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## A Spiritual Lesson In Toon Language 68

Inspired By God, Presented By Pastor Richie Heinlein

(In God I Trust And Write)

Series: The Simpsons

Episodes: Homer Alone, Specs And The City

Topic: God's Messianic Characteristics

\*Note: This Lesson Also Has Other Kinds Of Visual Aids

1: Opening Prayer

2: Discussion And Intro Bible Study: What does Messianic mean?

The word Messianic describes anything about the deliverance brought about by Jesus Christ. We are going to discuss these in detail.

What are God's Messianic traits?

There are many Messianic traits of God The Father, Son and Holy Spirit—Christians call this the Trinity. We are going to focus on the deliverance brought and characteristics of our Lord Jesus Christ.

First, let's look at Isaiah 9: 1-7; this is a very familiar scripture passage and is linked to the Christmas season.

1 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for

those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

2 The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

3 You have enlarged the nation  
and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice  
when dividing the plunder.

4 For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered  
the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor.

5 Every warrior's boot used in battle  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be destined for burning,  
will be fuel for the fire.

6 For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this.

### 3: Clips, other visual aids and main Bible Study, Main Discussion

There are four main Messianic characteristics that God owns can you name them?

These are Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince Of Peace. We will take these traits one by one and discuss the impact on our lives.

## Part 1: Wonderful Counselor

First, we will look at “Wonderful Counselor”

Have you ever been stressed out beyond words?

The word counselor means adviser; the word advocate is a very close synonym. A counselor is a person that helps when trouble arises, when life doesn't make any sense, when one is trying to plan and navigator when things are unseen. This fits God to a “T”

Let's look at a couple of clips from The Simpsons.  
First, we have a clip from Homer Alone.

Cartoon Link:

[https://toonspirit.net/lessons\\_and\\_studies/l68/Homer\\_Alone.webm](https://toonspirit.net/lessons_and_studies/l68/Homer_Alone.webm)

What do you see?

Marge is so stressed out because of a combination of family and marriage, that she loses her temper with everyone and in general is not a nice lady by the end of this clip.

Let's look at a clip from Specs And The City.

Cartoon Link:

[https://toonspirit.net/lessons\\_and\\_studies/l68/Specs  
\\_And\\_The\\_City.webm](https://toonspirit.net/lessons_and_studies/l68/Specs_And_The_City.webm)

What do you see?

Marge is definitely in need of counseling because her life with Homer doesn't make much sense except that she loves him and is a very good wife, she wants to keep it that way. If it weren't for her "Wednesday reset button", Marge would be in big

trouble, so would her marital and family life. Marge needs “God with skin”. Prayer not only brings needed people, but will also allow personal conviction and resolve—God provides all of this.

Let's look at Isaiah 40: 6-31

6 A voice says, “Cry out.”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

“All people are like grass,

and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

7 The grass withers and the flowers fall,

because the breath of the LORD blows on them.

Surely the people are grass.

8 The grass withers and the flowers fall,

but the word of our God endures forever.”

9 You who bring good news to Zion,

go up on a high mountain.

You who bring good news to Jerusalem,  
lift up your voice with a shout,  
lift it up, do not be afraid;  
say to the towns of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”

10 See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power,  
and he rules with a mighty arm.  
See, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense accompanies him.

11 He tends his flock like a shepherd:  
He gathers the lambs in his arms  
and carries them close to his heart;  
he gently leads those that have young.

12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of  
his hand,  
or with the breadth of his hand marked off the  
heavens?  
Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket,  
or weighed the mountains on the scales  
and the hills in a balance?

13 Who can fathom the Spirit of the LORD,  
or instruct the LORD as his counselor?

14 Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten him,  
and who taught him the right way?  
Who was it that taught him knowledge,  
or showed him the path of understanding?

15 Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket;  
they are regarded as dust on the scales;  
he weighs the islands as though they were fine  
dust.

16 Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires,  
nor its animals enough for burnt offerings.

17 Before him all the nations are as nothing;  
they are regarded by him as worthless  
and less than nothing.

18 With whom, then, will you compare God?  
To what image will you liken him?

19 As for an idol, a metalworker casts it,  
and a goldsmith overlays it with gold  
and fashions silver chains for it.

20 A person too poor to present such an offering  
selects wood that will not rot;  
they look for a skilled worker  
to set up an idol that will not topple.

21 Do you not know?  
Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood since the earth was  
founded?

22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,  
and its people are like grasshoppers.  
He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,  
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

23 He brings princes to naught  
and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.

24 No sooner are they planted,  
no sooner are they sown,  
no sooner do they take root in the ground,  
than he blows on them and they wither,  
and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.

25 “To whom will you compare me?  
Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:  
Who created all these?  
He who brings out the starry host one by one  
and calls forth each of them by name.  
Because of his great power and mighty strength,  
not one of them is missing.

27 Why do you complain, Jacob?  
Why do you say, Israel,  
“My way is hidden from the LORD;  
my cause is disregarded by my God”?

28 Do you not know?

Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He will not grow tired or weary,  
and his understanding no one can fathom.

29 He gives strength to the weary  
and increases the power of the weak.

30 Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;

31 but those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

Let's look Romans 11 at: 33-36

33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and  
knowledge of God!

How unsearchable his judgments,

and his paths beyond tracing out!

34 “Who has known the mind of the Lord?  
Or who has been his counselor?”

35 “Who has ever given to God,  
that God should repay them?”

36 For from him and through him and for him are all things.

To him be the glory forever! Amen.

God is the wisest of the wise, the calmest of the calm and the kindest of the kind. Marge, who needs to be steadied, needs a counselor to navigate through her stressful marriage and life in general. The physical counselor helps her a great deal. Marge needs to focus on God too and have Him first in marriage and other life, otherwise she will still find herself overwhelmed by everything. A lot of times like Marge, we need “God with skin”, this is a person who doesn't steer wrong, very mature, knowledgeable about our issues and will echo encouraging words that God gives him/her.

Sometimes, this is hard to come by, but this is necessary sometimes for everyone. When we are in need and seek hard enough, God will provide people to encourage, cheer etc.

## Part 2: Mighty God:



When you look at this picture, what do you see?

Picture God, like this rook. How is God like a rook?

God is our fortress. A fortress is a lot of times a fortified castle or compound inside of a kingdom or city. A fortress provides defense and offense in

times of battle. A fortress is one of the strongest thing a king has to deploy troops, plan, rule from and shelter from enemies etc. The rook is technically a term for the battlements on top of the fortress where snipers are stationed, cannons are fired etc. It looks to me as if the rook is the first line of defense of a kingdom, after that, we have the castle gates where even better archers and other marksmen etc. are stationed. God defends and attacks with the most powerful and accurate weaponry and is not afraid to use it. Let's look at Psalm 18.

## **Psalm 18**

**For the director of music. Of David the servant of the LORD. He sang to the LORD the words of this song when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He said:**

1 I love you, LORD, my strength.

2 The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;

my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge,  
my shield and the horn of my salvation, my  
stronghold.

3 I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise,  
and I have been saved from my enemies.

4 The cords of death entangled me;  
the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me.

5 The cords of the grave coiled around me;  
the snares of death confronted me.

6 In my distress I called to the LORD;  
I cried to my God for help.

From his temple he heard my voice;  
my cry came before him, into his ears.

7 The earth trembled and quaked,  
and the foundations of the mountains shook;  
they trembled because he was angry.

8 Smoke rose from his nostrils;  
    Consuming fire came from his mouth,  
    burning coals blazed out of it.

9 He parted the heavens and came down;  
    dark clouds were under his feet.

10 He mounted the cherubim and flew;  
    he soared on the wings of the wind.

11 He made darkness his covering, his canopy  
around him—  
    the dark rain clouds of the sky.

12 Out of the brightness of his presence clouds  
advanced,  
    with hailstones and bolts of lightning.

13 The LORD thundered from heaven;  
    the voice of the Most High resounded.

14 He shot his arrows and scattered the enemy,

with great bolts of lightning he routed them.

15 The valleys of the sea were exposed  
and the foundations of the earth laid bare  
at your rebuke, LORD,  
at the blast of breath from your nostrils.

16 He reached down from on high and took hold of  
me;  
he drew me out of deep waters.

17 He rescued me from my powerful enemy,  
from my foes, who were too strong for me.

18 They confronted me in the day of my disaster,  
but the LORD was my support.

19 He brought me out into a spacious place;  
he rescued me because he delighted in me.

20 The LORD has dealt with me according to my  
righteousness;  
according to the cleanliness of my hands he has  
rewarded me.

21 For I have kept the ways of the LORD;  
I am not guilty of turning from my God.

22 All his laws are before me;  
I have not turned away from his decrees.

23 I have been blameless before him  
and have kept myself from sin.

24 The LORD has rewarded me according to my  
righteousness,  
according to the cleanliness of my hands in his  
sight.

25 To the faithful you show yourself faithful,  
to the blameless you show yourself blameless,

26 to the pure you show yourself pure,  
but to the devious you show yourself shrewd.

27 You save the humble  
but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

28 You, LORD, keep my lamp burning;  
my God turns my darkness into light.

29 With your help I can advance against a troop;  
with my God I can scale a wall.

30 As for God, his way is perfect:  
The LORD's word is flawless;  
he shields all who take refuge in him.

31 For who is God besides the LORD?  
And who is the Rock except our God?

32 It is God who arms me with strength  
and keeps my way secure.

33 He makes my feet like the feet of a deer;  
he causes me to stand on the heights.

34 He trains my hands for battle;  
my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

35 You make your saving help my shield,  
and your right hand sustains me;  
your help has made me great.

36 You provide a broad path for my feet,  
so that my ankles do not give way.

37 I pursued my enemies and overtook them;  
I did not turn back till they were destroyed.

38 I crushed them so that they could not rise;  
they fell beneath my feet.

39 You armed me with strength for battle;  
you humbled my adversaries before me.

40 You made my enemies turn their backs in flight,  
and I destroyed my foes.

41 They cried for help, but there was no one to save  
them—  
to the LORD, but he did not answer.

42 I beat them as fine as windblown dust;  
I trampled them like mud in the streets.

43 You have delivered me from the attacks of the  
people;  
you have made me the head of nations.  
People I did not know now serve me,

44 foreigners cower before me;  
as soon as they hear of me, they obey me.

45 They all lose heart;  
they come trembling from their strongholds.

46 The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock!  
Exalted be God my Savior!

47 He is the God who avenges me,  
who subdues nations under me,

48 who saves me from my enemies.  
You exalted me above my foes;

from a violent man you rescued me.

49 Therefore I will praise you, LORD, among the nations;

I will sing the praises of your name.

50 He gives his king great victories;

he shows unfailing love to his anointed,  
to David and to his descendants forever.

## Part 3: Everlasting Father



When you see this picture, what do you see?

This is a picture of the King Of Hearts. He symbolizes love and provision for this lesson.

Let's look at I Chronicles 29: 10-20.

## David's Prayer

10 David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

“Praise be to you, LORD,  
the God of our father Israel,  
from everlasting to everlasting.

11 Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power  
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,  
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;  
you are exalted as head over all.

12 Wealth and honor come from you;  
you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power  
to exalt and give strength to all.

13 Now, our God, we give you thanks,  
and praise your glorious name.

14 “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this?

Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

15 We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope.

16 LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.

17 I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you.

18 LORD, the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep these desires and thoughts in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.

19 And give my son Solomon the wholehearted devotion to keep your commands, statutes and decrees and to do everything to build the palatial structure for which I have provided.”

20 Then David said to the whole assembly, “Praise the LORD your God.” So they all praised the LORD, the God of their fathers; they bowed down, prostrating themselves before the LORD and the king.

God is our provider and all good things come from Him and is full of wisdom, power and favor for those that are His and gives mercy to those who are not. God rules over all of His royal family to the point where He would do anything to save the wayward. This is why The Father sent His Son to die for us (thus the sword at his head). We need to give thanks for battles won, salvation given and wisdom beyond measure. When we do this as a people, we stay centered on God's plans for us and

we will be given His version of success; we can't get any better than that.

## Part 4: Prince Of Peace



When you look at this picture, what do you see?

This is the Jack Of Hearts. A Jack is a prince and like his father, he symbolizes love. So, this Jack symbolizes Jesus. Because we are talking about Jesus, this Jack symbolizes salvation as well. Jesus died so we might live and will if we will believe, have faith in Him and confess by mouth that He is the Son of God. We need to follow God's teachings and forgive one another as well. Forgiveness is a

prerequisite for salvation in Christ.

Let's look at what I am talking about. First, Let's look in Matthew 6: 9-14.

9 “This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,

10 your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us today our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.’

14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive

you.

15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Second, let's look at Romans 10: 1-13

1 Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.

2 For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge.

3 Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

4 Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

5 Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: "The person who does these things will

live by them.”

6 But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down)

7 “or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

8 But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim:

9 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

11 As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him

will never be put to shame.”

12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,

13 for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Third, let's look at 1 John 4: 7-21.

### **God's Love and Ours**

7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we

might live through him.

10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.

14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God.

16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus.

18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

19 We love because he first loved us.

20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

## Part 5: Comforter

When you look at this picture, what do you see?



My wife Bonnie is being covered by a bed comforter. How is God like this comforter?

When we are tired and need rest, a comforter keeps us safe and warm. Comforters are good for snuggling with your spouse in a cold room, the best rest a lot of times is underneath one of these. A lot of my meditation and prayer time is done under a comforter and sheets in bed.

First, let's look at Psalm 147.

1 Praise the LORD.

How good it is to sing praises to our God,  
how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem;  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.

4 He determines the number of the stars  
and calls them each by name.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power;  
his understanding has no limit.

6 The LORD sustains the humble  
but casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the LORD with grateful praise;  
make music to our God on the harp.

8 He covers the sky with clouds;  
he supplies the earth with rain  
and makes grass grow on the hills.

9 He provides food for the cattle  
and for the young ravens when they call.

10 His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse,

nor his delight in the legs of the warrior;

11 the LORD delights in those who fear him,  
who put their hope in his unfailing love.

12 Extol the LORD, Jerusalem;  
praise your God, Zion.

13 He strengthens the bars of your gates  
and blesses your people within you.

14 He grants peace to your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest of wheat.

15 He sends his command to the earth;  
his word runs swiftly.

16 He spreads the snow like wool  
and scatters the frost like ashes.

17 He hurls down his hail like pebbles.  
Who can withstand his icy blast?

18 He sends his word and melts them;  
he stirs up his breezes, and the waters flow.

19 He has revealed his word to Jacob,  
his laws and decrees to Israel.

20 He has done this for no other nation;  
they do not know his laws.

Praise the LORD.

Finally, let's look at John 14: 15-31

15 “If you love me, keep my commands.

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you  
another advocate to help you and be with you  
forever—

17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him,  
because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you

know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

19 Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

21 Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

22 Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”

23 Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey

my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

24 Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

25 “All this I have spoken while still with you.

26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

28 “You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

29 I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.

30 I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me,

31 but he comes so that the world may learn that I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

“Come now; let us leave.

In this scripture, Jesus is clearly about to get crucified on the cross and is giving some of the final instructions of His physical life, more importantly though, He was at this point “God in skin” to His disciples.

Along with being made comfortable, we are assured that we are taken care of and provided for. We are given the privilege and right to talk to The Holy Spirit in times of need, thankfulness, trouble

and communion with Him.

## 4: Final Thoughts And Discussion

### What have we learned?

God has proven Himself reliable, trustworthy, faithful, strong, unrelenting in love and so much more. We would never make it in this life without Him much less have the Heavenly home He has promised every true believer in Christ. Without Him there is no preservation, no home and no hope of salvation. We need to be thankful as believers that this opportunity is here. For those who are not believers, this lesson is a testament to who God is so, they too might believe and have this royal right.

## 5: Closing Prayer