

# ASK THE RABBI

**Question:** Rabbi, Is there anything we know for sure about Moshiach?

**Answer:** While there is much we don't know about Moshiach, and especially the time in which he will come, there are some things that we do know. The Rambam explains in Hilchot Melachim chapter 11:

**“The Messianic king will arise and renew the Davidic dynasty, restoring it to its initial sovereignty. He will build the Temple and gather the dispersed of Israel. In his days the observance of the Torah will return to its previous state. We will offer sacrifices, observe the Shemittah and Yovel years. One shouldn't think that the Messianic king must work miracles and wonders, bring about any new phenomena in the world, resurrect the dead, or perform other similar deeds. This is defiantly not true.**

**If a king will arise from the house of David who diligently contemplates the Torah and observes its mitzvot, compels all Jews to walk in the ways of the Torah, and rectify its breaches of observance and fights the wars of God, we may with assurance consider him the Moshiach. He will then improve the entire world, motivating the entire world to serve God together.**

**If he did not succeed to this degree, or was killed, he is surely not the Moshiach. Rather he may be considered like all the other prophets or exemplary kings of Davidic dynasty. God caused him to arise only to test the masses.”**