

## Chapter 11

# Answer Key for Double-Check Questions

1. *If Jesus most fully reveals God, then why do we still need the Old Testament?*

We need the Old Testament so we can understand the life and mission of Jesus Christ. Both the Old and New Testaments are vital to helping us see the big picture of God's gift of grace and redemption. "The Old Testament prepares for the New and the New Testament fulfills the Old; the two shed light on each other; both are true Word of God" (CCC, 140).

2. *What are messianic prophecies?*

Messianic prophecies are the visionary descriptions spoken by some of the prophets in the Old Testament that point to the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. These prophecies expressed comfort to those in darkness and despair who longed for peace and justice again.

3. *What are the similarities between Second Isaiah's description of the "Suffering Servant" and Jesus?*

Both Second Isaiah's "Suffering Servant" and Jesus model servant leadership, which is based on humble service to all God's people. Isaiah describes a servant who, like Jesus, was "seized and condemned . . . though he had done no wrong" (Isaiah 53:8–9). The Suffering Servant "was pierced for our sins" (verse 5), like Jesus was pierced with a sword on the cross. The Suffering Servant heals us with his wounds, just as Jesus' sacrifice on the cross saves us.

4. *In what ways do the Psalms point to the coming of Jesus as the Messiah?*

A number of Psalms point toward the coming of the Messiah by describing a king who will be glorified. Psalm 110 addresses a king who is also a priest "in the manner of Melchizedek" (verse 4), which points to Jesus Christ. The Psalms also point toward a Messiah who will suffer and be rejected, such as "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone" (Psalm 118:22). Psalm 22 points toward the pain the Messiah will suffer. Jesus even quotes this psalm while he is dying on the cross: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" (Psalm 22:2, Mark 15:34).

5. *Describe the messianic prophecy found in the Book of Wisdom.*

The prophecy pointing toward the Messiah in the Book of Wisdom is told from the perspective of those who would put him to death. He is annoying because he criticizes their behavior, and he is different from them. They plot to kill this "son of God" (Wisdom 2:18).

6. *How does Matthew's infancy narrative show that Moses prefigures Jesus?*

Matthew's infancy narrative highlights how Moses prefigures Jesus by capturing several common elements in their stories: (1) both were ordered to be killed by an authority who feared losing their power; (2) both were hidden in order to survive; (3) Moses and Jesus left their home country to flee persecution; (4) Moses and the Israelites came out of Egypt; Jesus and his family came out of Egypt.

7. *How does Joshua prefigure Jesus?*

Joshua prefigures Jesus in a number of ways. Their names come from the same Hebrew word meaning "God saves." They were both "filled with the Spirit" (Deuteronomy 34:9, Luke 4:1). Joshua was leader of the Twelve Tribes, while Jesus guided the Twelve Apostles. Both also cared for the people who seemed like "sheep without a shepherd" (Mark 6:34). Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised Land, and Jesus leads us toward our heavenly home.

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