

This argumentation follows that of Newman, "Jesus: the Testimony of Prophecy and History," IBRI RR #39, to appear as a chapter in Montgomery, Evidence for Faith:

If the Messiah has come, he is Jesus:

1. A Light to the Gentiles: Isa 42:6-7; 49:5-6
This is just what Jesus has done, the only Jew claiming to be the Messiah who ever started a world religion
2. Born yet Pre-existent: Micah 5:2; Isa 9:6-7
Nicely explained in NT picture, problem for Judaism and theological liberals
3. Humble yet exalted: Dan 7:13-14; Zech 9:9
Jewish explanations:
miraculous donkey!
alternative comings rather than successive
But NT view fits nicely:
humble coming 1st (as child)
exalted coming 2nd (as adult)
4. Suffering yet reigning: Ps 22; Zech 12:10; Isa 53
Jewish explanation: two Messiahs
ben-Joseph to suffer
ben-David to reign
But sufferer pierced, rejected by Israel
fits NT picture of Jesus beautifully
5. King yet priest: Ps 110
Jewish Essenes: king Messiah, priest Messiah
But NT picture fits better: one individual is both king and priest

The Messiah has come

1. To come while Judah had its own rulers: Gen 49:10
last king of Jews was Herod Agrippa 1 (AD 41-44)
Jesus came just before this
2. To come while the 2nd temple still stood: Hag 2:3-9
2nd temple destroyed AD 70
Jesus came just before this
3. To be "cut off" after 69th sabbath cycle starts: Dan 9:25-26
1st cycle spans 445 BC
69th cycle AD 28-35
Jesus ministry ends with his crucifixion AD 30-33

Conclusion: Jesus is God's promised Messiah!