

# MESSIANIC JUDAISM

Messianic Judaism is actually **2,000** years old, dating to the time of **Yeshua** Himself. **Yeshua** was (and is) Jewish. He was raised in a Jewish home and ministered to Jewish people in the Land of Israel. His disciples were Jewish. The apostles were Jewish. The writers of the Brit Chadashah (New Covenant or Testament) were Jewish (with the possible exception of Luke, and a good case can be made that he too was Jewish), and for a time, the faith was strictly Jewish. By the middle of the **1st century AD**, tens of thousands of Jewish people believed that **Yeshua** was the Messiah (see **Acts 2:37-42, 4:4, 21:20**).

Messianic Judaism is a movement of Jewish people who believe that **Yeshua** (**Jesus'** original name in Hebrew) is the Messiah of Israel and the Savior of the world.

**Yeshua** is the most Jewish of Jews.

**Yeshua** was a descendant of both Abraham and King David, was raised in a Jewish home and went to synagogue. He perfectly kept the entire **Torah Galatians 4:4**

He taught that He came to fulfill, not set aside, the **Torah** (see **Matthew 5:17-19**). He was a rabbi who performed unparalleled miracles, bringing great blessing to the nation of Israel. All His early disciples also lived very Jewish lives. The Messianic movement was entirely Jewish at its inception, and continued to exist as an authentic Jewish movement for **700** years after **Yeshua's** death and resurrection.

Messianic Jews have not stopped being Jewish. On the contrary, we remain strongly Jewish in our identity and lifestyle! The **Tenach** (the Old Testament Scriptures) provides the foundation of our Jewish faith, and the New Covenant Scriptures (which were also written by Jews) the completion of our Jewish faith. In fact, the Hebrew Scriptures themselves affirm that they are not complete, but that **God** was going to make a New Covenant with the Jewish people. **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

They believe that the Sinai covenant, upon which much of traditional (Rabbinic) Judaism is based, is a broken covenant. There is no Temple and there are no sacrifices by which we can be brought near to **God** and experience genuine atonement. **Non-Messianic** Judaism is based on this broken covenant, which cannot save us. In contrast, we believe that **God** already established this New Covenant by means of **Yeshua's** death and resurrection. He died and rose again to atone for our sins, so that we can enter into this New Covenant relationship with **God (YHWH)**.

They believe that **Yeshua** ascended to the right hand of **God** the Father, and is coming back to Earth to reign from Jerusalem over **Israel** and all the nations of the world. At that time the fullness of the New Covenant will be realized.

### **Beliefs of Messianic Judaism**

A Messianic Jew is defined as a person who was born Jewish or converted to **Judaism**. They call **Jesus, Yeshua**, and acknowledge His Jewishness. The "Evangelic" wing of Messianic Judaism has religious beliefs similar to those of Evangelical **Christianity**. These beliefs include: **G-d** as a Trinity of the Father, Son, and **Holy Spirit**, the virgin birth, resurrection, ascension, and salvation.

Terminology of Messianic Jews differs from **Christians**:

<b>Christian Usage</b>	<b>Messianic Judaism usage</b>
<b>Jesus</b>	<b>Yeshua, Y'shua</b>
<b>Jesus Christ</b>	<b>Yeshua Ha Mashiach (Jesus)</b>
Trinity	Shilush
<b>God, the Father</b>	<b>Abba, G-d, L-rd</b>
<b>God, the Son</b>	HaBen
<b>Holy Spirit</b>	<b>Ruach HaKodesh</b>
John	Yochanan
Church	Synagogue
Minister, pastor, teacher	Rabbi

Most Messianic Jews belong to Messianic Jewish congregations or synagogues. More than ninety percent are charismatic and believe in the gifts of the **Holy Spirit**, such as speaking in tongues. Their leader is called a Rabbi. A typical congregation will be composed of **Christians** who are not Jewish, Messianic Jews who do not practice Jewish customs, and Messianic Jews who follow strict orthodox practices such as kosher methods of food preparation and eating.

Most observe the Shabbat (Sabbath), starting at sundown Friday. All Jewish holidays are observed. These include Passover, Succoth, and Shavuot. Only a few celebrate Yom **Yeshua** on **December 25**. The Hebrew Scriptures are referred to as the Tanach (Old Covenant Scriptures). The **Christian** scriptures are called the B'rit Chadasha (New Covenant Scriptures).

Some Messianic Jews believe that the second coming of **Jesus** will only come when a sufficient number of Jews accept **Yeshua** as their Messiah and Savior. Others believe that **Jesus** could come at any time.

The Jewish **Jesus** was not Jew he was Latin, with a little bit of Greek and topped with some mis-transliterated Aramaic. **Yahushua** is full blooded Jew and is the true Messiah of the Jew and Gentile alike that believe upon him.