

Who
Jesus
Is



Who Jesus Is

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Table of Contents

	Page
First, Let's Have a Talk	4
UNIT ONE	
Lesson	
1 Finding Out About Jesus	7
2 Jesus, the Promised Messiah	14
3 Jesus, the Son of God	22
4 Jesus, the Son of Man	31
5 Jesus, the Word	40
UNIT TWO	
6 Jesus, the Light of the World	47
7 Jesus, the Healer and Baptizer	54
8 Jesus, the Savior	61
9 Jesus, the Resurrection and Life	69
10 Jesus Christ, the Lord.....	77
Student Report	85
Answer Sheets	90

First, Let's Have a Talk

A Word From Your Study Guide Author

Jesus Christ was born almost 2,000 years ago. Why should you study a course about Him? What difference does it make to you who He is? This question is vitally important. You will find the answer to it in these lessons.

Today, more people than ever before in the history of the world are talking about Jesus Christ. Millions claim to be His followers. Why? Whatever your religion may be, you owe it to yourself to know something about Jesus—His life, His teachings, and His claims.

Possibly you are studying this course just to satisfy your curiosity about the life and teachings of Jesus. Or perhaps you have accepted Him as your Savior and want to know Him better. It could be that you are looking for reality in your spiritual life, you want to strengthen your faith, or you want to see if Jesus holds the solution for life's problems.

Whatever your purpose is, keep it in mind as you study. The more you apply the lessons to your own life, the more good you will get out of them.

Your Study Guide

This book is a pocket-sized workbook that you can take with you and study whenever you have five or ten minutes free. Try to do at least a lesson a week.

You will notice that objectives are given at the beginning of each lesson. The word *objective* is used in this book to help you know what to expect from your study. An objective is something like a goal or a purpose. You will study better if you keep in mind your objectives.

Be sure to study carefully the first two pages of each lesson. This prepares your mind for what follows. Next, study the lesson section by section and follow the instructions under the title *For You to Do*. If there is not enough room to write your answers to the study questions in the study guide, write them in a notebook so you can refer back to them when you review the lessons. If you are studying this course with a group, follow the instructions of your group leader.

How to Answer Study Questions

There are different kinds of study questions in this study guide. Following are samples of several types and how to answer them.

A *MULTIPLE-CHOICE* question or item asks you to choose an answer from the ones that are given.

Example of Multiple-Choice Question

- 1 A week has a total of
- a) 10 days.
 - b) 7 days.
 - c) 5 days.

The correct answer is *b) 7 days*. In your study guide, make a circle around *b)* as shown here:

- 1 A week has a total of
- a) 10 days.
 - b) 7 days.
 - c) 5 days.

(For some multiple-choice items, more than one answer may be correct. In that case, you would circle the letter in front of each correct answer.)

A *TRUE-FALSE* question or item asks you to choose which of several statements are TRUE.

Example of True-False Question

2 Which statements below are TRUE?

- a** The Bible has a total of 120 books.
- b** The Bible is a message for believers today.
- c** All of the Bible authors wrote in the Hebrew language.
- d** The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible.

Statements **b** and **d** are true. You would make a circle around these two letters to show your choices, as you see above.

A *MATCHING* question or item asks you to match things that go together, such as names with descriptions, or Bible books with their authors.

Example of Matching Question

3 Write the number for the leader's name (right) in front of each phrase that describes something he did (left).

- | | | |
|-------|---|-----------|
| . 1 . | a Received the Law at Mt. Sinai | 1) Moses |
| . 2 . | b Led the Israelites across Jordan | 2) Joshua |
| . 2 . | c Marched around Jericho | |
| . 1 . | d Lived in Pharaoh's court | |

Phrases **a** and **d** refer to *Moses*, and phrases **b** and **c** refer to *Joshua*. You would write **1** beside **a** and **d**, and **2** beside **b** and **c**, as you see above.

Your Student Report

If you are studying to earn a certificate, you will need to complete the two Student Reports. The Student Reports and their answer sheets are located at the end of the book.

There are two units in this course. In the Student Report there are questions for each unit. There is also an answer sheet for each of the two units. Your study guide will tell you when to answer the unit questions and to fill out the appropriate answer sheet.

Follow the instructions given in your student report for sending the answer sheets to the ICI office in your area. The address should be stamped at the top of the copyright page. When you do this, you will receive an attractive certificate. If you have already earned the certificate you will receive a seal to affix to it, indicating that you have completed another course in this unit of study.

About the Author

Most of the material in this course originally appeared as a series of radio messages by Rev. Elton G. Hill. They were widely distributed and appreciated in Sri Lanka and the Middle East. ICI has adapted and expanded these messages so that they give you a complete and basic study on the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Now you are ready to begin Lesson 1. God bless you as you study!

Additional Helps

Other materials are available for use with this study guide, including an Instructor's Guide and an Instructor's Packet (for instructor's use only). Consult the Evangelism, Discipleship, and Training Manual.

Lesson
1

Finding Out About Jesus

May I ask you a question? *Who do you think Jesus is?* Some people say, “He was a great teacher.” Others say He was a prophet, a philosopher, a Western god, or a good man whose example we should follow.

Jesus *was* a great teacher and prophet, but He was more than that. He was more than a philosopher or an example for us. Jesus was not from the West; so we can’t call Him a Western god.

Jesus was born in the Middle East almost 2,000 years ago. He did none of the things that make men famous, yet His life has affected the whole world. He did not build any monuments. He did not command an army. In fact, He never traveled far from His home. But though He lived so long ago, the strange truth is that millions of people today claim to know Him personally. They say He has changed their lives, and they would die for His cause. *Who is He?*

In this first lesson, we’ll begin to find out who Jesus is. We’ll start by looking at two ways to learn about Him.



In this lesson you will study . . .

The Bible Shows Us Who Jesus Is
Personal Experiences Show Us Who Jesus Is

This lesson will help you . . .

- Know where you can find a true record of what Jesus said and did.
- Describe the people who wrote about Jesus.
- Read things that people today have said about Jesus.
- Begin to learn about Jesus for yourself.

THE BIBLE SHOWS US WHO JESUS IS

Objective 1. Choose reasons why you can depend on the Bible to show you who Jesus is.

Accuracy of the Bible

To learn who Jesus is, let's go to the book where we find an accurate record of His life and teachings—the Bible. The Bible is a collection of sixty-six books written by some thirty-five to forty men.



The writers of the Bible were men of many different occupations. They were scholars, doctors, kings, prophets, priests, businessmen, farmers, shepherds, officials, and fishermen.

They lived at different times over a period of about 1,600 years. They were all good men who had these things in common:

- 1) They all worshiped one God—called Jehovah—Creator of the universe.
- 2) They each had God revealed to them and received His messages for mankind.
- 3) They all wrote what God told them to write.

God kept these men from making mistakes as they wrote the records of the past, predictions of future events, and His messages for mankind in every age and circumstance. Many years ago, these God-inspired writings were put together in one book—the Holy Bible.

2 Peter 1:21. For no prophetic message ever came just from the will of man, but men were under the control of the Holy Spirit as they spoke the message that came from God.

Note: The reference at the beginning of the quotation you have just read (2 Peter 1:21) tells you where you can find the quotation in your Bible. It lists the name of the book, the number of the chapter or chapters, and the number of the verse or verses.

The Bible is accurate in every detail. It is historically correct. It is scientifically correct. The exact fulfillment of hundreds of its prophecies about nations and individuals proves that it really is the Word of God. We can depend on what it tells us about Jesus.

In each of these *For You to Do* sections, the questions or exercises will help you review or apply what you have just studied. Follow the directions given for completing each one. When you are directed to, write your answers in your notebook. If you need to, review the section entitled **How to Answer Study Questions** at the beginning of this study guide.



For You to Do

1 Three of the following statements are TRUE about all the writers of the Bible. Circle the letter in front of each one.

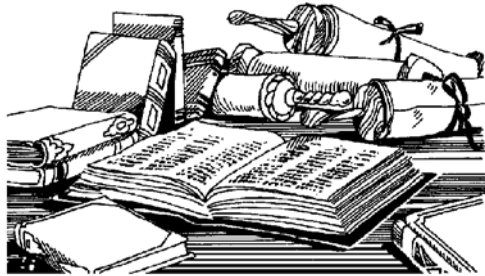
- a They lived at the same time.
- b They worshiped the same God.
- c They worshiped many Gods.
- d They received messages from God.
- e They wrote whatever they wanted to write.
- f They wrote what God told them to write.
- g They made mistakes in their books.

2 We can depend on the Bible to tell us who Jesus is because the Bible is

- a) long with many details.
- b) a collection of smaller books.
- c) an accurate message from God.

Theme of the Bible

Why should sixty-six books, written by some forty men over a period of 1,600 years, be put together in one book? Because one theme runs through them all. Together they show us different parts of the same picture. Books of history, law, songs, prophecy, biography, and practical teaching in the Bible have one central theme. It is the salvation of sinful man by a loving God.



Both parts of the Bible—the Old Testament and the New—show us man’s need of a Savior and God’s provision of a Savior in Jesus. The Old Testament, written before Jesus was born, contains many prophecies about Him. The New Testament tells us how the Savior came and how we can be saved by Him. The theme of the whole Bible—salvation for mankind—centers around Jesus, the Savior for mankind.



For You to Do

3 The theme of the Bible is salvation for mankind through

- a) better laws.
- b) Jesus the Savior.
- c) a good environment.
- d) improved religion.

4 Write the number of the part of the Bible in front of each phrase that describes it.

- a Tells how the Savior came
. . . . b Describes the life of the Savior and how we can be saved by Him
. . . . c Has many prophecies about a coming Savior
- 1) The Old Testament
2) The New Testament

New Testament Records About Jesus

The New Testament gives us the records of:

- 1) Jesus' life and teachings.
- 2) The church He founded.
- 3) Instructions for following Jesus.
- 4) Future events related to Jesus' return.

We can depend on the accuracy of the New Testament. God chose the men who should write it and inspired them in every detail of their work. Three things assure us that the New Testament records are true: (1) divine inspiration, (2) eyewitness testimonies of the writers, and (3) the systematic investigation of the facts.

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John wrote the Gospels called by their names. These are the first four books of the New Testament. We call them Gospels because *gospel* means “good news.” The good news about how Jesus came to give us eternal life is the best news there is.



We see people from different viewpoints. Look at a man you know. To one person he is a neighbor; to another, a friend; and still to others a husband, father, and worker. All could write about the same person, but each would have a different perspective and emphasis.

God inspired Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John to write the good news about Jesus from different viewpoints.

Matthew shows us Jesus as King—the descendant of King David who would rule the world in righteousness.

Mark shows us Jesus, the Servant of God, doing God's will—the suffering Servant described in Old Testament prophecy, who came to die for our sins.

Luke, a Greek physician, presents Jesus as the Son of Man—the perfect representative of the human race and the remedy for the ills of all mankind.

John writes his Gospel to let us see Jesus as the Son of God—the Savior of the world. His book is a record of the life of a man he knows. He is closely associated with Him. John writes as a witness to prove something—to prove who Jesus is. His aim is to convince all who read his record that this man Jesus is more than a man—he is God come in the form of man. And he declares that all who believe in Jesus will receive eternal life. This is a great statement—almost too good to be true. But

as we read in the Bible what other followers of Jesus wrote about Him, we see that they all agree. What they say about Jesus is true.

Matthew and John are two of the twelve disciples who spent three years with Jesus during His ministry. They describe the miracles they saw Him perform, record some of His teachings, and tell what they observed personally of His death and resurrection. John gives the proof of Jesus' deity and stresses the importance of believing in Him. Matthew was accustomed to working with official documents before he became Jesus' disciple. Step by step, he presents the proof that Jesus is the King of whom the Old Testament prophets wrote. He quotes the prophecies and their fulfillment, traces Jesus' royal lineage, and describes the principles of His kingdom.

Mark was a young man living in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus' ministry there. He was probably among the crowds that heard Jesus preach, saw His miracles, and saw Him crucified. Later, Mark was closely associated with Peter (one of Jesus' disciples) and probably learned from him some of the details given in his gospel.

Luke the physician investigated carefully the reports about Jesus. He wrote two books (his Gospel and Acts) to give a prominent friend an accurate record of the life of Jesus and the growth of His church. Luke interviewed Mary (the mother of Jesus) and many others to learn the details about Jesus' miraculous birth, life, death, and resurrection. He checked on many of the healings that Jesus had performed and described what happened.

The writers of the rest of the New Testament—Peter, James, Jude, and Paul—were well qualified to write about Jesus. Peter had spent three years with Him as His disciple. James and Jude were Jesus' brothers. Paul was a bitter enemy of Jesus and His followers. But then he met Jesus in a way that changed his life completely. From then on Paul spent his life telling others about Jesus.

God inspired these men to write for us (as well as for the people in their days) what they knew about Jesus. Their records all agree. From their experience they tell us how we too can know Jesus and enjoy the wonderful life He gives. John sums it up:

1 John 1:3. What we have seen and heard we announce to you also, so that you will join with us in the fellowship that we have with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.



For You to Do

- 5 Read 1 John 1:3 five times and memorize it.
- 6 The New Testament account about Jesus is a
 - a) record written by people who knew Him or learned the facts from those who knew Him.
 - b) collection of legends and ideas about a folk-hero of the first century.
 - c) story passed down by word of mouth for generations before it was put into writing.
- 7 Following are several statements. Circle the letter before each one which gives a reason why you can depend on what the Bible says about Jesus.
 - a) Most of the events described in the Bible happened many years ago in the Middle East.
 - b) The Gospels were written by men who knew Jesus personally or who interviewed those who knew Him.
 - c) All the writers of the Bible were inspired by God.
 - d) The Bible contains songs, history, and law.
 - e) Hundreds of prophecies in the Bible have been fulfilled exactly.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES SHOW US WHO JESUS IS

Objective 2. *Discover how you can learn who Jesus is through personal experience.*

Jesus is alive now, and we can know Him personally! This is part of the good news of the gospel. Jesus still does the same things for people that He did long ago.

The Experiences of Others

Do you know anyone who knows Jesus personally? This is more than just knowing about Jesus or being a member of a Christian church. Knowing Jesus personally changes a person's life. Millions of people do really know Jesus today. They would be glad to tell you about Him. Some of them say:

I used to hate everybody, but when Jesus came into my life He changed me. Now I love people and want to help them.

I used to have a terrible sense of guilt, but Jesus took it all away when I asked Him to forgive my sins. He gave me joy, peace, and a clean conscience.

Jesus took away the fears that tormented me. He gives me courage to face my problems.

Jesus has given me a reason for living, a purpose in life.

Jesus is the answer to all my problems. I take everything to Him in prayer. He shows me what to do and meets my needs.

I'm not lonely any more because Jesus is with me all the time.

I was hooked on heroin, but Jesus took away the craving for drugs when I turned my life over to Him.

Jesus has healed me many times in answer to prayer.

These testimonies and thousands of others from people who really know Jesus today demonstrate the truth of what God says:

Hebrews 13:8. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.



For You to Do

8 Read Hebrews 13:8 five times and memorize it.

9 *Something to think about:* If you heard people tell about experiences with Jesus like the ones quoted above, what would you think? Would you also want to know Jesus? Do these true testimonies lead you to believe that knowing Jesus might help you solve some of your problems?

Your Personal Experience

How can you best know who Jesus is? You can learn much about Him by studying the Bible. There you find His life and His teachings. You discover why He came into the world and what He has done for you. The Bible tells you what He is doing now and what He will do in the future. You can learn about Jesus from the experience of others. Down through the years, since Jesus lived on earth until this very hour, people have discovered that Jesus makes himself known to those who really want to know Him. And best of all, you can know Him personally and learn from experience that what the Bible says about Him is true.



You may have known about Jesus all your life, or you may never have heard much about Him. You may already know Him and love Him, or like Saul—the enemy of Jesus whose life was changed when he met Him personally—you may be opposed to the gospel. Whatever your knowledge of Jesus and your attitude toward Him may be, these lessons have been written to help you become better acquainted with Him personally. And as you do, we hope and pray that you will enjoy the wonderful benefits that come from friendship with Jesus.



For You to Do

10 From the following statements, choose the three that give the best ways to learn who Jesus really is. Circle the letter before each one.

- a** Study what the Bible says about Him.
- b** Study what other religions say about Him.
- c** Compare the teachings of various religions.
- d** Hear what Jesus has done for people who know Him personally.
- e** Know Jesus personally yourself.
- f** Listen to ideas men have about God.
- g** Listen to what the enemies of Jesus say.

11 Would you like to know more about who Jesus is? I hope so! These lessons will help you learn about Him and what He can do for you.

The answers to your study exercises are not given in the usual order. This is done so you will not see the answer to your next question ahead of time. Look for the number you need, and try not to look ahead.

Lesson
2

Jesus, the Promised Messiah

Promises are part of our lives. Parents promise to do things for children. Politicians, businessmen, and shopkeepers make promises. We have all had the experience of waiting for someone to keep a promise he or she made to us. Sometimes we have had to wait a long time! And sometimes we have been disappointed.

God has also made promises. For many centuries before Jesus was born, God promised that a Messiah, or Anointed One, would come. He spoke through His prophets, describing this person and what He could do.

When Jesus came, many of the people who knew these prophecies noticed something very important. They saw that the things Jesus said and did matched the descriptions perfectly. They realized that Jesus was the Messiah whom God had promised to send. God had kept His word!

In this lesson, you will study the different kinds of prophecies that were made about Jesus. You will discover the wonderful things they foretold about Him.



In this lesson you will study . . .

Understand What Bible Prophecy Is
Examine Truths About the Messiah

This lesson will help you . . .

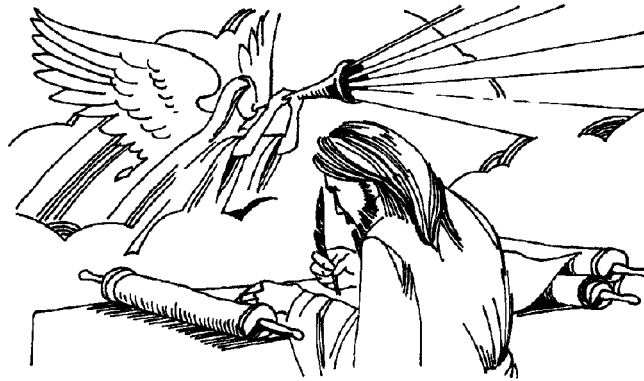
- Recognize the different kinds of biblical prophecy.
- Explain how Jesus is the promised Messiah.
- Appreciate the value of the prophecies that are in the Bible.

UNDERSTAND WHAT BIBLE PROPHECY IS

Objective 1. *Choose statements describing the nature and importance of Bible prophecy.*

Bible prophecies are messages that God gave His people through His messengers, the prophets. Through them God let the people know what He wanted them to do and showed them many things that would happen in the future.

God inspired the prophets to write down the revelations that He gave them. We have them in the Bible. Their predictions of future events make the Bible different from the sacred writings of other religions. Many of these predictions have already come true in the smallest detail. The Bible contains the historical fulfillment of a great number of them. Some of the prophecies are being fulfilled right now. Others will take place in the future.



Prophecies Are Important

The fulfillment of Bible prophecies lets us know that the Bible is what it claims to be—the word of God. Who else knows every detail of the future and can describe just what is going to happen to certain people in a certain place at a certain time hundreds of years later? God has confirmed the inspiration of the Bible by announcing His purpose ahead of time and then making everything happen just as He had said through His prophets.

The prophecies in the Old Testament about a coming Savior are extremely important to us for three reasons:

1. We can measure Jesus' life against these predictions and see if He really is the promised Savior.
2. We can better understand, through the prophecies, who Jesus is and why He came. We are shown His work in the past, present, and future.
3. We can know that God does what He has promised. Just as the first phase of the prophecies about Jesus has worked out exactly as it was foretold, the prophecies about the future will be fulfilled too.



For You to Do

- 1 Bible prophecies of future events are
 - a) messages that prophets received from the spirits of the dead.
 - b) predictions of the future gained by studying the stars.
 - c) revelations that God gave through His prophets.

- 2 The prophecies about a coming Savior are important because they
- prove that God does what He promises to do.
 - describe the political situation during Bible times.
 - contain many interesting pictures and symbols.

Messianic Prophecies Were Given Gradually

We call the prophecies about the Savior messianic prophecy. This is from the Hebrew title *Messiah*, which means the *Anointed One*. Priests, prophets, and kings were anointed with oil to show that God had chosen them and set them apart for His work. The coming Messiah would be anointed by God's Holy Spirit to do His work. He would be Prophet, Priest, and King. The Greek word for *Messiah* is Christ. When we talk about Jesus Christ, we are calling Jesus the Messiah, the Anointed One, the fulfillment of the messianic prophecies.



God's promises of the Messiah were given to His people at different times over a period of about 4,000 years or more. Some of them described the work that Jesus would do on earth as our Savior. Others refer to His future everlasting kingdom. Some of these prophecies were given in messages about a local situation, but went beyond the immediate problem to the coming of Messiah.

God revealed more and more details about the Messiah as time went by—where He would be born, how He would die, what kind of work He would do. In fact, some Bible students have counted 330 details about the Messiah in Old Testament prophecy. God wanted everyone to be able to recognize the Messiah when He came.



For You to Do

- 3 The title *Christ* means
- Anointed One.
 - Conqueror.
 - Sacrifice.
- 4 God gave the messianic prophecies
- more than 4,000 years before Christ was born.
 - at different times over a period of about 4,000 years.
 - to one of His prophets who lived 4,000 years ago.

Rituals Pictured the Messiah

The rites of worship that God's people used in the Old Testament were prophetic. God had established a whole system of sacrifices as a picture of the coming Messiah who would give His life to save people from their sins. The work of the priests was a picture of what Jesus would do as a perfect priest for all mankind.

The whole book of Hebrews in the New Testament tells how Jesus fits perfectly the prophetic picture given by the symbolic ritual of the Old Testament.

All over the world today we find traces of the prophetic rites and sacrifices that God instituted when man sinned. Many religions have in their worship some of these signs that were meant to point to Jesus. Members of these religions should study the Christian Bible to discover the true meaning of their ritual.



For You to Do

- 5 *Something to think about:* Do you know of any rituals of sacrifice that are practiced in your area? What meaning do they have?
- 6 You have learned that Jesus fits the symbolic picture given by the rituals of the Old Testament. The best way to find out how He fits this picture is to
 - a) think about the religions practiced in your area.
 - b) learn the names of all the messianic prophets in the Bible.
 - c) study the book of Hebrews in the New Testament.

EXAMINE TRUTHS ABOUT THE MESSIAH

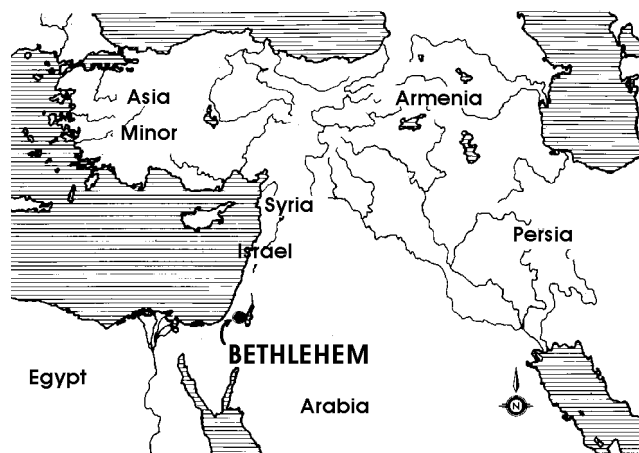
Objective 2. *Identify several ways in which Jesus fulfills the Bible prophecies about the Messiah.*

The Old Testament prophets foretold many important things about the Messiah. Five of these are described in this section of your lesson.

Human and Divine

We find the first promise of the Messiah in the first book of the Bible. God refers to Him as the seed of the woman. He would be born of a woman. Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, had sinned. Satan, God's enemy, had persuaded them to disobey God. This separated them from God and gave Satan power over them. But God promised that a Savior would be born who would fight Satan and destroy his power. God told Satan:

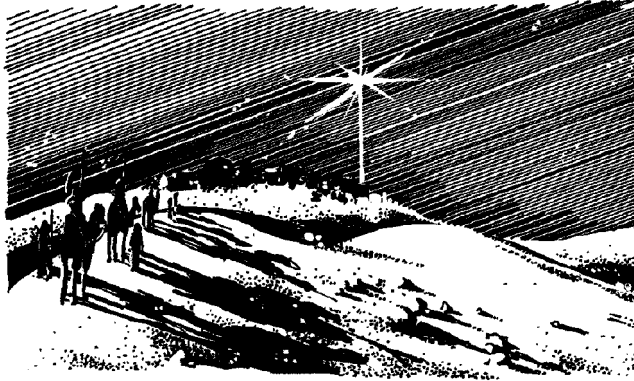
Genesis 3:15 (NIV). "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."



Down through the following centuries, God told His people many more details about the Savior. He would be born in Bethlehem, in the land of Palestine. Yet He wouldn't be an ordinary man. He was eternal. He had always existed, but would come to earth to be born as a human baby and grow up to be ruler in Israel. Micah prophesied:

Micah 5:2. "Bethlehem Ephrathah, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times."

About 700 years before Jesus was born, God showed the prophet Isaiah that the coming Savior would be both human and divine. He would be born of a virgin, without a human father. One of His titles would be *Immanuel*, which means "God with us."



Isaiah 7:14 (NIV). "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

Isaiah 9:6. A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler. He will be called, "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Eternal Father," "Prince of Peace."

In the Gospels of Matthew and Luke you can read about the birth of Jesus. He was conceived without a human father and born of the virgin Mary. This happened through the power of God—the Holy Spirit. Human and divine, He was Immanuel—God with us.



For You to Do

- 7 We know that Jesus is the "Immanuel" foretold in the Old Testament because He was
- a) born in Bethlehem Ephrathah.
 - b) conceived by the Holy Spirit.
 - c) a great and wise teacher.

Sacrifice and Savior

God showed several of the prophets that the Savior would give His own life as the sacrifice for our sins. Before Jesus came, animals were sacrificed to God. The sinner brought a lamb or goat to the priest to be killed and burned on the altar. This meant: "God, I have sinned against you. I'm sorry and don't want to do it any more. I know that the punishment for sin is death, so I deserve to die. But please accept this sacrifice in my place and forgive me. Then I will live for you."

The fifty-third chapter of Isaiah describes perfectly how God would make the Savior a sacrifice for our sins, but how later He would live again and be happy to see the people who were saved because of His death. Jesus became our sacrifice for sin and our Savior. The prophets told when,

where, and how Jesus would be betrayed by a close friend, falsely accused, put in prison, mocked, scourged, crucified, and buried. Then He would rise again. All this happened to Jesus in every detail, just like the Old Testament prophets had said. You will study more about this.



For You to Do

- 8 We know that Jesus fulfilled the rituals of sacrifice for sin in the Old Testament because He
- a) died for us.
 - b) did many good deeds.
 - c) told us about God.

Prophet, Priest, and King

Old Testament prophecies show that the Messiah would be anointed by God's Spirit to be our Prophet, Priest, and King. As Prophet He would be God's voice to us. As Priest He would be our voice to God. As King He would be God's hand to help us and direct us. He would set the standard for us to live by and establish God's rule in our lives.

When Jesus began His public ministry, He read this Messianic prophecy to the people to let them know that they were seeing it fulfilled in Him:

Isaiah 61:1-2 (NIV). The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Prophet. Moses was a great prophet, religious leader, and ruler of the Jewish people about 1,400 years before Jesus was born. God spoke through him to the people. He led them out of slavery. Great miracles accompanied his ministry and proved that God had sent him to be the leader of his people. Moses said:

Deuteronomy 18:15 (NIV). The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.

Jesus was like Moses in many ways. God spoke through Him. He performed great miracles. He freed people from the slavery of sin. As a prophet, Jesus foretold many events, including: His own death by crucifixion, His resurrection after three days, His return to heaven, what His followers would do, the coming of the Holy Spirit, the spread of the gospel, and the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. All this happened just as Jesus said it would. Some of His other prophecies are being fulfilled right now. And we know that the rest of them will all come true.

Priest. The Psalmist wrote of the Messiah:

Psalms 110:4 (NIV). The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

Melchizedek was the first priest named in the Old Testament, and it appears that he was chosen directly by God. All the Old Testament priests prayed for the people and also offered sacrifices for their sins. Jesus prayed much for His followers when He was on earth, and is praying for us now. The sacrifice He offered for our sins was His own life. Now we can go to God for forgiveness through Jesus our Priest. Whenever we go to Him in prayer, our Priest presents our needs to God.

King. What a conquering King the Messiah would be according to the Old Testament prophecies! He would defeat Satan, the enemy of God and of mankind. He would conquer sin, sickness, sorrow,

and even death. He would defeat the forces of evil and establish a reign of perfect justice and peace on the earth. He would provide the solution to all the world's problems. No wonder the people looked forward to His coming! The prophecy you read in Isaiah 9:6 about the Prince of Peace goes on to say:

Isaiah 9:7. His royal power will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace. He will rule as King David's successor, basing his power on right and justice, from now on until the end of time.

You will notice in the Gospels that some of the people called Jesus *Son of God*. He was a legal heir to the throne of David. His followers recognized in His miracles and His ministry all the characteristics of the wonderful kingdom that the Messiah would establish. Many wanted to make Him King then. But Jesus was not ready to establish His universal kingdom. First He gave us the standards and conditions for His kingdom in our hearts and lives. We are now in a period of inviting people to accept Jesus as King of their lives. He frees all those who receive Him as their King from the power of sin and Satan.

Jesus is the true King of the universe. Someday He will come back to earth for those who belong to Him. He will set up His kingdom for everyone to see, and He will rule forever. This is why you should learn all you can now about who Jesus is and what He wants you to do.



For You to Do

9 Write the number of the prophecy about the Messiah in front of each phrase that describes the way in which Jesus fulfilled it.

- | | | |
|--------|---|-------------------------|
| a | Foretold His own death and resurrection | 1) Human and Divine |
| b | Gave His life for our sins | 2) Sacrifice and Savior |
| c | Was the legal heir to the throne of David | 3) Prophet |
| d | Prayed for His followers | 4) Priest |
| e | Was the son of the virgin Mary | 5) King |
| f | Was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit | |

10 Suppose a friend were to ask you, "How do you know that Jesus is the promised Messiah?" Circle the letter in front of the best reply.

- a) Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies given about the Messiah in the Old Testament.
- b) Most religious people agree that Jesus was a good man and a very wise teacher.
- c) Many prophets in the Old Testament told about the coming of an Anointed One.

The Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah were like separate threads. Only after Jesus came did people see that in Him, they were all beautifully and wonderfully woven together. In our next lesson, we study more about how Jesus is the Son of God.



For You to Do

- 6 c) study the book of Hebrews in the New Testament.
- 1 c) revelations that God gave through His prophets.
- 7 b) conceived by the Holy Spirit.
- 2 a) prove that God does what He promises to do.
- 8 a) died for us.
- 3 a) Anointed One.
- 9 a) 3) Prophet.
b) 2) Sacrifice and Savior.
c) 5) King.
d) 4) Priest.
e) 1) Human and Divine.
f) 1) Human and Divine.
- 4 b) at different times over a period of about 4,000 years.
- 10 All the statements are true. However, statement (a) is the only one that offers the proof that is needed. It says that the actual life of Jesus matched the predictions given about the Messiah.
- 5 Your answer. The fact that people make sacrifices shows that they know they have sinned and are afraid that God is angry with them.



Check Your Answers

- 4 a) 2) The New Testament.
b) 2) The New Testament.
c) 1) The Old Testament.
- 1 b) They worshiped the same God.
d) They received messages from God.
f) They wrote what God told them to write.
- 6 a) record written by people who knew Him or learned the facts from those who knew Him.
- 2 c) an accurate message from God.
- 7 All the statements are true. However, statements **b**, **c**, and **e** give reasons why you can depend on what the Bible says about Jesus.
- 3 b) Jesus the Savior
- 10 a) Study what the Bible says about Him.
d) Hear what Jesus has done for people who know Him personally.
e) Know Jesus personally yourself.

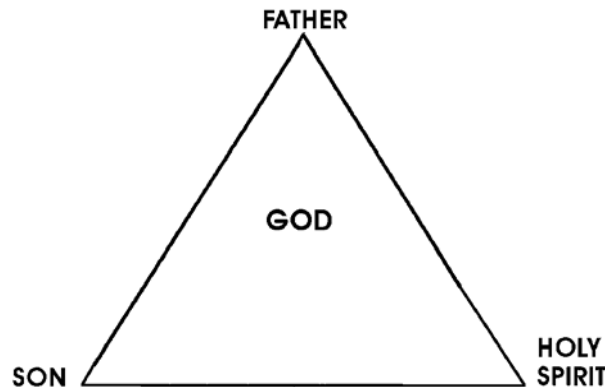
Lesson
3

Jesus, the Son of God

Some facts about God are easier to understand than others. For example, we can understand how God is like a father without too much difficulty. We can do this because fatherhood—actually being a father or having a father—is part of our experience. We have seen that good fathers provide for their children and love them.

Other facts about God are not as easy to understand. This should not surprise us! Our God is the great, eternal, and majestic Creator, and His thoughts and ways are far above ours. One of the facts about God that is hard to understand is the subject of this lesson—the fact that Jesus is the Son of God. God is one God, yet He has a Son who is equal to Him in power, might, and glory.

This lesson explains what the Bible says about the unique way in which Jesus is the Son of God. It is a very important lesson! Believing that Jesus was a good man is not enough. You must be convinced that He is God Himself who came into the world. As you study this lesson, you will see why only Jesus has the power to free you from sin and evil now and always.



In this lesson you will study . . .

The Son Is Related to His Father
The Son Is Related to His Followers

This lesson will help you . . .

- Understand the unique way in which Jesus is the Son of God.
- Learn important truths about the relationship between Jesus and His Father.
- Explain what Jesus can do for you because He is the Son of God.

THE SON IS RELATED TO HIS FATHER

Objective 1. *Identify what the Bible says about the relationship of Jesus with His Father.*

Father and Son are United Eternally

Before Jesus was born in Bethlehem, He had always been with God, His Father. In Lesson 2, you read the prophecy of Micah from Micah 5:2. There Micah pointed to the ancient origins of the Messiah:

Micah 5:2. “. . . whose family line goes back to ancient times.”

The night before Jesus was crucified, He prayed:

John 17:5. “Father! Give me glory in your presence now, the same glory I had with you before the world was made.”

Jesus was with God, working with Him, in the creation of the world. John calls Jesus the Word and begins his Gospel by telling us:

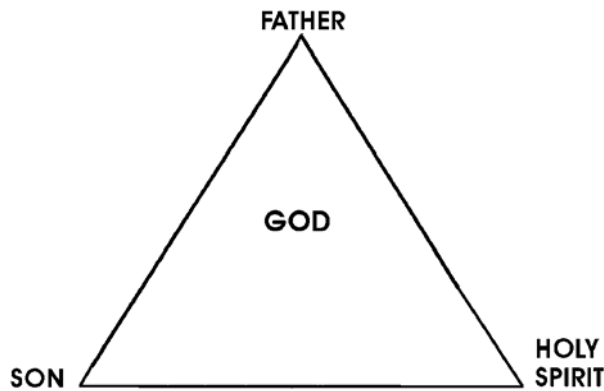
John 1:1-3. Before the world was created, the Word already existed; he was with God, and he was the same as God. From the very beginning the Word was with God. Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him.

There is a mystery in the Old Testament that has puzzled many readers. God says:

Genesis 1:26 (NIV). “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness.”

To whom was God speaking? What John says helps explain this mystery. Jesus, the Son of God, was with God at the time of creation. And as you remember from Lesson 2, Isaiah calls the Messiah “Mighty God” and “Eternal Father” (Isaiah 9:6). But there is more.

The Bible teaches that there is only one true God, the Creator. And yet, the Old Testament uses a plural name for Him—Elohim—over 2,700 times. *Elohim*, translated God, is sometimes used with plural pronouns and verbs to describe God’s work. They are used in the description of creation. Sometimes Elohim is used with a singular verb as if more than one person were acting as one. The Bible uses the word *one* to express either unity or number. The divine unity that we call God is made up of more than one person.



Genesis 1:1, 2, 26 (NIV). In the beginning God [*Elohim*] created the heavens and the earth . . . And the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters . . . Then God [*Elohim*] said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness.”

As God’s revelation to man develops in the Old and New Testaments, we learn that three persons are called God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We call them the Triune God, or the Holy Trinity—which means *the sacred three persons in one*. They are one in purpose, power, and nature. They have always worked together in perfect unison and harmony. They did in creation. They did while Jesus was here on earth. And they always will. The name God is used for Father, Son, and Spirit. To distinguish between them, we refer to the Father as God, call the Son by His earthly name—Jesus, and speak of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus spoke of His unison with His Father as being one, or as being in His Father and His Father in Him.

John 17:21-23. “Father! May they be in us, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be one . . . just as you and I are one: I in them and you in me.”

God the Father answered Jesus’ prayer that we read in John 17:5. After Jesus died for our sins, God raised Him from the dead. Forty days later many people saw Him go back to heaven. Later, God let several people see Jesus there in His glory with the Father as Stephen did.

Acts 7:55. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw God’s glory and Jesus standing at the right side of God.



For You to Do

- 1 According to the Bible, the relationship Jesus has with His Father
 - a) began at creation.
 - b) has always existed.
 - c) started when He was born.
- 2 The Holy Trinity means
 - a) one God with three persons.
 - b) the sacred three persons in one.
 - c) three Gods, all equal to each other.
- 3 A Scripture which mentions all the persons of the Holy Trinity is
 - a) Micah 5:2.
 - b) John 17:5.
 - c) Acts 7:55.

Jesus Claims God as His Father

Jesus knew God was His Father and let others know it. He continually spoke of God as His Father (even when He was twelve years old). He addressed God as His Father in His prayers. Jesus told the people that God had sent Him to give eternal life to those who believe in Him. He said:

John 3:16. For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

Jesus honored His Father by doing what God had sent Him to do. He taught the people how wonderful God is. He let them know that His marvelous teachings and miracles were all from His Father.

John 8:28-29. “I do nothing on my own authority, but I say only what the Father has instructed me to say. And he who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, because I always do what pleases him.”



For You to Do

- 4 Read John 3:16 five times and memorize it.
- 5 *Something to think about.* Some people say that Jesus was a good man but not the Son of God. However, Jesus himself said He was the Son of God. If Jesus were not the Son of God, but He said He was, He would be telling a lie! If He were a liar, could He still be a good man?

God Claims Jesus as His Son

We know that Jesus is the Son of God because God himself has made this very clear. God honors His Son. Jesus said:

John 8:18, 54. “The Father who sent me also testifies on my behalf If I were to honor myself, that honor would be worth nothing. The one who honors me is my Father—the very one you say is your God.”

God honored Jesus and testified that Jesus was His Son through (1) angels, (2) the Holy Spirit, and (3) supernatural signs.

Angels. God sent His heavenly messengers, the angels, to let people know that Jesus was His Son. Angels told Joseph and Mary that the baby to be born of the virgin would be the Son of God. Angels announced to shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem that the Savior was born. At two times of great crisis in Jesus’ life, angels came to strengthen Him and to reassure Him. Angels rolled away the stone from Jesus’ tomb and told His followers He had risen from the dead. And when Jesus was caught up to heaven, angels appeared to the watching crowd. They said that just as Jesus had gone to heaven, He would come back again someday.

The Holy Spirit. God sent His Spirit to honor Jesus and let people know who He is. The Holy Spirit filled Elizabeth, Zechariah, Simeon, Mary, and Anna and spoke through them. They told people that the child Jesus was the Messiah. God filled John the Baptist with His Spirit and sent him as a special messenger to introduce Jesus as the Son of God and Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. The Holy Spirit came down on Jesus like a dove when He was baptized. The Spirit anointed Jesus for His ministry as the Messiah—the Anointed One—full of the wisdom and power of God.



Supernatural signs. God used many signs to testify of His Son. A star guided the wise men to the infant Jesus. On three occasions, the people heard God speak from heaven honoring Jesus. When Jesus officially began His work, God said:

Matthew 3:17. “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased.”

At another time, God gave the followers of Jesus a glimpse of His Son’s glory. Jesus was transformed before them, and His face became as bright as the sun. God spoke from heaven again.

Matthew 17:5. “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased—listen to him!”

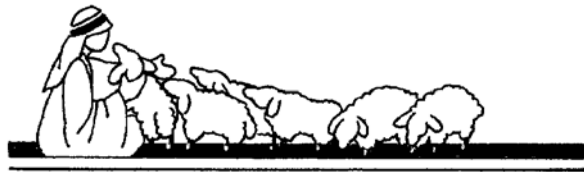
God’s voice was heard on a third occasion. This happened when Jesus was speaking about His death.

John 12:28. “Father, bring glory to your name!” [Jesus said]. Then a voice spoke from heaven, “I have brought glory to it, and I will do so again.”

All the miracles of Jesus during His life on earth were God’s testimony that Jesus was who He said He was—the Son of God. When Jesus died, God also gave many signs. The earth shook. Darkness covered the sun. The veil in the temple, which hung as a barrier in front of the Holy Place, was torn in two.

Three days later God honored His Son by raising Him from the dead. Later God took Him home to heaven bodily in the sight of a great crowd. Afterwards God allowed several people to see Jesus in heaven beside Him. And when the disciples prayed to God in Jesus’ name, He answered their prayers and worked miracles. Surely all those who believe in God should believe His testimony about His Son Jesus.

6 Read Matthew 3:17 five times and memorize it.



7 Suppose a friend were to ask you, “How do I know that God said Jesus is His Son?” The best response would be to

- a) describe three ways in which God showed that Jesus is His Son.
- b) explain that Jesus did many good things when He was here on earth.
- c) Tell the person that he or she just needs to believe.

THE SON IS RELATED TO HIS FOLLOWERS

Objective 2. *Identify what the Bible teaches about the relationship between the Son of God and His followers.*

You have seen how both the Father and the Son recognize and claim each other. In the same way, the Son and His followers also recognize and claim each other. The result is that those who follow the Son of God have eternal union with Him.

The Followers Recognize the Son

Those who followed Jesus when He was on earth did so because they believed in Him. They recognized that He was who He said He was—the Son of God. And they openly expressed their faith in Him.

Matthew 16:16. Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

John 20:28. Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

What about Jesus’ followers today? How do we recognize Him? Just by becoming a member of a church? Or by being called a Christian? To be real Christians, we must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ—recognize Him as both the Son of God and our Savior. How do we do this? We turn our lives over to Him, trust in Him, and follow wherever He leads us.

John wrote his Gospel to prove that Jesus is the Son of God, so that we could believe in Him and have eternal life. In his epistles John repeats God’s message that the only way to have this life is in His Son.

John 20:31. But these have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life.

1 John 5:11-12. God has given us eternal life, and this life has its source in his Son. Whoever has the Son has this life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.



For You to Do

- 8** According to 1 John 5:11-12, the eternal life God gives us is in the
- a) good works we do.
 - b) ideas of holy men.
 - c) Son of God.
- 9** John's purpose for writing his message about Jesus was to
- a) prove that He is the Son of God.
 - b) describe all the miracles He did.
 - c) tell interesting information about Him.

The Son Recognizes the Followers

Long before we were born, Jesus knew us. Before the world was formed, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit saw us in their plan for the human race. They saw us created in the image of God, God's children, sharing His love, enjoying the good things He would prepare for us, living with Him in perfect happiness.

But God saw something else too. He saw that the human race would turn away from Him in rebellion and would choose the paths of sin and death. God saw us suffering the results of sin in the world and condemned to eternal death. Rebellious and ungrateful as we were, He loved us with a perfect love. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit worked out a plan for our salvation.

While we were yet sinners, the Son of God chose us to be His followers. He saw our guilt and took the sentence of death in our place. He saw our weakness. He accepts all those who come to Him and sets them free from the power of sin.

Ephesians 1:4-5. Even before the world was made, God had already chosen us to be his through our union with Christ, so that we would be holy and without fault before him. Because of his love God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his sons—this was his pleasure and purpose.

The names that Jesus used for His followers when He was on earth show us His love for all those who follow Him. He refers to them as His little children, sons of God, light of the world, salt of the earth, His bride, His witnesses, those whom God has given Him, His little flock of sheep, His chosen ones, His church, His brothers, and part of Himself as branches in the vine.

Do you recognize Jesus as your Savior and Lord? If so, He recognizes you as His own.

Matthew 10:32-33. “If anyone declares publicly that he belongs to me, I will do the same for him before my Father in heaven. But if anyone rejects me publicly, I will reject him before my Father in heaven.”

John 1:12. Some, however, did receive him and believed in him; so he gave them the right to become God’s children.



For You to Do

10 Ephesians 1:4-5 says that God chose us to belong to Him

- a) at the same time Jesus was born.
- b) before the world was made.
- c) when we believed in Jesus Christ.

11 God planned to bring us to himself through

- a) giving us better rules to follow.
- b) Jesus Christ, His Son.
- c) new religious ceremonies and rituals.

12 Write the number of the name Jesus uses for His followers in front of each phrase that describes the idea it teaches about their relationship to Him.

- | | | |
|--------|--|-------------------------|
| a | Loved and treasured | 1) Branches in the vine |
| b | Sharing His life | 2) Bride |
| c | Having God for their Father as He does | 3) Brothers |
| d | Under His protection and care | 4) Flock of sheep |
| e | Pledged to unite with Him | |

The Son and His Followers Are United Eternally

Jesus wants us to be with Him because He loves us and knows that our life, happiness, and future depend on our union with Him. He gives us new life for body, soul, and spirit. In Him we find real happiness, fulfillment, and power to overcome evil. All those who walk with Him day by day now will live with Him forever in heaven. Jesus said:

John 3:35-36. The Father loves His Son and has put everything in his power. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not have life, but will remain under God’s punishment.

John 10:10. “... I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness.”

John 14:6. “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by me.”

Our union with Jesus is so close that all who believe in Him are in Christ and He is in us. He is the vine; we are the branches.

John 15:5. “I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in Him, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me.”



Paul describes our union with Christ as being members of His body. Jesus is the Head. His church is His body. All the rights and privileges of the sinless Son of God, all of His riches in glory, all of the love and fellowship between the Son and His Father become ours too as members of His body!

Colossians 1:17-18. Christ existed before all things, and in union with him all things have their proper place. He is the head of his body, the church; he is the source of the body's life. He is the first-born Son, who was raised from death, in order that he alone might have the first place in all things.

Colossians 1:27-28. Christ is in you, which means that you will share in the glory of God. So we preach Christ to everyone . . . in order to bring each one into God's presence as a mature individual in union with Christ.



For You to Do

13 Read John 14:6 five times and memorize it.

14 Circle the letter before each TRUE statement.

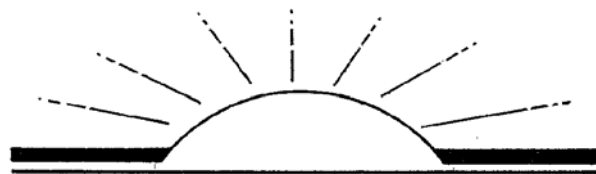
- a** In order for us to share in the glory of God, Christ must be in us.
- b** Jesus said that some people can go to the Father by a different way than by Him.
- c** The source of life for the church is in following the commands of the people who lead the church.

15 In the previous exercise (number 14), there are two false statements. Write the letter of each statement and the reference to the Scripture portion which shows that the statement is false.

.....

.....

You have learned that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Because He is, we share in His divine life when we are united to Him. But Jesus also became a man. Why did He do this? We will study the reasons in our next lesson.





Check Your Answers

- 9** a) prove that He is the Son of God.
1 b) has always existed.
- 10** b) before the world was made.
2 b) the sacred three persons in one.
- 11** b) Jesus Christ, His Son.
3 c) Acts 7:55.
- 12** a) 2) Bride.
b) 1) Branches in the vine.
c) 3) Brothers.
d) 4) Flock of sheep.
e) 2) Bride.
- 5** No, He could not. If you believe Jesus was a good man, you must also believe that He told the truth about Himself. He is who He says He is—the Son of God.
- 14** a) True.
b) False.
c) False.
- 7** The best response is (a) describe three ways in which God showed that Jesus is His Son. Though (b) is true, it doesn't point directly to what God did. Response (c) is not helpful because it doesn't use the evidence God has given us in the Bible.
- 15** b) John 14:6.
c) Colossians 1:17-18.
- 8** c) Son of God.

Lesson
4

Jesus, the Son of Man

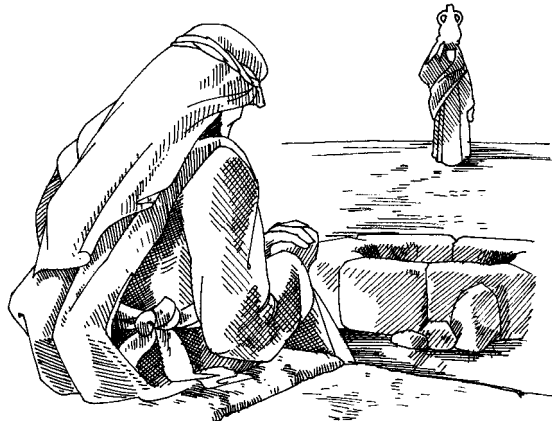
In all the universe, Jesus is unique. There is no other person like Him, for He is both God *and* man. This is what the Bible teaches.

But why would Jesus want to become a man? What He did would be like a rich man leaving his beautiful mansion and everything he had to become miserably poor. It would be like a powerful king leaving everyone who respected and obeyed him to become hated and despised.

Yet Jesus did this and more. He left His divine place with God the Father willingly. He took the form of man willingly. He took the form of man gladly. In fact, the title *Son of Man* seems to be the one He used most often to refer to himself. It appears seventy-nine times in the Gospels.

What happened when Jesus joined the human race? Did He become less divine when He became a man? Could He really become a man if He continued to be God?

In this lesson we will look at what the Bible says about these subjects. The truths we will study are very important. We will discover that our salvation depends not only on the fact that Jesus was fully God, but also that He was completely man.



In this lesson you will study . . .

How the Son of God Became a Man
Why the Son of God Became a Man

This lesson will help you . . .

- Explain what the title *Son of Man* says about who Jesus is.
- Describe the life Jesus Christ lived on earth as the Son of Man.
- Give four reasons why Jesus became a man.

HOW THE SON OF GOD BECAME A MAN

Objective 1. Choose statements that describe how the Son of God, Jesus, became a man.

His Incarnation

Incarnation comes from two words that mean “in flesh.” God came to the world in human flesh.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God incarnate—deity clothed in humanity.

The title *Son of Man* speaks to us especially of the incarnation of Jesus and His mission as the representative of mankind.

Son of Man is a messianic title from the Old Testament prophecies. In Hebrew it is *Ben Adham*. This can be translated Son of Adam, Son of Man, or Son of Mankind. It emphasizes four things about Jesus:

1. Jesus was a real man. His body was not just a disguise in which God appeared. He had a real human nature.
2. Jesus, the Son of Adam, is the seed of the woman promised to Adam and Eve—their descendent who would defeat Satan.
3. Jesus, the Son of Adam, belongs to the whole human race. He is the Messiah for all mankind, not for just one nation, time, or place.
4. Jesus came to earth on a mission that He could carry out only as a true representative of the human race.

He Was Born of a Virgin

By what act or miracle did the Son of God become the Son of Man? He had to be born as all human beings are born, and He was. Yet there was one, very important difference. Though Jesus had a human mother, God himself was His Father. By the miracle of the virgin birth that Isaiah had prophesied, God came to live among humankind and be one of them.

Luke the physician investigated the facts and wrote about Jesus' birth:

Luke 1:26-38. God sent the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee named Nazareth. He had a message for a girl promised in marriage to a man named Joseph, who was a descendant of King David. The girl's name was Mary. The angel came to her and said, "Peace be with you! The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you!"

Mary was deeply troubled by the angel's message, and she wondered what his words meant. The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king, as his ancestor David was, and he will be king of the descendants of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end!"

Mary said to the angel, "I am a virgin. How, then, can this be?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and God's power will rest upon you. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God." . . . "I am the Lord's servant," said Mary; "may it happen to me as you have said." And the angel left her.



Matthew, one of Jesus' disciples, tells us what happened when Mary's future husband, Joseph, learned that she was pregnant.

Matthew 1:19-25. Joseph was a man who always did what was right, but he did not want to disgrace Mary publicly; so he made plans to break the engagement privately. While he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary to be your wife. For it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived. She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus—because he will save his people from their sins."

Now all this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet, "A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel" (which means, "God is with us").

So when Joseph woke up, he married Mary, as the angel of the Lord had told him to. But he had no sexual relations with her before she gave birth to her son. And Joseph named him Jesus.

Saying that Jesus became a man does not mean that God turned into a man, or that He ceased to be God when he became man. God the Son was still God. But when He became the Son of Man, He did something that had never been done before: as God, He took on the human nature He had created. Human nature and divine nature were then perfectly united in one being and person—Jesus Christ, true God and true man. This event is called the Incarnation.



For You to Do

- 1 The title *Son of Man* points to the fact that Jesus was
 - a) a full member of the human race.
 - b) born of both a human father and mother.
 - c) the son of Adam, the first man.
- 2 How did the Son of God become a man?
 - a) He ceased to be God completely so that He could become a man instead.
 - b) He came down to earth and lived for a while in the shape of a man.
 - c) He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He Accepted Human Limitations

To become a real man and our representative, Jesus limited himself to:

- (1) A human body and human nature

- (2) Conditions of life among men
- (3) Spiritual resources available to all

Human body and nature. Jesus laid aside His immortality and took a human body with its weakness. He became subject to sickness, suffering, and death.

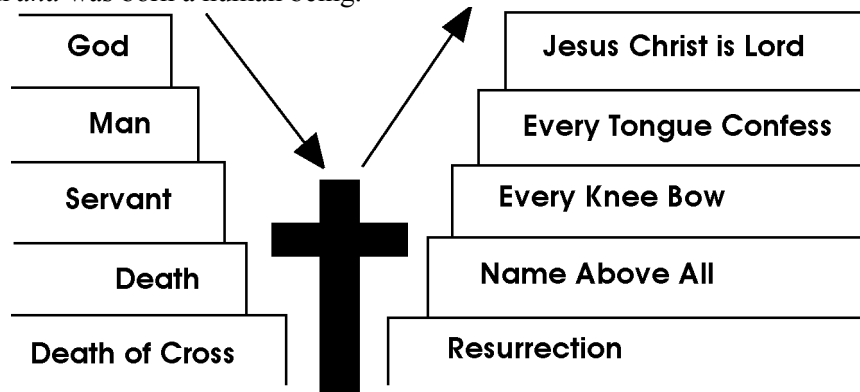
He was often hungry, thirsty, and weary. He knew sorrow, disappointment, frustration, and heartbreak. He experienced human joys and fears.

Conditions of life among men. The Creator of the universe stripped himself of His power and became a helpless infant. The source of all wisdom and knowledge went to school and learned to read, write, and study God’s Word. He worked as a carpenter. He left His throne in glory where the angels all worshiped Him, and took the place of a servant—scoffed at, ridiculed, persecuted—giving His life in service and sacrifice for others.

Spiritual resources available to all. Jesus showed us God’s pattern for us by limiting himself to the spiritual power and methods available to us all. He prayed, and God answered His prayers. He depended on God for strength and power. He went to God’s house and studied His Word. When Satan tempted Him to sin, Jesus quoted the Bible and applied it to the situation. He told everyone that His miracles were done by God’s Spirit working through Him, and His teaching was simply what God told Him to say.

Paul, writing to the Philippians, describes how Jesus voluntarily humbled himself to become our Savior and how God has honored Him and will honor Him for it. We will quote his description as it appears in the Amplified Version of the Bible. (This version makes the meaning clearer by using several words for each idea.)

Philippians 2:6-11 (Amplified Bible). Who, although being essentially one with God *and* in the form of God [possessing the fullness of the attributes which make God God], did not think this equality with God was a thing to be eagerly grasped or retained; but stripped Himself [of all privileges and rightful dignity] so as to assume the guise of a servant (slave), in that He became like men *and* was born a human being.



And after He had appeared in human form He abased *and* humbled Himself [still further] and carried His obedience to the extreme of death, even the death of [the] cross!

Therefore [because He stooped so low], God has highly exalted Him and has freely bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, that in (at) the name of Jesus every knee should [must] bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue [frankly and openly] confess *and* acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



For You to Do

- 3 Following are four things Jesus did. Circle the letter in front of the two in which He gave us God's pattern for our spiritual lives.
- a He depended on God for strength and power.
 - b He gave His life as a sacrifice for our sins.
 - c He studied God's Word.
 - d He was born of the virgin Mary.
- 4 According to Philippians 2:6-11, God highly exalted Jesus because He
- a) did many miracles and showed His power over nature.
 - b) humbled himself to die on the cross to save us.
 - c) taught the people rules about praying and fasting.

He Lived a Perfect Life

Jesus lived a perfect life. There was no fault or weakness in Him. His enemies could find no fault in Him. When Jesus was growing up, He faced all the temptations that other boys and young men face, but He remained pure, honest, sincere—full of love for God and for His fellow men.

Jesus hated sin and spoke against it, but He loved the sinner. He was known as a friend of sinners. Yet He never sinned. He changed sinners. They did not change Him.

Jesus' perfect life was part of His mission as the Son of Man. As Representative of the human race, He kept every law of God. He earned the right to all the blessings promised to those who keep God's laws—eternal life and happiness in God's home. He qualified as our perfect Substitute to (1) take our guilt and die for our sins, and (2) give us His righteousness (right standing with God) and all the blessings promised to those who keep God's laws.

Satan tried to cause Jesus to sin and to turn Him aside from His mission. But Jesus rejected all temptation and carried out His mission to save us. Jesus' goodness was not just negative (the absence of evil). It was a positive commitment to God's will. He not only refused to do wrong—He was dedicated to doing right. He was love incarnate, and He expressed His love in action.

Jesus began His public ministry at thirty years of age. He taught people about God and how they could have a part in His kingdom. He was the greatest Prophet and Teacher that the world has ever known. With only a touch or a command, He healed hundreds of sick people. Sinners came to Him and received pardon, peace, cleansing from sin, and wonderful new lives filled with His love.

Acts 10:38. "You know about Jesus of Nazareth and how God poured out on him the Holy Spirit and power. He went everywhere, doing good and healing all who were under the power of the Devil, for God was with him."

But the religious leaders of Jesus' day were jealous of Him and refused to accept Him as the Messiah. They accused Him falsely and had Him crucified (just as Isaiah had prophesied). He was nailed to a cross like a common criminal, between two criminals. And the people He had come to save mocked Him while He died. In spite of this, Jesus loved them still and prayed:



Luke 23:34. “Forgive them, Father! They don’t know what they are doing.”

Jesus’ perfect life did not end in the grave. God the Father raised Him up on the third day. After forty days more on earth, He went back to heaven, where He is now our Representative. And from there He will come back to earth someday to rule the world in perfect justice and lasting peace.



For You to Do

- 5 Jesus faced temptation by
 - a) living an isolated life away from people.
 - b) rejecting it and doing good instead.
 - c) yielding to it to show He was human.
- 6 *Something to think about.* Why is the perfect life Jesus lived important to you personally?

WHY THE SON OF GOD BECAME A MAN

Objective 2. *Identify four reasons why the Son of God became a man.*

Why did God become man? Why did He take on himself human nature and human limitations? Why was the incarnation necessary? We can sum up the answer in four words: (1) Revelation, (2) Preparation, (3) Substitution, and (4) Mediation.

Revelation

Jesus lived as a man in order to show us what God is like. We can see the character of God demonstrated in Him. By knowing Jesus we can know God. You will study more about this.

The Son of God became a man to show us what perfect manhood can be. We see in Jesus’ perfect life and character the pattern for mankind, the potential, God’s plan for us. He is our example. He is the standard by which our words, thoughts, and actions are measured. He shows us the kind of life that we can have when He lives in us and makes us sons of God.

Ephesians 4:13. And so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God; we shall become mature people, reaching to the very height of Christ’s full stature.

Jesus' life demonstrated also His qualifications for His mission. His sinlessness showed that He was worthy to be our Substitute. His power, wisdom, and love prove that He is qualified to be our King.

Preparation

Jesus' life as a man was necessary preparation for His mission. His experience gave Him an understanding of human nature that prepared Him to be our Representative and our Judge.

Jesus had to become a man in order to become our Priest. He has shared our weakness. He understands our problems. He learned the cost of obedience through His own suffering. Jesus prayed for His followers while He was on earth. And now—with a deep understanding of our needs—He prays for us in heaven.

Hebrews 2:17-18. He had to become like his brothers in every way, in order to be their faithful and merciful High Priest in his service to God, so that the people's sins would be forgiven. And now he can help those who are tempted, because he himself was tempted and suffered.

Hebrews 4:14-16. We have a great High Priest who has gone into the very presence of God—Jesus, the Son of God. Our High Priest is not one who cannot feel sympathy for our weaknesses. On the contrary, we have a High Priest who was tempted in every way that we are, but did not sin. Let us be brave, then, and approach God's throne, where there is grace. There we will receive mercy and find grace to help us just when we need it.

Jesus' experience as a man prepared Him to rule over men. The Son of Man—the perfect Representative of Adam's race—will be its Ruler. He will be a perfect King because He knows just what we need. He understands us. And because He died for us, He has the right to govern our lives. Now He is King in the lives of those who accept Him. Someday He will rule the world for which He died.

Daniel 7:13-14 (NIV). “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.”

Substitution

Jesus was born so that He could die. The whole human race had sinned and was condemned to die eternally—every one of us. The only way to save us was for God himself to take our punishment. But as God, He could not die. So He became a man to die in our place and save us from our sins.

Jesus did more than take our place on the cross. He rose from the dead and offers to all who accept Him a place in His eternal kingdom. He unites us with himself so we can share all His rights as Sons of God.

Hebrews 2:9-11, 13-15. But we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, so that through God's grace he should die for everyone . . . in order to bring many sons to share his glory. For Jesus is the one who leads them to salvation. He purifies people from their sins, and both he and those who are made pure all have the same Father.

He also says, “Here I am with the children God has given me.” Since the children . . . are people of flesh and blood, Jesus himself became like them and shared their human nature. He did this so that through his death he might destroy the Devil, who has the power over death, and in this way set free those who were slaves all their lives because of their fear of death.

Mediation

Jesus became a man in order to bring God and man together. Sin had opened an impassable chasm between a holy God and corrupt, rebellious man. But God's love found a way to bridge the gulf and bring man back to himself. Jesus came to be the Mediator of a new covenant or agreement between God and man.

1 Timothy 2:5-6. For there is one God, and there is one who brings God and mankind together, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself to redeem all mankind.

In New Testament times, a mediator was appointed by the court to represent a bankrupt person and take charge of all his affairs. The mediator was responsible to see that all the creditors were paid in full. If what the bankrupt person owned was not enough to pay his debts, the mediator himself paid them.

What a beautiful picture of Jesus! He is our mediator before God. His death covers all our debt of sin, and in Him we are free from the sin and guilt that separated us from God. His cross bridges the chasm. He gives us a new nature—His nature—and makes us sons of God. By taking our human nature, Jesus reaches us and lifts us to a better world. The Son of God became the Son of Man, so that we would become the sons of God.

Galatians 4:4-5. God sent His own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Jewish Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might become God's sons.

1 Peter 3:18. For Christ died for sins once and for all, a good man on behalf of sinners, in order to lead you to God.



For You to Do

7 *Something to think about.* Some people do not pray about certain problems they have because they think God would not understand or be sympathetic. Are they right or wrong? Why?

8 Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and mankind because He is the only one who

- a) died for our sins so God would accept us as sons.
- b) taught many things about God to His followers.
- c) showed us that we should work for peace and harmony.
- d) warned people that they needed to repent.

9 The Son of God became a man for four reasons. Write the number of each reason (right) beside its meaning (left).

- | | | |
|--------|--|-----------------|
| a | To be the bridge between God and people | 1) Revelation |
| b | To die for us and in our place | 2) Preparation |
| c | To equip Him to help those who are tempted | 3) Substitution |
| d | To qualify Him to rule over mankind | 4) Mediation |
| e | To show us what God is like | |

All through the New Testament we find passages that tell us about God's purpose for us and help us understand why Jesus became the Son of Man. Jesus sums it all up:

Luke 19:10. "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."



Check Your Answers

- 5 b) rejecting it and doing good instead.
- 1 a) a full member of the human race.
- 6 Your answer. The perfect life of Jesus is important because it makes Him your perfect representative and substitute.
- 2 c) He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
- 7 Your answer. They are wrong because God the Son, Jesus Christ, has lived on earth. He faced the same kinds of problems all people do. Today in heaven, He is understanding, sympathetic, and able to help. You can pray to God now, through Jesus Christ, about any problem you have. He will help you!
- 3 a) He depended on God for strength and power.
c) He studied God's Word.
- 8 a) died for our sins so God could accept us as sons.
- 4 b) humbled himself to die on the cross to save us.
- 9 a) 4) Mediation.
b) 3) Substitution.
c) 2) Preparation.
d) 2) Preparation.
e) 1) Revelation.

Lesson
5

Jesus, the Word

Can you imagine what it would be like to be unable to speak? To have no way of communicating with others? What terrible isolation and frustration!

Most of us can communicate easily with others. Usually, we hardly notice what we are doing! But in fact, every day of our lives we use hundreds of words. We use them to express our inner feelings, desires, thoughts, and purposes. They give form to what is in our hearts and minds. Through them, others can know us and we can know them.

Our ability to communicate comes from the God who made us. He is the great Communicator, and he wants us to know Him. We do not need to wonder what God is like. He has spoken! How? By sending His own Son into the world. Prophets and wise men have said words about God and from God, and their words have been true. But Jesus Christ has done far more. He has not just spoken God's words. He is God's Word—living, powerful, and full of divine authority. Jesus Christ is the beginning and the end of everything God wants us to know.

As the Word, what does Jesus tell us about God? The answer to that question is the subject of this lesson.



In this lesson you will study . . .

God Revealed Himself in Jesus
God Explained His Names in Jesus

This lesson will help you . . .

- Describe how God showed people what He is like.
- List qualities of God's character that are revealed in Jesus Christ.
- Explain how Jesus fulfills the names of God.

GOD REVEALED HIMSELF IN JESUS

Objective 1. *Identify what God showed us about His character, feelings, thoughts, plans, power, and will through Jesus Christ.*

God is a spirit. We can't see Him, hear Him, or feel Him with our natural senses. How, then, can we know Him? How can weak, sinful men and women understand the all-powerful, perfect, invisible God? How can God show himself to us? Jesus is the answer.

God's Character

Jesus reveals God to us through a human personality. What is God like? We can know by looking at Jesus, His Son.

John 1:18. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is the same as God and is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

John 14:9. "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."

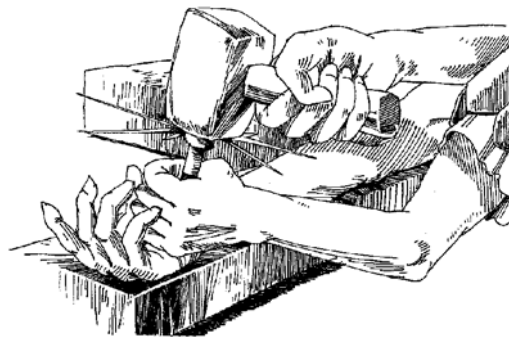
Colossians 1:15. Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God.

God has spoken to people in many ways, but the clearest revelation of His character is His Son—God's living Word. God speaks to us today as we read about Jesus. Jesus' life, work, and teachings all express God in terms of man's experience, in language we can understand.

Hebrews 1:1-3. In the past God spoke to our ancestors many times and in many ways through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us through his Son . . . He reflects the brightness of God's glory and is the exact likeness of God's own being.

John 1:1, 14. Before the world was created, the Word already existed; he was with God, and he was the same as God. The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory.

Jesus not only taught people about God; He demonstrated God's character. He spoke of God's holiness, goodness, wisdom, justice, mercy, power, and love. Men saw these qualities in Him. He proclaimed the highest moral standard the world has ever known, and He lived by it. The wisdom of His teachings still amazes the world. He was God's love in action as He ministered to human needs and gave His life for others.



On the cross, where Jesus died for our sins, we see the clearest expression of God's justice and love. God's justice demanded the death penalty for sin. God's love for sinners made Him suffer death in the sinners' place. His love made Him pray for forgiveness for those who were crucifying Him. What love! What a wonderful God we have!



For You to Do

- 1 The justice and love of God were shown to us most clearly when Jesus
 - a) died on the cross.
 - b) healed the sick.
 - c) taught the people.
- 2 The following chart is based on Hebrews 1:1-3. Complete it by writing the correct phrases from Hebrews 1:1-3 where they belong.

How God Spoke	
... in the past	... in these last days
to:	to:
through:	through:

God’s Feelings, Thoughts, and Plans

Jesus expressed God’s feelings, thoughts, and plans in His teachings and His person. Jesus was a great Teacher, but He said:

John 8:28. “I do nothing on my own authority, but I say only what the Father has instructed me to say.”

John 15:15. “I have told you everything I heard from my Father.”

We can depend, then, on Jesus’ teachings in the Gospels as a true revelation of God and His truth. We see God as an all-wise, loving Father in heaven who cares tenderly for His children. He hates sin and hypocrisy, but He loves the sinner. He tells us how to be saved and gives us the rules for a happy life. He longs for His wandering children to leave their sins and come back home to Him. He lets us know about the wonderful life He has planned for us in His eternal kingdom. We have these truths in God’s written Word.

Jesus, the living Word, revealed God’s feelings. In Him, God wept over the grief of His friends, the suffering of humanity, and the blind unbelief of a city that rejected Him and was rushing to destruction. God’s anger blazed against pretense, sham, and those who made profits from religion. God’s pity was stirred as He saw people lost in sin like sheep without a shepherd. God let people know He wanted them to be happy and free from sickness, sin, guilt, and fears.



For You to Do

- 3 When Jesus wept over the suffering of humanity, we see a clear revelation of God’s
 - a) feelings.
 - b) thoughts.
 - c) plans.
- 4 Circle the letter before each TRUE statement.
 - a Everything that Jesus taught came from His Father.
 - b The life of Jesus showed that God never becomes angry about anything.
 - c Through the teachings of Jesus, we can learn about the plans God has for us.

God's Power and Will

Jesus showed us that God not only wants to help us, but also that God has the power to help us. While He was on earth, Jesus healed the sick and forgave the sinner. He met the needs of people, whatever they were, by the power of God. He said that He had come to do His Father's will, and He pointed to His actions as proof that God had sent Him. The miracles Jesus did showed that God is both willing and able to help us. They prove that God wants to heal us, forgive us, and meet all our needs today.

John 5:36. "The deeds my Father gave me to do, these speak on my behalf and show that the Father has sent me."

1 Corinthians 1:24. Christ . . . is the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Jesus also showed us the kind of life God wants us to have. He obeyed His Father and lived in close fellowship with Him. God wants us to do the same.



For You to Do

5 *Something to think about.* Suppose someone were to say this to you: "I believe in God, but I think He is too far away to care about my problems or to do anything about them." How would you respond?

GOD EXPLAINED HIS NAMES IN JESUS

Objective 2. Choose descriptions of eight names of God that are fulfilled in Jesus.

We find many names for God in the Bible. Jesus, the Word, helps us understand them because He is the true expression of God.

I Am

When God called Moses to lead His people, Moses asked His name. God answered: "I Am that I Am." He told Moses to tell the people that *I Am* had sent him. This name tells us that God is eternal, changeless, and always present. There is no deceit in Him. He is what He is and does what He purposes to do. We can depend on Him.

But what is it that God is? What will He do? Jesus answers these questions in His sermons recorded in the Gospel of John. Eight times He applies God's name, *I Am*, to Himself. Once He uses it to describe His own eternal nature, telling us that He existed before Abraham. The other times, Jesus uses the name of God to explain God's character and His own—to show what God does for those who come to Him. The great I Am will meet all of our needs.

1. "*I am* the bread of life." John 6:35.
2. "*I am* the light of the world." John 8:12.
3. "Before Abraham was born, *I am*." John 8:58.
4. "*I am* the door." John 10:9.
5. "*I am* the good shepherd." John 10:11.
6. "*I am* the resurrection and the life." John 11:25.
7. "*I am* the way, *I am* the truth, *I am* the life." John 14:6.
8. "*I am* the real vine." John 15:1.



For You to Do

6 You have studied eight verses in which Jesus uses the name *I Am* to explain God’s character and His own. Beside each kind of spiritual need, write the reference and phrase that tells how Jesus meets it as the *I Am*. (More than one verse may fit a need.) The first one is done to give you an example.

- a Barren; unproductive *John 15:1 Jesus is the vine.*.....
- b Dead or dying
- c Deceived
- d Hungry
- e In danger
- f In darkness
- g Separated from God

7 *Something to think about.* Review the list you made for exercise 6. Mark an X beside each need you have that you want Jesus to meet as the *I Am*.

Jehovah

Objective 3. *Apply to your life truths about God which are revealed in Jesus.*

“Jehovah” is the way the name *I Am* is said in our language. As you have learned, it means the *Eternal or Self-Existent One*. It is linked in the Old Testament with other words to form several compound names. These are all based on personal revelations of God and tell us who He is and what He does for people. Jesus—The Word who reveals God to us—demonstrates the truth of these names of God.

1. *Jehovah-jireh*—The Lord Our Provider.

Genesis 22:8 (NIV). Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.”

1 Peter 1:18-20. For you know what was paid to set you free . . . it was the costly sacrifice of Christ, who was like a lamb without defect or flaw. He had been chosen by God before the creation of the world.

Jesus is the lamb God has provided to take our guilt and die in our place.

2. *Jehovah-ropheka*—The Lord Our Healer.

Exodus 15:26. “I am the Lord, the one who heals you.”

Matthew 8:16. Jesus drove out the evil spirits with a word and healed all who were sick.

Jesus, the Great Physician, heals the body, mind, heart, and broken spirit.

3. *Jehovah-shalom*—The Lord Our Peace.

Judges 6:24. Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and named it “The LORD is Peace.”

John 14:23, 27. Jesus answered . . . “Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you.”

Jesus gives us inner peace that doesn’t depend on circumstances—peace with God, peace with ourselves, and peace with others.

4. *Jehovah-rohi*—The Lord My Shepherd.

Psalms 23:1. The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need.

John 10:7, 11. Jesus said . . . “I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep.”

Jesus—the Good Shepherd—died to save us and lives now to take care of all who follow Him.

5. *Jehovah-tsidkenu*—The Lord Our Righteousness.

Jeremiah 23:6 (NIV). This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV). God made him [Christ] who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

There is only one way to have a clean heart and life. We can have the right kind of life and right relationship with God only by union with Jesus. He is our righteousness.

6. *Jehovah-shammah*—The Lord Is Present.

Ezekiel 48:35 (NIV). “THE LORD IS THERE.”

Matthew 1:22. “He will be called Immanuel” (which means, “God is with us”).

Jesus has promised to be with us always. He is always near to help us.

7. *Jehovah-nissi*—The Lord Our Banner.

Exodus 17:15. Moses built an altar and named it, “The LORD is my Banner.”

John 16:33. “The world will make you suffer: But be brave! I have defeated the world!”

This title means that Jesus is our Leader, our Victory, and our Strength. With Him we can be strong and victorious in the daily battle of life.

What do these names mean to you? They mean that if you have Jesus as your Savior, the Lord will provide for you. The Lord will heal you. The Lord will be your Peace. The Lord will be your Righteousness. The LORD will be present with you and be your Victory. Jesus will be all this to you, if you submit your life to Him, confessing your sins and accepting Him into your life.



For You to Do

8 Following is a list of the names of God from the Old Testament which are explained more fully in Jesus. Beside each, write a need that God can fulfill for you or someone in your family.

- a** The Lord Our Provider
- b** The Lord Our Healer
- c** The Lord Our Peace
- d** The Lord My Shepherd
- e** The Lord Our Righteousness
- f** The Lord Is Present
- g** The Lord Our Banner

Now that you have completed the first unit, you are ready to answer the questions in your student report for *UNIT ONE*. Review the previous lessons, paying special attention to the verses you have memorized. (These are 1 John 1:3 and Hebrews 13:8 from Lesson 1; and John 3:16, Matthew 3:17, and John 14:6 from Lesson 3.) Follow the instructions in your student report for filling out the answer sheet. Send your answer sheet to the address stamped on the copyright page of the student report.



Check Your Answers

- 4 a** True
- b** False
- c** True

1 a) died on the cross.

5 Your answer: You could describe the miracles Jesus did for people and explain how they show us that God is both willing and able to help us.

2 Your chart should look like this.

How God Spoke	
... in the past	... in these last days
to: our ancestors	to: us
through: the prophets	through: His Son

6 Your answers may not be exactly like these, but they should be similar.

- a** John 15:1, Jesus is the Vine.
- b** John 11:25 and 14:6, Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life.
- c** John 14:6, Jesus is the Truth.
- d** John 6:35, Jesus is the Bread of Life.
- e** John 10:11, Jesus is the Good Shepherd.
- f** John 8:12, Jesus is the Light of the world.
- g** John 10:9, Jesus is the Gate; John 14:6, Jesus is the Way.

3 a) feelings.

Lesson
6

Jesus, the Light of the World

Have you ever walked in the dark and wished for a light so you could see? You didn't know what dangers might be on either side of you or in the path ahead. Maybe you even doubted whether you were going in the right direction. It is so easy to get lost in the dark.

Or perhaps you have spent a night in fear of some enemy, known or unknown. You might have imagined terrible things happening. How different everything seemed the next day in the bright sunshine! The fears of the night faded as the light grew stronger.

You can easily understand why the Bible often uses darkness as a symbol of evil, error, uncertainty, trouble, and death. These are the kinds of things that cause us to be fearful and confused.

In contrast, the Bible uses light as a symbol of life, joy, truth, and all that is good. It tells us that Jesus is the Light of the world. What a powerful and descriptive name for the Son of God! As you explore its spiritual meaning, you will learn more wonderful facts about who Jesus is.



In this lesson you will study . . .

The World Needs Light
What the Light Does
How People React to the Light

This lesson will help you . . .

- Explain why Jesus came to be the Light of the world.
- Describe how the life of Jesus is spiritual light for people.
- List the ways people react to the light of Jesus.

THE WORLD NEEDS LIGHT

Objective 1. *Identify the reason why God sent Jesus to become the light of the world.*

Sin Has Brought Darkness

Darkness is the absence of light. The world was plunged into spiritual darkness the instant that sin separated the first human beings, Adam and Eve, from God. Why? Because God is the source of light. Without Him, we can only wander around in the dark—lost, not knowing where we are going. In the Old Testament, we read about the darkness that separation brings. God sent the prophet Isaiah to the disobedient people of Israel with this message:

Isaiah 59:2. It is your sins that separate you from God when you try to worship him.

The people replied:

Isaiah 59:9-10. “Now we know why God does not save us from those who oppress us. We hope for light to walk by, but there is only darkness, and we grope about like blind people. We stumble at noon, as if it were night, as if we were in the dark world of the dead.”

What a vivid picture of misery! The New Testament also speaks of the darkness of sin.

Ephesians 4:17-18. Do not continue to live like the heathen . . . whose minds are in the dark.

1 John 2:11. But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness; he walks in it and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has made him blind.



For You to Do

- 1 According to the Bible, spiritual darkness has come over the world because of
- fate.
 - ignorance.
 - sin.

Light Was Promised

God is Light—the source of all light. People are in spiritual darkness until they receive a special revelation of the light of God. That is why Jesus became the Light of the World; He came to give us God’s light—to reveal to us God’s love and His will for us.

John 1:4. The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to mankind.

1 John 1:5. God is light, and there is no darkness at all in him.



Listen to Jesus’ words about Himself:

John 8:12. “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness.”

John 9:5. “While I am in the world, I am the light for the world.”

It should not have surprised the people to hear Jesus call himself the Light of the world. The prophet Isaiah had predicted that the Messiah would come as the Light of God. Matthew quoted this Old Testament prophecy and said that it came true in Jesus:

Matthew 4:16. The people who live in darkness will see a great light. On those who live in the dark land of death the light will shine.



For You to Do

- 2 Read John 8:12 five times and memorize it.
- 3 Jesus came to be the light of the world because people are living in
 - a) financial poverty.
 - b) spiritual darkness.
 - c) unhealthy environments.

WHAT THE LIGHT DOES

Objective 2. *Identify four ways Jesus helps you and others because He is the Light of the world.*

Light Drives Away Darkness

Jesus, the Light, drives out darkness. His presence in the heart drives out sin, guilt, and fear. His love drives out hatred. His light brings hope, assurance, comfort, and strength to the soul.

Psalm 27:1. The LORD is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one. The Lord protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid.

Light is stronger than darkness. All the darkness in the world can't put out a single candle. If you have Jesus in your life, the powers of evil around you and the dark experiences of life cannot put out His light. A Christian woman who had been sick for months and was unable to leave her



bed was always cheerful. Someone asked her how she could be so happy when she couldn't even get out to see the sun. She said, “My room is dark but I have the Son in my heart.” Jesus was her inner source of spiritual light that drove away the gloom. He flooded her soul with sunshine.

John 1:5. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out.

Micah 7:8 (NIV). Though I sit in darkness, the Lord will be my light.



For You to Do

- 4 The darkness of fear, guilt, sin, hatred, and resentment can be driven out of a person's heart by
- good education.
 - positive thinking.
 - rules for right attitudes.
 - the presence of Jesus.
- 5 *Something to think about.* Are there any dark places in your heart that need the light of Jesus? Pray now and ask Him to drive the darkness out.

Light Reveals

Light makes it possible for us to see things as they are. The only way we can know spiritual truth is with the spiritual light that comes from God. We find this light in God's written Word—the Bible—and in God's living Word—Jesus Christ. Jesus is the revealer and interpreter of life. He helps us understand God's Word and shows us God's way for us. He, himself, is the Way.

John 14:6. Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by me."

Jesus helps us to see ourselves as we really are. In His perfect life and teachings, we see how far short we come of God's standards for us. We see our sins, our pride, self-centeredness, and hidden motives. Jesus shows us our need of the forgiveness and new life that He offers us.

Jesus shows us what God is like and how He will meet our needs. In Jesus we see God's love for us, His patience with us, and His provision for our salvation. He shows us how to receive God into our lives and enjoy His light forever:

2 Corinthians 4:6. The God who said, "Out of darkness the light shall shine!" is the same God who made his light shine in our hearts, to bring us the the knowledge of God's glory shining in the face of Christ.

Hebrews 1:3. He reflects the brightness of God's glory and is the exact likeness of God's own being.

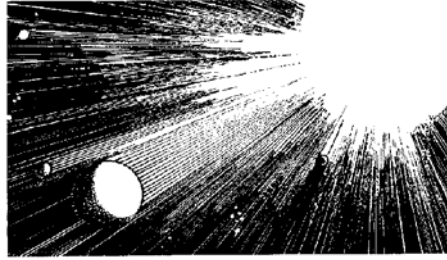


For You to Do

- 6 *Something to think about.* Suppose someone were to tell you this: "I don't need to become a Christian. I'm a decent man. I haven't murdered anybody or done anything that is terribly wrong." How can the light of Jesus help this person see his spiritual need?

Light Is Energy

Light is radiant energy. Scientists are learning more and more about the power of light radiating from the sun. Its energy is a tremendous source of power for human use. People can use it to heat their homes and to operate their machines. But greatest of all is its effect on life and health. Many plants won't grow in the shade. Sunlight kills many germs and contributes to our health and strength. Think of earth without the sun. No warmth. No life. No force to hold it in orbit. A frozen ball lost in a black sky, on its way to destruction.



What the sun is to the earth, Jesus is to us. He brings us life, warmth, health, energy, and power. He holds us close to himself by His love. He heals our bodies and spirits. The light of life that Jesus gives His followers is stronger than death. Nothing, not even the grave, will be able to hold us back when He returns. Like plants, bursting from their seeds and pushing up into the sunlight, we will rise to meet Him.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17. The Lord himself will come down from heaven. Those who have died believing in Christ will rise to life first; then we who are living at that time will be gathered up along with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord.



For You to Do

- 7 In the comparison you have studied, the sun is to the plants on earth what Jesus is to
- a) His Father.
 - b) His followers.
 - c) the angels.

Light Is Impartial

Light is for everybody, everywhere. Just as the sun shines on the hilltop and in the valley, on the rich and the poor, on wise men and fools; so the light of Jesus shines for all the world, on both good and bad. Some people thought the Savior would be just for their nation. But God makes it plain that His light of salvation is for all the world.

John 1:9. This was the real light—the light that comes into the world and shines on all mankind.

Luke 1:78-79. Our God is merciful and tender. He will cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us and to shine from heaven on all those who live in the dark shadow of death, to guide our steps into the path of peace.

A blind man sat by the roadside begging. He heard a crowd coming. He learned that Jesus was passing by and that the crowd was with Him. The beggar had heard about Jesus' power to heal. He cried out with a loud voice: "Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!" The people scolded him and told him to be quiet. They didn't think Jesus had time to help a beggar. But Jesus has time and help for everyone who calls to Him. The beggar kept calling. Jesus stopped and had the beggar brought to Him. Jesus healed him.

Luke 18:43. At once he was able to see, and he followed Jesus, giving thanks to God.

Life took on new meaning and new direction after the beggar met Jesus. His world of darkness turned to day. It didn't matter what he had been, where he had sat begging, how he had stumbled in

the dark. Now he walked in the light—no longer a blind beggar but a follower of Jesus, the Light of the world!

8 You have learned four ways Jesus shines as the Light of the world. Write the number for the way Jesus shines (right) beside the phrase that describes the kind of error or problem it solves (left).

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| a Christianity is only for the uneducated. | 1) Drives away darkness |
| b Death is the end of everything. | 2) Reveals |
| c I can't understand the Bible. | 3) Is energy |
| d I don't think God really loves me. | 4) Is impartial |
| e My heart is full of hatred and fear. | |

9 Write *your name* in the blank spaces:

In fulfillment of Luke 1:78-79, God has caused the bright dawn of salvation to rise on and shine from heaven on who has lived in the dark shadow of death. He will guide the steps of into the path of peace.

10 *Something to think about.* How many changes do you think came into the beggar's life because he called to Jesus?

HOW PEOPLE REACT TO THE LIGHT

Objective 3. *Decide how you will respond to Jesus, the Light of the world.*

Rejection

Some people don't like Jesus and refuse to accept His light. They want to go ahead and live like they want to, have their own way, and not do what Jesus tells them to do. When Jesus was on earth, some people hated Him because His teaching showed them what sinners they were. They wanted to put out the light, to kill Him. They fought against the gospel. Jesus let them know that He had brought salvation for everyone. Whoever accepts Him will be saved. But those who refuse His light are condemning themselves to live and die in darkness.

John 3:19-20. The light has come into the world, but people love the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds are evil. Anyone who does evil things hates the light and will not come to the light, because he does not want his evil deeds to be shown up.

Acceptance

Jesus promised, "Whoever follows me will have the light of life." When you accept Jesus, you have His light as your possession. You also continue to have His light as an experience each day. Jesus is the Light. To have Him is to have the light of life and all that light brings. Having the Light of the world is more than knowledge, more than willpower, more than belonging to a certain religion. It is more than knowing about Jesus or knowing His teachings. It is having Jesus himself as a radiant, energetic, revealing force in your life.

Jesus says, "Whoever follows me." To have the light of God we must do something—follow Jesus, walk in His light. God reveals himself and His truth to those who are willing to accept the truth and follow Him. He guides us day by day.

1 John 1:7. But if we live in the light—just as he is in the light—then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from every sin.

Proverbs 4:18. The road the righteous travel is like the sunrise, getting brighter and brighter until daylight has come.

Do you want to follow Jesus and have the light of life? Welcome Him into every area of your life now. Let His bright presence drive all darkness away. Follow His light and share it with those around you. Turn your life over to Him so that He can fill it with His light.

Prayer: Jesus, please come into my life. Forgive my sins, and drive away all the darkness in my heart. Change me into the kind of person You want me to be. Make me radiant with Your light. Help me follow You every day. Thank You for Your light.



For You to Do

11 To accept Jesus into your life as the light of the world means to

- a) agree that Christianity is a good religion.
- b) decide to become a better person.
- c) have His actual presence in you and with you.

12 *Something to think about.* If you have not already accepted Jesus, will you accept Him now? You may use the prayer in this lesson or pray in your own words. If you have accepted Him, thank Him for the light He has brought into your life.



Check Your Answers

6 You answer: You have learned that the life of Jesus is like a light that helps us see ourselves as we really are. If this person were to compare his life to the perfect life of Jesus, he would find many differences. The comparison could help him see his spiritual need.

1 c) sin.

7 b) His followers.

3 b) spiritual darkness.

8 These answers match what is said in the lesson. However, other answers are also possible.

- a** 4) Is impartial
- b** 3) Is energy
- c** 2) Reveals
- d** 2) Reveals
- e** 1) Drives away darkness

4 d) the presence of Jesus.

11 c) have His actual presence in you and with you.

Lesson
7

Jesus, the Healer and Baptizer

You have studied many things about Jesus already! You have learned that He is the promised Messiah, the Son of God, the Son of Man, the Word of God, and the Light of the world. These titles tell us important truths about who He is.

Looking at the things Jesus does is another way of understanding who He is. In this lesson, we will examine two of His works: Jesus heals our bodies and souls, and Jesus baptizes us in the Holy Spirit. It is important to know that Jesus can do these things because of who He is. He can heal us because He is the Son of God who created everything—including our bodies. And He can baptize us in the Holy Spirit because He is the Son of Man, the perfect sacrifice who has been exalted at the Father’s right hand in heaven. From there He sends the Holy Spirit upon His children. He does these things for us because He loves us. What a wonderful Friend!

Jesus is alive today, and He continues to be the Healer and Baptizer. As you study these ministries of His, you will discover the many wonderful blessings they include.



In this lesson you will study . . .

Jesus is the Divine Physician
Jesus is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit

This lesson will help you . . .

- Explain why Jesus is able to heal people today.
- Describe what the Bible says about the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- Know that you can trust Jesus to heal you and baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

JESUS IS THE DIVINE PHYSICIAN

Objective 1. *Identify reasons why Jesus can heal people today.*

In the pages of the Gospels, we meet Jesus as the Great Physician, Healer of body and soul. And as we talk with His people, we discover that He continues His practice today.

Healer of Body and Soul

What is a physician? What does he do? The answers to these questions help us to appreciate Jesus as our Divine Physician. A good physician:

1. Wants to help and heal the sick.
2. Is qualified and prepared to treat the sick.
3. Examines his patients thoroughly.
4. Diagnoses his patients' problems.
5. Prescribes the proper treatment.
6. Applies the treatment needed (with the patient's consent).

Are these six statements true about Jesus? Yes. Every one of them! He showed that He cared for those who were sick in soul and body. As our Creator, He doesn't need to make medical tests to discover our problems. He knows us and understands our needs. He made us and can easily repair any part that is not functioning properly.

Healing and salvation are both a vital part of the Savior's ministry. In fact, the word *salvation* in the Bible includes health for the body as well as deliverance and safety for the soul.

Matthew 4:23-24. Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, preaching the Good News about the Kingdom, and healing people who had all kinds of disease and sickness.

The news about him spread through the whole country of Syria, so that people brought to him all those who were sick, suffering from all kinds of diseases and disorders: people with demons, and epileptics, and paralytics—and Jesus healed them all.

Matthew 8:17. He did this to make come true what the prophet Isaiah had said, "He himself took our sickness and carried away our diseases."

Jesus healed all who came to Him for healing—the blind, the sick, the crippled, and those whose spirits were warped with fear, suspicion, and hatred. Our Divine Physician came to bring health to the whole person—body, mind, emotions, and spirit. He wants us to enjoy life in all its fullness.



John 10:10. "I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness."

Continuation of His Work

Jesus is still the Great Physician. He sent His followers out to heal the sick in His name. What He did in person when He was here on earth as a man, He does now in answer to prayer and through the Holy Spirit. Jesus is just the same today. Thousands can tell you how Jesus has healed them in answer to prayer.

Mark 16:17-18, 20. Believers will be given the power to perform miracles: they will drive out demons in my name . . . they will place their hands on sick people, and these will get well.

The disciples went and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and proved that their preaching was true by the miracles that were performed.

Hebrews 13:8. Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever.

James 5:14-15. Is there anyone who is sick? He should send for the church elders, who will pray for him and rub olive oil on him in the name of the Lord. This prayer made in faith will heal the sick person; the Lord will restore him to health, and the sins he has committed will be forgiven.



For You to Do

- 1 According to the Bible, *salvation* includes health for the
 - a) physical body only.
 - b) soul only.
 - c) body and soul.
- 2 Jesus is able to heal us of any kind of disease because He
 - a) created us.
 - b) lived on earth.
 - c) taught about God.
- 3 Suppose a friend were to ask you this: “How can I be sure that Jesus Christ still heals today?” From the following list, select the two Scripture portions that would be the most direct answer to the question.
 - a) Matthew 4:23-24.
 - b) John 10:10.
 - c) Hebrews 13:8.
 - d) James 5:14-15.

JESUS IS THE BAPTIZER IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Objective 2. *Identify what the Bible says about the coming of the Holy Spirit.*

We read in the Old Testament about leaders of God’s people—prophets, priests, and rulers—who were filled with the Holy Spirit. You remember that they were anointed with oil to set them apart for God. The oil poured on them was symbolic. They depended on God to pour His Spirit on them to give them the power to do whatever He wanted them to do.

One day, God gave the prophet Joel a wonderful promise. The time would come when God would pour His Spirit out on all His people, not just on their leaders.

Joel 2:28-29. “Afterward I will pour out my spirit on everyone: your sons and daughters will proclaim my message; your old men will have dreams, and your young men will see visions. At that time I will pour out my spirit even on servants, both men and women.”

Centuries later, God told John the Baptist that the Messiah would baptize people with the Holy Spirit. God had sent John the Baptist as His special messenger to prepare the way for the Messiah and to present Him publicly. Great crowds gathered to hear John preach. John baptized many of

them in water to show that they had repented of their sins and now belonged to God. John told them:

Matthew 3:11. “I baptize you with water to show that you have repented, but the one who will come after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Not long afterwards, John presented Jesus publicly. He uses four descriptions or titles to describe Jesus and His mission:

1. Lamb of God
2. A man greater than I am
3. The one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit
4. The Son of God



John 1:29-30, 32-34. “There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I was talking about when I said, ‘A man is coming after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.’ . . . I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and stay on him. . . . God . . . had said to me, ‘You will see the Spirit come down and stay on a man; he is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ I have seen it . . . and I tell you that he is the Son of God.”

As you can see, the Bible uses the word *baptize* (which means “immerse” or “dip”) to speak of two different experiences: (1) being immersed in water to show repentance, and (2) receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit. When God pours out, sends, or gives the gift of the Holy Spirit to believers, they are “baptized” or immersed in the Holy Spirit. The result is that they are “filled” with the Holy Spirit.

During the three and a half years of Jesus’ public ministry, His disciples must have wondered many times when He would baptize them with the Holy Spirit. Jesus called this experience “the promise of the Father.” But He had to carry out His mission as the Lamb of God before He could be their Baptizer in the Holy Spirit. He had to die, rise again, and go back to heaven. Then He would send the Holy Spirit to them. The night before Jesus died, He told His disciples many things about the Holy Spirit and what He would do.

John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7, 13. “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever. The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you. . . . He will speak about me. It is better for you that I go away, because if I do not go, the Helper will not come to you. But if I do go away, then I will send him to you. He will lead you into all the truth.”

After Jesus' resurrection, just before He went to heaven. He told His followers:

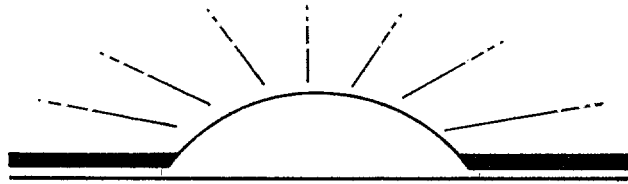
- 1) First, receive the Holy Spirit and His power so they could be witnesses for Him.
- 2) Then, go tell everybody everywhere about Jesus and His salvation.

Acts 1:4-5, 8. "Wait for the gift I told you about, the gift my Father promised. John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit . . . When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



For You to Do

- 4 Jesus told His followers about a gift He would ask His Father to send them after He returned to heaven. The gift was the
- a) Bible.
 - b) forgiveness of their sins.
 - c) healing of their bodies.
 - d) Holy Spirit.



5 Following are listed several events connected with the coming of the Holy Spirit. Mark them with the numbers 1–5 in the order in which they happened. The first event is marked to give you an example.

- ... a Jesus fulfills His mission as the Lamb of God and dies for our sins.
- ... b Jesus returns to heaven.
- ... c Jesus tells His followers to wait until the Holy Spirit comes upon them.
- ... d Joel prophecies that God will pour out His Spirit on everyone.
- ... e John the Baptist presents Jesus as the one who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.

Fulfillment

Just before Jesus went to heaven He told His followers that in a few days they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit. They went back into Jerusalem and waited. Ten days later—on the Day of Pentecost—it happened! Jesus baptized them (120 believers) with the Holy Spirit and fire. And they received the power He had promised—power to be His witnesses.

Acts 2:1-7, 11. When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious men who had come from every country in the world. When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because each one of them heard the believers talking in his own language. In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, “These people who are talking like this are Galileans! . . . Yet all of us hear them speaking in our own languages about the great things God has done!”

Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, gave the people God’s message: They were seeing God fulfill Joel’s prophecy. They had refused Jesus as the Messiah and crucified Him. But God raised Him from the dead. Jesus went to heaven and sent the Holy Spirit to His followers. This proved Jesus was the Messiah.

Acts 2:32-33, 36. God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all witnesses to this fact. He has been raised to the right side of God, his Father, and has received from him the Holy Spirit, as he had promised. What you now see and hear is his gift that he has poured out on us. . . . This Jesus, whom you crucified, is the one that God has made Lord and Messiah!



John’s message that Jesus would baptize people with the Holy Spirit was true. Jesus was the Lamb of God, the Baptizer, the Son of God—the Messiah. How terrible that the people had not believed in Jesus! Their unbelief had sent Him to the cross. Could God forgive them?

Acts 2:37-39, 41. When the people heard this, they were deeply troubled and said to Peter and the other apostles, “What shall we do, brothers?” Peter said to them, “Each one of you must turn away from his sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven; and you will receive God’s gift, the Holy Spirit. For God’s promise was made to you and your children, and to all who are far away—all whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” Many of them believed his message and were baptized, and about three thousand people were added to the group that day.

From that point on, the book of Acts is the record of how the Spirit-filled believers were witnesses for Jesus wherever they went.

Does Jesus still baptize with the Holy Spirit? Yes! Joel’s prophecy is being fulfilled more widely now than at any other time in history. Around the world millions of believers have received the Pentecostal experience—the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Jesus is bringing new life and power to many churches. We call this the *charismatic renewal*. *Charisma* means “gift.” The Holy Spirit comes as a gift and brings with Him many gifts of spiritual power.



For You to Do

- 6 Peter said that the proof that Jesus was the Messiah and had been raised from the dead was the
- coming of the Holy Spirit upon His followers.
 - miracles done by the prophets.
 - signs and wonders God gave in the heavens.
- 7 When the Holy Spirit came upon the believers on the day of Pentecost, a crowd gathered around them because they were
- healing the sick.
 - speaking about God in many different languages.
 - baptizing those who repented of their sins.
- 8 You have studied several things the Holy Spirit can do for you. Draw a line under each way you want Him to work in your life.
- Be your Helper
 - Stay with you forever
 - Teach you about Jesus
 - Lead you into the truth
 - Give you power to witness for Christ
 - Speak through you in other languages about God's greatness
- 9 *Something for you to think about.* Do you want Jesus to give you the gift of the Holy Spirit? He can baptize you right now! If you want Him to, pray this prayer or use your own words.

Prayer: Jesus, please give me the gift of the Holy Spirit. I want Him to be my Helper and to teach me about You. I want Him to give me power to be Your witness. I want Him to speak through me now in other languages about the great things God has done. Thank you, Jesus. I receive Your wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In this lesson, you have learned more about who Jesus is by studying His work as Healer and Baptizer. He has these gifts and He is ready to give them to you. Your part is to ask. He said:

Luke 11:9, 13. "Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. As bad as you are, you know how to give good things to your children. How much more, then, will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"



Check Your Answers

- 4 d) Holy Spirit.
- 1 c) body, mind, and soul.
- 5 The order is as follows **a** 3, **b** 5, **c** 4, **d** 1, and **e** 2.
- 2 a) created us.
- 6 a) coming of the Holy Spirit upon His followers.
- 3 Your answer. I would say that scriptures **a** (Matthew 4:23-24) and **c** (Hebrews 13:8) together would form the most direct answer.
- 7 b) speaking about God in many different languages.

Lesson
8

Jesus, the Savior

You have learned that Jesus heals and baptizes with the Holy Spirit. These are wonderful truths. But there is something else He does that is the most important work of all: Jesus saves! Jesus died for us and rose again, gaining victory over death, sin, and hell forever. Who is Jesus? He is the only Savior of the world.

The Bible says that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. This simple statement is the meaning of the Christian religion. Other religions attempt to offer high ideals for life. They tell people why they suffer, how they should live, and how they will be punished if they fail. But they lack the most important thing of all: *They don't give their followers any real power to overcome evil.*

In striking contrast, Christianity offers God's own solution to man's inability to save himself. To each man and woman, Jesus says, "You have failed God's plan for you, but you can succeed. You are stained with the guilt of sin, but you can be made clean." How God saves us through Jesus is the subject of this lesson.



In this lesson you will study . . .

Jesus Is the Savior of the World
Jesus Is the Lamb of God

This lesson will help you . . .

- Describe what the name *Jesus* tells us about God.
- Explain why every person needs to be saved.
- State how the title *Lamb of God* helps us understand the mission of Jesus.
- Appreciate the wonderful benefits of your salvation.

JESUS IS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD

The good news of the gospel is that Jesus has come to be a Savior for all mankind. When Jesus was born, an angel told the shepherds:

Luke 2:10-11. “Don’t be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David’s town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord!”

The Name of Jesus

Objective 1. *Identify what the name Jesus tells us about God.*

The name *Jesus* means “Jehovah will save,” or “Savior.” God the Father chose this name for His Son. He sent an angel to tell Joseph (Jesus’ foster father) what to name the Baby that Mary would give birth to. The name Jesus would remind them constantly who Jesus was and why He had been born. He was the Son of God, coming down to earth to save us from sin. The angel said:

Matthew 1:21. “She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus—because he will save his people from their sins.”

When you speak or hear the name of Jesus, remember its message of good news for you: Jehovah, the eternal, self-existing God came into the world to save you. God will save you. This is the promise that we claim when we pray to the Father in the name of Jesus. Whisper the name of Jesus in worship and in prayer. Sing about Jesus the Savior. Tell others about Him. He is the only Savior—the One whom the Father has sent to save us. Peter and John healed a crippled man through the power in Jesus’ name. Peter explained:

Acts 3:16; 4:12. It was the power of his name that gave strength to this lame man. What you see and know was done by faith in his name; it was faith in Jesus that has made him well, as you can all see. Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us.



For You to Do

- 1 The name of Jesus tells us that God is the one who
 - a) creates.
 - b) hears.
 - c) judges.
 - d) saves.
- 2 The name of Jesus was chosen by
 - a) Gabriel.
 - b) God the Father.
 - c) Joseph.
 - d) Mary.
- 3 Read Matthew 1:21 five times and memorize it.
- 4 *Something to think about.* Some people use the name of Jesus as a curse or swear word. If you have done this, ask God to forgive you. Thank Him for Jesus and for what His name means to you.

Nature of Salvation

Objective 2. *Identify four kinds of problems from which Jesus can save people.*

The word *salvation* in the Bible is a great, inclusive word. To save is to rescue from danger, to deliver from captivity or judgment, to keep in safety, and to heal. Jesus, our Savior, rescues us from

the power of Satan, frees us from the captivity of sin, takes our place and guilt in the judgment, brings us to a place of safety, and gives us health for body and soul.

Jesus came to save us from the lostness and dangers of a life separated from God. Sin has separated us all from God. We have lost our way. We wander in circles in the darkness of a purposeless, wasted life. Without God, eternal death closes in on us. But Jesus has come to save us, to bring us back to God. He turns us in the right direction, gives us the light of His presence, and brings purpose and meaning into our lives. Jesus calms our fears, gives us joy and peace, leads us away from the destruction that threatens us, and takes us to our eternal home. Jesus said:



Luke 19:10. “The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Jesus came to save us from guilt and punishment for our sins. We have all broken God’s laws and face the penalty of eternal separation from Him. But Jesus took the blame for our sins and willingly died in our place so that we could be forgiven.

Romans 6:23. For sin pays its wage—death; but God’s free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus came to save us from the power of sin and Satan. He sets us free from our own sinful, rebellious, selfish nature and gives us the new nature of the children of God. He breaks the power of temptation and frees us from desires and habits that destroy our health and harm our souls. In Jesus we find safety from the attacks of Satan. We still have battles, but Jesus gives us victory.

Romans 6:22. But now you have been set free from sin.

2 Corinthians 5:17. When anyone is joined to Christ, he is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come.

Jesus has come to save us from the effects of sin and even from its presence. He brings us health for body and soul. And someday He will give us a new body that won’t be subject to disease. He is preparing a home in heaven now for all those that He saves from sin. When we die, or when Jesus comes back to earth for us, He will establish His rule on earth and purify the earth from all sin. Even nature itself will be freed from violence and destruction. Everything will be perfect. What a great salvation!

Revelation 21:3-4. “God himself will be with them, and he will be their God. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief or crying or pain. The old things have disappeared.”





For You to Do

5 Write the number for the specific saving work of Jesus (right) beside each phrase that describes the kind of problem it solves (left).

- | | | |
|--------|--|--|
| a | “I am a slave to destructive habits.” | 1) Brings us back to God |
| b | “I feel that God is far away from me.” | 2) Takes away our guilt and punishment |
| c | “Life doesn’t seem to have any meaning.” | 3) Frees us from our sinful nature |
| d | “There is so much evil in the world.” | 4) Removes the presence of all sin |

6 *Something to think about.* Do you have any problems like the ones expressed in exercise 5? If so, tell Jesus about your need and ask Him to do His saving work in your life. Thank Him for what He has already done and for what He is going to do.

JESUS IS THE LAMB OF GOD

Objective 3. *Identify what the title Lamb of God tells us about the mission of Jesus.*

The title *Lamb of God* refers especially to Jesus’ mission as Savior of the world.

Sacrifice of the Lamb

When Jesus was going to begin His public ministry, John the Baptist presented Him to a crowd, saying:

John 1:29. “There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

Those who heard John could interpret his words in only one way. Lambs were killed as a sacrifice for sin. Sinners confessed their guilt to God and asked Him to accept the death of the lamb in their place. Jesus was the sacrifice that God had sent to die for all sinners—the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!

The great prophet Isaiah had written about how God would make the Messiah a sacrifice for our sins. He would falsely take the guilt for all our sins. He would die in our place, as our substitute, so that we could be free from sin. Later He would come back to life, see the results of His sacrifice, and be satisfied.

All this happened to Jesus exactly as Isaiah had said.

Isaiah 53:3-12 (NIV). He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.



Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

By oppression and judgment, he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

All four Gospels tell us how Jesus died for our sins. The religious leaders did not want to accept Him as the Messiah. They were jealous of Him and determined to kill Him. They accused Him before the governor and hired witnesses to tell lies about Him at His trial. Pilate, the Roman governor, knew that Jesus was not guilty but gave in to the demands of the religious leaders and the mob they had incited.



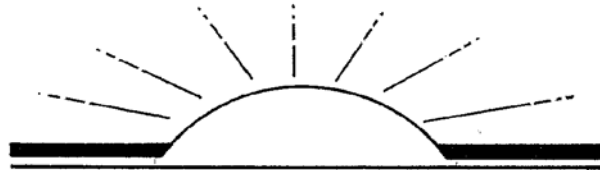
They called for His death, and Pilate handed Him over to be crucified. This was the sentence for the worst criminals.

Some have asked, why did Jesus have to die to save us? He had to die because God is just. God could not simply lay aside the punishment we deserved. What could bring the solution? Only the

death of Jesus, the Son of God. God's justice required a sacrifice for sin, and God's mercy provided it.

Jesus gave His life willingly. Though wicked men gathered against Him, they had no power to kill Him. He could have called on His Father to judge them, but He did not. He freely chose to fulfill His mission.

On that fateful day, His enemies led Him out to the place called "The Skull." They nailed His hands and feet to a cross and lifted Him up for all to see. There, hanging between two thieves, He died, the Lamb of God, the sacrifice for our sins.



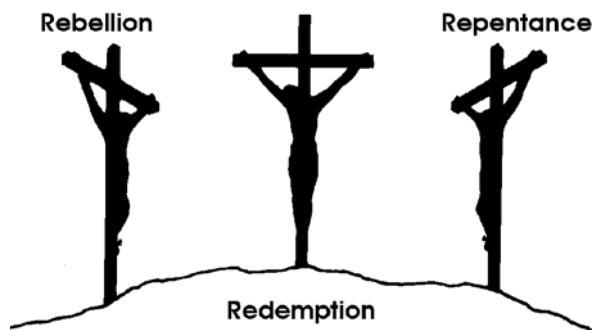
For You to Do

- 7 Circle the letter before each TRUE statement.
- a The prophet Isaiah said that people would despise and reject the Messiah.
 - b Pilate was convinced by the religious leaders that Jesus was guilty.
 - c The Gospel of John is the only Gospel that tells how Jesus died for our sins.
 - d Though wicked men crucified Jesus, God made Him an offering for sin.
- 8 In order to fulfill His mission as the "Lamb of God," Jesus
- a) died as a sacrifice for sinners.
 - b) explained the law of God more fully.
 - c) showed a perfect example of purity.

Attitudes Toward the Lamb

The people who saw the crucifixion of Jesus show us a picture of the whole world. Some looked at Him with hatred, making fun of Him and His claims. Some seemed indifferent, gambling for His clothes while He was dying. Some watched with disappointment. But some looked at Jesus with faith, hope, and love.

Three crosses stood there on the hill. Three men died that day. In their attitudes, we may find the key to our own.



Luke 23:33-34, 39-43. When they came to the place called “The Skull,” they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus said, “Forgive them, Father! They don’t know what they are doing.”

One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” The other one, however, rebuked him, saying, “Don’t you fear God? You received the same sentence he did. Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong.” And he said to Jesus, “Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!” Jesus said to him, “I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me.”

The three crosses speak to us of (1) rebellion, (2) redemption, and (3) repentance. On one a man was dying *in* sin (rebellion). On the second, the Lamb of God was dying *for* sin (redemption). On the third, a sinner was dying *to* sin (repentance).

Rebellion. On the cross of rebellion hung a man dying in his sins. He had wasted his life in doing wrong. Life had made him bitter and hard. Now he faced death—a final defeat. If he had only believed, there was help right by his side. He was in the very presence of God. But the rebellion in his heart blinded him to spiritual truth. Within reach of the Savior, he died in bitter agony of spirit—full of hate, resentment, and hopelessness.

Redemption. On the cross of redemption, Jesus died for our sins. We were under God’s just sentence of death because of our rebellion against Him. What is more, we had become slaves of Satan, the enemy of God. The death of Jesus changed everything. When He died, He paid the price for our pardon. He defeated Satan completely. God accepted Jesus as our substitute, and Satan was forced to let us go.

1 Peter 1:18-19 (NIV). You were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Repentance. On the third cross a sinner died *to* his sins and was freed from them forever, by trusting in Jesus. This man was willing to face himself and the truth; he confessed his wrong. He recognized Jesus as Savior, the Messiah. Jesus was dying, but the repentant thief believed that He would rule the world someday. So he asked the Savior to remember him (have mercy on him) when he came as King. What faith! One of the last things Jesus did before He died was to forgive the sins of the dying thief and give him eternal life.

Every person decides his own eternal destiny by what he does about the Savior. Both thieves had the same opportunity. One clung to his rebellion and hate, mocking the only One who could save him. The other repented and asked for mercy. One went to hell—a place of eternal suffering. The other went to heaven (Paradise)—a place of eternal happiness. These men are a picture for us all. One was rebellious and lost. The other repented, confessed his need to Jesus, and was saved. Which one’s example will you follow? You can find eternal life, forgiveness, peace, and help by calling on Jesus in prayer. He is near you now.

Ephesians 1:6-7. Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son! For by the death of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven.

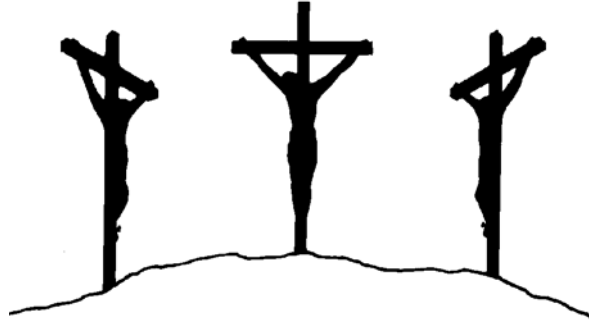
1 Peter 2:24-25. Christ himself carried our sins in his body to the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness. It is by his wounds that you have been healed. You were like sheep that had lost their way, but now you have been brought back to follow the Shepherd and Keeper of your souls.



For You to Do

9 *Something to think about.* Suppose someone says, “I have been taught that I must be baptized or receive forgiveness from a priest before I can be sure that I will go to heaven when I die.” Do you agree? Why, or why not?

10 Write the titles over the three crosses below. Add your name under the cross that represents your position. Explain the drawing to a friend or a member of your family.



Check Your Answers

- 7 a True
b False
c False
d True
- 1 d) saves.
- 8 a) died as a sacrifice for sinners.
- 2 b) God the Father.
- 9 Your answer. You have studied about the thief on the cross who repented and believed in Jesus. He did not have time to be baptized or talk to a human priest. But Jesus told him that he would be in Paradise “today.”
- 5 The following answers match the lesson. (Others may also be possible.)
a 3) Frees us from our sinful nature
b 1) Brings us back to God
c 2) Takes away our guilt and punishment
d 1) Brings us back to God
e 4) Removes the presence of all sin
- 10 The center cross should be titled, “Redemption.” The other two (in any order) are titled “Rebellion” and “Repentance.”

Lesson
9

Jesus, the Resurrection and Life

Death stands at the end of the pathway of every human life—firm, inevitable, and final. Rich and poor alike must face it someday. For most people, even the idea of death strikes fear and terror. But for those who believe in Jesus Christ, there is a sharp difference. They do not need to fear death. Why? Because they have put their trust in the One who is the Resurrection and the Life.

Jesus did not stay on the cross where He died or in the tomb where He was buried. He came back from the dead! He lives today in the power of an endless life, and He shares that life with all who are joined to Him by faith.

The religions of the world try to help people cope with their mortality, but they can offer nothing. All of their founders lie buried to this day. How completely different Christianity is! In the face of the great fact of death, it announces an even greater fact: Jesus Christ rose from the dead, and because He lives, we too shall live.

What happened when Jesus came back to life? How do we know that He did? What does His resurrection say about who He is? What does it mean for our lives now and in the future? These are the questions answered in this lesson.



In this lesson you will study . . .

Jesus Gains Victory Over Death
Jesus Guarantees Our Resurrection

This lesson will help you . . .

- State the evidence we have that Jesus has conquered death completely.
- Explain how the resurrection of Jesus affects your life both now and in the future.
- Trust more fully in Jesus as your Resurrection and your Life.

JESUS GAINS VICTORY OVER DEATH

Objective 1. *List the facts which show that Jesus Christ has conquered death.*

The evidence we have that Jesus is victorious over death comes from both His ministry on earth and from His own resurrection.

Miracles of Resurrection

Jairus, the ruler, went to ask Jesus to heal his little daughter. When he returned with Jesus, the child was dead.

Luke 8:52, 54-55. Everyone there was crying and mourning for the child. But Jesus took her by the hand and called out, “Get up, child!” Her life returned, and she got up at once.

Mourners were taking the dead son of the widow of Nain to the cemetery when they met Jesus. He stopped the funeral procession.

Luke 7:14-15. Then he walked over and touched the coffin, and the men carrying it stopped. Jesus said, “Young man! Get up, I tell you!” The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother.



Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary were good friends of Jesus. Lazarus died and was buried. Four days later Jesus arrived.

John 11:43-44. He called out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” He came out, his hands and feet wrapped in grave cloths, and with a cloth around his face. “Untie him,” Jesus told them, “and let him go.”



For You to Do

- 1 The person Jesus raised from the dead who was already buried was
 - a) Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha.
 - b) the daughter of Jairus the ruler.
 - c) the son of the widow of Nain.

Proof of the Resurrection of Jesus

The miracles of resurrection that Jesus did during His ministry showed His power over death. However, the people He raised then died again—they were still mortal. His own resurrection was different. When Jesus rose from the dead, death itself was conquered. He rose with an immortal body, never to die again.

But how do we know that Jesus rose from the dead? We must be sure that He did. If He did not rise, our faith in Him is useless and all who have died believing in Him have been fools. But He did rise! We have not been deceived. Here are ten of the many proofs:

1. *Report of Soldiers.* Soldiers guarded the sealed, cavelike tomb so that no one could steal Jesus’ body and say He was alive again. On the third morning, they saw an angel open the tomb. The earth quaked. Terrified, they saw the grave was empty! Jesus’ body was gone! They ran to report what had happened.

2. *Empty tomb and graveclothes.* Soon afterwards some women came to the tomb. Jesus' body was not there. Two angels told the women that Jesus was alive. Peter and John ran to the tomb and found it empty. Jesus' body was gone, but there lay the bandage-like cloths it had been wrapped in. They were still neatly wrapped, like a cocoon left behind by a butterfly. Anyone stealing a body would not take time to unwind and rewind the cloths.

3. *Angels' message.* At the tomb the angels said to the women:

Luke 24:5-6. "Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive? He is not here. He has been raised."

4. *Appearances of Jesus.*

Acts 1:3. For forty days after his death he appeared to them many times in ways that proved beyond doubt that he was alive. They saw him, and he talked with them about the Kingdom of God.

Jesus appeared at different times to:

A group of women

Mary Magdalene

Peter

Two disciples on the road to Emmaus

Ten disciples in Jerusalem

Eleven disciples in Jerusalem

Seven disciples at the Sea of Galilee

500 believers at once in Galilee

Jesus' half-brother James

Disciples at the ascension, near Bethany

Jesus appeared to three people after He went back to heaven. They saw Him there.

Stephen, the first Christian martyr

Saul (Paul) on his way to Damascus

John, in the Revelation

5. *The nature of Jesus' body.* The kind of body Jesus had proved two things: (1) What the believers saw was not just a hallucination or a spirit. Jesus ate with them. They touched Him. He had a real body of flesh and bones. (2) He had not just revived from a coma or from death with the same mortal body. He had a glorified, resurrection body no longer subject to physical limitations, pain, or death. He passed through closed doors. He appeared and disappeared at will. He went to heaven visibly. Resurrection had given new powers to His body.



6. *Baptism of the Holy Spirit.* What happened at Pentecost was a direct fulfillment of a promise made by a risen Christ. The continuing presence of His Spirit proved that Jesus is alive.

7. *Testimonies of Christians.* Jesus' followers testified constantly to the fact that He had risen from the dead. Ordered to deny it or be put to death, they chose death. They would not have died to defend a lie.

8. *Conversion of Saul.* Saul, a brilliant young expert in the Jewish law, was trying to stamp out Christianity. On his way to arrest Christians in Damascus, he himself was arrested by the Lord Jesus. A light brighter than the sun appeared in heaven. Out of the light Jesus called Saul by name and talked with him. Saul surrendered his life to Jesus and became the great apostle Paul.

9. *Christianity.* The Christian religion is based on the fact of the resurrection. "Christianity is built on an empty tomb."

10. *Communication with Jesus.* Meeting Jesus has changed our lives. We talk with Him daily. He answers us. As the song says:

I serve a risen Savior,
He's in the world today . . .
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.



For You to Do

- 2 The best description of the body of Jesus after He was raised from the dead is that it was
 - a) revived and renewed.
 - b) spiritual.
 - c) totally real but glorified.
- 3 You have studied ten proofs that Jesus rose from the dead. Review them. Then try to write from memory the five that are missing from the list below.
 - 1) Report of soldiers
 - 2)
 - 3) Angels' message
 - 4)
 - 5) The nature of Jesus' body

- 6)
- 7)
- 8) Conversion of Saul
- 9) Christianity
- 10)

Power of His Resurrection

Objective 2. *Accept six benefits for your life that come from the resurrection of Jesus.*

Jesus died on the cross but He conquered death there. He turned the cross—a symbol of shame and disgrace—into a symbol of redemption, power, and victory. Jesus’ body was laid in a tomb, but the grave could not hold Him prisoner. He defeated death and rose again to share that victory with all His followers. Paul wrote about knowing Jesus in the power of His resurrection. What is this power?

1. *Proof of who Jesus is.* Because He rose from the dead, we know He is who He said He was—the Son of God and Savior of the world.

2. *Assurance of salvation.* Because Jesus rose again, we know that God accepted His sacrifice for us. Whoever believes in Him has forgiveness of sin.

3. *New life in union with Jesus.* Our risen Lord has become Head of the church. We are His body. He is with us always. His life is in us. His power works through us.

1 Peter 1:3. He gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ from death.

4. *Victory in Jesus.* Jesus’ resurrection proves that He has defeated Satan, sin, and death. With Him, you need not live in fear or be tormented by guilt and temptation. Jesus turns your defeat into victory.

5. *Hope.* Christians can face death with hope. Jesus’ resurrection is our guarantee of a better life beyond the grave. He said:

John 14:19. “Because I live, you also will live.”

6. *Resurrection.* Knowing Jesus in the power of His resurrection includes being resurrected as He was, with the same kind of body.

1 Corinthians 15:20. Christ has been raised from death, as the guarantee that those who sleep in death will also be raised.

4 Following are listed six truths that are part of knowing Jesus in the power of His resurrection. Draw a line under each one that you have accepted or choose to accept now.

- a** Jesus is who He said He is—the Son of God.
- b** God has forgiven me of my sin.
- c** The new life of Jesus is in me now.
- d** Satan, sin, and death have all been defeated.
- e** I can face death with hope.
- f** One day I will have a glorified body.

JESUS GUARANTEES OUR RESURRECTION

Objective 3. *Describe the future of those who believe in Jesus Christ.*

His Promise

Just before raising Lazarus, Jesus said:

John 11:25-26. “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.”

When Jesus called into the open tomb, “Lazarus, come out!” Lazarus came out alive and well. Someday Jesus will come back to earth. At His call, bodies that have long since become dust and ashes will spring up to new life, like plants from a seed. We will have wonderful new bodies like His immortal, glorified body.

John 5:24, 26, 28-29. Whoever hears my words and believes in him who sent me has eternal life. He will not be judged, but has already passed from death to life. Just as the Father is himself the source of life, in the same way he has made his Son to be the source of life. . . . The time is coming when all the dead will hear his voice and come out of their graves: those who have done good will rise and live, and those who have done evil will rise and be condemned.

The cemetery in your community has a message for you. For some it is a message of hopelessness. The graves remind us that we all must die. We came into the world with nothing and we leave it with nothing. But that is not all. Remember that the tomb of Jesus is empty! And His resurrection is the guarantee of your resurrection if He is your Savior. Your body may die, but your spirit will never die. Even if your body goes back to dust, Jesus will bring it back to life. He is the Resurrection and the Life.



For You to Do

- 5 Our guarantee of resurrection is the
 - a) renewal of life we see in nature.
 - b) resurrection of Jesus.
 - c) strong belief people have in life after death.
- 6 Read John 11:25-26 five times and memorize it.

The Fulfillment

Before Jesus went back to His home in heaven, He promised to return for His followers.

John 14:3. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am.

Forty days after Jesus’ resurrection, His followers watched Him ascend to heaven. Then two angels gave them a message:

Acts 1:11. “This Jesus, who was taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way that you saw Him go to heaven.”



God revealed to Paul many details of the resurrection that will take place when Jesus comes again. John wrote about it too.

1 Corinthians 15:37-38, 42-44, 49. And what you plant is a bare seed, perhaps a grain of wheat or some other grain, not the full-bodied plant that will later grow up. God provides that seed with the body He wishes; he gives each seed its own proper body. This is how it will be when the dead are raised to life. When the body is buried, it is mortal; when raised, it will be immortal. When buried, it is ugly and weak; when raised, it will be beautiful and strong. When buried, it is a physical body; when raised, it will be a spiritual body. Just as we wear the likeness of the man made of earth, so we will wear the likeness of the Man from heaven.

1 Corinthians 15:51-54, 57. Listen to this secret truth: we shall not all die, but when the last trumpet sounds, we shall all be changed in an instant, as quickly as the blinking of an eye. For when the trumpet sounds, the dead will be raised, never to die again, and we shall all be changed. For what is mortal must be changed into what is immortal; what will die must be changed into what cannot die. So when this takes place, and the mortal has been changed into the immortal, then the scripture will come true: "Death is destroyed; victory is complete!" But, thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Philippians 3:20-21. We, however, are citizens of heaven, and we eagerly wait for our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from heaven. He will change our weak mortal bodies and make them like His glorious body, using the power by which he is able to bring all things under his rule.

1 John 3:2-3. When Christ appears, we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he really is. Everyone who has this hope in Christ keeps himself pure, just as Christ is pure.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18. There will be the shout of command, the archangel's voice, the sound of God's trumpet, and the Lord himself will come down from heaven. Those who have died believing in Christ will rise to life first; then we who are living at that time will be gathered up along with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so will we always be with the Lord. So then, encourage one another with these words.





For You to Do

7 Following are listed several events that are part of the resurrection of Jesus and the future of those who believe in Him. Arrange them in their correct order by using the numerals 1–7.

- ... a All believers meet the Lord in the air.
- ... b God’s trumpet sounds and Jesus returns.
- ... c Jesus ascends to heaven.
- ... d Jesus is resurrected.
- ... e Jesus prepares a place for His own.
- ... f Living believers in Christ are changed.
- ... g Those who have died in Christ are resurrected and changed.

8 Another way of saying that believers are glorified when Jesus returns is to say that the

- a) mortal is changed into the immortal.
- b) real is changed into the unreal.
- c) being is changed into the non-being.

9 *Something to think about.* Suppose someone were to say this to you: “Since we don’t know when Jesus will return, there’s nothing we can do to prepare ourselves.” Which verse in this lesson about the appearances of Christ would help you correct this false idea?



Check Your Answers

5 b) resurrection of Jesus.

1 a) Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha.

7 The order is as follows: **a** 7, **b** 4, **c** 2, **d** 1, **e** 3, **f** 6, and **g** 5.

2 c) totally real but glorified.

8 a) mortal is changed into the immortal.

3 Your answers should match the following.

- 2) Empty tomb and graveclothes
- 4) Appearances of Jesus
- 6) Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- 7) Testimonies of Christians
- 10) Communication with Jesus

9 Your answer: The verse that would be of the most help would be 1 John 3:2-3.

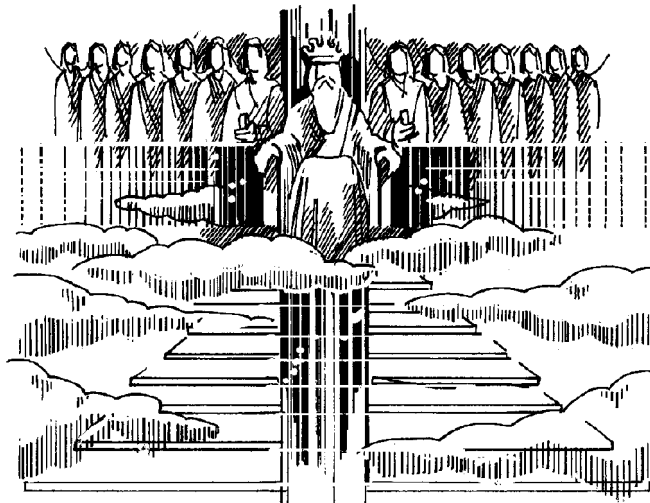
Lesson

10

Jesus Christ, the Lord

There are always some people in society who have authority over others. Government officials, policemen, foremen, managers, bosses, and parents all expect—and sometimes demand—obedience. Society was no different at the time Jesus was born. The Romans ruled the world then. Herod sat on the throne in Palestine, and Roman armies kept his position secure.

When news of Jesus' birth and rumors that He had been born King of the Jews reached Herod's ears, Herod was furious. He tried to kill this new king but did not succeed. Jesus lived to fulfill His mission on earth. He offered no visible challenge to the political order. Yet He claimed that His destiny was not only to die but also to reign. He said that all authority in heaven and earth had been given to Him. But what has happened? Rome was not overthrown by the Christians. Jesus went back to heaven, and today the world is full of dictators, tyrants, and oppressors. How is He Lord? What kind of authority does He have? When will He rule over everything? These are the questions this lesson answers.



In this lesson you will study . . .

Jesus Has Authority as Lord
Jesus Is Recognized as Lord

This lesson will help you . . .

- Explain what the title *Lord* says about who Jesus is.
- List the ways in which Jesus proved His authority while He was on earth.
- Describe how Jesus is Lord now and how He will be Lord in the future.
- Recognize Jesus Christ as the Lord of your life.

JESUS HAS AUTHORITY AS LORD

Do you believe in Jesus as your Lord who rose from the dead? This is extremely important. Your spiritual life depends on it.

Romans 10:9. If you confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from death, you will be saved.

Title of Authority

Objective 1. *Identify the meaning of the title Lord when applied to Jesus.*

What did people mean when they called Jesus “Lord”? Why did Paul use this title for Jesus over 200 times? What does it mean to believe on the *Lord* Jesus Christ in order to be saved? Why does God say that every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord?

Kurios, the Greek word translated *Lord* in the Bible, was the title of authority. People used it to show respect. It could be simply a form of polite address, like the English word *sir*. The head of the family was the lord of his house. Slaves called their master lord. Subjects recognized their ruler as their lord.

Kurios was also a title of worship given to the gods of many religions, as well as to Jehovah, the true God. In this sense, the Bible uses the title Lord for both God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ. To call Jesus *Lord* is to recognize His deity, His union with His Father, His supreme authority over the universe, and His right to rule our lives.

When Jesus is our Lord, we report to Him for orders and receive His instructions. We take everything to Him in prayer. His Word is our manual for daily living. We don’t have to worry about anything. Our Lord has all power, He knows all things, and He loves us. All we have to do is just trust Him and obey.



For You to Do

- 1 Read Romans 10:9 five times and memorize it.
- 2 When we call Jesus “Lord,” this means we recognize His
 - a) deity and authority.
 - b) friendship and love.
 - c) wisdom and knowledge.

Proof of Authority

Objective 2. *Recognize examples of ways in which Jesus proved His authority while on earth.*

Jesus proved His authority in His teachings. He amazed people by the absolute confidence with which He revealed truths about God and man. He called himself the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus proved His authority over nature. He walked on the stormy waves. His words, “Peace, be still,” calmed a tempest. He changed water into wine. He fed 5,000 men with five loaves of bread and two small fish.

Jesus proved His authority over disease and death. At His touch, the deaf heard, the blind saw, and the crippled walked. He called the dead back to life. He died and rose again.

Jesus proved His moral authority. He lived a sinless life. He established the best code of ethics ever known. He made ruined lives beautiful, pure, and useful. He was a perfect leader.

Jesus proved His spiritual authority. He forgave sins. He drove evil spirits out of their victims. He did the works of His Father and revealed God to man. He went back to heaven and sent the Holy Spirit to His church.

Jesus proved His authority over His church. As Lord, He sent His followers out to evangelize the world and gave them supernatural power with which to do it. He backs us up with all the authority of heaven as we obey His orders.

John 13:13. “You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am.”

Matthew 28:18-20. “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age.”



For You to Do

- 3 Jesus overcame all temptations and lived a perfect life on earth. This showed His authority in the area of
 - a) morality.
 - b) nature.
 - c) spirituality.
- 4 Jesus proved His authority in His teachings by
 - a) healing a woman who was crippled and bent over.
 - b) saying that He is the only way to the Father.
 - c) telling His disciples to go everywhere and make disciples.

JESUS IS RECOGNIZED AS LORD

Objective 3. *Choose descriptions of how Jesus is Lord now and in the future.*

On earth today, the church recognizes Jesus as Lord. In heaven, He is above all spiritual powers. And someday the whole world will acknowledge Him as its rightful Ruler and Lord.

Ephesians 1:20-22. He raised Christ from death and seated him at his right side in the heavenly world. Christ rules there above all heavenly rulers, authorities, powers, and lords; he has a title superior to all titles of authority in this world and in the next. God put all things under Christ's feet and gave him to the church as supreme Lord over all things.

Head of the Church

All those who accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord are members of His church. The Bible says that Jesus is our Head and the church is His body. We have studied the privileges of union with Christ. We can enjoy them fully only to the extent that we give Jesus first place in our lives. The head must guide the body; the body must not guide the head. Each member has its own place and function in the body. We should all work together for the good of the body and to carry out the purpose of Christ our Head.

Colossians 1:17-18. Christ existed before all things, and in union with him all things have their proper place. He is the head of his body, the church; he is the source of the body's life. He is the first-born Son, who was raised from death, in order that he alone might have the first place in all things.

Romans 12:5-6. We are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body. So we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us.

Being part of the body of Christ means that we obey Him in all things. We follow His plan for the church, not society's ideas. But we also follow His plan in our homes, in our places of work, and wherever we go. This shows those around us that He is Lord. One day we will stand before Him. We will not be judged for our sins, because those have been forgiven. But He will examine our lives and how we lived them.

2 Corinthians 5:10. For all of us must appear before Christ, to be judged by him. Each one will receive what he deserves, according to everything he has done, good or bad, in his bodily life.

The original text of the Bible uses the word "bema" for the judgment seat of Christ. This word was used for the judgment seat of a Roman ruler. In a Roman city, what other people said mattered very little if a person's action was approved at the bema seat. In the same way, Christians live in this world to serve their Lord, Jesus Christ. What others think is not important. What will Jesus say? That is the question that counts.

Sometimes what Jesus wants you to do will not match the customs of your society. When you are tempted to disobey Him, refuse to yield. Remember that you are a citizen of His Kingdom and part of His body. If you obey Him as your Lord now, your life will please Him. What a wonderful reward His approval will be!



For You to Do

- 5 The Bible says that one day Christ will judge us in order to
 - a) decide which of our sins we must pay for.
 - b) see whether or not we deserve to be saved.
 - c) give us the rewards we have earned.
- 6 People can see that Jesus is Lord today especially when Christians
 - a) build beautiful church buildings.
 - b) obey Jesus in everything.
 - c) overthrow evil rulers by force.
 - d) perform many religious rituals.

7 *Something to think about.* Is Jesus truly your Lord? Are you living in harmony with your brothers and sisters as part of the body, the church? Ask Him to help you obey Him as your Lord in everything.

King of Kings and Lord of Lords

We have seen that Jesus is Lord today over the church and in the lives of Christians. But to complete the picture of who He is, we must look into the future. There we may see Him in His full glory, coming to reign over everything.

Revelation 1:7-8. Look, he is coming on the clouds! Everyone will see him. . . . "I am the first and the last," says the Lord God Almighty, who is, who was, and who is to come.

Jesus is the first—the beginning and the source of reality. Jesus is also the last—the One who will bring about the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose. He will cause all things to fit together as they should. He will conquer all evil and reign forever as King of kings and Lord of lords.

The Bible says that before Jesus returns, the earth will be filled with problems. There will be wars, epidemics, earthquakes, famines, polluted waters, dying fish, destroyed crops, and political oppression. The words of the Bible are true. Today we see these things happening all around us. But one day, a great change will take place.

Jesus Christ will come to take possession of the world. He has a double right to reign: He created the world, and He redeemed the world with His blood. In the last book of the Bible, Revelation, we see a throne in heaven. In the center of that throne is a Lamb. The Lamb is Jesus Christ, the one who gave His life to save us. He will reign!

Revelation 21:3-5. “Now God’s home is with mankind! He will live with them, and they shall be his people. God himself will be with them, and he will be their God. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief or crying or pain. The old things have disappeared.” Then the one who sits on the throne said, “And now I make all things new!”

In this short course you cannot study all of Jesus’ titles or read all about His wonderful kingdom. However, we hope you know Jesus better now than you did and that you love Him more. We pray that you may know Him better every day as you wait for His return. Then someday when He comes, you will see Him face to face, know Him as He really is, and be able to join in the universal song of praise to the Lamb.



In Revelation 5:9-13, John described the vision God gave him of those who were singing to the Lamb.

They sang a new song:

“You are worthy to take the scroll

and to break open its seals.

For you were killed,

and by your death you bought for God

people from every tribe, language,

nation and race.

You have made them a

kingdom of priests to serve our God,

and they shall rule on earth.”

Again I looked, and I heard angels, thousands and millions of them! They stood around the throne, the four living creatures, and the elders, and sang in a loud voice:

“The Lamb who was killed is
worthy to receive power, wealth, wisdom, and
strength, honor, glory, and praise!

And I heard every creature in heaven, on earth, in the world below, and in the sea—all living beings in the universe—and they were singing:

“To him who sits on the
throne and to the Lamb,
be praise and honor,
glory and might,
forever and ever!”



For You to Do

8 Write the number for the title of Jesus (right) beside the phrase which best explains its meaning (left).

- | | | |
|--------|--|---------------------------|
| a | Deity | 1) Kurios |
| b | Director of the church | 2) The First and the Last |
| c | Lord and Master | 3) The Head of the Body |
| d | One who fulfills all of God’s purposes | 4) The Lamb of God |
| e | Sacrifice for sins | |

9 The book of Revelation shows us a Lamb on the throne of heaven. This helps us to understand that the One who will rule everything is also the One who

- a) died as a sacrifice.
- b) lived a good life.
- c) taught spiritual truths.

10 We will see the fullness of Jesus as Lord when we look to the

- a) past before He came to earth.
- b) present as He rules the church.
- c) future as He reigns in glory.

11 *Something to think about.* You have studied reasons why Jesus deserves your obedience and worship as Lord. Read Revelation 5:9-13 as your testimony and song of praise to Him.

You have finished your study of *Who Jesus Is*. I hope these lessons have helped you to realize that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, your Savior, and your Lord. God bless you each day as you serve Him and worship Him.

Now you are ready to answer the questions in your student report for *UNIT TWO*. Review the lessons in unit two, paying special attention to the verses you have memorized. (These are John 8:12 from Lesson 6, Matthew 1:21 from Lesson 8, John 11:25-26 from Lesson 9, and Romans 10:9 from Lesson 10.) Then follow the instructions in your student report. When you send your answer sheet to your instructor, ask him or her about another course of study.



Check Your Answers

- 6 b) obey Jesus in everything.
- 2 a) deity and authority.
- 8 a) 1) Kurios
b) 3) The Head of the Body
c) 1) Kurios
d) 2) The First and the Last
e) 4) The Lamb of God
- 3 a) morality.
- 9 a) died as a sacrifice.
- 4 b) saying that He is the only way to the Father.
- 10 c) future as He reigns in glory.
- 5 c) give us the rewards we have earned.

One Final Word

This is a special kind of book because it is written by people who care about you. These are happy people who have found good answers to many of the questions and problems that trouble almost everyone in the world. These people believe that God wants them to share with others the answers they have found. They believe that you need some important information in order to answer your own questions and problems and find the way of life that is best for you.

They have prepared this book in order to give you this information. You will find this book based on these fundamental truths:

1. You need a Savior. Read Romans 3:23; Ezekiel 18:20.
2. You cannot save yourself. Read 1 Timothy 2:5; John 14:6.
3. God desires that the world should be saved. Read John 3:16-17.
4. God sent Jesus who gave His life to save all those who believe in Him. Read Galatians 4:4-3; 1 Peter 3:18.
5. The Bible shows us the way of salvation and teaches how to grow in the Christian life. Read John 15:5; John 10:10; 2 Peter 3:18.
6. You decide your eternal destiny. Read Luke 13:1-5; Matthew 10:32-33; John 3:35-36.

This book tells you how to decide your destiny, and it gives you opportunities to express your decision. Also, the book is different from others because it gives you a chance to contact the people who prepared it. If you want to ask questions, or explain your needs and feelings, you may write to them.

In the back of the book you should find a card called *Decision Report and Request Card*. When you have made a decision, fill out the card and mail it as indicated. Then you will receive more help. You may use the card to ask questions, or make requests for prayer or information.

If there is no card in this copy of the book, write to your ICI instructor and you will receive a personal answer.

Who Jesus Is

UNIT STUDENT REPORTS AND ANSWER SHEETS

STUDENT REPORT DIRECTIONS

When you have completed your study of each unit, fill out the answer sheet for that unit. Do only one unit at a time. Return each answer sheet to your ICI instructor or office in your area as soon as you have completed it.

The following are directions on how to indicate your answer to each question.

EXAMPLE

There is one best answer. Blacken the space for the answer you have chosen.

- 1** To be born again means to
- a) be young in age.
 - b) accept Jesus as Savior.
 - c) start a new year.

The correct answer is b) *accept Jesus as Savior*, so you would blacken space **b** like this:

1	A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C
----------	----------	-------------------------------------	----------

Now read the questions in your Student Report and mark your answers in the answer section as we have shown in our example. Choose your answer and blacken the space **a**, **b**, or **c** according to your choice.

STUDENT REPORT FOR UNIT ONE

For all questions, be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question.

- 1** Why can we depend upon the Bible?
 - a) It was written by good men.
 - b) It was written by men who wanted to do God's will.
 - c) It was written by men under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
- 2** Which of the following is the best way to learn who Jesus is?
 - a) By personal experience: one's own and that of others
 - b) By studying the prophetic messages of the Bible
 - c) By considering the wonders of nature and realizing that God created all things
- 3** Hebrews 13:8 says that "Jesus Christ is the
 - a) same yesterday, today, and forever."
 - b) way and the truth."
 - c) firstborn son of Adam."
- 4** Which function of prophecy best helps us to understand who Jesus is?
 - a) The prophecies show us Jesus' work in the past, present, and future.
 - b) The prophecies tell of the historical period in which Jesus lived.
 - c) The prophecies were uttered long before the events occurred.
- 5** Why is the Old Testament so important in revealing Jesus?
 - a) It contains the history of Jesus' people.
 - b) It contains many specific prophecies about Jesus' life and ministry.
 - c) It symbolizes the sacrifice of Christ, a sacrificial lamb.
- 6** In which of the following ways does Jesus fulfill Bible prophecy?
 - a) Jesus was born in Nazareth.
 - b) Jesus was like Moses in many ways.
 - c) The date of Jesus' birth was specifically foretold.
- 7** Where do we find the first biblical prophecy of the Messiah?
 - a) In the first book of the Bible, the book of Genesis
 - b) In the first book of the Major Prophets, the book of Isaiah
 - c) In the first book of the New Testament, The Gospel of Matthew
- 8** Jesus ascended into heaven
 - a) immediately after His resurrection.
 - b) three years after His resurrection.
 - c) forty days after His resurrection.
- 9** The miracles of Jesus were God's signs that Jesus was God's
 - a) Son.
 - b) Messenger.
 - c) Prophet.
- 10** The plan for our salvation was made by the
 - a) messianic prophets.
 - b) Holy Trinity.
 - c) righteous angels.

- 11** To be a Christian, one must
- know Jesus' teaching.
 - obey the Ten Commandments.
 - believe on Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
- 12** The name *Immanuel* means "God is
- with us."
 - almighty."
 - our Banner."
- 13** "Jesus is God incarnate" means that Jesus was
- acting like God.
 - God in the form of man.
 - no longer God.
- 14** The word *incarnation* comes from two words that mean
- self-existing.
 - in flesh.
 - anointed one.
- 15** Jesus is called our Mediator because He
- came to earth as a man.
 - died and rose again.
 - paid our debts so we could come to God.
- 16** God became man for the purpose of revelation, preparation, substitution, and
- explanation.
 - mediation.
 - dedication.
- 17** What was Jesus' purpose when He ministered to human needs and gave His life for theirs?
- To portray the character of God in His life
 - To show that a handsome physical appearance was evidence of a divine nature
 - To insist upon a high moral standard of living
- 18** In what way did Jesus best portray God's character?
- Jesus gave us accurate information about God.
 - Jesus performed miracles, but gave special emphasis to healing.
 - Jesus' life personally demonstrated God's character.
- 19** Which of the following statements of Jesus describes His eternal nature?
- Before Abraham was, I am.
 - I am the bread of life.
 - I am the way, the truth, and the life.
- 20** Jesus used the name "I Am" to
- describe God's anger and His own.
 - describe God's sympathy and His own.
 - explain God's character and His own.

This is the end of the requirements for Unit One. Please stop here and return your Answer Sheet for Unit One to your instructor. Continue your study in Unit Two.

STUDENT REPORT FOR UNIT TWO

For all questions, be sure the number beside the spaces on the answer sheet is the same as the number of the question.

- 1** In John 8:12, Jesus says that He is the
 - a) good shepherd.
 - b) light of the world.
 - c) Son of David.
- 2** In what way is Jesus like light?
 - a) Jesus' birth was indicated by a bright star.
 - b) Jesus helps us to see things as they are.
 - c) Jesus showed early intellectual goals.
- 3** The acceptance of Jesus requires which of the following?
 - a) Learning Jesus' teachings
 - b) The exercise of will power
 - c) Being willing to follow Him
- 4** Evil people hate the light because it
 - a) reveals their wickedness.
 - b) shines on the good only.
 - c) shines on them only.
- 5** The miracles of healing Jesus performed proved that He is our
 - a) Teacher.
 - b) Judge.
 - c) Creator.
- 6** In Scripture, oil symbolizes the
 - a) Father.
 - b) Word of God.
 - c) Holy Spirit.
- 7** John saw the Spirit come upon Jesus in the form of
 - a) a dove.
 - b) a flame of fire.
 - c) oil poured out.
- 8** What does the name *Jesus* mean?
 - a) Jehovah will save, or Savior.
 - b) God is with us.
 - c) The Lord of Hosts, God of Sabbath.
- 9** Among the world's religions, only Christianity offers
 - a) reasons for man's failure and suffering.
 - b) freedom from all aspects of sin.
 - c) high ideals for living.
- 10** From what kind of problem does Jesus promise to save us?
 - a) From poverty and starvation
 - b) From the guilt and power of sin
 - c) From physical handicaps

- 11** Jesus was called the *Lamb of God* because He
- a) acted meekly and humbly.
 - b) died as a sacrifice for sin.
 - c) lived a pure, clean life.
- 12** One thief on the cross was saved because he
- a) was not guilty at all.
 - b) knew he was guilty.
 - c) believed on Jesus.
- 13** Jesus' death for us satisfied God's mercy and
- a) power.
 - b) justice.
 - c) unity.
- 14** Which of the following is the best evidence of Jesus' victory over death?
- a) Jesus' miraculous birth and sinless life
 - b) An empty tomb, in which the body of Jesus had been laid
 - c) Jesus' personal appearance, after His resurrection
- 15** Which of the following is a certain result of Jesus' resurrection?
- a) It provides for an earthly life free of sickness and disease.
 - b) It inspires us to maintain standards of holiness.
 - c) It is the guarantee that Christians will also be resurrected.
- 16** What does the Bible teach regarding the Christian's body?
- a) The physical body is mortal but will be changed to an immortal body.
 - b) The physical body will not decay or "see corruption."
 - c) The physical body will be strengthened so that it will last forever.
- 17** When we are resurrected, we will have
- a) no body at all.
 - b) a physical, earthly body.
 - c) an immortal, spiritual body.
- 18** Romans 10:9 says that we are saved when we confess that
- a) Jesus is Lord.
 - b) God is One.
 - c) Satan is evil.
- 19** Which best demonstrates Jesus' authority on earth?
- a) Jesus' attractiveness and winning personality.
 - b) Jesus' forgiveness of sins followed by miraculous signs.
 - c) Jesus' acceptance by all who heard Him.
- 20** In Revelations 5:9-13, praise is given to the
- a) Dove who brought peace.
 - b) Lion who conquered.
 - c) Lamb who was killed.

End of requirements for Unit Two. Please return your student report Answer Sheet for Unit Two to your ICI instructor. Now that you have completed your study of this course, ask your instructor to recommend another course of study.

Who Jesus Is

Answer Sheet for Unit One

CL3130

Please fill in the blanks below:

Your name

Your ICI Student Number
(Leave blank if you don't know what it is.)

Your Mailing Address

.....

City State or Province

Zip or Postal Code

Country

Age Sex

Occupation

How many members are in your family?

How many years have you studied in school?

If you are a member of a church, what is the name of your church?
.....

.....

What responsibility do you have in your church?

.....

How are you studying this course: Alone? In a group?

What other ICI courses have you studied?
.....

.....

Now, turn the page and answer all questions.

ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT ONE

Blacken the correct space for each numbered item.

1	A	B	C
2	A	B	C
3	A	B	C
4	A	B	C
5	A	B	C
6	A	B	C
7	A	B	C

8	A	B	C
9	A	B	C
10	A	B	C
11	A	B	C
12	A	B	C
13	A	B	C
14	A	B	C

15	A	B	C
16	A	B	C
17	A	B	C
18	A	B	C
19	A	B	C
20	A	B	C

Write below any questions you would like to ask your instructor about the lessons.

.....
.....
.....

Now look over this answer sheet to be sure you have completed all the questions. Then return it to your ICI instructor or office in your area. The address should be stamped on the copyright page of your study guide.

For ICI Office Use Only
Date Score

Christian Life Program

Who Jesus Is

Answer Sheet for Unit Two

CL3130

Please fill in the blanks below:

Your name

Your ICI Student Number
(Leave blank if you don't know what it is.)

Your Mailing Address

.....

City State or Province

Zip or Postal Code

Country

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The ICI office in your area will be happy to send you information about other courses that are available and their cost. You may use the space below to ask for that information.

.....
.....
.....
.....

Now, turn the page and answer all questions.

ANSWER SHEET FOR UNIT TWO

Blacken the correct space for each numbered item.

1	A	B	C
2	A	B	C
3	A	B	C
4	A	B	C
5	A	B	C
6	A	B	C
7	A	B	C

8	A	B	C
9	A	B	C
10	A	B	C
11	A	B	C
12	A	B	C
13	A	B	C
14	A	B	C

15	A	B	C
16	A	B	C
17	A	B	C
18	A	B	C
19	A	B	C
20	A	B	C

Write below any questions you would like to ask your instructor about the lessons.

.....
.....
.....

CONGRATULATIONS

You have finished this course. We have enjoyed having you as a student and hope you will study more courses with ICI. Return this student report answer sheet to your instructor or to the ICI office in your area. When we have checked your answers, we will send you a certificate for this course in your program of studies.

Please print your name below as you want it to appear on your certificate.

Name

For ICI Office Use Only
Date Score

Christian Life Program

CL3130 Who Jesus Is
Decision Report and Request Card

After studying this course, I have placed my trust in Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord. I am returning this card with my signature and address to your ICI office for two reasons: first, to testify to my commitment to Christ and, second, to request information about more material to help me in my spiritual life.

NAME.....

ADDRESS

.....

SIGNATURE



**THE GREATEST OF ALL
IS THE SERVANT OF ALL**

Serving is one of the greatest ways we can show our love to God. ICI courses prepare you to better serve others.

Using our courses will create an orderly system of Bible study and encourage a better understanding of spiritual truths.

To begin preparing for God's service, we suggest enrolling in courses offered from our **Christian Service Program**.

Some courses from the **Christian Service Program** are:

- THE GREAT QUESTIONS OF LIFE
- GOD LOVES YOU
- WHO JESUS IS
- WE BELIEVE
- GOD'S DESIGN—YOUR CHOICE
- CHRISTIAN WORSHIP
- PERSONAL EVANGELISM
- ALIVE IN CHRIST
- CHRISTIAN MATURITY

If you desire a more detailed description about each course or directions on how to enroll in any of these courses, contact your local ICI director.

**SEND US THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES
OF YOUR FRIENDS**

We will send them Lesson 1 of
“The Great Questions of Life.”

Print Clearly

Name

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Province or State

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Your Name

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City

Province or State

Country

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