

Religious Education Knowledge Organiser – Year 6



Incarnation

Was Jesus the Messiah?

Key Vocabulary

messiah	A saviour who will come and rescue God's people.
Christ	A Greek word that means the same as Messiah.
prophecy	Writings about what might happen in the future
Isaiah	A prophet in the Old Testament
Micah	Another prophet in the Old Testament
Israel	The country where God's people lived as their own nation.
Israelites	God's people who lived in Israel
Jews	Another name for God's people but not linked to where they live.
empire	Countries ruled by one ruling country.
conquer	Take over and rule another country
Immanuel	Means 'God with Us'.
patriarch	The male head of a family or tribe

Skills

What was the situation for God's people at the end of the Old Testament? The People of God were taken into exile. They return after about 50 years, but their Promised Land is still occupied by foreign forces. They begin to have a New Hope — God will send a Chosen One or Messiah. This is the situation when the Old Testament ends.
As baby Jesus became an adult man, did he fulfil further prophecies from the Old Testament? Christians believe that Jesus fulfils every prophecy from the Old Testament about the coming Messiah. Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled these prophecies without being a military leader or claiming any land for God's people.
What does the Transfiguration show Christians about Jesus the Messiah? The transfiguration, as shown in the artwork above, shows Christians that Jesus was, and is, greater than even Moses (who represents the law in the Old Testament) and Elijah (who represents prophecy from the Old Testament). He is not just another prophet or leader but the Son of God who fulfils the law and prophecy of the Old Testament.
Is it important for Christians to be peacemakers? From the Old Testament prophecies and because of being under military occupation by an enemy, the Jewish people were expecting and hoping for the Messiah to be a military ruler to rescue them. Jesus came to be a peacemaker and taught his followers to be the same.
How can Christians experience a 'transfiguration' or transformation in their own lives? Jesus transformed people's expectations of life and death. His impact was so incredible that people 2000 years later continue to follow him. Christians believe that a faith in Jesus promises eternal life but also that it transforms their lives right now. Many Christians experience a transformation of their attitudes and of how they live their life once they follow Jesus.
Does the world need a Messiah or is human love enough? Christians believe that God is love and is the creator of love. Christians believe God's love transforms who they are so that the more they are transformed, the more they can love like God does. What do you believe?

Key Ideas

Big Story of the Bible

Creation	God creates a perfect world where he is in a perfect relationship with humanity.
The Fall	Adam and Eve don't follow God's rules and they spoil their friendship with God. This story is also found in Genesis.
Patriarchs	Several men in one family line lead God's people. The family end up in Egypt and become slaves to the Egyptians.
Exodus	Moses becomes the leader of God's people and helps them escape from slavery in Egypt.
Conquest	God's people conquer the Promised Land called Israel and have a home and nation of their own. The people are called 'Israelites' or sometimes 'Jews'.
Judges	God appoints judges to lead His people.
Kings and Prophets	God's people aren't happy with having Judges and ask for a King like the other countries. God lets them have a king. God wants to fix his friendship with humans so he asks prophets to tell the people the right thing to do. People continue to disobey. The Israelites go through phases of good and bad leadership from their Kings. The Kingdom of Israel is then conquered by different empires.
Silence	Prophets foretell of a coming king who will rescue the Israelites from being under the rule of other kingdoms. There is a period where nothing new is heard from God and the people wait for hundreds of years for this coming Messiah who will come to save them.
Incarnation	God's people still aren't doing the right thing so God comes as Jesus to make it better for them. God the Son is incarnated and lives on Earth as a human! Some people believe that Jesus is the Messiah they have been waiting for to rescue them. Many of the people don't understand that Jesus was going to be 'King of their hearts' rather than a military ruler and King of a country. They are angry when Jesus doesn't make plans to overthrow the Romans who are currently ruling them.
Salvation	Jesus dies on the cross as a punishment for everything his people do wrong. His people can be friends with God again now that Jesus has brought them 'Salvation'.
Kingdom of God	Jesus' friends and followers tell the world about the Good News of Jesus. Jesus goes to heaven but sends the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts and guide them.
New creation	Christians believe that Jesus will come again and bring a new heaven and earth where everything will be perfect again. This is in the book of Revelation.

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OLD TESTAMENT



CREATION PATRIARCH EXODUS CONQUEST JUDGES KINGDOM EXILE SILENCE

NEW TESTAMENT



GOSPELS CHURCH MISSIONS FUTURE



When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, he rode in on a donkey. This satisfied the prophecies about the coming Messiah but also tells us something about Jesus' character. A military leader would have arrived on a horse but Jesus chose to ride a lowly donkey instead.

The End of the Old Testament.
What's the situation?

Key Verses of Prophecy from the Old Testament about The coming Messiah

The People of God were taken into exile in Babylon in 586BCE. They return after about 50 years, but their Promised Land is still occupied by foreign forces.

They begin to have a New Hope — God will rescue them!

He will send a rescuer, a saviour — a Chosen One or Messiah. This is the situation when the Old Testament ends. However, the land remains occupied by different forces — at the start of the New Testament, this is by the beastly Romans. The people have been waiting a long time — and some are despairing, but some still hope.

Mat 17 v 1-13 The Transfiguration

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." The disciples asked him, "Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?" Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was talking to them about John the Baptist.

Moses and Elijah were two important patriarchs from the Old Testament. Moses led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. Elijah performed many miracles and it was prophesied that he would return to signal the coming of the Messiah. It is really significant that these two patriarchs are present with Jesus during the transfiguration when God speaks in the New Testament. The Jewish people questioned whether Elijah had in fact returned to signal the coming of the Messiah and Jesus explained that his cousin, John the Baptist, was actually Elijah returned. These verses illustrate the Christian belief that Jesus is part of the 'Big Story of the Bible'. Jesus can be spotted at the beginning of the Old Testament in Genesis when God creates the world and then these big characters appear with him in the New Testament. This scene lies Jesus firmly into the Christian understanding of the Bible being the big story of God and of his relationship with humans. Moses and Elijah both rescued and saved God's people. Now, God the Son comes to Earth to live as a man and to save his people once and for all.