Calvary and was buried. On the third day He rose from the dead and appeared to hundreds of eyewitnesses.

By the resurrection, God clearly demonstrated that Jesus is the Messiah. If you have not received Jesus as *your* Messiah, he invites you:

"Look! Here I stand at the door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal as friends." - Revelation 3:20 (NLT)

## CONCLUSION:

The Messiah has come and is alive and well living in the hearts and lives of His followers. The Scriptures tell us He will physically return to Earth to punish the wicked and reward His followers.

All of us must prepare for His coming by opening the door of our hearts, personally asking Him into our lives as Savior and Lord. The Bible states (Romans 10:9 NLT): "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart

that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

His atoning blood is the perfect ongoing sacrifice or payment for our sins which have cut us off from God. Through Him we are forgiven, delivered from Satan's domain of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God. We are reunited in fellowship with our Creator, made children of God, given Eternal Life as a free gift, and given the power to live victoriously, overcoming sin and evil, making a difference.

HERE'S HOW - to be reconciled to God through His Messiah, Yeshua Ha'Mashiach (Jesus). Pray this World's Most Important Prayer aloud and from your heart:

Lord God of our Fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, I come before you just as I am. I have sinned against you, but I accept the perfect sacrifice of your Son Jesus on the cross as full and ongoing payment for my sins. I believe you raised Him from the dead. As you promised in your Word, forgive

my sins, come into my heart, make me your child, give me your free gift of eternal life, write my name in your Book of Life, and fill me with your Holy Spirit so I can serve and obey you. I acknowledge Yeshua as my personal Savior and Master, renouncing the Devil and all his works. Thank you for hearing and answering my prayer and saving me now as you promised you would.

"Let all the world look to Me for salvation! For I am God: there is no other."

(Isaiah 45:22 NLT)

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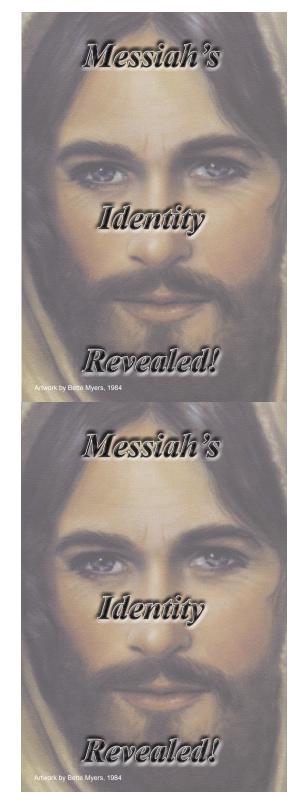
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"Can this be the Messiah?" asked a Samaritan woman in the Bible. Artist Bette Myers painted this picture of the man who appeared to her during a near death experience in the early 1980's.

Who is the Messiah? How can we recognize Him? When will He come?

Centuries ago prophets spoke of the coming of a great leader. He would be sent by God and would be called God's Anointed One, the Messiah. The current interest in the state of Israel awakens renewed interest in the Messiah. Here are six descriptions that identify Him:

- 1. He must be of the seed of Abraham. Moses recorded the promise of God to Abraham in the following way: "In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." (Genesis 22:18 KJV)
- 2. He must be of the tribe of Judah. When Jacob was dying, he said to his son Judah: "The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor

the ruler's staff from his descendants, until the coming of the One to whom it belongs, the One whom all nations will honor." (Genesis 49:10 NLT)

- 3. He must be of the house of David. In Isaiah's prophecy of the Messiah we read: "His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of His ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!" (Isaiah 9:7 NLT)
- 4. He must be born of a virgin. The Prophet Isaiah wrote: "All right then, the Lord Himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a Child! She will give birth to a Son and will call Him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us')." (Isaiah 7:14 NLT)
- 5. He must be born in Bethlehem as foretold by the prophet Micah: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall

he come forth unto me that is to be a ruler in Israel." (Micah 5:2 KJV).

6. *He must be God.* Isaiah clearly stated that when he wrote: "His name shall be called...The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

(Isaiah 9:6 KJV).

More than nineteen hundred years ago, a child was born in a stable in the town of Bethlehem. He was of the seed of Abraham. He was of the tribe of Judah and the house of David. His mother was a virgin.

## The Messiah has come!

Who is the Messiah? The only one who meets all the requirements is Jesus. As a devout Jew, Jesus lived a remarkable life. He restored sight to the blind, healed crippled limbs and even raised the dead. He astounded the Jewish leaders of that time by His insight, wisdom and teaching of the Scriptures. By His words he proved himself to be God's Anointed One.

Then, according to the predetermined plan of God, Jesus gave Himself as God's Passover Lamb—He died for the atonement of His people's sins. As the Prophet Isaiah predicted: "He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on Him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care.

Yet it was our weaknesses He carried; it was our sorrows that weighed Him down. And we thought His troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for His own sins!

But He was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on Him the sins of us all."

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Jesus, the Redeemer, the Suffering Servant of God. died on the cross of

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