

Taoism Messiah

Li Hong is a messianic figure in religious Taoism prophesied to appear at the end of the world cycle to rescue the chosen people, who would be distinguished by certain talismans, practices and virtues. Myths surrounding Li Hong took shape in literature during the Han dynasty. He is depicted in the Daoist Divine Incantations Scripture as an ideal leader who would reappear to set right heaven and earth at a time of upheaval and chaos. Li Hong is sometimes considered to be an avatar or reincarnation of Laozi, with whom he shares the surname Li. Prophecies concerning Li Hong's appearance have been used to legitimize numerous rebellions and insurgencies, all of which rallied around a Li Hong. These were particularly prevalent during the fifth century, and continued to appear until the Song dynasty.

But in Taoism, there is no fated apocalypse. This is true across schools, including the [4 Ascendant Tradition](#), and traditions that are heavily based on oracle practices.

Humanity may ultimately destroy itself or may not make the correct moves to avoid destruction, but there is no divine apocalypse of humans. People ask this question largely because it is a dominant theme within Judeo-Christian tradition. People become obsessed with it, because the thought of a great release (effectively a great correction of spiritual and relationship wrongs) is very appealing to many. However, this thought of a release is a great personal error in spiritual development and completely ignores most of the divine laws that underpin reality.

Taoism is driven by a belief in Free Will and Choice. These premises about our existence are inherently hopeful, because it means that humanity can determine its own direction. If we want, we can right our own wrongs.