

# Messianic

## What does it mean to be “Messianic”?

Aside from the fact that semantically, the terms “Messianic” and “Christian” mean the same things—both detailing a belief in the Anointed One or Messiah/Christ—probably the biggest difference between the belief systems of “Christianity” and “Messianism,” if the latter can be termed that, is that being *Messianic* entails a much stronger connection to the practices of the Hebrew Bible or “Old Testament,” such as the seventh-day Sabbath or *Shabbat*, the appointed times of Leviticus 23, the kosher dietary laws, and regular (often weekly) study of the Torah.

When we refer to being “Messianic” on this website, it is to identify with a readily available movement within the “Christian world” which places a very high emphasis on the Hebraic origins of our faith, most of which are not necessarily emphasized in many Christian churches. Although we would certainly point out that doctrinally there are many similarities between mainline evangelical Christianity and the Messianic movement, there can be differences in regard to ecclesiology (the study of God’s elect) and Torah application. But just as Christianity itself is quite diverse, so is the emerging Messianic movement.

Consult the author’s article “**Introduction to Things Messianic**” for a more detailed discussion.