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**THE 444: THE Messiah (NOS)**

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### **Son of Man Messiah, Death, (Crucifixion), Suffering, and Redemption**

The concept of death, redemption, and freedom from debt in ancient Judaism is a subject that has been widely explored in various scholarly works. One of the most significant aspects of this discussion is the role of the phrase “Son of Man” in Jewish and Christian traditions.

In the Gospel of Luke, we find several instances where Jesus predicts his death and uses the phrase “Son of Man” to refer to himself. Luke 21:22 states, For these days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. Alas, for those who are pregnant and nursing infants in those days! There will be great distress on the earth and wrath against these people. They will fall by the sword’s edge and be taken away as captives among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles are fulfilled.” (Maccabean 147).

In this passage, Jesus speaks of the coming destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of the Jews. He also speaks of the judgement that will come upon the wicked and the dismissal of the righteous. This echoes the apocalyptic tradition of Judaism, where the Son of Mam is a figure of divine judgement that comes to establish God’s kingdom on earth at the end of the age (Maccabean 149). The passage emphasizes the humanity of Jesus and his willingness to undergo suffering and death for the sake of others. It also underscores the theme of redemption and freedom from debt, where Jesus takes upon himself the sins of humanity and sacrifices himself to God.

The concept of redemption and freedom from debt is also evident in ancient Jewish literature. In the Wisdom of Solomon, we find the description of the righteous that have died as being in God's hands and at peace while their deeds torment wicked (Maccabean 147). These themes of redemption, freedom from debt, and righteous suffering are further elaborated in the writings of Flusser and de Jonge. Flusser argues that the phrase "Son of Man" in the Gospels is not just a title but a self-referential expression that emphasizes the humanity of Jesus and his identification with humanity and death (125).

De Jonge, on the other hand, explores the parallels between the death of Jesus and the death of the Maccabean martyrs (De Jonge 146). He argues that the death of Jesus for the sins of humanity is a continuation of the Jewish tradition of righteous suffering and martyrdom.

Through His death and sacrifice, Jesus offered redemption and freedom from debt to humanity. The Maccabean martyrs, as examples of righteous suffering, also parallel the death of Jesus. Flusser and de Jonge both contribute to the understanding of the use of the phrase "Son of Man" in the context of Jewish and Christian traditions. Flusser emphasizes the humanity of Jesus and his identification with humanity in suffering and death, while de Jonge explores the concept of righteous suffering and martyrdom. Overall, the use of the phrase "Son of Man" highlights the centrality of death, redemption, and freedom from debt in ancient Jewish and Christian traditions.