



Believe

JOHN

MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Jesus Messiah: More than Moses, the Prophet-King

Bible Reading: John 6:14-21

[Watch LIVESTREAM at 10am](#)

Jesus' Walking on Water—the Central Pivot Point of John's Gospel

John 6 illustrates “Moses Wrote of Me”—Jesus (5:46)

The Background—Judaism's Exaltation of Moses

A. Moses' Exaltation in Jewish Tradition & Extra-biblical Texts

1. “Jewish exaltation of the Law...involved (1.) the veneration of Moses...&(2.) the idealization of Israel's wilderness days. All the parties within 2nd Temple Judaism...were united in this veneration & idealization.”—David Garland

B. Moses' Enthronement, Translation to Heaven, & Divinization

1. “Developments in early Jewish extra-biblical lore...include Moses' enthronement, his translation to heaven at his death, and his divinization.”—Joel Marcus

C. Moses is 'god': “The LORD told Moses, ‘See, I've made you god(‘elohim) to Pharaoh...’.” (Ex. 7:1)

1. “Philo's reference to Moses as ‘both god & king’...[was]an opinion...circulating widely among Jews”—John Lierman

D. John's Polemic against Moses

1. “Polemic against ascribing too much importance to Moses is discernible in John...There's a tendency towards deification of Moses...to make him into God's vice-regent...in Rabbinic texts.”—M. J. J. Menken

In John Jesus is the ‘Mosaic Messiah,’ not a ‘Davidic Messiah’

- A. John's Gospel ignores David & the 'Davidic Messiah'
- B. In John, Jesus is the 'Mosaic Messiah'
- C. Jesus acclaimed as a 'Mosaic Figure'—"The Prophet"(6:14-15; Dt. 18:15)

Jesus as the 'Mosaic Prophet & King' (6:14-15; Dt.33:5)

- A. John's Gospel is unique in its "presentation of Jesus as the Prophet-King like Moses in John 6:14-15."—Paul Anderson
- B. Role of Jewish Tradition
- C. Moses in Jewish Tradition—"he became King"(Deut. 33:5)
 - 1. "The LORD came from Sinai...4 Moses gave us instruction, a possession for...Jacob. 5So he became King" (Dt. 33:1, 4-5)
- D. D. Jesus is More than Moses, the 'Prophet-King'

Feeding the 5,000—Jesus is Superior to & Supersedes Moses

- A. Jesus Fulfills & Exceeds Moses
- B. Jesus Supersedes & Replaces Moses

Jesus' Theophany—the 'I AM' Walkson the Waves(6:19-20)

- A. "The emphasis is not on Jesus' rescue of the disciples, but on their vision of Jesus as God."—Susan Hulen
- B. Jesus' Crossing Galilee echoes Moses' Crossing the Red Sea (Ex. 16)
- C. Jesus, the 'I AM'—More than Moses
- D. Jesus is King of the Universe
- E. Jesus' Divine Declaration—"I AM"(Job. 9:8)
- F. The Disciples' Fear Factor—John vs. the Synoptics

The Jews' Allegiance to Moses an Obstacle to Faith in Christ(Jn. 9:28)

- A. Disciples of Moses OR Disciples of Jesus? (Jn. 9:28)
- B. Disciples of Peter OR Disciples of Paul OR Disciples of Christ? (1 Cor. 1:12)
- C. Who is Your "Moses"?D. Tim Keller's Last Words: "There's no downside for me leaving, not in the slightest."