

**WHO DO THEY SAY THAT HE IS?** During this series, we are exploring how other faiths view Jesus Christ in light of our own expressions of faith in Him as Savior and Lord. This week we will study **Jeremiah 23:5; 33:15-16; Romans 10:1-4** and other passages with Daniel Aronowitz and Laurie Prather, two Columbia members who each come from a Jewish background, as they ask the question, *Who Do Jews Say Jesus Is?*

1. **Read and reflect on Romans 10:1-4.** Sit and reflect with this passage for about 10 minutes. **Reread it again** aloud, listening carefully to each word.

- What does this passage reveal to you about God's relationship to the Jewish people?
- What does it tell you about the depth of Paul's concern for his people? **Read also Romans 9:1-5.**
- Reread **Romans 10:4** and meditate here for a few minutes.
  - What do you understand from this passage about Jesus, the Messiah or Christ?
  - What is His relationship to the Law?

2. Christians and Jews share a common Scripture and heritage in the books that we know as the Old Testament. These Scriptures tell of the coming of "the Anointed One." The word Messiah is taken from the Hebrew word for "anointed." The word Christ comes from its Greek equivalent. Last week we looked at several passages about the coming of the Messiah. Look at the following verses, examining them for what they might reveal about Jesus Christ as Messiah.

- **Genesis 3:13-15**
- **Genesis 49:10**
- **Psalms 22:14-18**
- **Isaiah 9:6-7**

3. **Read Jeremiah 23:5 and 33:15-16.** In a time of national crisis, God spoke through Jeremiah of a coming ruler from the line of David.

- What do these passages indicate about "the Righteous Branch from David's line" and about the nature of his reign?
- **Read Luke 1:31-33; Acts 2:29-36; and Romans 1:1-4.** What do these passages indicate about the foretold descendant of David?

4. **Read Isaiah 53** and consider how this might be a basis for discussion with a Jewish friend. Using cross references in your Bible, what you know about the life of Jesus as recorded in the Gospels, and the following passages, how did Jesus fulfill the prophecies of **Isaiah 53**?

- **Luke 18:31-33**
- **Matthew 26:63; 27:12-14**
- **Matthew 27:57-60**
- **Mark 15:22-32**

5. Many Jews today have a religion based upon cultural traditions and family activities, as do many Christians. What did John say to those who trust in their ancestry, as recorded in the following passages?

- **Matthew 3:7-12**
- **Luke 3:7-18**

6. Reflecting on your study this week, what were you able to discover about the nature of Jesus, the Christ, and His work in our lives, your life?

End your time of study and reflection meditating on **John 14:6**. Pray that you may see Jesus for who He is and follow Him. Also, we live near many Jews in the D.C. area. Pray that Columbia's Fall Emphasis, which starts next week, and the events surrounding the church's 150th anniversary will help remind us to share with our Jewish friends that Jesus is the Living Water and the Jewish Messiah.