

The Attackers: Jesus Proclaimed as the Son of David by Paul, Acts 13:21–23 & 2 Blind Men, Mt 20:30–31; D. A. Carson on “Son of David; Titles of Jesus: Anointed One, Ps 132:17; Branch & Root of Jesse, Isa 11:1; Lion of the Tribe of Judah & Root of David, Rev 5:5; Descendant of David, Rev 22:16, Jn 7:42; Rom 1:1–3; 2 Tim 2:8

34. Paul picks up on Peter’s conclusion in the synagogue at Antioch in:

Acts 13:21 - “They [the Israelites] asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years.

v. 22 - “After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do all My will.’

v. 23 - “From the descendants of this man, according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus.”

35. Even blind men were able to understand this doctrine:

Matthew 20:30 - Two blind men sitting by the road, hearing that Jesus was passing by, cried out, “Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!”

v. 31 - The crowd sternly told them to be quiet, but they cried out all the more, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!”

v. 32 - And Jesus stopped and called them, and said, “What do you want Me to do for you?”

v. 33 - They said to Him, “Lord, we want our eyes to be opened.”

v. 35 - Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes; and immediately they regained their sight and followed Him.

36. The term “Son of David” is messianic. There are seven times in Matthew where people address Jesus in this way, the first being Matthew 9:27 and commented on by D. A. Carson:

This is the first time Jesus is called “Son of David” (v. 27), and there can be no doubt that the blind men were confessing Jesus as Messiah. “The use of the Davidic title [cf. 15:22; 20:30,31; 21:9,15; 22:42] in address to Jesus is less extraordinary than some think: in Palestine, in the time of Jesus, there was an intense Messianic expectation.” The Messianic Age was to be characterized as a time when “the eyes of the blind [would be] opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped,” when “the lame [would] leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb shout for joy” (Isa 35:5–6). If Jesus was really the Messiah, the blind reasoned, then he would have mercy on them; and they would have their sight. So their need drove them to faith.¹

37. By calling Jesus “Lord” (*kurios*) and “Son of David,” the two blind men express their understanding of the hypostatic union.

38. There are other titles assigned to Jesus that reflect the literal fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant in Him:

(1) The Anointed One:

¹ D. A. Carson, “Matthew,” in *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Regency Reference Library, 1984), 8:233.

Psalm 132:17 - "There [at Mount Zion, see vv. 13–14] I will cause the horn of David to spring forth; I have prepared a lamp for Mine anointed [מָשִׁיחַ (*Mashiach*): anointed one].

NOTE: "Anointed one" is the translation of the Hebrew word *Mashiach*, or Messiah. The Greek equivalent is **Χριστός** (*Christos*), translated "Christ."

(2) The Branch of the Root of Jesse:

Isaiah 11:1 - Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots will bear fruit.

(3) Jesus is referred to as the "Lion of the tribe of Judah" and the "Root of David" in:

Revelation 5:5 - One of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."

(4) The Lord refers to Himself as the "descendant of David" in:

Revelation 22:16 - "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

(5) Three New Testament writers refer to Jesus as the "seed of David":

John 7:42 - "Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants [seed (KJV)] of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?"

Romans 1:1 - Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

v. 2 - which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

v. 3 - concerning His Son, who was born a descendant [seed (KJV)] of David according to the flesh.

2 Timothy 2:8 - Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendent [seed (KJV)] of David, according to my gospel.

(39) There are dozens of titles assigned to Christ in Scripture; here are a few examples: (1) Alpha and Omega, Revelation 22:13, (2) Bridegroom, Matthew 9:15; (3) Lord of the Armies, Psalm 24:10, (4) Lamb of God, John 1:29, and (5) the Vine, John 15:1.

VII. Messianic Prophecies and Their Fulfillment in Christ:

1. Messiah would be from the seed of the woman:

Prophecy:

Genesis 3:15 - "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you will bruise Him on the heel."

Fulfillment:

Galatians 4:4 - But when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law.

Luke 2:7 - And she gave birth to her first-born son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

2. Messiah would be from the seed of Abraham:

Prophecy:

Genesis 17:16 - "I will bless Sarah, and indeed I will give you a son by her. Then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

v. 18 - And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before You!"

v. 19 - But God said, "No, but Sarah your wife will bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.

Fulfillment:

Matthew 1:1 - The book of the genealogical line of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

3. Messiah would come from the seed of Isaac:

Prophecy:

Genesis 21:12 - But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the lad [Ishmael] and your maid [Hagar]; whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her, for through Isaac your descendants shall be named.

Fulfillment: The royal chart pedigrees of Christ in Matthew and Luke:

Matthew 1:2a - Abraham was the father of Isaac ...

Luke 3:34b - ... Isaac, the son of Abraham ...

4. Messiah would come from the seed of Jacob:

Prophecy:

Genesis 28:13 - "The Lord ... said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants [**Jacob**].

v. 14 - "Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and in you and in your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed."

Fulfillment:

See the Lord's royal chart pedigrees in Matthew 1:2 and Luke 3:34 above.

5. Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah:

Prophecy:

Genesis 49:10 - "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to Him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

Fulfillment:

See the Lord's royal chart pedigrees in Matthew 1:2 and Luke 3:34 above.

6. Messiah would come from the seed of David, sit on his throne, and remain there forever:

Prophecy:

Isaiah 9:7 - There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of the armies will accomplish this.

Fulfillment:

Luke 1:67 - And his [**John the Baptist's**] father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:

v. 68 - "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people,

v. 69 - and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David His servant—"

Revelation 21:6 - Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.

Revelation 22:16 - "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

7. The Messiah will be born in the city of David:

Prophecy:

Micah 5:2 - "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah \ef-rä-tha\ [**אֶפְרַתָּה** (*'ephrathah*): Indicates **Bethlehem of Judea**], too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel [**true humanity**]. His goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity [**undiminished deity**]."

Fulfillment:

Luke 2:11 - "Today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."