noting that God *commands* as a Father that an "expanse" is made so God *obeys the command* as a Son to "make" the expanse (6-7). Then, as God creates man, notice the *family resemblance* God agrees to share with humanity (26-27)! You were made to share in God's righteous image to belong to His family! Finally, note the *family blessing* which God lavishes on us to give us everything "good" for a fruitful life (28-31).

*God is *Elohim*, a plurality of persons, not *elohe*, an singular individual. In this way, God is *one*, *echad* (Deut. 6:4), a unity as when man and woman become "one" in marriage (Gen. 2:24), not *yachid*, a solitary, individual singleness.

b. Prayerfully **Read Genesis 1** and **Write** your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. What do you learn about God and His purposes when you read the story of creation?

Q2: Why do you think God agrees to share His “image” and family resemblance with our human family?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. How does God create as Father and Son as a family unity? (Genesis 1:1-8)

1. Maker Messiah: Honoring God. From the very “beginning,” God exists and creates as a *family unity*. For, in 1:1, God is *Elohim*, a plural of persons (we learn later to be Father, Son, and Spirit), but creates as a *singular action*—bara (to create). So, God as Father commands (6) “Let there be an expanse” and God as Son “makes” the expanse (7) to obey the Father. So, Messiah carries out the Father’s will to honor him. The Father honors Messiah by making him His Heir.

Q2. Why does God as a family unity of Father, Son, and Spirit, pass on His image to man? (Gen. 1:26-27)

2. Family of God: Shared Resemblance. As a *family unity*, God agrees with God to share his *image* with His creature “man,” saying: “Let *us* make man in *our* image, after *our* likeness” (26). We have already seen God work together in creation in unity, which is later shown to be a *oneness** based on a shared honor and love (Gen. 2:24). So, God shares his image as a family resemblance that man might also share in this *loving* family relationship (Deut. 6:4)

*The word “one” is *echad*, which is the oneness of *unity*, for it describes the family unity of man and woman in marital union (Gen. 2:24) as well as God’s oneness (Deut. 6:4). God is never called a *solitary, isolated singularity*, the word *yachid*.

Q3. Why did God create Man? How is he meant to relate with God? (Gen. 1:24-31)

3. God Blesses: As a Family Unity. Notably, God has a family discussion before he agrees to pass on his image to man, saying “Let us make man in our image” (1:26). To *share* an image and a likeness is typical of families, so God includes man in this family relationship when he agrees to share his image as a family resemblance. Also, God as the Head of His family also has the right and place to “bless” man (27) with a fruitful future.

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Messiah Maker: Family Unity. Our entire reality takes shape because *in the beginning, God created* all things as Father, Son, and Spirit, a *family unity*, so at the heart of all things is an underlying love between Father and Son (Gen. 1:1, Jn. 1:1-3; 1 Jn. 4:8). In this great *family love*, the Son honors the Father by humbly obeying all that he commands (Gen. 1:6-7), so the Father is pleased to give all things to the Son of God as His Heir (Col. 1:15-16, Heb. 1:2). So, be encouraged! You need not witness this *family love* of God from a distance. Rather, Father, Son, and Spirit agreed as a family, "Let us make man in our image" (Gen. 1:26b), so you were created to share in His image as a *family resemblance* to be *blessed* in Messiah! Grow up, then in His image! As a human family, we were created to find our home in the family unity of God! Not only to enjoy the *blessings* of God's grace but to grow in the image of the Son of God, firstborn of many brothers! (Rm. 8:29).

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

- key verse:

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(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

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Notes¹: Family Unity of God: Covenantal Love. God is *one* not simply as a group of three individuals, but a *family unity* bound by an eternal, *covenantal love*. From the beginning, “God is love” (1 Jn. 4:8), sacrificially giving to each other. As Son, God gives *honor* to the Father to do His will (Gen. 1:6-7). God as Father gives His Son *all things*, making Him Heir, Firstborn of His sons (Col. 1:15-20).

¹ **Footnotes: God as Heir: Firstborn of Family.** God’s *family unity* and *love* is at the heart of all God does, for God as Father creates all things through His Son to make Him Heir of heaven and earth (Col. 1:15-20). For, the Son loves the Father, giving up His life to accomplish the Father’s will, the *redemption* of the world back to himself to be the *sons of God* calling him “Father”! (Jn. 3:16; Rm. 8:15, 29).

Chapter 2: THE LORD GOD: Head of Household

Genesis 2

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then *Write Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview **Genesis 2**

Lord God: Head of our household. Messiah is our *Lord God*, the Heir and Head of our family line to give us *family* grace and rest with God (Jer. 30:9, Mt. 12:8). So, read Genesis 2 to see how Messiah was the *family Lord* of humanity from the very beginning! See first that that the Lord God is the **source** of your *spiritual life*, for He “breathes” the life of God into us to make our souls come alive (2:7). Your *earthly flesh* is made of dusty matter, but your “soul” is only alive in your Lord’s breath or *word* (Jn. 1:1-3). Also, notice that Messiah as your “Lord God” **sustains** your life by His **grace**. Imagine life in His *garden* as a picture of the Lord God’s work of grace to give you “good” (9). Finally, see that the Lord God **commands** you to **live freely** with him but to reject *death*. Unbelief seeks to replace His Lordship with your own Self-rule (15-17), your own understanding and not His Word.

b. Prayerfully **Read Genesis 2** and **Write** your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. How will Messiah as your *family Lord* live with the people who belong to Him and his family?

Q2. How will you live differently, knowing that your very “soul’s life” depends on life coming from the Lord God’s life and breath of His Word (Matt. 4:4)?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. How does the Lord God make us for life? (2:2-9)

1. Truly Alive in the Lord: Blessed Life. In Genesis 2, God makes this world a *home* for us, a place for His chosen line of Adam and Eve. We were meant to be *the sons of God* (Gen. 6:4). Living in His house and blessed under His family *Lordship* (2:3). God appointed a *holy* time (2:3) for us to *rest* in his blessing. We were fully alive in him, not just in earthly flesh but by His very heavenly *breath* making our souls come alive (2:7).

Q2. How should we live with the Lord God? (2:15-17)

2.Obeying Lord: Commands for Life. Rather than a distant Creator, God reveals himself to us as our family *Lord* (2:15). He reveals himself as the eternally existing one, “*I am,*” (2:16) (Heb. *Yahweh*), so that we might know him for who he is. This *Yahweh* God is *Lord*, for He has the power to command all things, even *life* and *death* (2:16-17). When we *rest* in His Lordship as his *right* to determine for us *good and evil*, then we live but to reject His Lordship to sin is death.

Q3. How does the Lord God care for our needs? (2:18-25)

3.Provision of Lord: Family reflects Unity of Lord. When we rest in the Lord, making our home in his *peace* and *grace*, He provides for us all that we need. So, the Lord made the man and woman *one flesh* (2:24) so that they may not live *alone* (2:18). In the Lord God, the man finds his “helper” who is “fit” for him, the perfect match (18) as does Eve. Thus, the Lord has the right to meet our needs perfectly.

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Family Lord: Grace and Peace. As your Lord God whom God *raised up* for you, Jesus Messiah has the rightful authority to rule not simply as “God” but as the “Lord” of His household of brothers and sisters. His people are *covered* by His Lordship, a family authority we see in Genesis 2.

As your family Lord God, Jesus brings you to a *holy* place of *blessed rest* to share with God (2:3). For, by *resting* and *receiving* your place in His family (Heb. 4:3), you inherit all things with him (Rom. 8:17). So, *surrender* all your *fleshly works* to him to receive His abundant grace and peace for you. He will make your life like a well-watered garden (Is. 58:11), with *trees* filling your life with “good food” (Gen. 2:9).

But, remember that Jesus Messiah, your Lord God, is God's very life to you. So, *breathe in* His Word of command to live freely in him (2:16; John 14:21), forsaking fatal Self-rule (17).

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Notes²: Heir of Heaven and Earth: The “generations” are the heirs of the “heavens and the earth,” but at the forefront of these heirs is the “Lord God,” *Elohim—God the Heir* (Col. 1:15-16) through whom *Elohim—God the Father*—created all things. When the line falls to sin, its Lord and Heir is the promised “Seed” to restore salvation to the family (Gen. 3:15)

² **Footnotes: Resting in Faith:** When the Lord God *rests* from all His work on the *seventh day* (Gen. 2:2), He recognizes the *completeness* of all He has done. In this way, he invites you to *rest by faith* in His finished work. By faith, *resting in the Lord* means you recognize your fleshly inadequacy *and* entrust yourself fully in what the Lord can do and has done. You share a *holy time* with Him, are *blessed* by His grace to provide for you, and His *rest* in peace.

Chapter 3: SEED OF WOMEN: Family Rescuer

Genesis 3

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then *Write Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview Genesis 3

Seed of Woman: Family Rescuer. Messiah is the Promised Seed to be *born of woman*, our family Heir who *defeats* the Serpent to restore us to God's family blessing (Gal. 3:16; Rom. 16:20). So, read Genesis 3 to realize that Messiah the Seed is our only hope, for our human family lost everything due to our sin. As you read Genesis chapter 3, notice first the *life choice* set before our first parents which we also face today: remain under God's *Lordship* or to seek to be "like God," taking his place as our own Self-Lords (4). Like Eve, our *fleshly unbelief* comes up with good reasons to sin (6), for we seek to be "like God" to take His place. But, notice that the Lord God *promises a "Seed"* to be raised up from woman (15), to be our Firstborn Heir of our line to defeat our enemy's "head" to restore God's blessing to us! So, "Seed" is the first name for Messiah as the one to multiply many sons!

b. Prayerfully Read Genesis 3 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. How does the Serpent tempt Eve to distrust God? How does the Serpent change how Eve relates to the Lord God?

Q2. How do we also live if we want to be our own Self-Lords, to be on the same level “like God”?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. How does the Serpent separate the woman from God? (3:1-5)

1. Doubting Word: Unbelief replaces God with Self. We are safe under the Lordship of God, submitting to the Word of command. So, the Serpent attacks our obedience to God’s Word by first minimizing the authority of God, calling him *God* rather than the *Lord* of authority (3:1). Then, the Serpent obscures what the Lord actually said, making a false claim that God commanded that they “not eat of any tree” (2). Finally, the enemy shamelessly denies the truth of God’s Word outright by saying, “You will not surely die” (4) to mislead the woman.

Q2. Why did the woman choose to disobey God and sin? (3:6-7)

2. Godless World: Flesh wants Life without God. The Serpent tricked the woman to take a position of unbelief, to think and reason purely *in the flesh*, as if the Lord God was not relevant. When the woman *reasoned in the flesh*, that is, thinking uncovered of the Lord's commanding authority, she came up with many reasons to sin (3:6-7). Life without the Lord to simply live a fleshly life in this world is appealing, because there is *worldly food to satisfy* (6), *worldly delights to enjoy*, and *worldly wisdom* to get by without God. In this way, your flesh will unfailingly deceive you that there are good reasons to sin. But all reasons to sin lead to spiritual death.

Q3. Why does God put "enmity" between the Serpent's "Seed" and the Woman's "Seed"? (3:15)

3. Seed of Woman: Defeating Serpent. By his deception, the *serpent* brought God's *curse* (3:14, 17) into a world once *blessed* by God through man (1:27). So, when the Lord God speaks of the "Seed" of either serpent or woman, He is talking of the Heir who will eventually inherit this earth. He promises that the *serpent's heir* will injure the woman's *heir*. But the "Seed" of the woman would succeed in *bruising* the serpent's "head" or power (15). This "Seed" of woman is her foremost descendant, the Heir of humanity, Messiah Heb. 1:2

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God’s Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Seed of Woman: The Son of Man. Our first parents had the perfect life of *blessing* and *rest* under the family Lordship of God, but they chose to be their own Self-rulers to *sin*, entering the *age* of spiritual death, orphaned from God (Gen. 2:17). Since then, all of their *generations* have been infected by this spiritual death—so, like all of us, you were “without hope and without God in this world” (Eph. 2:12). So, starting here when we lost everything, the Lord God gives the first of many promises regarding His Messiah, the “Seed” of the woman (15). Messiah from the very “beginning” (Gen. 1:1) is God the Son (Jn. 1:1) and Lord (Heb. 1:10), but the “Seed” promises that Messiah will one day *raised up* from our human family tree, born of a woman like all of us (3:15). As our family’s only hope, Messiah *fights* and defeats our *enemy*, the Serpent, even when our entire family has already lost. Messiah breaks the Serpent’s *headship*, his power over you!

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Notes³: Promised Seed: Messiah enters Line. Though the Son of God was from the “beginning” (Gen. 1:1), God promises throughout Scripture to *raise him up* as Seed of humanity’s line (of woman), of a people (of Abraham), of a family (of David) to restore all families back to God’s House.

³ **Footnotes: Crushing Serpent’s Head:.** As Creator, the Lord God is humanity’s rightful *Head*. However, sinful humans abandon God’s *headship* to be subjects of the world and the Serpent, the *head* of its realm of spiritual death. So, the Seed crushes the Serpent’s Head by one day breaking his sinful power.

Chapter 4: SEED OF NOAH: Heir of Shem

Genesis 6, 9

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word for yourself then Write Insights to Share with others.*

a. Preview Genesis 6,9

Seed of Noah: Covenantal Peace. Messiah is the Seed of Noah and his sons, the Heir and Firstborn Son of all families to secure for us God's covenantal peace (Is. 9:6, Rom. 5:1, Eph. 2:14). So, read Genesis 6 and 9 to see how Messiah secures a covenantal peace with God for you! First, discover in Genesis 6 how our *fleshly desires* for "wickedness" (5) multiplied sins, corrupting the world and bringing on us the Lord's judgment (7). Then, read Genesis 9 to see how Messiah, the Seed of Noah, establishes God's *covenantal assurance* that humanity and earth's creatures will forever be spared a similar global destruction (11). Notice that Messiah is the Seed of Noah and all his sons, for every family on earth comes from the sons of Noah, so Messiah is Seed for you and the whole world! Finally, see the *family line of Messiah* coming from Shem's people who remember "God" (26) and build a spiritual *house* for earth's families to return to God!

b. Prayerfully Read Genesis 6, 9 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. What promise does God make to the Seed of Noah which protects us even today?

Q2. How do you think God will work through the line of Shem to bless the families of the world?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. How does life in flesh separate people from God?
(Gen. 6:1-8)

1. Fleshly Desires: Life without Spirit. When our first parents replaced God's Lordship with their own Selfishness, their lives became entirely *fleshly*, focused on earth without the Spirit. So, the Lord's *Spirit* will not *abide*—live in man's *mortal* and earthly state (3). For, starved of the Spirit, the flesh hungers for “evil continually” (5) so that people became corrupted in sin by their increasing “wickedness” (5) that grieved the Lord's heart.

Q2. What is the Covenant of Peace which God makes with the Seed of Noah and his sons? Why is this promised Seed belonging to all of Noah's sons? (Gen. 9:1-17)

2.Seed of Noah and Sons: Promised Peace. The Lord is continually provoked by the *fleshly wickedness* of humanity, so His *covenant of peace* spares the earth the threat of total destruction (9:8). God makes this lasting covenant with Messiah, the “Seed” of Noah and his sons, whose everlasting life protects the generations from the threat of *annihilation*. But, Messiah also brings *peace* to His family by securing forgiveness for their *fleshly wickedness* by His redemption.

Q3 From which family line of Noah will Messiah and His house emerge? (Gen. 9:18-29)

3.Family Line of Messiah: Spiritual House for Family. God makes a covenant with Noah and his sons, from whom arise all the families of the earth. Again, God designates Messiah as the promised Seed to secure this *peace* for their generations, for He is the Firstborn Son of Noah, the Head of the brothers and their families (9:8). That is, Messiah secures peace for all the sons of Noah as their Head, even though He will emerge from the line of “Shem” (26), who alone remembers the true God and who builds a spiritual dwelling for his brothers (27).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Seed of Noah: God's Peace. Thanks to our father Noah, whose name means “rest,” all the families of the earth survived the Lord God's global judgment (Gen. 6:11). So, it is fitting that Messiah is revealed as the Seed, the Son of Noah who gives the covenantal assurance that we will be spared *global annihilation*. In the Seed of Noah, we can *rest*, knowing that even in our *fleshly corruption*, the Lord remembers mercy.

But, the Lord God's deeper heart is also conveniently invested in our Lord Messiah—God's heart to give you a *forever peace as His son*, so you might be truly fruitful and multiply! (9:1). So, as the Seed of Noah, Jesus as your Messiah embodies God's heart for a lasting *peace* with his sons, a peace not jeopardized by their own fleshly weakness. Your Messiah is Melchizedek, the *priest of peace* (Ps. 24) who atones for your sins to protect you in *righteousness* (Jer. 23:6; Lk. 1:74-75). For, he rules as Prince of Peace forever (Is. 9:6-7).

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Notes⁴: Seed of Noah and Sons: Firstborn Head of Noah. When God promises to make a covenant with Messiah, he is the “Seed” of Noah and his sons (9). For, Messiah is the Head of all the families of Noah, even though He and his family eventually emerge from the line of Shem (26).

⁴ **Footnotes: Peace with God:** Power to Pacify. Messiah, the Seed of Noah, not only establishes forever God’s covenant of peace so that humanity no longer faces total destruction for their fleshly ways (15), but He removes all threats to peace between God and man by first atoning for sin to bring an eternal righteousness (Jer. 23:6) then ruling forever as Prince of Peace Is. 9:6

Chapter 5: SEED OF ABRAHAM: Blessing to Nations

Genesis 15, 22:16-18

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word for yourself then Write Insights to Share with others.*

a. Preview Genesis 15, 22:16-18

Seed of Abraham: Blessing Restored. Messiah inherits a people and land of His very own, so He is the Seed of Abraham (Gal. 3:15-18). Read Genesis 15 and 22 to discover how Abraham's and our faith and hope are centered on the Seed, Messiah, who multiplies a people to bring God's blessing to all nations! First, read Genesis 15 to discover that Messiah as the promised Seed is the ***focus of faith*** for Abram, securing God's future purpose by giving life to dead flesh (6). We too are powerless in our flesh (2), but God promises a fruitful future—for Abram, a people like the “stars” of heaven (5). Then, as the Seed of Abraham, Messiah is given a ***forever inheritance***, a land (19) and a people to call his very own (13). God blesses Messiah so He can bless the entire earth. So, read Genesis 22 to discover the Seed of Abraham's ***fruitful future***, to “multiply sons” as stars to “bless” all earth! (17-18).

b. Prayerfully Read Genesis 15, 22:16-18 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. Why does God have such a regard for the faith of Abram, so that it is passed down to his future generations?

Q2. What is God's covenantal promise to the Seed of Abraham, which is passed on to his future generations?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. How does Abram's faith please God? (Genesis 15:5)

1. Forever Inheritance: Promised Seed. Abram would pass on to his Seed and the multitudes of his generations a unique *faith*, so he is the model of the *faith* which God counts as *righteousness* (5). Such faith is needed because Abram has no hope in his *dead flesh* (2), for he is “childless” and powerless. But Abram entrusts himself and his future entirely to God. Specifically, Abram's faith is entirely focused on God's *promised Seed* (5), who secures for him a righteous future.

Q2. What is the covenant God makes with Messiah, the Seed of Abraham and to his generations? (Genesis 15:12-20)

2.Covenantal Inheritance: Messiah’s land and people. When God makes a covenantal promise of a “land” and a “people” (18) to Abram, He gives His promise to Abraham’s “Seed” first (Gal. 3:16), for He is the Firstborn Son, the family’s Heir and Head through whom all the other sons come into their inheritance. So, Messiah is given an eternal “homeland” (18) which he then distributes to his family; and a *people* of his very own (13).

Q3. How does God test and reward Abraham’s faith by making him a future promise regarding his Seed, Messiah?
(Gen. 22:1-19).

3. Fruitful Future: Blessing all Nations. God approved Abraham for his *faith*, because Abraham believed God “fearfully”—in the worshipful subjection to God’s irresistible *Lordship* (12); and “sacrificially”—giving up all of his life and even his son’s life to God, not “withholding” anything. So, Abraham becomes the *model and standard* of faith for all his descendants—first, blessing Messiah, the Seed of Abraham, with such faith (17), then *multiplying* Messiah, the Seed, as sons “like the stars” who will bless the nations (18).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Seed of Abraham: Blessing to all people. As a follower of Jesus Messiah, you are the *fruit* that comes from his *his tree*, for God promised to *multiply* Messiah like the “stars of heaven” (Gen. 22:17; Jn. 15:5). As his *seed*—*one who* multiply other disciples as the fruit of his tree—you also *bear* the *spiritual heritage* of Abraham, for Messiah is the Seed of Abraham (Gal. 3:29). Claim as your heritage a faith like Abraham’s (Gal. 3:6-7), for Abraham clung by faith to the promised Seed, Messiah, as his only hope for obtaining all God’s life and blessing. For, this *faith* of our *fathers* makes us *righteous* in the Messiah (Gen. 15:5). And, see yourself as part of the *multitude* of *sons* produced from Messiah, the Seed of Abraham, as you shine like the “stars of heaven” (Gen. 22:17; Phil. 2:15). For, in Jesus Messiah, Abraham’s Seed, you fulfill God’s ancient promise to “bless all nations of the earth” (18).

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

Share lesson with partner, family, or group.

What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁵: Faith of Abraham: Counted as Righteous. From the root of Shem's line, God chose Abraham to be the *people of Messiah* because his *faith* would set the *blueprint* for their future generations (Rom. 4:11). By faith, Abraham and his generations would be declared "righteous" (Gen. 15:5) because they would not trust in their dead flesh (Heb. 11:12) but entrust themselves entirely to God and His promised "Seed" (Gen. 15:5).

⁵ **Footnotes: Blessing the Nations:** Mission of Messiah. As God's "Firstborn Son" among the families of earth (Exodus 4:22), the lineage of Shem and the people of Abraham have the family responsibility of *redemption*. So, Shem builds a spiritual *dwelling place* for His brothers (Gen. 9:26) through the Seed of Abraham by which all families return to the blessing of God (Gen. 22:18), as the Seed of David, Jesus, redeems a house.

Chapter 6: SEED OF JUDAH: Raised Up to Rule

Genesis 38:8, Ruth 4, 2 Samuel 7:12-16

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word for yourself then Write Insights to Share with others.*

a. Preview Genesis 38:8, Ruth 4, 2 Samuel 7:12-16

Seed of David: Redeemer Raised Up. Jesus your Messiah is the Seed of David, the ruling Heir to redeem God's family into an everlasting House and Kingdom ruling heaven and earth (2 Sam. 7:12-16; Is. 9:6-7; Col. 1:15-20). So, read portions of Genesis 38, Ruth 4, and 2 Samuel 7 to see how God promises to *raise up David's Seed* to be Son and Heir of two fathers, David and God. First, read Judah's story in Genesis 38 to see how "raising up Seed" is the **picture of redemption** for a family facing extinction. *Er's wickedness* threatens Judah's future, but as *redeemer*, Judah *raises up Seed* as the family redeemer! Next, Boaz in Ruth 4 is a **portrait of a redeemer who raises up**, that is, resurrects the name of the deceased (4:10) to save David's line (22). Finally, God **promises redemption** to *raise up David's Seed*, your Messiah! See how His inheritance becomes your future! (2 Sam. 7:12)

b. Prayerfully Read Genesis 38:8, Ruth 4, 2 Samuel 7:12-16 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. Why is there a need to *raise up Seed* when a family line is threatened? Who *raises up Seed*?

Q2. What will the Seed of David do as the Redeemer of David's family? (2 Samuel 7:12-16)

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. How does Judah, the tribal founder of the lineage leading to King David, paint a picture of redemption? (Gen. 38:8)

1. Judah: Raising up Seed as Redeemer. As the founder of the chosen line of redemption which blossoms into the House of David, the family of Messiah, Judah paints a picture of the need for redemption. Judah's line was cut off by God's judgment due to the *wickedness of his sons* (Gen. 38:7,10). So, Judah as *redeemer raises up Seed** (8) to be the family's *redeemer*, the one to build up the family *house* by multiplying sons. When *Perez* is conceived, he is the son of Judah and Er.

*Seed is *raised up* for the deceased, so that they can *multiply sons* to continue the family line.

Q2. How does Boaz provide a *portrait* of the family redeemer and his work of redemption? (Ruth 4)

2. Portrait of Redeemer: Family Rescuer. When Boaz claims his right as family redeemer, he takes up the responsibility to *rescue* and *restore* His own from their enslaving circumstances. So, he restores Naomi's inheritance, and he *takes Ruth* as his own. In this way, we expect Messiah as our Redeemer to be responsible for rescuing and restoring us! And Boaz *raises up* a family Redeemer who will continue to give life to the family (Ruth 4:14-15).

Q3. Why does God Himself promise to *raise up* the Seed of David as both the Son of God and the Son of David? (2 Samuel 7:12-16)

3. Eternal Redeemer: Ruling Heaven and Earth. Like Judah, David's line would be corrupted by sin and face extinction (Jer. 22:30). As David's redeemer, God promises to one day *raise up* the Seed of David (2 Sam. 7:12) to be the Redeemer restoring David's line. Because God *raises up Seed* from David's own body, this Seed would be the *son of David* and the *son of God* (14), who alone suffers to atone for the family's sin (14), builds a *household* for God (13), and rules over a David's Kingdom forever (16).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Seed of David: Son of David and God is Family Redeemer.

Messiah is *raised up* as the Seed of David to be the Son and Heir of David and God, so your redemption is not simply an earthly transaction but your spiritual birthright in Messiah! For, only the Son and Heir of God and David can redeem David's and all families with a God-scale atonement and a mortal death, *suffering discipline* (2 Sam. 7:14) to redeem you home to God! (Phil. 2:5-11). Consider Jesus your Messiah's vast inheritance, building a royal *household* for God (2 Sam. 7:13) and David's royalty (11). In Jesus Messiah, you and our royal house is already enthroned in *heavenly rule* (Eph. 2:6) for we only wait for Him to finally bring this heavenly glory to earth. So, wait for his redemption, for it will be *irrevocably sweet!* For, we rule with him when our Lord Messiah sets up His *eternal throne* and heavenly Kingdom on earth (16)!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

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What is a key idea?

Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

Share lesson with partner, family, or group.

What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁶: Raising up Seed: Judah, Boaz, God. When a family line is threatened with extinction, Jewish Law allows a *related redeemer* to “raise up Seed” for the deceased, a Son who will take the role of *Redeemer* to restore the family and multiply sons who will continue the line. Raised up in this way, this Seed is the son of two fathers—the deceased (David) and the *redeemer* who raises up Seed (God). So, Jesus is Son of David, God.

⁶ **Footnotes: Family Redeemer:** House and Kingdom. Raised up as David’s Seed, the Son of David and God, Messiah is the family Redeemer who will build a *house* of sons for David (2 Sam. 7:11) and God (13). This combined House, with its Heir and Redeemer, also inherits from both God and David. So, the Redeemer and family rule a Kingdom of God and David.

Chapter 7: PASSOVER LAMB: Atoning Sacrifice

Exodus 12:1-13; Isaiah 53

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then **Write Insights** to Share with others.

a. Preview *Exodus 12:1-13; Isaiah 53*

Passover Lamb: Redeeming Sacrifice. Jesus Messiah is the Passover Lamb, giving His life as the sacrifice to redeem His people from spiritual death (Is. 53:10, 1 Pet. 1:18). So, read Exodus 12 to understand the promise of Passover as an earthly *redemption* requiring a *lamb* as an offering of blood; then, Isaiah 53 as Passover's fulfillment as Messiah offers His life for a greater spiritual redemption! As you read Exodus 12, notice in this ***first Passover*** how the Lord redeems His people. Every family must be covered by the *lamb's blood* (3) to partake in the Lord's act of redemption, and His people must be *redeemed* first at the "beginning" of anything else (2), for the Lord spares His people from *rightful judgment* (11-12). Next, see in Isaiah 53 how Messiah suffers for a ***spiritual Passover***, offering himself as the "Lamb" of God who bears our sins (6). Then, see Messiah's ***righteous reward*** (11).

b. Prayerfully Read *Exodus 12:1-13; Isaiah 53* and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. What role does the Lamb play in the Lord's Passover?

Q2. Why do we need a spiritual Passover and a better offering for our deliverance?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. Why is the sacrifice of the Lambs an important part of the deliverance of Passover? (Exodus 12:1-13)

1. First Passover: Earthly Deliverance. The first Passover marked the Lord's deliverance of Israel out of Egypt, for the blood of the lamb covered each household and spared it from the Lord's deadly judgment (3). It was important that each "house" had or shared in the lamb and its blood, showing that each one must be covered by the Lord's redemption. Since each lamb was *offered* to the Lord, it was to be "without blemish" (5). As a means of earthly deliverance, the lamb and its life-blood was the holy means to avert the Lord's judgment.

Q2. How does Messiah accomplish a spiritual deliverance as the Lamb offered to God? (Isaiah 53:1-10)

2. Lamb of God: Spiritual Passover. When God promised to *raise up Seed* for David, He also said he would be *disciplined* for “iniquity” (2 Sam. 7:14). Isaiah 53 now explains that when this Seed is born and “grows up...like a young plant” (2), it is indeed “our iniquities” that he is “crushed” because he is to be “pierced for our transgressions” (5). Cast out like wandering Naomi and Ruth, we are “sheep” who have gone “astray,” orphaned from the Lord’s family. And, our “iniquity” is a greater threat than Pharaoh, for it leads to God’s judgment and spiritual death (6). So, Messiah is the “Lamb... led to the slaughter” (7) whose life is given as an “offering for guilt” to make us righteous (10-11; Jer. 23:5-6)

Q3. Why is the Messiah satisfied by His work of redemption as the Lamb of God? (Isaiah 53:10-12)

3. Satisfied Redeemer: Righteous Reward. Ultimately, Messiah suffers as the “Lamb” of God to accomplish the Lord God’s “will” as the Redeemer of this gathered house of God and David (53:10). Having been put to death (9), this Lamb is now resurrected to see the Lord’s will “prosper” through his sacrifice. Most notably, His sacrifice now makes his people to be “accounted righteous” (11), having their spiritual burden of guilt atoned for (10). Now, he shares his inheritance with the many of his family, being their righteousness (Jer. 23:6).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Lamb of God: Relatable Redeemer. Israel feared Pharaoh, but they were terrified by a greater spiritual threat to their *weak flesh*, the holy presence of God! For, they cried out, "Do not let God speak to us, lest we die" (Exodus 20:19), showing their (and our) need for a *spiritual redemption* from sin!

Imagine the relief washing over your household, that dreadful Egyptian night, as you were unscathed as the *angel of death* passed over you only to take Egypt's firstborn! The Lord's *redemption* to bring you "out of the house of slavery" (Ex. 20:2) would start Israel's devotion to the Lord.

Now, Jesus Messiah delivers you as God's fulfilled *Passover Lamb* for a spiritual *redemption* (Jn. 1:29) so that the touch of death *passes over you* as you enter *eternal life* by the blood of the Lamb! (Jn. 5:24, 1 Peter 1:19). Your *redemption* "satisfies" the "soul" of Jesus, knowing that you and our entire family are now *safe* from sin in His *righteousness*!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

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What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁷: Lamb of God: Passover Promise Fulfilled. The Lord's Passover is a memorial that the Lord's earthly deliverance precedes any righteous acts of obedience (Ex. 20:2). But, it also promises a greater Passover to come for a spiritual deliverance from sin. Though delivered from Pharoah, Israel has always needed to be saved spiritually from their fleshly corruption to sin and fear (19), a fear we inherited when our family line fell to unbelief Gen. 3:10

⁷ **Footnotes: Offering for Guilt:** Firstborn Claimed. The Lord God has a right to Israel's *firstborn* (Exodus 13:2), so when He asks Abraham to offer Isaac as an "offering" (Gen. 22:2) and Messiah as the Lamb to give up His "soul" as an "offering for guilt" (Is. 53:10), he ask for only what is rightfully his own. This piercing for transgression (8) pays for his people's righteousness.

Chapter 8: ANOINTED PRIEST: Peaceful Rule of Branch

· Leviticus 16:29-34; Zechariah 6:11-15; Jeremiah 23:5-6

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word for yourself then Write Insights to Share with others.*

a. *Preview* Leviticus 16:29-34; Zechariah 6:11-15; Jeremiah 23:5-6

Anointed Priest: Presenting people before God. Messiah is *the* Anointed Priest, appointed by God to present His family before Himself forever in *holiness* (Heb. 5:5-10), ruling in *power as priest* to bring peace between heaven and earth (Eph. 2:14). So, read Leviticus 16 to discover how *the Anointed Priest* makes peace between God and His people, then seeing how Messiah as David's Branch fulfills this role forever, as the prophets describe. First, read Leviticus 16 to understand the **need for the anointed priest** to mediate between the Lord and His people. Primarily, this priest is the one to make "atonement" to cleanse his people of their sins (30) and to create a "meeting place" uniting the Lord and His people (33). Then, read the prophets in Zechariah 6 and Jeremiah 23 to see that only Messiah is the Anointed Priest with His **power to rule** and **perfect righteousness** *he gives*.

b. *Prayerfully* Leviticus 16:29-34; Zechariah 6:11-15; Jeremiah 23:5-6 and **Write** your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. Why do God's people need an Anointed Priest?

Q2: What are the ways that Messiah is the perfect person to serve as the Anointed Priest?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. What is the role of the anointed priest, and why is a more perfect and powerful priest needed? (Lev. 16:29-34)

1. Needed Anointed Priest: Mediating Relationship. While the Law appoints many priests to serve the congregation, there is the Anointed Priest, appointed to mediate between the Lord and His people, who foretells the coming Messiah. Because the “sins” and “transgressions” of the people separate them from God (Lev. 1:15), the Anointed Priest is needed to make “atonement” for the people. Also, he sanctifies a holy place for the people to meet with God (16).

Q2. What will Messiah do as the Branch of David? (Zech. 6:11-15)

2.Branch of the Lord: Priest on Throne. Because Israel's *anointed priests* were *hindered* in their service by their own sins, the Lord promises Messiah, the Branch of David, to serve as the "priest on his throne" (Zechariah 6:13), making peace between the duties of "king" and "priest" and giving the priest royal power to fulfill Heaven's spiritual purposes on earth! Only such a "priest on his throne" will have the royal power and heavenly mandate to "build" God's forever "temple" (15).

Q3. How does Messiah fulfill the role of the perfect Anointed Priest? (Jeremiah 23:5-6)

3. Perfect Righteousness: Lord is our Righteousness. God's perfect, Anointed Priest does not simply make righteous temporarily, but He forever makes His people "righteousness" (6). For, our *eternal righteousness* before God securing an eternal peace (Rom. 5:1-2) does not depend on any earthly act of self-righteousness or ritual atonement. Rather, our "righteousness" is eternally secured in His "Lordship," which he gives to us in redemption (2 Cor. 5:21).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Anointed Priest: Atoning Power to Rule. In their exile, Israel realized that their Anointed Priest needed the Messiah's power to *forever atone* for their *sins* and to *rule a Kingdom making peace with heaven and earth*. So, the Lord God revealed that Messiah, the Branch of David (Jer. 23:6) would rule as a Priest on His Throne (Zechariah 6:13).

Realize that this perfect Anointed Priest is Jesus, your Messiah! Rather than a flesh-bound priest limited in his mortality and burdened by his own sins, your priest removes yours sins forever to make you *righteous!* (Zech. 3:9). And this Anointed Priest who mediates with heaven is not powerless to act on earth. No, your Anointed Priest is a *priest ruling on His throne*, honored with a holy power to carry out the Lord's will on earth (6:13)! Live boldly, then, offering God all the gifts your life can *yield*, for you have eternal atonement in your Anointed Priest!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

Share lesson with partner, family, or group.

What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁸: Atonement: Covering Sin. The Anointed Priests serving before Israel's altar were mainly responsible for making atonement. However, their human limitations were highlighted by their need to atone for their own sins. So, the Lord God promises Messiah, the Branch of David, who makes an eternal atonement to remove iniquity by one act (Zech. 3:9), the atonement Jesus Messiah made on the day of His cross (Heb. 10:14).

⁸ **Footnotes: Priest on His Throne: Peaceful Rule.** The throne, given authority to rule on earth, and the priesthood, empowered to mediate in matters of heaven, have been at odds in Israel's history, with kings even attempting to change or even slaughter the entire priesthood. But now, Messiah brings the "counsel of peace" (Zech. 6:13) to mediate between the two, uniting a rule of *heaven and earth* as the "priest" on His "throne."

Chapter 9: STAR OF JACOB: Scepter in Judah

Numbers 24; Gen. 49:8-12; Isaiah 9:6-7

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word for yourself then Write Insights to Share with others.*

a. Preview Numbers 24; Gen. 49:8-12; Isaiah 9:6-7

Star of Jacob: Ruling a House and Kingdom. Messiah's Lordship ascends like a star over Jacob and all the nations of the earth, establishing God's peaceful and life-giving rule over the earth (Is. 9:6-7). So, read portions of Numbers 24, Genesis 49, and Isaiah 9 to see the need for Messiah to arise over Israel and the nations to wield the *scepter* of kingdom rule! First, notice in Numbers 24 that like *Balak*, fleshly people hold an **angry opposition** Messiah's rule as the *lion* of Israel (9-10), even though God gives him the power to "break down" any opposition (17). Then, Genesis 49 consider Israel's prophetic blessing to Messiah's line of Judah to see the **promise of his rule** (8-10) which brings peace to the sons of Israel (8). For, in Isaiah 9 we see Messiah's **peaceful rule** of "justice" and "righteousness" for the world (7).

*Messiah is the Lord's Firstborn Heir over the sons of Man, so His family line is Israel, God's Firstborn of all the families of the earth (Ex. 4:22),

b. Prayerfully Read Numbers 24; Gen. 49:8-12; Isaiah 9:6-7 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. Why do you think Messiah is like a star that ascends high above all?

Q2. How does Messiah's rule as Lord bring good to His people?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. Why are people in the flesh angrily opposed to Messiah and His rule? (Numbers 24)

1. Star of Jacob: Angry Opposition. When the rich ruler Balak heard the prophecy of Israel being a powerful lion *blessed by God*, his “anger was kindled” and instead wanted Israel and its coming Messiah “cursed” (10). This is the reason we are all *opposed* to the ascending of Messiah and His rule, whether we are of Israel or the nations. If Messiah is God’s *blessed* and chosen “star” (17), then we cannot be the *rich rulers* of our own lives. So, the *flesh* is cursed without Messiah.

Q2. Why does God raise up Judah above His brothers as the coming Ruler? (Genesis 49:8-12)

2. Lion of Judah: Firstborn Rights. Though the sons of Jacob were heirs together of God's promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, their brotherly strife and jealousy turned to hatred and even murder (Gen. 37:20). This jealousy was passed on to their tribal relations, as Israel's tribes rebelled against Judah's rule (1 Kings 12:16). So, God raises up Judah as a "lion" to which the other sons "bow down" and "praise" (8-9). Thus, Messiah's rule as the lion of Judah appoints a worthy power which his brothers will recognize and honor.

Q3. Why does God raise up Messiah as the Son of David to rule over Israel and the nations? (Isaiah 9:6-7)

3. Ruling Son: Abundant Kingdom. Though human flesh bristles at the rule of God's Messiah, the "Star" appointed to ascend every other tribal or human power, fleshly rule recognizes the frustrating limits of its own power and its inability to secure lasting good. However, when Messiah is *raised up* as the Firstborn Son given to us (9:6), He comes in the name and power of the "Mighty God" (7) to rule a government that sees "no end" to its order and peace (7).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Star of Jacob: Rule of Firstborn. Your Messiah is the rightful ruler of heaven and earth, and you share in His kingdom rule as a son in God's Family (Jn. 1:12-13; Rom. 8:17). For, family shapes His Kingdom Rule. In his nature, God is Father as Head and Son as Heir (Heb. 1:2). The Father honors the Son as the Heir of heaven and earth, the *Firstborn* of this current Creation and its future of *resurrection* (Col. 1:15-20). As his family, we *support* and *proclaim* this Firstborn Messiah as *pre-eminent* over all things. If Messiah is the Firstborn Son, then He *multiplies sons* in His image (Rom. 8:29) as a *multitude of heaven's stars* filling God's eternal House from the families of every nation (Rev. 7:9). But, of the earth's families, Israel's sons are honored as God's "Firstborn son among the nations" (Ex. 4:22), for Messiah is the "Star of Jacob" ascending Israel's sons and earth's sons. So, resemble Messiah, the heir, to share in His family rule!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
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SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
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Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁹: Until He comes to Shiloh: Sharing Inheritance. In Jacob's blessing of Judah, he says Messiah will "come to Shiloh Shiloh" (10), the place where Israel's tribes were given their assigned inheritance (Josh. 18:1). In this way, Messiah brings Israel's tribes together in His Kingdom to give each their eternal portion. In Messiah, Israel's families are rewarded.

⁹ **Footnotes: Lion of Judah:** Blood-stained Garments. Possessing the ruling "Scepter" of Judah, Messiah is unstoppable as Judah's "Lion" (9). If Judah is Head of the Tribes, then Judah's Heir, Messiah, is its Firstborn Son. He is given the responsibility of family redemption. So, Messiah is always promised to be "bruised" (Gen. 3:15, bloodied (49:11), "disciplined" for sin (2 Sam. 7:14) to redeem His people (Rev. 5:9-10; 19:13).

Chapter 10: ANOINTED PROPHET: Word of God

Deut. 18:16-22; Jer. 30:9; Is. 11:1-5; 30:21; 61:1-3

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word for yourself then Write Insights to Share with others.*

a. Preview Deut. 18:16-22; Jer. 30:9; Is. 11:1-5; 30:21; 61:1-3

Anointed Prophet: Revealing Word of God. Messiah is the *Anointed Prophet* who brings God's Word near in His holy presence to instruct God's people as Immanuel, "God with us" (Heb. 1:1-3; Jn. 1:1-3). So, read Deuteronomy 18 to see God's promise of a prophet *raised up* as Messiah to bring God's Word and His presence near, then see how the prophets clarify God's promise of Messiah as the Lord raised up to speak personally to us. Starting with Deuteronomy 18, consider how God promises to raise up a ***relatable prophet*** to speak to you with the "voice" of the Lord God but with the familiarity of a brother's words (15). Then, be reminded in Jeremiah that Messiah ***represents His fathers*** as the "Lord God" and "David" the King to speak intimately with His people (Jer. 30:9). Finally, turn to Isaiah to see that the Spirit anoints Messiah to ***instruct you in the Lord's way***.

b. Prayerfully Read Deut. 18:16-22; Jer. 30:9; Is. 11:1-5; 30:21; 61:1-3 and **Write** your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. Why does God need to raise up Messiah as a Prophet who speaks like a brother?

Q2: How can you rely on Messiah as God's prophet to speak the Words of God to you?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. Why must God raise up Messiah as a Prophet to speak to the people? (Deuteronomy 18:15-22)

1. Relatable Prophet: Familiar Lord as Brother. God knows that we are people of *sinful flesh*, so we cannot bear the burning presence of the Holy God speaking to us (16). So, the Lord God promises to raise up a *relatable prophet* who speaks as a “brother” but with the very “command” and voice of the Lord God (18). This promise to *raise up* such a relatable prophet is the same to *raise up* Messiah in the reassuring and recognizable character of David (Jer. 23:5).

Q2. How does Messiah, *raised up as “Lord God” and “King,”* speak to the people in intimate ways? (Jeremiah 30:9)

2.Represents Fathers: Speaking as Family. Messiah is *raised up* by God to speak and lead His people in the “name,” “words,” and voice of “command” (Deut. 18:18) as “the Lord their God” and “David their king” (Jer. 30:9). So, Messiah speaks to the people with the spiritual words of the “Lord” but in a familiar voice, as “David” raised up to speak to them as one of their own brothers. In this way, Messiah can be trusted to speak faithfully as God speaks to His people.

Q3. Why does God *raise up* Messiah to speak to His people? (Isaiah 11:1-5; 30:19-22; 61:1-3)

3. Lord’s Instruction: Gently Instructs in the Way. Messiah is *anointed* by the Spirit of the Lord that he might speak with the *mind* and *heart* of God to the people, “counseling” and instructing them as God himself (11:2-3). The Lord reveals Himself in this way, making His presence known, so that he might personally “teach” His people to heed His voice and to follow in His “way” (30:20-21). So, the Lord enriches His people with good news, healing, freedom, and favor (61:1-3).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Anointed Prophet: Revealed Word of God. Listen to God's heart when He promises to *raise up* Messiah as a prophet who speaks as a "brother" to you! (Deut. 18:18). God knows that His holy voice *shocks* your sin-weakened flesh (16), so He raises up Messiah as one whose voice is *resonant* with His spiritual power yet *reassuringly* comforting and familiar, the voice of one you've always known! So, as a Father invested in *teaching* His own children the *way of life*, the Lord reveals Himself to you through Messiah to draw near to *teach you*! Drawing near in Jesus Messiah to say to you, "This is the way, walk in it" (Is. 30:21). Listen to the voice of Messiah as He speaks the Word of God to you, and you will hear him speak in the Lord's *voice of command* (Dt. 18:18)—for He is *raised up as* "the Lord your God" (Jer. 30:9). Yet, the familiar voice of a "brother," for He is "David" your king as well!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

Share lesson with partner, family, or group.

What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes¹⁰: Lord their God and David their King: Messiah Raised Up. According to the promise to David that God would *raise up Seed* for Him, Messiah is the son of both David and God (2 Sam. 7:12, 14). Also, the laws of duty (Gen. 38:8) and redemption (Ruth 4:10) prescribe that such Seed *raises up* the “name” of His fathers as well, so Messiah is *Lord* and *David*.

¹⁰ **Footnotes: Anointed to Speak:** Proclaim and Liberate. God’s anointing of Messiah by the Spirit of God is not just a title ascribed but a persona embodied. So, the Spirit of God gives Messiah the spiritual *presence* of His Father—His *wisdom, understanding, counsel, and might* (Is. 11:1-3) to fulfill the spiritual *purpose of* His Lord—to bring *grace, healing, and righteousness* to His people (Is. 61:1-3).

Prayer Requests:

Prayer Request/ Date	Answered Prayer/ Thanks

Journaling:

What is God teaching you?	How are you growing?

Sermon Notes:

Sermon Notes/ Date	Applying it to my life

Notes: