

7 JEWISH REASONS... TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

1. IT'S THE **BIRTH OF THE JEWISH MESSIAH**

And there was a man in **Jerusalem** whose name was **Simeon**;
and this man was **righteous** and **devout**,
looking for the **consolation of Israel**;
and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him.

And it had been **revealed** to him by the **Holy Spirit**
that he would **not see death** before he had **seen** the **Lord's Messiah**.

And he came in the **Spirit** into the temple;
and when the parents brought in the **child Jesus**,
to carry out for Him the **custom of the Law**, then he **took Him**
into his arms, and **blessed God**, and said,

“Now, Lord, You are **releasing** Your **bond-servant**
to depart **in peace**, according to **Your word**;
for my eyes have seen **Your salvation**,
which You have **prepared** in the presence of **all peoples**,
A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES,
and **the glory** of Your people **Israel**.”
(Luke 2:25-32)

2. IT'S THE **BIRTH OF ISRAEL'S KING**

prophecy→ For a **child** will be **born to us**, a **son** will be given to us;
and the **government** will rest upon **His shoulders**;

There will be **no end** to the increase of **His government** or of **peace**,
on the **throne of David** and over **His kingdom**,
to establish it and to uphold it with **justice** and **righteousness**
from then on and **forevermore**.
(Isaiah 9:6a, 7)

fulfillment→ The angel said to her (**Mary**),
“And behold, you will **conceive** in your womb and **bear a son**,
and you shall name Him **Jesus**.”

He will be great and will be called **the Son of the Most High**;
and the **Lord God** will give Him the **throne** of His father **David**;

and **He** will **reign** over the **house of Jacob forever**,
and His **kingdom** will have **no end**.”
(Luke 1:30a, 31-33)

3. IT'S THE **BIRTH OF ISRAEL'S PROMISED** **“SEED OF BLESSING”**

prophecy→ Now the LORD said to **Abram**,..
“...**in you** all the **families** of the earth shall **be blessed**.”

“...**in your seed** all the **nations** of the earth shall **be blessed**,..”
(Genesis 12:1, 3c: 22:18a)

fulfillment→ ...**Peter**...replied to the people, “Men of **Israel**,...
“...the things which God announced **beforehand**... He has thus **fulfilled**.”

Therefore **repent** and **return**, so that your **sins** may be wiped away,
in order that **times of refreshing** may come from the **presence** of the Lord;...

It is **you (Israel)** who are the **sons** of the **prophets** and of the **covenant** which
God made with your **fathers**, saying to **Abraham**,

‘AND **IN YOUR SEED** ALL THE **FAMILIES** OF THE EARTH
SHALL **BE BLESSED**.’

For **you first**, **God** raised up **His Servant** and sent **Him** to **bless you**
by turning every one *of you* from your **wicked ways**.”
(Acts 3:12a, 18, 19, 25-26)

4. IT'S THE **BIRTH OF ISRAEL'S SAVIOR**

But the **angel** said to them (the shepherds)
“Do not be afraid; for behold I bring you news of
great joy which will be for **all people**;
for today in the **city of David** there has been **born for you**
a Savior, who is **Messiah the Lord**.
(Luke 2:10-11)

And he (**Simeon**) took **Him (Jesus)** into his arms,
and **blessed God**, and said, “Now, **Lord**,
you are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace,...
for my eyes have seen **Your salvation**,...
(Luke 2:28-30)

...and so **all Israel** will be **saved**; just as it is written,

“THE **DELIVERER** WILL COME TO ZION,
HE WILL **REMOVE UNGODLINESS** FROM JACOB.”
(Romans 11:26, Isaiah 59:20)

5. IT'S THE **BIRTH OF ISRAEL'S LAMB**

prophecy→ **He** was **oppressed** and **He** was **afflicted**,
yet **He** did **not** open **His** **mouth**;
like **a lamb** that is led to the **slaughter**, and like **a sheep**
that is **silent** before it shearers,
so **He** did **not** open **His** **mouth**...

By **oppression** and **judgment** **He** was taken away;
and as for **His** **generation**, who considered that **He**
was **cut off** out of the land of the living
for the **transgression of my people**,
to whom the stroke *was due*?...

As a result of the anguish of **His** **soul**,
He (God) will see *it and* be *satisfied*;

By **His** **knowledge** the **Righteous One, My** **Servant**,
will **justify** the **many**, as **He** will **bear their iniquities**.
(Isaiah 53:7-8, 11)

fulfillment→ The next day he (**John**) saw **Jesus** coming to him and said,
“Behold, the **Lamb of God** who takes away the **sin of the world!**”
(John 1:29)

Clean out the **old leaven** so that you may be a **new lump**,...
For **Messiah our Passover** also has been **sacrificed**.
(I Corinthians 5:7)

6. IT'S THE **BIRTH OF ISRAEL'S "GREAT PROPHET"**

prophecy→ “The **LORD** your **God** will raise up for you **a prophet like me**
from among you, from your **countrymen**, you shall listen to **him**....
And I will put **My words in his mouth**,
and **he** shall speak to them all that **I** **command him**.
(Deuteronomy 18:15, 18b)

fulfillment→ When **He (Jesus)** had entered **Jerusalem**, all the city was stirred,
saying, “**Who is this?**”
And the crowds were saying,
“This is the **prophet Jesus**, from **Nazareth** in Galilee.”
(Matthew 21:10-11)

Therefore, when the people had seen **the sign** which **He** had performed, they said,
“This is truly **the Prophet** who is to come into the **world.**”
(John 6:14)

7. IT'S THE MANIFESTATION OF **ISRAEL'S** **GREAT HIGH PRIEST**

prophecy→ The **LORD** has *sworn* and will not change **His mind**,
“**You (Messiah)** are a **priest forever** according to the **order of Melchizedek.**”
(Psalm 110:4)

fulfillment→ Since then we have a **great high priest** who has passed
through the heavens, **Yeshua the Son of God**, let us hold fast our **confession...**

Although **He** was a **Son**,
He learned **obedience** from the things which **He** suffered.
And having been made **perfect**, **He** became to all those
who **obey Him** the source of **eternal salvation**,
being **designated by God** as a **high priest**
according to the order of **Melchizedek...**

For it was fitting for us to have such a **high priest**, **holy, innocent,**
undefiled, separated from sinners and **exalted above the heavens**;
who does not need **daily**, like those high priests, to offer up **sacrifices...**
because this **He did once for all** when He offered up **Himself**.
(Hebrews 4:14, 5:8-10, 7:26-27)

Closing Comments