

## Lesson 6

# THE LIFE & TEACHING OF JESUS CHRIST

### INTRODUCTION:

Purposes of study:

- To get an overview of the Life of Christ
- To discover the uniqueness of Jesus' life
- To study his motivation in His ministry
- To be inspired to be Christ-like

### LESSON OUTLINE

- I. INTRODUCTION
- II. JESUS IS UNIQUE IN HIS VIRGIN BIRTH
- III. HIS EARLY YEARS
- IV. HIS BAPTISM
- V. HIS TEMPTATION IN THE WILDERNESS
- VI. HIS EARLY MINISTRY
- VII. THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST
- VIII. A UNIQUE LIFE AND TEACHING OF HOLINESS
- IX. HE LIVED AND TAUGHT A LIFE OF PRAYER
- X. HE LIVED A UNIQUE LIFE AS THE SON OF GOD
- XI. HE LIVED HIS LIFE IN A DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
- XII. HE LIVED A UNIQUE LIFE OF PERFORMING MIRACLES
- XIII. HE LIVED HIS LIFE AS A SERVANT
- XIV. HE LIVED HIS LIFE OF LOVE : CARE, COMPASSION, CONCERN

- XV. HE LIVED A UNIQUE LIFE HEALING OTHERS
- XVI. HE LIVED A LIFE OF SUFFERING AND HARDSHIP
- XVII. HE LIVED A LIFE AS A REJECTED KING
- XVIII. HIS UNIQUE LIFE AS THE SAVIOR
- XIX. THE UNIQUE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST
- XX. THE UNIQUE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST
- XXI. THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST IS UNIQUE IN THE FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY
- XXII. HIS LIFE AND MINISTRY ON EARTH IS NOT OVER - HE IS COMING AGAIN
- XXIII. CONCLUSION

## I. INTRODUCTION

Christianity differs from all religions, because it is more than a religion, it is the LIFE of the SON OF GOD, JESUS CHRIST living in man.

Jesus Christ is the most **UNIQUE** person who has ever lived on this earth.

Unique means: The one and only; single; different from all others.

This study will point out the uniqueness of His life and teaching.

His life was a life of **purpose** and a life of **mission**. He knew where He came from, what He was doing and where He was going. He was completely dedicated to fulfilling that which the Father sent Him to do.

**1 John 4:14** *"The Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world."*

His mission began in heaven where as God

**John 1:3.** *"All things came into being by Him"*

**Philippians 2:6-7** *"Who although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient..."*

## II. JESUS UNIQUE IN HIS VIRGIN BIRTH

### *A. Conceived by the Holy Spirit*

**Matthew 1:18-25** : *"... that which has been conceived ... is of the Holy Spirit"*

**Luke 1:26-35** : *"... the Holy offspring shall be called the Son of God."*

The virgin birth of Jesus Christ stands alone in human history. It was by the virgin birth that God became man, the one and only perfect person. The union of the two natures became the one and only true God and true man. Christ Jesus was Son of God and Son of Man.

**B. Unique in fulfilling prophecies**

- Genesis 3:15** : "the seed of the woman" Meaning without a human father.
- Isaiah 7:14** : "a virgin will be with child and bear a son, .. His name shall be called Immanuel"
- Isaiah 9:6-7** : "unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given"
- Micah 5:2** : He would be born in Bethlehem.

**III. HIS EARLY YEARS****A. Lived as a normal child**

1. **Luke 2:41-52** At twelve He expressed awareness of His heavenly Father.
2. His human nature is seen in:
  - a) He **hungered** **Matthew 4:2**
  - b) He was **thirsty** **John 19:28**
  - c) He was **weary** **John 4:6**
  - d) He **wept** **John 11:35**
  - e) He was **tempted** **Hebrews 4:15**

**B. History testifies to His humanity**

1. Even secular history, without question, affirms that Jesus lived on earth and that He was worshipped as God.
2. The *Encyclopedia Britannica* requires more space to describe Jesus than was given to *Aristotle, Alexander, Julius Caesar, Buddha, Mohammed, Confucius or Napoleon Bonaparte*.

**IV. HIS BAPTISM**

- Matthew 3:13-17** : The **Holy Spirit** came upon Him and a voice came from heaven.

## V. HIS TEMPTATION IN THE WILDERNESS

**Matthew 4:1-11** : The first Adam and every other man failed.  
The Last Adam **triumphed** over temptation.

## VI. HIS EARLY MINISTRY

**Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25** : Galilee of the Gentiles

**Matthew 4:18-22** : His first disciples.

## VII. THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST

He is unique in that no other recognized religious leader, Buddha, Mohammed, the Dalai Lama or others have claimed to be God. Jesus Christ clearly claimed to be **God**.

### *A. His direct claims to deity*

1. He said He was the **Christ** the Son of God.

**Mark 14:61-63- 64** : "I am"

**Luke 22:70** : "You say that I am"

This is the customary reply of a Jew to an important question. They clearly understood, saying He blasphemed and crucified Him saying:

**Matthew 27:43** "He trusted in God .. He said, 'I am the Son of God'"

He was on trial not for what He did but for who He claimed to be.

a) He said He Was **Equal** With The Father

(i) **John 10:30-33** : "You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God."

(ii) **John 5:17-18** : "... breaking the Sabbath ... making Himself equal with God."

- b) Jesus speaks of Himself as **Yahweh**.
- (i) **John 8:24** : “Unless you believe that **I AM**, you shall die in your sins”
  - (ii) **John 8:28** : “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that **I AM**.”
  - (iii) **John 8:58** : “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, **I AM**.”
  - (v) Jesus’ use of I AM declares to all that He is **THE I AM, YAHWEH** of **Exodus 3:14** where God reveals His name to Moses which means: ‘**I AM who I AM**.’
- c) Jesus claims the same honor as that given to God.
- (i) **John 5:23-24** : He claims the right to be worshipped as God. He warns those who accuse Him of blasphemy that they are actually accusing God.
- d) Jesus says, to know ME is to know God. **John 8:19**
- e) To believe in God is to believe in ME. **John 14:1**
- f) “I say unto You” **Matthew 5:20, 22, 26, 28**  
He has elevated the authority of His words above the prophets who spoke for God.
- g) Jesus received worship as God.  
“Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and serve Him only”  
**Matthew 4:10**
- (i) **Matthew 8:2** a leper
  - (ii) **John 9:35-39** a blind man
  - (iii) **Matthew 14:33** the disciples
  - (v) **John 20:27-29** Thomas
- Others **refused** worship: **Acts 10:25-26** **Revelation 19:10**
- h) What others said
- (i) Paul **Philippians 2:9-11** **Titus 2:13**
  - (ii) John the Baptist **Luke 3:22**
  - (iii) Peter **Matthew 16:15-17** **Acts 2:36**
  - (iv) Thomas **John 20:28**
  - (v) The writer of Hebrews **Hebrews 1:8**
  - (vi) Stephen **Acts 7:59**

B. *His indirect claims*

1. He claimed the same titles:

**JESUS IS GOD**

<u>Of God</u>	<u>Mutual Title or Act</u>	<u>Of Jesus</u>
Isaiah 40:28	Creator	John 1:3
Isaiah 45:22; 43:11	Saviour	John 4:42
1 Samuel 2:6	Raise the dead	John 5:21
Joel 3:12	Judge	John 5:27
Isaiah 60:19-20	Light	John 8:12
Exodus 3:14	I AM	John 8:58; 18:5-6
Psalms 23:1	Shepherd	John 10:11
Isaiah 42:8; 48:11	Glory of God	John 17:1,5
Isaiah 41:4; 44:6	First and Last	Revelation 1:17; 2:8
Hosea 13:14	Redeemer	Revelation 5:9
Isaiah 62:5; Hosea 2:16	Bridegroom	Rev. 21:2; Mt.25:1
Psalms 18	Rock	1 Corinthians 10:4
Jeremiah 31:34	Forgiver of Sins	Mark 2:7, 10
Psalms 148:2	Worshipped by Angels	Hebrews 1:6
All of the Old Testament	Addressed in Prayer	Acts 7:59
Psalms 148:5	Creator of Angels	Colossians 1:16
Isaiah 45:23	Confessed as Lord	Philippians 2:11

2. He forgave Sins **Mark 2:5** **Luke 7:48**  
 This was not a human prerogative since only God, whom all have sinned against, can forgive sin.
3. He does not Change **Hebrews 13:8** cf. **Malachi 3:6**  
 The eternal being of Deity is ascribed to Jesus.
4. Jesus claimed to be Life **John 14:6** **1 John 5:11-12**
5. Jesus claims all authority **John 5:27** **Matthew 28:18**
6. Jesus claims to be the Creator and Sustainer of all things.  
**Colossians 1:16** **Hebrews 1:3** Only God can control the universe.

## VIII.A UNIQUE LIFE AND TEACHING OF HOLINESS

### A. *His life*

#### 1. His own statements

- a) **John 8:46** : *"Which one of you convicts Me of sin?"*  
He received no answer. He was able to invite their scrutiny.
- b) **John 8:29** : *"I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."*
- c) **John 14:30** : *"The ruler of this world ..... has nothing in Me."*

#### 2. The witness of His **friends** throughout the Bible. The sins of all are brought out, even Abraham, Moses and David. In the New Testament the failures and sins of the apostles are spoken of often but nowhere is there one sin recorded in Christ's life.

- a) **Paul 2 Corinthians 5:21** *"He knew no sin"*
- b) **Hebrews 4:15** *"Without sin"*
- c) **Hebrews 7:26** *"Holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners"*
- d) **1 Peter 2:22** *"committed no sin, nor any deceit found in His mouth"*

#### 3. The Witness of His **Enemies**

- a) **Judas Matthew 27:3-4** : *"Betrayed innocent blood"*
- b) **The Thief Luke 23:41** : *"This man has done nothing wrong"*
- c) **Pilate John 18:38** : *"I find no guilt in Him"*
- d) **The Centurion Luke 23:47**: *"Certainly this man was innocent"*

#### 4. The Witness of **History**

The **Koran** (Mary, v. 19) The angel Gabriel came to Mary and told her that her son, Jesus, would be *"without fault."*

Jesus is unique in that it could not be said of any other man that has ever lived that they were without sin.



**B. His teaching - by WORD and DEED**

1. **John 2:14-17** : Cleansing of the Temple
2. **John 5:14** : "Do not sin anymore so that nothing worse may befall you."
3. **John 8:11** : "... from now on sin no more."
4. **Matthew 5:6, 8** : The Beatitudes
5. **Matthew 5:10-12** : "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness"
6. **Matthew 5:13-20** : "... Let your light so shine ...."
7. **Matthew 5:21-48** : The extreme seriousness of sin
8. **Matthew 6:1-4** : Deeds of charity
9. **Matthew 6:16-18** : Fasting
10. **Luke 18:9-14** : True righteousness
11. **Matthew 7:13-23** : The way and fruit of righteousness
12. **Matthew 12:33-37** : Words reveal character
13. " **17:24-27** : Paying taxes
14. " **18:8-11** : The seriousness of sin
15. " **21:12-13** : What to do and not to do in the House of God
16. " **22:15-22** : Paying taxes
17. " **22:23-33** : Marriage
18. " **22:34-40** : The Great Commandment
19. " **22:41-46** : Whose son is the Christ?
20. " **23:1-36** : Religious Pharisees exposed

**IX. HE LIVED AND TAUGHT A LIFE OF PRAYER****A. His life**

1. **Luke 4:42** : "A lonely place"
2. **Luke 5:16** : "slip away to the wilderness"
3. **Luke 6:12-13** : "spent whole night in prayer"
4. **Luke 9:18** : "praying alone"
5. **Luke 9:28-29** : "transfigured"
6. **John 5:19-20** : saw what the Father was doing
7. **John 5:30** : heard what the Father said
8. **Matthew 26:36-46** : agonizing prayer in Gethsemane

**B. He taught the importance of prayer**

1. **Luke 11:1-10** : *"Lord, teach us to pray"*
2. **Luke 18:1-8** : a parable on prayer
3. **Matthew 6:5-8** : how to pray
4. **Matthew 7:7-11** : encouragement to pray

**X. HE LIVED A UNIQUE LIFE AS THE SON OF GOD**

**A. His life**

1. Equal to yet dependent upon His Father **Philippians 2:6-7**
  - a) **John 5:18-32** : Can do nothing on His own - only sees and hears
  - b) **John 8:28, 38** : *"I AM yet I do not on My own"*
  - c) **John 10:30-33**: And they took up stones to stone Him.
  - d) **John 14:7-11** : To see the Son is to see the Father
  - e) **John 19:7** : *"must die because He made Himself out to be God"*

**B. His teaching**

1. We are **sons of God**.
  - a) **John 1:12-13** : *"born of God"*
  - b) **John 8:42, 47** : Believers are "of God" our Father
  - c) **John 10:34-39** : *"I said, you are Gods"*
  - d) **John 20:17** : *"My Father and your Father"*
2. We are dependent upon our Father. This requires **FAITH**.
  - a) **Matthew 6:6-9** : Our needs met when we ask our Father.
  - b) **Matthew 6:25-34** : Little faith produces **anxious** people.
  - c) **Matthew 8:23-27** : Little faith is **fearful** in the storms of life.
  - d) **Matthew 14:31** : Little faith - no **miracles**.
  - e) **Matthew 16:8** : Little faith causes me to **doubt** my ability
  - f) **Matthew 8:9-10** : Great faith recognizes the **authority** of the spoken word of Jesus.
  - g) **Matthew 21:21-22** : Mountain moving faith.
  - h) **John 11:40** : *"If you believe you will see the glory of God."*

## XI. HE LIVED HIS LIFE IN A DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

### A. *His life*

1. Luke 1:35 : **Born** of the Holy Spirit.
2. Luke 3:21-22 : Holy Spirit Upon to **empower** for ministry.
3. Luke 4:1, 14, 18 : **Led** by the Holy Spirit and anointed.
4. John 3:34 : He **spoke** the Words of God because of the Spirit.
5. John 6:63 : He spoke the Words of the Spirit which are **LIFE**.
6. John 20:22 : Gives the Holy Spirit to His **disciples**.

### B. *His Teaching*

1. Luke 3:16 : Jesus will **baptize** His people in the Holy Spirit.
2. John 4:24 : God is **Spirit**.
3. John 7:37-39: The Spirit is like a **river** of Life.
4. John 14:16-17: He is a **Helper**, and Truth in us.
5. John 14:26 : He is a **Teacher**.
6. John 15:26 : He is the one who gives **revelation** of Jesus.
7. John 16:7-15: He **convicts** the world - Guides us into all truth  
Glorifies Jesus.

## XII. HE LIVED A UNIQUE LIFE OF PERFORMING MIRACLES

### A. *His life*

#### Luke 7:20-22

1. John 2:1-11 : Turned water into wine.
2. Matthew 8:26-27: Calmed the winds and the sea.
3. Matthew 14:13-21 : Fed 5,000 with five loaves and two fish.
4. Matthew 15:32-39 : Fed 4,000 with seven loaves and two fish.
5. Matthew 17:24-27 : Coin in the mouth of the fish.
6. Matthew 21:18-22 : Pronounced barrenness on fig tree.
7. Luke 7:11-15 : Raised the Widow's son from the dead.

8. **Luke 8:41-56** : Raised Jairus' daughter from the dead.
9. **John 11:1-44** : Raised Lazarus from the dead.

This power over the natural could only belong to God, the author of these.

**John 2:11, 23; 3:2; 4:54; 6:2, 14, 26, 30; 7:31; 9:16; 10:37-41; 11:47; 12:18, 37; 20:30-31**

### **B. His Teaching**

1. **John 14:10-15** : We are to do the same to glorify the Father.
2. **Matthew 10:7-8** : "Go .. preach .. heal .. raise .. cleanse .. cast"
3. **Matthew 14:25-33** : Peter walked on water.
4. **Mark 11:22-25** : Mountain moving faith.

### **C. The Testimony of others**

1. The **Koran** (The Table V110) speaks of Jesus healing the blind, the lepers and raising the dead. Islam recognizes His miracles.
2. *Ethelbert Stauffer* - "We find many references to Jesus' miracles in the Jewish law books and histories."
3. Around 95AD **Rabbi Eliezer Ben Hyrcanus** of Lydda speaks of Jesus' "magic arts."
4. 95 - 110AD **The Sanhedrin 43A** records: "Jesus practiced magic and led Israel astray."
5. Around 110AD a controversy among Palestinian Jews centering upon the question of whether it is permissible to heal in the name of Jesus.

## **XIII. HE LIVED LIFE AS A SERVANT**

### **A. His life**

1. **Philippians 2:7** : It began in Heaven
2. **Matthew 20:28** : He came for that purpose
3. **John 13:1-17** : the profound example  
Everything that He did was in serving the needs of others.

**B. *He taught us to serve others***

- |    |                         |   |                              |
|----|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Matthew 5:3</b>      | : | the attitude                 |
| 2. | <b>Matthew 20:20-28</b> | : | how to achieve first place   |
| 3. | <b>Matthew 23:1-12</b>  | : | the example of the Pharisees |
| 4. | <b>Luke 22:24-27</b>    | : | childish desires             |

**C. *He taught us to serve Him***

- |    |                        |   |                      |
|----|------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | <b>Matthew 6:19-34</b> | : | the real treasure    |
| 2. | <b>Matthew 7:24-29</b> | : | how to build a house |
| 3. | <b>Luke 17:7-10</b>    | : | a servant's duties   |

**XIV. HE LIVED A LIFE OF LOVE: CARE, COMPASSION, CONCERN****A. *His life***

- |    |                         |   |                                       |
|----|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Matthew 9:10-13</b>  | : | He ate with tax-gatherers and sinners |
| 2. | <b>Matthew 9:35-38</b>  | : | Distressed because no shepherd        |
| 3. | <b>Matthew 11:28-30</b> | : | An invitation to rest                 |
| 4. | <b>Matthew 12:7-21</b>  | : | The value of a man                    |
| 5. | <b>Matthew 20:34</b>    | : | Moved with compassion                 |

**B. *His Teaching*****1 John 4:7-21 "God is Love"**

- |    |                          |   |                                       |
|----|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Matthew 5:5, 7, 9</b> | : | Who is blessed                        |
| 2. | <b>Matthew 5:42-48</b>   | : | We are to be like our Father          |
| 3. | <b>Matthew 7:1-6</b>     | : | Clearing the forest for a better view |
| 4. | <b>Matthew 7:12</b>      | : | The Golden Rule                       |
| 5. | <b>Matthew 18:15-20</b>  | : | Steps of restoration                  |
| 6. | <b>Matthew 18:21-35</b>  | : | Avoiding the tormentors               |
| 7. | <b>Matthew 19:1-12</b>   | : | Concerning divorce                    |
| 8. | <b>Matthew 19:13-15</b>  | : | The value of children                 |

## XV. HE LIVED A UNIQUE LIFE HEALING OTHERS

### A. *His life*

1. **Matthew 8:1-3; 14-17** : *"I Am willing"*
2. **Matthew 9:22, 29, 35** : *"According to your faith"*
3. **Matthew 12:22** : He spoke and saw
4. **Matthew 14:34-46** : As many as touched were healed
5. **Matthew 15:29-31** : Great multitudes
6. **Matthew 21:14** : The blind and the lame

### B. *His Teaching*

1. **Matthew 8:5-13** : The Centurion - under authority
2. **Matthew 10:1-15** : *"Go - preach - heal"*
3. **Mark 16:15, 18** : *"Go - preach - sick will recover"*

## XVI. HE LIVED A LIFE OF SUFFERING AND HARDSHIP

### A. *His life*

1. **Matthew 12:14** : planned to kill Him. John 7:30, 44; 8:59; 10:31, 39; 11:53
2. **Matthew 21:23-27** : His authority questioned and rejected.
3. **Matthew 26:14-25** : Judas bargains to betray Him.
4. **Matthew 26:30-35** : Knows and foretells that Peter and all will leave.
5. **Matthew 26:47-56** : His betrayal and arrest
6. **Matthew 26:57-68** : Before Caiaphas, the High Priest: upon; beat with fists and rods, mocked.
7. **Matthew 26:69-75** : Peter's denials
8. **Matthew 27:1-26** : Before Pilate, the Roman Governor: Barabbas, a murderer was released but Jesus condemned. Scourged, stripped of His clothes and mocked, crown of thorns, spit upon, hit, mocked, and CRUCIFIED six hours on the cross, 9am to 3pm slowly dying an agonizing death.

**B. His Teaching**

1. **Matthew 5:4** : *"Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted."*
2. **Matthew 8:19-22** : A difficult life tests the commitment of disciples.
3. **Matthew 10:16-42** : You may be beaten, tried, hated, put to death.

**XVII. HE LIVED A LIFE AS A REJECTED KING****A. His life**

1. **Matthew 21:1-11** : The KING enters Jerusalem.
2. **Matthew 21:15-17** : Received the worship of a king.
3. **Matthew 27:11** : Jesus declared to Pilate that He was the KING.
4. **Matthew 27:29** : Mocked as the King of the Jews.
5. **Matthew 27:37** : Crucified as the King of the Jews.

**B. His Teaching**

1. **Matthew 12:24-32** : Kingdom conflict - unpardonable sin
2. **Matthew 12:38-45** : Judgment for those who reject the King.
3. **Matthew 12:46-50** : The King's kids.
4. **Matthew 13:1-52** : Mysteries of the Kingdom.
5. **Matthew 15:1-20** : Man's evil heart.
6. **Matthew 16:1-12** : Be careful of what teachers you listen to.
7. **Matthew 18:1-5** : To be great in the Kingdom.
8. **Matthew 18:6-7** : Do not trip anyone and make him fall.
9. **Matthew 19:16-30** : The price of the ticket.
10. **Matthew 20:1-16** : The merit system.
11. **Matthew 20:20-28** : The seating arrangement.
12. **Matthew 21:28-32** : One brother enters and the other does not.
13. **Matthew 21:33-46** : Be careful with rented property.
14. **Matthew 22:1-14** : You had better attend the wedding.
15. **Matthew 23:37-39** : The result of rejecting the King.
16. **Matthew 24:1-51** : How to tell time.
17. **Matthew 25:1-13** : Be careful what you do while you are waiting.
18. **Matthew 25:14-30** : Payday some day.
19. **Matthew 25:31-46** : The King judges the nations.

## XVIII. HIS UNIQUE LIFE AS THE SAVIOR

### A. *He saved*

1. **Matthew 8:23-27** : From storms and waves
2. **Matthew 8:28-34** : From demons
3. **Matthew 9:2-8** : Forgave sins
4. **Matthew 15:21-28** : Gentiles also
5. **Matthew 17:14-21** : The most difficult cases.

### B. *His Teaching*

1. **John 3:15-16** : "Whoever believe eternal life in Him shall not perish but have e. life."
2. **John 14:6** : "I am the way, .... the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me."
3. **John 3:18, 36; 5:24; 6:40; 8:51-52; 11:25-26**
4. **Matthew 16:21-28** : He would be put to death but raised up
5. **Matthew 17:10-13, 22-23** : " " " "
6. **Matthew 18:12-14** : The importance of finding lost sheep.
7. **Matthew 20:17-19** : He would be put to death but raised up
8. **Matthew 26:1-5** : " " " "
9. **Matthew 26:26-29** : His blood of the covenant to forgive sin

### C. *The Testimony of others*

1. John the Baptist : **John 1:29** "The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."
2. Peter : **Acts 4:12**
3. Paul : **2 Timothy 1:10**

## XIX. THE UNIQUE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

### A. *His death was prophesied*

The death of Jesus Christ is mentioned more than 120 times in the New Testament, and is spoken of many times by the Prophets in the Old Testament.



**B. His death was recognized because He said He was God.**

Jesus was recognized by all to be a great, wise, good, pure and innocent man. Yet because He claimed to be God, men extinguished His life in the most cruel way ever devised, the slow, excruciating, painful and agonizing death of crucifixion.

**C. His death was substitutional**

The death of Jesus Christ was FOR and IN THE PLACE OF others. **Matt 20:28.** He was a SUBSTITUTE for us. **2 Corinthians 5:21.**

**D. His death was natural**

**John 19:31-37**

**E. His death was unnatural since He was without sin**

**(Romans 6:23).**

*“Did no sin” (1 Peter 1:22); “Had no sin” (1 John 3:5); “knew no sin” (2 Cor 5:21). So, before He could die, He had to be “made sin for us.”*

**F. His death was predetermined**

**Revelation 13:8** It was always the plan of God.

**G. His death was supernatural**

**John 10:17-18** *“I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again.” (from Porter Barrington’s Master Outlines)*

## **XX. THE UNIQUE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST**

Most of the world's religions are based on philosophical propositions. Of the four that are based on personalities only Christianity claims an empty tomb for its founder.

In the original accounts there is no claim of a resurrection for Buddha. Mohammed died June 8, 632 A.D., at the age of sixty-one, at Medina, where his tomb is annually visited by thousands of devout Muslims. Abraham, the father of Judaism, died about 1900 B.C., but no resurrection has ever been claimed for him.

Jesus not only predicted His resurrection but also emphasized His rising from the dead would be the "sign" to authenticate His claims to be the Messiah.

**Matthew 12:38-40; 16:21; 17:9; 17:22-23; 20:18-19; 26:32; 27:63**

**Mark 8:31-9:1; 9:10; 9:31; 10:32-34; 14:28, 58**

**Luke 9:22-27**

**John 2:18-22; 12:34; Chapters 14-16**

No founder of any religion or leader of people, other than Jesus Christ, has ever dared to say that He would rise from the dead after his death. Because if he did not rise, it would be suicide for his movement. Jesus Christ boldly prophesied it and on the third day it happened and Christianity was born and has never been stopped because we serve a RISEN SAVIOR.

*"He showed Himself alive after many infallible proofs."* **Acts 1:3**

### **A. *Eye witnesses***

1. He appeared first to **Mary Magdalene** **John 20:11-18**
2. To the **women** returning from the sepulcher. **Matthew 28:5-10**
3. To **Peter** **Luke 24:34**
4. The Emmaus **disciples** **Luke 24:13-31**
5. The **apostles** **Luke 24:36-43**
6. The apostles and **Thomas** **John 20:24-29**
7. The **seven** by the sea of Tiberias **John 21:1-23**
8. To over **five** hundred **1 Corinthians 15:6**
9. To **James** **1 Corinthians 15:7**
10. Again by the **eleven** **Matthew 28:16-20**
11. **Stephen**, the first martyr. **Acts 7:55**
12. **Paul**, on his way to Damascus. **Acts 9:3-6; 1Corinthians 15:8**

Many of these eye witnesses died martyr's deaths because they preached the resurrection of Jesus Christ. They were glad to die for a living Christ. They had the "infallible proofs."

When Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane, all of His disciples "forsook Him and fled" (**Matthew 26:56**). From this time until after His resurrection, the disciples lived in fear. They did not believe that He would rise from the dead (**John 20:9**). The death of Jesus meant but one thing to them: the end. How do we account for the great change that came into their lives three days and three nights later? They saw Him, talked with Him, touched Him and ate with Him.

### B. Circumstantial evidence

1. The **change** in the lives of the disciples after the resurrection, from fear to unlimited courage. They rejoiced in persecution (**Acts 5:40-42**). They chose death, with faith in the resurrected Christ, rather than to deny that faith and be delivered (**Hebrews 11:35**).
2. The early church began to worship on the first **day** of the week, the day of the resurrection. It was not a law, it was spontaneous (**Acts 20:7**). For the Christian, every Sunday is Easter.
3. The early Christians went everywhere proclaiming the **resurrection** (**Acts 8**).
4. The **empty** tomb. The Roman guards were paid to say, "His disciples came by night, and stole Him away while we slept" (**Matthew 28:12-13**).

**FIRST:** The disciples lacked the courage. Had they stolen the body, then how do you account for the fact that they all suffered, and most of them died a martyr's death?

**SECOND** No one was ever arrested or tried for stealing the body of Jesus.

**THIRD** The guard could have been put to death for sleeping while on watch.

**FOURTH** If they were asleep, how could they have known that it was the disciples who "stole" the body?

**FIFTH** Had the enemies of Jesus moved the body, they could have produced it and brought a quick end to Christianity, and they would have.

5. The grave **clothes** found in the empty tomb are proof of the resurrection (**John 20:1-10**). When John saw the grave clothes and recognized that they were folded the same as when they were wrapped about the body, he knew that a miracle had taken place. Jesus came out of the clothes, and they collapsed without disturbing the folds.

### C. *Conclusion*

Jesus Christ      “. . . . was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead . . . . ”    **Romans 1:4**

Here is the record:

Confucius' tomb	-	occupied
Buddha's tomb	-	occupied
Mohammed's tomb	-	occupied
Jesus Christ's' tomb	-	EMPTY!

The decision is NOW YOURS TO MAKE. The evidence speaks for itself.

It says very clearly:    **CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!**

**HE IS UNIQUE! A ONE AND ONLY. DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHERS;  
HAVING NO EQUAL.**

## **XXI. THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST IS UNIQUE IN THE FULFILMENT OF PROPHECY**

The Apostles in the book of Acts appealed to two areas of the life of Jesus of Nazareth to establish His Messiahship.

1. The Resurrection, and
2. Fulfilled Messianic prophecy. The Old Testament, written over a 1,000 year period, contains over 300 references to the coming Messiah. All of these were fulfilled in Jesus Christ, and they establish a solid confirmation of His credentials as the Messiah.

**A. Purpose of messianic prophecy**

1. He is the **ONLY TRUE GOD** whose knowledge is infinite and whose Word is NEVER broken. **Numbers 23:19**
2. All things are subject to **God's Divine Will**. **Isaiah 46:9-10**
3. Messiah will absolutely be known based upon His credentials. **Isaiah 48:3, 5** **Romans 1:2-4**

**B. Significance of predictive prophecy**

1. Concludes that THERE IS a Divine Intellect behind the Bible.
2. Establishes the fact of God.
3. Authenticates the deity of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.
4. Demonstrates the inspiration of the Bible.
5. Confirms Jesus as the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of God.

**C. Objections**

1. Jesus purposely did what was needed to fulfill the prophecies.

ANSWER: Many prophecies concerning the Messiah were totally beyond the human control of Jesus, such as:

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| a) <u>Place</u> of birth  | <b>Micah 5:2</b>                     |
| b) <u>Time</u> of birth   | <b>Daniel 9:25; Genesis 49:10</b>    |
| c) Manner of <u>birth</u>                                       | <b>Isaiah 7:14</b>                   |
| d) <u>Betrayal</u>  | <b>Psalms 41:9; 55:12-14</b>         |
| e) Betrayal <u>price</u>  | <b>Zechariah 11:12</b>               |
| f) Manner of <u>death</u><br>by piercing                        | <b>Psalms 22:16; Zechariah 12:10</b> |
| g) Peoples' <u>reactions</u> (mocking, spitting, staring, etc.) | <b>Isaiah 50:6 Psalm 22:7-8</b>      |
| h) <u>Burial</u>  | <b>Isaiah 53:9 Matthew 27:57-60</b>  |
- Fulfilled Prophecy was coincidental, an accident.

ANSWER: Yes, one could possibly find one or two prophecies fulfilled in other men, but not all 61 major prophecies.

Mr. Peter Stoner in the book, Science Speaks, says that by using the modern science of probability in reference to eight prophecies:

*"We find that the chance that any man might have lived down to the present time and fulfilled all eight prophecies is 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000."*

*"Now these prophecies were either given by inspiration of God or the prophets just wrote them as they thought they should be. In such a case the prophets had just one (1) chance in 100,000,000,000,000,000 of having them come true in any man, but THEY ALL CAME TRUE IN CHRIST."*

**CONCLUSION:** This means that the fulfillment of these eight prophecies alone proves that God inspired their writing.  
(from: *Evidence That Demands A Verdict* by McDowell)

The Life of Jesus Christ is Unique!  
Different from All Others!

One and Only!  
HE HAS NO EQUAL!

## **XXII. HIS LIFE AND MINISTRY ON EARTH IS NOT OVER** **- HE IS COMING AGAIN!**

### **A. *The declaration***

After the resurrection Jesus spent forty days with His disciples speaking of the Kingdom of God. "And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was departing, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them and said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.'"

**Acts 1:9-11**

As Jesus accurately and absolutely fulfilled over 300 prophecies of His first coming, we can rest assured that the prophecy of His Second Coming will also be fulfilled absolutely.

**B. *The teaching and purpose of His second coming***

1. He is coming to **take** His Church to be with Him. **1 Thess 4:16-17**
2. He is coming to **judge** the nations. **Matthew 25:31-46**
3. He is coming to **save** Israel. **Romans 11:25-26**
4. He is coming to **establish** the throne of David. **Luk 1:31-33, Isa 9:6-7**
5. He is coming to bring a righteous **government** to this earth. **Heb 1:8**

JESUS CHRIST IS COMING BACK TO THIS EARTH AGAIN !

*"He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I AM COMING QUICKLY.'*  
*Amen. COME LORD JESUS."* **Revelation 22:20**

## **XXIII. CONCLUSION**

From this study we see that the life and teaching of Jesus Christ is unique and different from all other men.

**A. *His Words were the greatest ever spoken***

1. **Luke 21:33** Jesus said : *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away."*
2. **Luke 4:32** Luke tells us : *"They were amazed at His teaching, for His message was with authority."*
3. **John 7:46** : *"The officers answered, 'Never did a man speak the way this man speaks.'"*

**B. *The Testimony of others to His uniqueness***

1. The **Koran (Al-Imran, V.45)** Jesus is referred to as: *"the greatest above all in this world and in the world to come."*
2. **Napoleon Bonaparte:** *"I know men and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Between Him and every other person in the world there is no possible term of comparison. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have founded empires. But on what did we rest the creation of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded His empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him."*

C. ***His lasting and universal influence***

1. The great historian, **Kenneth Scott Latourette**, said: *“As the centuries pass the evidence is accumulating that, measured by His effect on history, Jesus is the most influential life ever lived on this planet. That influence appears to be mounting.”*
2. **G. Thomas**: *“He is the greatest influence in the world today. There is, as it has been well said, a fifth Gospel being written - the work of Jesus Christ in the hearts and lives of men and nations.”*

**List of References:**

1. McDowell, Josh. *Evidence That Demands A Verdict*. Singapore: Here’s Life Publishers, Inc.
2. Barrington, Porter. *Master Outlines and Notes*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, Inc. Publishers