

**He would bring in God’s great plan of redemption through the shedding of His blood.**

Sin did not surprise the Lord! Christ is the *“Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”* (John 1:29); *“He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world”* (1 Peter 1:20).

The first verse of the Bible introduces the **Father, Son and Holy Spirit**:

*“In the beginning God (Elohim) created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters (Genesis 1:1-2).*

*‘Elohim’ is a uni-plural noun with the underlying thought of ‘unity’. Thus the Trinity is latent in Elohim. This is highlighted: ‘Then God (Elohim) said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...” (Gen 1:26). So ‘Elohim’ is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

The promised **‘Seed’** of the woman, **Christ**, would bruise the **serpents** (Satan) head at the Cross (Genesis 3:15). Blood was shed when God performed the first sacrifice to provide skins to cover Adam and Eve’s nakedness. This also points to the sacrifice of Christ. *‘The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”’* (John 1:29).

**Tracing Christ, the Messiah, through the Old Testament**

- a. God promised both **Abraham** (Genesis 12:3; 15:1-5) and **David** (2 Samuel 7:12-17) that the Christ would be from their **‘seed’**. Matthew Chapter 1 traces this ‘seed’ as descending from Abraham and David, brought forth from the virgin’s womb.
- b. The **Angel of the Lord** is identified as Christ (Gen.16:7-11; 22:11,15; Judges 6:11-22) etc.
- c. He appeared to Joshua as *“the Commander of the army of the Lord”* (Joshua 5:13-15).
- d. Job identified Him: *“For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth...”* (Job 19:25).
- e. In Psalm 2 Christ is called His **Anointed** and My **King**. Christ means ‘the Anointed One’.
- f. David foretold **His resurrection** (Psalm 16:8-11); **His sacrificial suffering** (Psalm 22); as **Shepherd** (Psalm 23) and as coming **King** (Psalm 24). Many Psalms speak of Him.

**All of the prophets witnessed to Him****Here are just a few references:****Isaiah, probably greatest of the prophet, told of His person and work:**

- a. The reign of Jesse’s offspring, the Messiah - Ch. 11;
- b. He will reign as King - Ch. 32:1-8;
- c. The Servant of the Lord - Ch. 42
- d. The Servant & Light to the gentiles - Ch. 49
- e. The suffering Messiah - Ch. 53.
- f. Invitation to an abundant life in Messiah – Ch. 55.

**Prophecies of Zechariah:**

He wrote about the Messiah and Israel’s repentance – Chs. 12-13; about Messiah and the *‘Day of the Lord’*, when He returns to judge the nations and establish His kingdom of perfect righteousness - Ch. 14.

There are many more references to the Messiah in the Old Testament, and many fulfilled in the New, and many for the future fulfilment.

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus met with two disciples; *“And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself”* (Luke 24:27).

**These scripture references will encourage you to read carefully and prayerfully the Word of God, and there see Jesus portrayed. This will richly bless your life and service.**