

Mastering Life
The “Messiah” Complex

I. Introduction

- A. “Messiah” means “Anointed One” in Hebrew.
1. The Jews thought primarily in terms of a king coming as the Messiah.
- B. There were 2 things the Israelites believed the Messiah would do:
1. He would defeat Israel’s enemies in battle.
 2. He would restore correct worship in the temple.
- C. Matthew 2:2 (NLT) *“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”*
- D. Matthew 2:3 (NLT) *King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem.*
- E. John 1:29b (NLT) *“Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”*
1. Our real problem is all of us want to be our own little “Messiah.”
- F. Genesis 3:5 (NLT) *“God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”*
- G. John 13:1 (NLT) *Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.*
- H. Exodus 12:3 (NLT) *Announce to the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each family must choose a lamb or a young goat for a sacrifice, one animal for each household.*
- I. Zechariah 9:9 (NLT) *Rejoice, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and victorious, yet he is humble, riding on a donkey.*
- J. Luke 19:37 (NLT) *When they reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout and sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.*
1. A palm branch was their symbol of freedom!
 2. “Hosanna” meant, “Save us now!”
- K. Luke 19:41 (NLT) *But as they came closer to Jerusalem and Jesus saw the city ahead, he began to weep.*
1. The cross was the signature of a “failed Messiah”!

L. Philippians 2:8 (NLT) *He humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.*

II. Conclusion