

Why Do Jews Not Believe Jesus As Messiah?



The title of this article is a question I read on Quora dot com. The person who asked the question continued to say:

I need a valid answer from Jews themselves because Christians use that to prove Jesus was God.”

The answer he received is as follows:

I am Jewish. I have answered this question 10,000 times over the last 50 years. Libraries full of books written by Jews have been published answering this question. Basically, we reject Jesus as the messiah because he fulfilled no prophecy, advocated idolatry and blasphemy, and told his followers to violate Torah.

Fulfilled no prophecy? Just off the top of my head, the wonderful prophecy of Israel 53 comes to mind!

Isaiah 53:1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

3 **He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief:** and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely **he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows:** yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But **he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.**

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and **the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet **he opened not his mouth** (before the Roman governor Pilate): he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall

declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when **thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin**, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: **by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.**

12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and **he was numbered with the transgressors**; and he bare the sin of many, and **made intercession for the transgressors.**

Isaiah 53 clearly is about Jesus and His death on the cross to bear the punishment for our sins. Jewish people don't read it? They don't read it from their Hebrew Bible which they call the Tanakh?

Moreover, Jesus did not tell His followers to violate the Torah!

Matthew 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Matthew 5:27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:

28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

The man also accuses Jesus of idolatry and blasphemy. The word "idolatry" doesn't appear in any of the four Gospels. He was not accused of idolatry. He was accused of blasphemy because of what He said in John chapter 10:

John 10:30 I and my Father are one.

31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.

32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?

33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.

But a prophecy in the Jews's Tanakh, their Hebrew Bible, our Old Testament says,

Isaiah 9:6 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.

Jewish rabbis don't consider Isaiah 9:6 a prophecy of their Messiah?

The Jewish man continued his reply why Jews do not believe in Jesus as Messiah:

Here's a prophecy. "See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. 6 He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents." (Malachi 4:5-6)

So, before the messiah shows up, Elijah will return, and G-d, working through him, will "turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents."

He doesn't know or acknowledge that Elijah returned in the form of John the Baptist.

Matthew 11:9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet.

10 For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

12 And from the days of **John the Baptist** until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.

14 And if ye will receive it, this is Elias (Elijah), which was for to come.

The Jewish man continues:

Also, if Jesus was the messiah, I'd be in Israel right now, worshiping with my resurrected relatives in the Third Temple. So am I?

There would be no talk of a Third Temple if God hadn't used the Roman army to destroy the Second Temple! And why? Because of the Jews' rejection of Jesus of Nazareth as their Messiah!

Also, the messiah is not to be prayed to, worshiped or venerated. He will not be sinless, or part of G-d.

He doesn't know the Tanakh. The conception of Jesus by a virgin shows His Divinity. The prophecy in Isaiah 7 calls the Messiah Immanuel which means God with us.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign;
Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his
name Immanuel.

Perhaps you can add more of God's Word from the Hebrew Bible to show this Jewish man he's been listening to the wrong voices. Many Christians are also guilty of listening to their preacher more than what the Bible tells them. I was guilty of that for decades. I'm trying my best these days to read my Bible better than ever.