

**DON'T
TELL
ME I'M
NOT
JEWISH!**

Don't Tell Me I'm Not Jewish!

Jews arguing and fighting with one another! So what's new? When haven't Jews fought or argued with one another? Since ancient biblical times, Jews have been fighting with one another, and this in-fighting resulted in the splitting of the Kingdom of Israel into North and South. Today we see Jews are split into different groups: Conservative Jews, Reform Jews, Orthodox Jews, Reconstruction Jews, and even Humanistic Jews.

Some Jews say your mother needs to be Jewish for you to be a Jew. Some say both parents need to be Jewish for you to be a Jew. Still some say the seed of being a Jew is passed on by the father. When the founders of the state of Israel were asked, "Who is a Jew?" a few of them laughed and said, "Anyone who is foolish enough to want to be."

Here's the problem...

Some Jews are trying to convince the 100,000 to 200,000 Messianic Jews living in North America that they are no longer Jews simply because they do not fit their Jewish mold.

What is a Messianic Jew?

A Messianic Jew is simply a Jewish person who believes that Jesus is the Jewish Messiah, and continues to live their Jewish life in concert with the New Covenant.

So, what's the problem?

When a Jewish man becomes a Messianic Jew, his sign of the Covenant certainly doesn't fall off! His taste for certain Jewish foods doesn't change! He still observes the Feasts of Israel! He still wears his kipa and talit! And his mother still wishes he was a doctor!

The Jewish Bible (Tenach) is loaded with scriptures about the Messiah. The prophet Jeremiah even wrote about a new covenant that God would make with

the house of Israel and the house of Judah, and it's that covenant that Messianic Jews embrace.

Messiah was to be born in the town of Bethlehem

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are of old, from ancient times. ---Micah 5:2

Messiah was to be born of a virgin

Therefore the Lord himself will give a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel [God with us]. ---Isaiah 7:14

Messiah was to be a light to the Gentiles

It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.--- Isaiah 49:6,7

Messiah would enter Jerusalem humble and seated on a donkey

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ---Zechariah 9:9

Messiah was to die by crucifixion

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax...a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and feet. I can count all my bones; People stare and gloat over me. ---Psalm 22:14,16,17

Messiah was to rise from the dead

You will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.---Psalm 16:10

Here's another thought:

Since when do Jews see eye to eye even on the Scriptures? Do you really think the Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform movements view the Holy Scriptures

alike? I doubt it! Do you really think they even have the same view of God? I doubt it!

So what's the big deal?

Messianic Jews believe in the Torah, Tenach, and the New Covenant that Jeremiah wrote about. Like the thousands of ancient Messianic Jews in the 1st and 2nd centuries (Nazarenes), they believe Jesus is the promised Messiah of the Scriptures.

Here's a last thought:

Wouldn't it be wrong to say cheese pizza is a terrible food if you never tasted it? In the same way, wouldn't it be wrong to judge a Messianic congregation if you have never been to one?

The bottom line is this...

Messianic Jews are Jewish!

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