

Parashat Shoftim - שימופט - "judges"

Torah ~ *Deut. 16:18-21:9* | Haftarah ~ *Isa. 51:12-53:12** | Brit Chadashah ~ *Jn. 1:19-27; Acts 3:13-26*

*On the Haftarah portion, a Messianic adaptation has been made to include *Isaiah 52:13-53:12*

Shoftim is the forty-eighth reading from the Torah and the fifth reading from the book of Devarim (Deuteronomy).

Prophecies of the Messiah

There is more than 300 prophecies in the Tanakh (Old Testament) about the future Messiah that was fulfilled by Yeshua.

Messiah is to be a Prophet like Moshe ~ *Deut. 18:15-22*

- Both are born in a time of national bondage (*Ex. 1:8-10; Luke 2:1-3*)
- Both were redeemers of Israel (*Ex. 3:7-10, Acts 7:25, John 3:16; Rom 6:15-23*)
- Both were saved from a death decree placed on Hebrew boys (*Ex. 1:22; 2:1-3; Matt 2:13,16*)
- Both of them fasted for forty days (*Ex. 34:28; Matt 4:2*)
- Both perform unparalleled signs & wonders to validate their ministry (Manna - *Ex. 16:14-17*, Bread/Fish - *Mt. 14:19-21*)
- Both act in the role of Law-giver and singular authority of Torah (*Ex. 24:7-8, Matt. 5:17-19*)
- Both fill the role of intercessor between God and the nation (*Ex. 32:31-32; Deut 9:13-20; John 17:9; Luke 23:33-34*)

Messiah is to be born in Bethlehem ~ *Micah 5:2; fulfilled in Matt. 2:1-7; John 7:42; Luke 2:4-7*

Messiah is to be preceded by a Messenger ~ *Isa. 40:3; Malachi 3:1; fulfilled in Matthew 3:1-3; 11:10*

Messiah is to enter Jerusalem on a donkey ~ *Zechariah 9:9; fulfilled in Luke 19:30-40; Matthew 21:6-11*

Messiah is to be betrayed by a friend ~ *Psalms 41:9; 55:12-14; fulfilled in Matthew 10:4; 26:49-50; John 13:21*

Messiah is to be sold for 30 pieces of silver ~ *Zechariah 11:12; fulfilled in Matthew 26:15; 27:3*

Messiah is to be born of a virgin ~ *Isaiah 7:14; fulfilled in Matthew 1:18-2:1; Luke 1:26-35*

Messiah is to be hated without cause ~ *Isaiah 49:7; Psalm 69:5; fulfilled in John 15:24-25*

Messiah is to be silent before His accusers ~ *Isaiah 53:7; fulfilled in Matthew 27:12*

Messiah is to have His hands and feet pierced ~ *Psalm 22:16; fulfilled in Luke 24:39-40*

Messiah is to be given vinegar to quench His thirst ~ *Psalm 69:21; fulfilled in Matthew 27:34; John 19:28-30*

Messiah is to be executed without having a bone broken ~ *Exodus 12:46; Psalm 34:20; fulfilled in John 19:33-36*

Messiah is to be buried with the rich when dead ~ *Isaiah 53:9; fulfilled in Matthew 27:57-60*

Messiah is to be raised from the dead ~ *Isaiah 53:9-10; Psalm 2:7; 16:10; fulfilled in Matthew 28:1-20*

Portion Outline

Torah

Deuteronomy 16:18 ~ The appointment of judges and officers
Deuteronomy 16:19-20 ~ Prohibition against injustice
Deuteronomy 16:21-22 ~ Forbidden Idol Worship
Deuteronomy 17:1 ~ Prohibition against sacrificing blemished animals
Deuteronomy 17:2-13 ~ Instructions concerning the court system
Deuteronomy 17:14-20 ~ Instruction concerning the king
Deuteronomy 18:1-8 ~ Privileges of Priests and Levites
Deuteronomy 18:9-14 ~ Prohibition against pagan practices
Deuteronomy 18:15-22 ~ A New Prophet Like Moses
Deuteronomy 19:1-13 ~ Cities of Refuge
Deuteronomy 19:14 ~ Property Boundaries
Deuteronomy 19:15-21 ~ Law concerning Witnesses
Deuteronomy 20:1-20 ~ Rules of Warfare
Deuteronomy 21:1-9 ~ Law concerning an unsolved death

Haftarah

Isaiah 51:1-16 ~ Blessings in Store for God's People
Isaiah 51:17-23 ~ The cup of the Lord's wrath
Isaiah 52:1-12 ~ God redeems Jerusalem
Isaiah 52:13-53:12 ~ The Suffering and Glory of the Servant (Messiah)

Brit Chadashah

John 1:19 ~ John the Baptist Denies Being the Messiah
Acts 3:22-23 ~ Yeshua, a Prophet like Moses

Aliyah to the Torah

Deuteronomy 18:18-19 NKJV

18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.

19 And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

Isaiah 53:3-7 NKJV

3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.

5 But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

Acts 3:13-15 NKJV

13 The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him.

14 But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,

15 and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.