

Read through the Bible passage below carefully, what were Nathanael's expectations before he met Jesus?

Read the passage again, what was Nathanael's reaction when he actually met Jesus?

Read through a final time, how would you have felt and reacted if you had been Nathanael?

Bible Passage - from John 1: verses 45-51

Phillip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one whom Moses wrote about in the book of the Law and whom the prophets also wrote about. He is Jesus son of Joseph, from Nazareth."

"Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," answered Philip.

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, he said about him, "Here is a real Israelite; there is nothing false in him!"

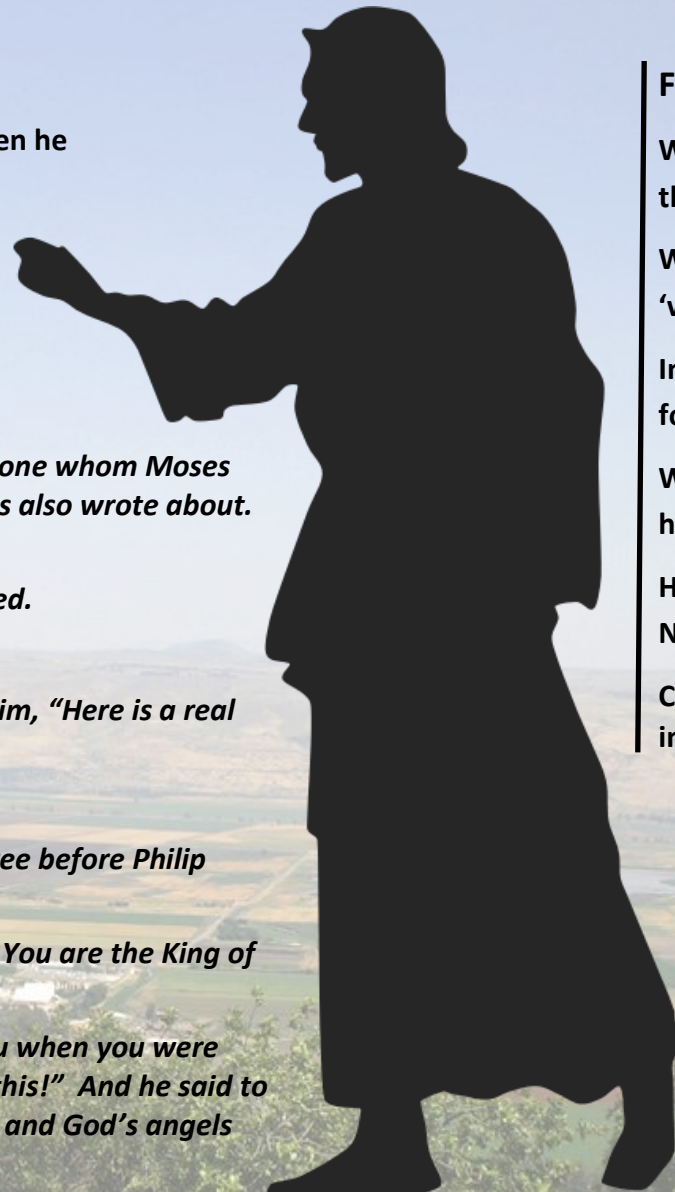
Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?"

Jesus answered, "I saw you when you were under the fig-tree before Philip called you."

"Teacher," answered Nathanael, "you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus said, "Do you believe just because I told you I saw you when you were under the fig-tree? You will see much greater things than this!" And he said to them, "I am telling you the truth: you will see heaven open and God's angels going up and coming down on the Son of Man."

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Further thoughts:

Why did Philip say "We have found the one..."?

Who did Philip mean when he said 'we'?

In what way had they been looking for this person?

Why did they believe they had found him?

How could Jesus have seen Nathanael under the fig-tree?

Can you see some humour/sarcasm in this passage?