

## Orthodox Judaism

Orthodox Jews will follow the 13 Principles of Faith outlined by Maimonides (an important Jewish thinker). Within these principles, number 12 links to the Messiah as follows: 'I believe with full faith in the coming of the Messiah.' This shows that within Orthodox Judaism there is a strong belief that the Messiah will come.

## Hasidic Judaism

Hasidic Jews have a strong belief in the Messiah's coming and believe that they can hasten his arrival. Hasidic Jews believe that their religious leaders (Rabbi) can become Messiah, and that there may be a religious leader each generation who has the capability of becoming a Messiah, if Jewish people support the claim. Because of this, the concept of Messiah is of great importance within Hasidic Judaism.

## Conservative Judaism

Within conservative Judaism there is an emphasis on a personal interpretation of what the Messiah means. Some conservative Jews will take the idea of the coming of the Messiah literally, that it will be a person who will come to bring peace and allow the Jews to return to Israel. Other conservative Jews will view this as a metaphor for a time where there is peace, war has finished and the Jews return to Israel. However, it is generally agreed that all Jews should live piously as though the 'Messiah' was coming tomorrow.

## Reform Judaism

Reform Jews do not accept the concept of a Messiah. Some Reform Jews accept that there will be a time where peace will be achieved, but that a person called the Messiah will not be the one to bring it about, instead, it will just be called a 'Messianic Age'. This was agreed in 1999 by a group of Reform Rabbis. Due to this Reform Jews will still hope that a time of peace is to come but that this is a far off time in the future. The rejection of this is partly because of the strengthened belief in evidence based science which the Reform Jews may support, and due to there being little evidence to support the coming of a Messiah, they may not accept it.