

The Danger of the Messianic Hope

"For centuries, Jews were suspended between a remote miraculous past (the biblical era) and an equally remote miraculous future (the messianic age)."

Rabbi Sacks

Rabbinic midrash on *Lamentations* "maintains a prudent resistance to focusing on a messianic future. Messianism is often rooted in a negative attitude towards the present, which results in an undue focus on the future." Prof. Yael Ziegler

"If you are holding a sapling in your hand and someone tells you, 'The Messiah is coming!', first finish planting the tree and then go greet the Messiah."

R. Yochanan ben Zakkai

Matthew 24:36

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in **heaven**, nor the Son, but only the Father."

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority.

Acts 1:7