

**The Messiah  
Isa Son of Mary**

**Who  
is  
this** 

*The Messiah,  
Isa son of Mary*

**Who  
is  
this** ?

Dr. Sammy Rifaat

## **First Edition**

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### ***The Messiah, Isa son of Mary Who is this?***

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*To you,*

*My friend, who seeks to  
know who the Messiah,  
Isa son of Mary, is...*



## **Introduction**

We often quote expressions but we don't appreciate their full meaning, yet we continue to say them all the same without giving them deep thought...

### ***“The Messiah, Isa son of Mary”***

This is a commonly repeated expression that inevitably poses the question, “Who is this Messiah, Isa son of Mary?” The answer to this question has crucial implications on both the present and eternal life. In this booklet you'll find a simple and logical discussion about an answer to this question.



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## *The Messiah, Isa Son of Mary*

*Who is this?*



Last Christmas I received Christmas greetings from a dear friend, Dr M.K. At the beginning of the greetings he wrote, “Best wishes on the day of the birth of the Messiah, Isa son of Mary, peace be upon him and upon his mother Mary...”

My attention was drawn to the phrase “*the Messiah, Isa son of Mary*”. How do people say it without giving it much thought, son of Mary rather than son of Joseph?!

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Yes, both Muslims and Christians agree that the Messiah is biologically the son of Mary. This makes him the only human being in human history who is born from a virgin unlike the way billions of people have been conceived since the creation of the world.

*Who is this?*

### **Miraculous Birth**



He was born into this earth like no other. He was not created like Adam and Eve, nor was he born from a fertilised egg like all other humans since the beginning of history.

Who is this?

Doesn't this unique person, Isa son of Mary, deserve our deep thoughts? His birth is an unprecedented event in history. It must be a highly significant and purposeful event.

### *Who is this?*

When he was born, the angel of the Lord appeared to a group of shepherds and the glory of the Lord shone upon them.



'But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord"...

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests." (Luke 2:10-11, 13-14)

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### ***Who is this?***

He is the Word of God placed in the womb of Mary! What does the Word of God mean? Can God be separated from his Word?.. The Bible (Injil) says,

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind” (John 1:1-4),.. and also, “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us” (John 1:14a).

### ***Who is this?***

#### **Miraculous events**



After his birth a special star appeared in the sky. Wise kings in the East (Iran) understood, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, that it signified the birth of a special king. So, they travelled a long distance and went searching for this baby until they found him and worshipped him!

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Who is this?

They gave him royal presents: gold, frankincense and myrrh (symbolising his kingship, his priesthood and his painful saving death).

His birth was like no other! The angels in heaven, the stars in the universe, and the wise rulers of the earth all moved to welcome his arrival into our world!

This has never happened at the birth of anyone, before or after him!

His birth became the reference point in history -events happened either before or after his birth!

This has never been the case with the birth of any other prophet!

*Who is this?*

### **Perfect Sinlessness**

He lived completely free of sin and evil. He never sinned in his entire life. "All have turned away and become worthless" (Psalms 14:3), except him. Even the prophets were smitten by the devil, and constantly asked God for forgiveness, but Jesus (Isa) never asked for forgiveness from God. He even challenged everyone when he said, "Can any of you prove me guilty of sin?" (John 8:46) Who is sin-free except God alone?

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*Who is this?*

## **Incredible authority**



When the wind blew and the waves bellowed, and the boat was about to sink,.. with authority..

“He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!” (Mark 4:39-41)

No one has ever had such authority like this!

Who is this?

*Who is this?*

The one who fed the multitude -more than 5000 people- with five loaves and two fish..!!



Who healed many sick people, gave sight to the one born blind, and raised people from the dead..!!

Who, with authority, ordered the demons out of tortured people..

And who said to someone, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.” The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” (Luke 5:20-21)



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## *Who is this?*

### **Unique Teaching**

He said about himself:

(John 4:14)

“But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

(John 6:35)

“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’”

(John 6:47-50)

“Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die.”

(John 9:5)

“While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

(John 14:6)

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”

(John 11:25)

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.’”

Who has ever made these bold claims? Which king or philosopher or prophet has ever said “I am the bread of life”, meaning the giver of life, because God alone gives life! Who has ever said, “I am the light of the world”, because God alone is the source of light in the heavens and the earth? Who has ever claimed, “I am the truth”, and God alone is the absolute truth? Who would dare say “I am the resurrection and the life” except the one who came back to life, and had the authority to declare, “The one who believes in me will live, even though they die” Yes, he alone defeated death and rose triumphantly from the dead. He is the hope of humanity for eternal life after death.

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This is also one of the Messiah's thought-provoking quotes:

“Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.” “You are not yet fifty years old,” they said to him, “and you have seen Abraham!” “Very truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “**before Abraham was born, I am!**” At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.’ (John 8:56-59)

He exists before Abraham! This means he's everlasting! Who would dare make such a bold claim unless it is true?

It's impossible for anyone to make this claim falsely, because they would only get disapproval, rejection and, in those days, subject themselves to execution. This is exactly what happened to the Messiah. In this incident they considered him a blasphemer and tried to stone him to death.

*Who is this?*

### **Unique testimonies**

He is the one who said about himself:

“I and the Father are one.” (John 10:30)

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Who is this?

And when Jesus (Isa) directed the question to the disciples,

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter [one of the disciples] answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. (Matthew 16:15-17)

Jesus (Isa) didn't rebuke Simon or tell him, “Why do you call me ‘the Son of God’ when it is not true?!”

*Who is this?*

### **Intriguing prophecy**

Jesus (Isa) prophesied about his death and resurrection:

“From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” (Matthew 16:21-23)

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Jesus (Isa) said this prophecy right after Peter's well-known confession that Jesus is "The Messiah, the Son of the living God". Peter wouldn't have imagined that the Messiah, the Son of the living God, would be condemned to die on a cross.. However, this was exactly what Jesus came for and what he had prophesied to his disciples before it took place.. This is what people still don't believe today: How can the person who said, "The Father and I are one" be crucified and die? But this is the exact purpose for which he came. What he said came true. He died on the cross, was buried, **and rose from the dead** on the third day as he said.. Indeed, his body did not see decay.. He is the one about whom it was written, "I will take you [in death] and raise you to Myself".

Who in the entire history of humanity rose from the dead? He had the authority to raise the dead to life. He was raised by no one but raised himself from the dead.

*Who is this?*

### **Wonderful message**

He did not accept or seek any earthly glory, worldly authority, fame, wealth or pleasure when he lived on this earth, even though he could have. He came to save souls

\_\_\_\_\_ Who is this?  
and reign in hearts, not to be an earthly king.

“Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.” (John 6:15)

He willingly went to die a shameful death on the cross to **redeem mankind and be an atonement for the sin** of those who accept him and believe in him..

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

*Who is this?*

### **Solid evidence**

After he rose from the dead, he appeared to his disciples and followers over and over again so that they would be eyewitnesses to his resurrection. The disciples turned their lives around after the resurrection of Jesus (Isa). They were in a state of depression and disappointment after the Messiah was crucified and buried. They were in hiding, afraid of the Jews, expecting that

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it would soon be their turn to get arrested and put to death just like the Messiah, because the Jews wanted to stop this 'heresy' from spreading.

Why then, when they were in such a miserable situation, would they ever make it worse for themselves and come up with a false claim that Jesus rose from the dead?.. Wouldn't this infuriate the Jews even more and ensure their death?.. If the Messiah hadn't risen from the dead, it would have made sense for his followers to stay in hiding until it all fizzled out, and then for each to go back to his old life.. Yet the Messiah had indeed risen, and his resurrection is what turned his followers' lives around, from hiding in fear to fearlessly proclaiming the message of salvation and redemption that the Messiah offers to everyone, "so that those who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).. **They were a few, but their message reached the ends of the earth.. They didn't muster up an army, make invasions or achieve any personal gain from this -on the contrary- they gave their lives for this message.. Did those people give their lives as martyrs for a lie..???? It is a question**

\_\_\_\_\_ Who is this?

**that needs pondering and a reasonable answer!**

Yes, the Messiah has risen, he has risen indeed.. His tomb is empty, and he is the one people await to judge the world in the final judgment..

***This is the Messiah,  
Isa son of Mary.***

Now it is time for the inevitable question:

Is what is written above about the Messiah true or false?

Would it ever occur to someone to falsely claim that the Messiah was born from an unmarried virgin? Who would believe them? What would be the point of such an irrational claim? If someone wants to come up with a lie, there should at least be some sense in what they say so that people would believe them. At least they would achieve some purpose or gain from what they say. No one would make a false and illogical claim just to get people's rejection and indignation, with nothing to gain except risking their own life!

So everything said about Jesus had to be true, as hard as it was for any human mind to perceive as logical. No one would have dared to state these



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facts about the Messiah unless they were crucial to people's lives and their eternity. More importantly, all the claims about who the Messiah was were proven true when he rose from the dead. His resurrection was the seal of proof that all he had said about himself was true..

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\_\_\_\_\_ Who is this?

Dear reader, I hope you have a sincere and reasonable answer to the question...

***“Who is this,  
the Messiah, Isa son of Mary?”***

If he is a prophet or a messenger from God, we are faced with the inevitable question: why was the Messiah born from Mary without a father? Why wasn't he conceived naturally like any other prophet? There must have been a divine purpose, and God did not leave us to guess. He sent an angel to a group of shepherds to announce the news:

“But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11)

I urge you, dear reader, not to go for the easy answer, but work hard on finding the right answer, because it has implications for your eternal life...

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## Prayer

“God, I confess that I am a sinner at heart. I ask you God to open my eyes so that I can see the way of salvation and eternal life..”

Amen.

\_\_\_\_\_ Who is this?

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