LIFE OF CHRIST

EMBRY HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

FALL 1995
A Review of the Four Gospel Accounts
Chronology of Events

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Introduction

The writers of the gospel accounts were well aware of their task: to demonstrate that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God. Luke is clear in his prologue that his account would allow one to know with certainty the things of Jesus. John claims to have beheld Jesus’ glory, and declares that He is God, preeminent, preexistent but willing to become flesh. The genealogies are included to show the relationship of Jesus to Abraham and David and hence a fulfillment of divine promises given to both. The gospel writers were not merely biographers, but divinely inspired proponents of Jesus’ assertion that He had come to save the world.


1. How many accounts were there of the life of Christ?
2. Were there eyewitnesses available when Luke wrote?
3. Who was Theophilus (whose name means “friend of God”)?
4. What other book was addressed to him?

Christ’s Divinity and Incarnation: John 1:1-18

1. Was Jesus active in the world before His incarnation?
2. Who bore witness of Jesus? What did he say of Him?
3. Who were His own who did not receive Him?
4. What came through Moses? What comes through Jesus?
5. To whom is the right given to become children of God?


1. What are the differences between Matthew’s and Luke’s accounts?
2. What prophecies are established by the genealogies?
Introduction

The people of the Bible were real people. When confronted with the Supernatural, they reacted much as we would, with a degree of skepticism and a desire to understand. They were hardly gullible or simpleminded. Zecharias, Elizabeth and Mary all realize that something extraordinary is about to occur and are grateful for their part in God’s plan.

Announcement of John’s Birth: Luke 1:5-25

1. What is known of Zecharias and Elizabeth?
2. What was the course of Abijah (cf. I Chronicles 24)?
3. Why was Zecharias afraid?
4. What prayer of Zecharias and Elizabeth did God hear?
5. What did Gabriel promise Zecharias?
6. How did Zecharias lose and regain his speech?
7. What did Elizabeth do for five months?

Announcement of Jesus’ Birth: Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-25

1. How did Gabriel address Mary?
2. What was prophesied of Jesus (Luke 1:31-33)?
3. What was Mary’s question and Gabriel’s reply?
4. What was Joseph’s original intention?
5. What did the angel tell him?

Mary Visits Elizabeth: Luke 1:39-56

1. How did Elizabeth know the identity of Mary’s baby?
2. Describe Mary’s attitude toward her role.

1. What did Zecharias prophesy of John?
Introduction

The birth and infancy of Jesus was a period of humility and honor. The mighty Son of God was born in a stable, but He was soon visited by shepherds who spread the word of the angels they had seen proclaiming the birth of a savior. In Jerusalem, both Anna and Simeon bore witness that He was the promised one. However, from Jerusalem Herod sent soldiers to put Him to death, forcing His flight to Egypt.


1. How does Luke specify the time of his account?
2. Why were Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem?
3. How did the angels describe Jesus to the shepherds (vs. 11)?
4. After the shepherds' visit what did Mary do (vs. 19)?


1. Why was Jesus taken to Jerusalem?
2. What had been revealed to Simeon (vs. 26)?
3. What did Simeon say to Mary?
4. To whom did Anna speak?

Visit of the Wisemen: Matthew 2:1-12

1. What did the wisemen call Jesus and what was their intention (vs. 2)?
2. How did Herod learn that Jesus would be in Bethlehem?
3. What gifts were presented to Jesus?
Flight to Egypt: Matthew 2:13-18

1. What prophecy was fulfilled by the massacre in Bethlehem?

2. What prophecy was fulfilled by the return from Egypt?


1. Find the region of Galilee on a map.
Introduction

The story of Jesus’ youth is striking for what is not recorded. Only one incident is recorded, that of Jesus at twelve. But we know that Jesus served God perfectly throughout His life and despite His obscurity He was undoubtedly a remarkable youth and young man. Luke says He grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men. He was a carpenter and lived in the small town of Nazareth until the beginning of His ministry. We can only imagine how difficult it was for Him to labor quietly and patiently during these years of preparation.

Jesus at Twelve: Luke 2:41-52

1. How often did Jesus’ parents travel to Jerusalem for the Passover?
2. How did they manage to leave Him behind?
3. How long was it before they found Him? Where did they find Him?
4. What was He doing in the midst of the Teachers? What was their reaction?
5. What was His response to His parents’ rebuke?
6. How did He act toward His parents following this event?
7. Find Nazareth on a map.


1. How was John dressed and what did he eat?
2. How does Luke pinpoint the timing of John’s ministry (vs. 1, 2)?
3. What did John preach (Luke 3:3)?
   How would one demonstrate his repentance (Luke 3:8)?
4. What prophecies did John’s ministry fulfill?
5. Did some believe John to be the Christ (Luke 3:15)?
   What does John say of the one who would follow him (Mark 1:7, 8; John 1:27)?
6. Who came to see John and where did they go (Matthew 3:5-7)?

7. What did John call the Pharisees and Sadducees (Matthew 3:7-10)?

8. List the qualities of John’s character that made him great.
Introduction

These events summarize not only the end of Jesus' preparation for His ministry, but also the first acts of that ministry. At thirty years of age Jesus left Nazareth, never to return as a resident. He traveled to the Jordan River to be baptized of John and than was driven by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted for 40 days. He returned to the Jordan where John identified Him as the Lamb of God to several of his disciples. These men soon became followers of Jesus, witnessing His first sign at a wedding feast in Cana.


1. Why did John hesitate to baptize Jesus? What was Jesus' response?

2. What happened immediately after the baptism?


1. Note that Jesus was tempted throughout the 40 days in the wilderness (Luke 4:2). What made the temptations more pronounced?

2. What was the purpose of this type of temptation?

3. What three temptations were faced at the end of the 40 days? Complete the following:

   | Temptation | Response of Jesus | O.T. Quotation |

4. Did the temptation of Jesus end after these three?
Identification by John: John 1:29-36

1. How did John describe Jesus?

2. What did John claim to have seen?
   What was he told would be the significance of this sign?

3. What did John testify (vs. 34)?

First Disciples: John 1:35-51

1. Why did Andrew and the other disciple of John follow Jesus?

2. What did Andrew say to Simon (Peter)?
   What did Jesus say to him?

3. What convinced Philip that Jesus was the Messiah (vs. 45)?
   What finally convinced Nathanael?

Miracle at Cana: John 2:1-11

1. Who told Jesus there was no wine?

2. What was Jesus’ reply to her?

3. What was the reaction to this miracle (vs. 11)?
LIFE OF CHRIST
A Review of the Four Gospel Accounts
Lesson 6

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Introduction

John is the only writer to record this brief Judean ministry. The early disciples of Jesus accompanied Him on His journey to Jerusalem for the Passover feast. At this point His disciples included Peter, Andrew, James, John, Nicodemus and Philip. The experience of this trip helps to explain their quick response when He later calls them at the Sea of Galilee.

First Cleansing of the Temple: John 2:12-22

1. What caused Jesus to go to Jerusalem?
2. What did Jesus find in the Temple?
   What did He say had been done?
3. What were His disciples reminded of?
4. What sign did Jesus offer?
   What did He mean?
   What did the Jews think He meant?

Conversation with Nicodemus: John 2:23-3:21

1. What knowledge did Jesus have of men (2:25)?
2. What do we know of Nicodemus?
3. How did Nicodemus address Jesus?
   What conclusion had he made?
4. What did Jesus say was necessary to see the kingdom?
5. Of what must one be born to enter the kingdom?
6. What was to happen to Jesus (3:14)?
7. What is the sign of God’s love?
8. What is required to avoid condemnation?
Testimony of John the Baptist: John 3:22-36

1. Jesus continued to work in Judea after He left Jerusalem.

2. How was Jesus described to John (26)?

3. What does John say of his ministry compared to that of Jesus?

Woman at the Well: John 4:1-42

1. Why did Jesus return to Galilee (1-3)?
   What was His route (4)?

2. Where did He stop?
   For what did He ask the woman?

3. Why was the woman surprised that Jesus spoke to her?
   What did He offer to give her?

4. What did Jesus tell her that convinced her He was a prophet?

5. What did Jesus teach her about worship?

6. What did the woman do (28)?

7. What reasons are given for the belief that resulted in this city (39-42)?


1. Why did Herod place John in prison?
Introduction

Following His brief Judean ministry, Jesus returned to His home territory of Galilee. Although He now had a small group of disciples, it appears that He went to Nazareth alone and the disciples returned to their former jobs. Soon, however, He called them to follow Him, which they would do until the end of His life. Together, they began His Galilean Ministry which would preoccupy the majority of the three years of His public ministry.

Initially, the reactions to Jesus' miracles and teachings were astonishment and amazement. This lesson centers on these early successes. Later, the leaders of the Jews began to criticize and accuse Jesus, particularly regarding His conduct on the Sabbath day.

Healing of the Nobleman's Son: John 4:43-54

1. Were the Galileans aware of Jesus' work in Judea?
2. What request did the nobleman make?

   How did Jesus respond?


1. What was Jesus' custom?
2. What did Jesus say regarding the passage He had read?
3. What did Jesus say about prophets?

   How did the people respond?

Calling of the Four Fisherman: Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-21; Luke 5:1-11

1. Who were the men called by Jesus?

   What did he say they would do henceforth?

2. What did Jesus ask Simon to do?

   Why did he hesitate?
What was the result?

3. What did Simon say to Jesus (Luke 5:8)?


1. What was the reaction to Jesus’ teaching (Mark 1:21-22)? Why?

2. What was the testimony of the unclean spirit?

   What amazed people about this incident (Mark 1:27)?

3. Describe the extent of Jesus’ renown and popularity at this point.

4. Where did He go after leaving Capernaum?

Healing of a Leper: Matthew 8:2-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-16

1. Why was leprosy such a dreaded disease?

2. What commandment was given to this man?


1. What was the scene of this miracle?

2. What showed the faith of the four friends?

3. What did Jesus say to the paralyzed man?

   What was the response of the scribes?

   Do you think their reasoning was accurate?

4. What is the answer to Jesus’ question (Mark 2:9)?

5. How did Jesus demonstrate His power?

   How did all of those present react?
Introduction

While the early works and lessons of Jesus resulted in amazement on the part of both the common people and the Jewish leaders, before long controversies arose with the religious leaders of the day, particularly the Pharisees. After calling Matthew, Jesus ate with the sinners and was sharply criticized. He was questioned about His disciples’ failure to fast and their eating of grain on the Sabbath day. After Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath day, a conflict arose with the Pharisees which essentially lasted the remainder of His life. As we shall see, Jesus violated no principle of the Law, but the Pharisees viewed Him as a lawbreaker. This section ends with Jesus making the selection of His twelve apostles following a night of prayer.


1. Matthew was also known as Levi.
2. What was Matthew’s occupation?
3. Who ate with Jesus and His disciples?
   Who complained?
   What was Jesus’ answer?

Controversy regarding Fasting: Matthew 9:14-17; Mark 2:18-22; Luke 5:33-39

1. Who raised the question regarding the disciples’ failure to fast?
2. What illustrations did Jesus use to answer the question?

Pool of Bethesda: John 5:1-47

1. Although Jesus’ work was centered in Galilee, He did continue to travel to Jerusalem for the required feast days. This occasion was the Passover.
2. How long had the lame man been infirmed?
3. What did Jesus tell the man to do?
   How long did it take him to do it?
4. What day was it? Why were the Jews upset?

5. For what two reasons did the Jews seek to kill Jesus (18)?

6. What awaits those who are in the grave (28-29)?

7. Jesus names four witnesses of Himself. Who or what are they?


1. What criticism was raised against Jesus’ disciples?

2. Did the disciples actually do anything wrong?

3. What did Jesus claim to be (Matthew 12:8)?

4. What question did Jesus ask before He healed the man with the withered hand (Mark 3:4)?

5. What were the emotions of Jesus as He healed the man (Mark 3:5)?

6. With whom did the Pharisees plot (Mark 3:6)?

Multitudes Healed: Matthew 12:15-21; Mark 3:7-12

1. To what areas did Jesus go healing multitudes?

Calling of the Twelve Apostles: Mark 3:13-19; Luke 6:12-16

1. Who were the twelve Apostles?

2. What was said of Judas?
Introduction

It is not certain that the sermons in Matthew and Luke are recorded from the same day. But because of their similarity we will deal with them together. While Jesus deals with a variety of topics in this lesson, if there is a common theme, it is the spiritual nature of the kingdom. Jesus introduces a focus on the inward man, establishing new standards of righteous behavior in the realms of prayer, marriage, oaths and the treatment of enemies.


1. Literally, what does it mean to be blessed?
2. What will happen to those who hunger and thirst after righteousness?
3. Who shall see God?


1. What two things are believers said to be?
2. What had Jesus come to do to the Law?
3. To enter the kingdom of heaven, what must our righteousness exceed?

Teachings on Hatred

4. What was said of old (Matthew 5:21)?
   What did Jesus say?
5. What should we do before we worship (Matthew 5:23)?

Teachings on Adultery

6. What was said of old (Matthew 5:27)?
   What did Jesus say?
7. To what extreme does Jesus recommend we go before we sin?
   Why?
Teachings on Marriage

8. What had been said of divorce (Matthew 5:31)?
   What did Jesus say?

Teachings on Oaths

9. What was said of old (Matthew 5:33)?
   What did Jesus say?

10. What are we to do (Matthew 5:37)?

Teachings on Retribution and Enemies

11. What was said of old (Matthew 5:38, 43)?
    What did Jesus say?

12. What is God’s treatment (in general) in this life of the just and unjust (Matthew 5:45)?

13. Who loves those who love them?


1. What did the hypocrites do (2)?
   What was their reward?

2. What is symbolically said to illustrate the private nature of our good deeds?
Introduction

Jesus continues His sermon by stressing the conduct and attitude of a member of the spiritual kingdom. He teaches how one should pray, the proper attitude toward the cares of the world, and persistence in addressing God. He speaks of those who claim to be serving the Lord when they are practicing lawlessness. The conclusion of His lesson is the contrast of the wise and foolish men. Once more the hearers were astonished not merely at the content of His teaching, but also at the authority with which He taught.

Model Prayer: Matthew 6:5-15

1. What is the reward of the hypocrites?
2. Where should we pray?
   What should we not do in prayer?
3. What is a condition of forgiveness?

The True Treasure: Matthew 6:16-34

1. Where will our heart be?
2. Can we serve two masters? Why or why not?
3. What are we not to worry about (vs. 25)?
   What evidence does Jesus offer that God will provide?
4. What do the Gentiles seek?
   What should we seek?
5. Why is this passage so hard to apply on a daily basis?


1. Why should we avoid judging others (Matthew 7:2)?
2. Do you detect some humor in the illustration Jesus uses in Matthew 7:3-4?
3. How can we follow the commandments to remove a speck from a brother’s eye and avoid casting pearls before swines if we are never to judge someone as being wrong? Be prepared to explain how you would reconcile Matthew 7:1 with Matthew 7:5,6.

Seeking God: Matthew 7:7-12

1. What three things are we to do?
2. What assures us that God will respond?


1. By comparison, how many find the way to destruction and how many the way to life?
2. How will we recognize false prophets?
3. Who will enter the kingdom of heaven?
4. What will some people claim?

Build on the Rock: Matthew 7:24-29; Luke 6:46-49

1. To whom does Jesus compare those who hear and do His words?
2. To whom does He compare those who only hear His words?
3. What was the response of the people to this sermon?
Introduction

These events occurred during the second year of Jesus' ministry. His Galilean ministry was still increasing in popularity. Jesus continued to demonstrate His power to be unlimited, even raising a boy from the dead. Nevertheless, there continued to be incidents of opposition. He is criticized in the house of Simon the Pharisee and may even have faced some opposition from His family. During this period Jesus began to teach in parables. This method seems to have weeded out many who were not truly interested in spiritual matters.

Healing the Centurian's Servant: Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

1. What was a centurion?

   Who came to Jesus on his behalf?

2. What message did the centurion send to Jesus?

   Why did Jesus marvel?

Raising a Widow’s Son: Luke 7:11-17

1. What are the two large crowds described in 11-12?

2. Why did Jesus choose to raise this boy (13)?

3. How did the crowd react to this miracle?

   To where did the word spread?


1. Where was John (Matthew 11:2)?

   What prompted John's question?

2. What was the question?

   What answer did Jesus send to John?
3. How great was John (Matthew 11:11)?
   What did Jesus call him (Matthew 11:14)?
4. Why was that generation like children?

**The Great Invitation: Matthew 11:20-30**

1. Why did Jesus criticize the cities of 21-24?
2. Whom does Jesus invite to come to Him?
   What does He say of His yoke?

**A Sinful Woman’s Forgiveness: Luke 7:36-50**

1. What did the woman do for Jesus?
2. Why did Simon conclude Jesus was not a Prophet?
3. What question did Jesus pose to Simon?
   Did he answer it correctly?
4. What was the contrast between the woman and Simon?
   Why did the woman love Jesus so much?
5. What saved this woman?

**Jesus and His Relatives: Matthew 12:46-50; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:1-3, 19-21**

1. Who are Jesus’ real relatives?

**Parables: Matthew 13:1-53; Mark 4:1-34; Luke 8:4-18**

1. What parables are recorded in these passages?
2. Which parable does Jesus explain?
3. What reasons are given for teaching in parables?
4. To what things does Jesus compare the kingdom?
Introduction

It is easy to sense in these events the difficulties Jesus faced in accomplishing the mission of the Father. We see His physical exhaustion before He stills the Tempest. He is disturbed by the lack of faith in His disciples, and faced rejection by the people of Gadarene who completely misunderstood His character. Great multitudes continue to follow Him, but all too often they are a hindrance to His true purpose. Once more He faced unbelief in His former hometown. The danger He will eventually encounter is highlighted by the death of John the Baptist, His forerunner.

Yet, even in these incidents, we witness the popularity of Jesus increasing overall. However, the peak of this popularity will occur soon.

Following Jesus: Matthew 8:18-22; Luke 9:57-62

1. What comforts did Jesus lack?

2. What reasons did some give for hesitating to follow Jesus?

Stilling the Tempest: Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

1. This scene occurs following a long day of teaching in parables.

2. During the storm, where was Jesus?

3. What question did they ask Jesus?

4. What did Jesus do to stop the storm?

How did the witnesses react?

Gadarene Demoniacs: Matthew 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39

1. Note that there were two possessed individuals, but one of a particularly severe nature.

2. Describe this possessed man.

3. What did the demons call Jesus?

4. Why were the demons named Legion?
Where did they request to be sent?

5. What happened to the swine?
   How did the people react?

6. What did the healed man ask of Jesus?
   What was Jesus’ reply?

Healing a Woman and Jairus’ Daughter: Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56

1. For what did Jairus ask?

2. Why did Jesus stop before He came to Jairus’ home?

3. How long had the woman been afflicted?
   What did Jesus say about her faith?

4. Who witnessed the raising of this girl?

Visit to Nazareth: Matthew 13:54-58; Mark 6:1-6

1. Why were the people astonished?

2. How did they describe Jesus?

3. Why did Jesus not do many miracles?

Twelve sent out: Matthew 9:35-11:1; Mark 6:7-13; Luke 9:1-6

1. What instructions were these men given?

2. What persecutions were they told to expect?

Death of John the Baptist: Matthew 14:1-12; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 9:7-9

1. Whom did Herod speculate that Jesus might be?

2. How was Herod tricked into executing John?
Introduction

The feeding of the five thousand was the zenith of Jesus' popularity, at least until the triumphal entry. The day began as the apostles returned from their mission of going out two by two. Apparently, on that same day word reaches Jesus of the death of John the Baptist. Jesus and His apostles attempt to move to a private place to discuss the happy news of their mission and the tragedy that had befallen John. However, the crowd, seeing their boat not far from their shore, literally outran the boat to remain near Jesus.

Before the day ended they were ready to make Him a king. But Jesus dampened their enthusiasm, first by removing Himself and on the following day by chastising them for seeking physical food rather than spiritual.


1. Describe how this crowd came together.

2. Why did Jesus begin to teach them (Mark 6:34)?

3. How much food did the Apostles find in the crowd?
   
   How much was left over?

4. How many people were fed?

Walking on the Water: Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:15-21

1. What was the crowd ready to do (John 6:15)?

2. What did Jesus force the apostles to do (Mark 6:45)?

3. Where did Jesus go?
   
   What did He do?
   
   How long was He there?

4. Why did He walk on water to the apostles?

5. What did the apostles think He was?
   
   What did Peter ask to do?
6. Why did Peter begin to sink?
   Did Jesus hesitate to save him?
7. What was the reaction of those in the boat?

Hard Sayings: John 6:22-71
1. The next day, why did Jesus say the people were seeking Him?
2. For what did the people ask (30)?
3. What did Jesus claim to be (35)?
4. What was the reaction to Jesus’ comment (41-42)?
5. What did Jesus claim in 51?
   What was the reaction?
6. What did Jesus say about His flesh and blood?
7. What did many of His disciples think about what Jesus had been saying (60)?
   What did many of them do (66)?
8. What question did Jesus ask of His apostles?
   What was Simon Peter’s response?

Miracles at Gennesaret: Matthew 14:34-36; Mark 6:53-56
1. Gennesaret was the region of the demoniac of Mark 5.
2. How was Jesus received this time?
Introduction

With His popularity waning among the people and even many of His disciples turning away, Jesus stepped up His criticism of the Pharisees and scribes. He briefly left the land of the Jews, travelling to Tyre and Sidon (now Lebanon) and also through Decapolis, an area of 10 Greek cities.

Near the end of two years with His disciples, Jesus at last asks them who they think He is. Peter responds with great insight: the Christ, the Son of God. But this glorious confession was followed by a prediction too horrible for the apostles to believe. For the first time Jesus reveals that He would die at the hands of the Jewish leadership. With our understanding of the sacrificial nature of this death, we cannot imagine the shock its revelation was to these men.

Traditions Attacked: Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:1-23

1. What was the tradition of the Pharisees?

2. What had Isaiah said of these Pharisees (hypocrites)?

3. To keep their traditions, what had the Pharisees rejected (Mark 7:8-9)?

Give an example.

4. What defiles a man?

Syro-Phoenician Woman: Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30

1. Even in Tyre and Sidon, did Jesus find anonymity?

2. Why did Jesus initially refuse the woman’s request (Matthew 15:24)?

3. Why did Jesus praise her faith?

Healing a Deaf Man: Matthew 15:29-31; Mark 7:31-37

1. Physically, what did Jesus do before healing this man?

2. What commandment of Jesus was ignored?
Feeding the Four Thousand and Healing a Blind Man: Matthew 15:32-16:12; Mark 8:1-26

1. How long had the multitude been with Jesus?
2. How much food was available to feed the thousands?
   How much was left over?
3. What sign would be offered (Matthew 16:4)?
   Explain this sign.
4. Why did the disciples think Jesus was upset at them?
   Why was this worry so irrational?
5. Did Jesus heal the blind man completely at first?

Peter’s Confession And Jesus’ Prediction: Matthew 16:13-28; Mark 8:27-9:1

1. What question did Jesus ask?
   What answers were given?
2. What was Simon Peter’s answer?
   What blessing did Jesus bestow on him?
3. What prediction was made by Jesus for the first time?
   How did Peter respond?
   What was Jesus’ response to him?
4. Why do you think this prediction was so difficult for the apostles to believe?
5. What must we do to follow Jesus?
6. What would some of them see before death?
Introduction

The subject of Jesus' coming death dominated many incidents as the last year of His life began to unfold. He was transfigured with Moses and Elijah, and the topic discussed was His coming death. Once more He prophesied to His apostles of this death, but they were afraid to ask Him of it. Instead, they disputed with one another over who was the greatest. Jesus corrected this attitude and continued to teach them on a variety of matters which they desperately needed to be prepared for His death.

With this lesson, Jesus' great Galilean ministry comes to a close. When He travels to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Tabernacles, it is October, preceding the Spring in which He died. For the remaining months of His life Jesus focuses His ministry on other areas than Galilee.


1. Describe the appearance of Jesus.

2. What was Peter's suggestion?
   
   What happened while he was still speaking?

3. What commandment did Jesus give them?

4. Whom did they understand to be the Elijah who would come first?


1. This boy may have had a demon whose manifestations were similar to epilepsy, or he may have had the actual disease itself.

2. How long had this child suffered?

3. How did the father and Jesus use the word "if"?

4. Why were the disciples unable to heal the boy?

Discussions with Disciples: Matthew 17:22-18:35; Mark 9:30-50; Luke 9:43-56

1. How did the apostles respond to the prediction of Jesus' death (Luke 9:48)?
2. What did the apostles dispute?
3. How did Jesus provide for His and Peter's temple tax?
4. What was the parable of the lost sheep?
5. List the steps you should take when a brother sins against you:
6. How often should we forgive a brother?
7. What was the parable of the unforgiving servant?


1. Why did the world hate Jesus (John 7:7)?
2. In what manner did Jesus go to the feast?

Feast of the Tabernacles: John 7:11-8:11

1. What were some of the opinions of Jesus (12)?
2. What were some of the beliefs the people had about the Messiah (27, 31, 41, 42)?
   What did they speculate about Jesus in regards to these beliefs?
3. Why did the officers fail to take Jesus into custody (45, 46)?
4. What point did Nicodemus raise?
   What was the response?
The eighth, ninth and tenth chapters of John continue the story of Jesus in the city of Jerusalem during the Feast of the Tabernacles. It was October, only months away from Jesus’ death the following Spring. John gives us a remarkable account of Jesus’ ongoing confrontation with the Pharisees. It is clear from John’s account that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God, divine and preeminent. Just as clear is that the Pharisees were determined to destroy Him. As John 10 closes, Jesus is leaving Jerusalem as they were seeking to seize Him and stone Him.

Confrontation with the Pharisees: John 8:12-59

1. Whom did Jesus say testified for Him (18)?
2. Why was no one able to lay hands on Him (20)?
3. What did Jesus say they would do to Him (28)?
4. What did Jesus always do (29)?
5. According to Jesus, how does one become free?
6. What is someone who commits sin?
7. Whom does Jesus say was their father (42-44)?
8. Who will never see death (51)?
9. What did Jesus claim in regard to Abraham (56-58)?

What was the reaction of the Jews?

Healing a Man Born Blind: John 9:1-41

1. Was this man blind because of someone’s sin?
2. On what day was this man healed (14)?
3. What opinions were held about Jesus regarding this event (16)?

What was the conclusion of the healed man (17)?
4. What had the Jews agreed would happen to someone who confessed Jesus to be the Christ (22)?

5. What courageous conclusion did the man state (33)?

   What happened to him?

6. What did the man come to believe about Jesus?

**Parable of the Good Shepherd: John 10:1-21**

1. What does the shepherd do for his sheep (3)?

2. What did Jesus do for the sheep (17)?

   Was this voluntary?

3. What were the opinions of the Jews regarding His words?


1. What were they to do when a city rejected them?

2. When the seventy returned what did Jesus say He had seen?

3. In what did He tell them to rejoice?
Introduction

It is generally believed that these events occurred in the Fall preceding the year of Jesus’ death. Jesus does not appear to be in Galilee, laboring instead in Judea and perhaps Perea. We do know that Mary and Martha lived in Bethany, a few miles from Jerusalem. Only Luke records the events and lessons of this section which includes some of the most well known thoughts of Jesus. Only here do we read of the Good Samaritan and the Rich Fool. However, many of the lessons are reminiscent of the Sermon on the Mount, which is not surprising given that Jesus is laboring in a different region.


1. What question was initially asked of Jesus? Who answered the question?

2. What prompted Jesus to tell the parable of the Good Samaritan?

3. Who failed to help the injured man?
   Why should they have helped?

4. Who helped the man and how did he help?
   Why was it unusual for him to help?

Visit with Mary and Martha: Luke 10:38-42

1. What was Martha doing? Was this wrong to do? Explain.

2. What was Martha’s complaint?
   What was Jesus’ response?

3. List ways you are like Martha.


1. Following the model prayer, what lesson did Jesus teach them?

2. What will happen to those who ask? who seek? who knock?
Confrontation with Lawyers and Pharisees: Luke 11:14-54

1. What explanation was offered for Jesus' ability to cast out demons?
2. What was Jesus' response to this accusation?
3. Whom did Jesus say was truly blessed (28)?
4. Who would rise up in judgment on that generation?
5. What did He accuse the Pharisees of being?
6. What group realized that Jesus was also faulting them (45)?


1. Whom should we fear?
   How well does God know us (7)?
2. What sin will not be forgiven (10)?
3. What request prompted the parable of the Rich Fool?
   What was the parable?
4. Where is our heart (34)?
5. What lesson did Jesus teach in 35-48?


1. What question did Jesus ask about the Galileans and the eighteen on the tower of Siloam?
2. What must we do to avoid perishing?

Healing a Crippled Woman: Luke 13:10-17

1. How long had this woman been infirmed?
2. What objection did the ruler of the synagogue make?
3. What did Jesus say to the ruler?
   How did the multitude respond?
Introduction

The feast of dedication was held during December; therefore, Jesus was but a few months from His death. As in the previous lesson, much of the material here is unique to Luke’s account. Many of the most well known parables of Jesus were taught during this period.

Feast of Dedication: John 10:22-42

1. What did the Jews ask Jesus to declare plainly?
   What was His response?

2. What reason did the Jews give for attempting to stone Him (33)?

3. Jesus left Jerusalem and traveled to Perea (40).


1. What will the Master say to many who attempt to enter (27)?

2. From where would many come to sit in the kingdom of God?

3. What did Jesus say about Jerusalem?


1. What question did Jesus ask first?
   Was it answered?

2. Whom should we invite to a dinner or supper?

3. What excuses were given by those invited to the great supper?

   Do they seem reasonable?

1. What must someone hate in order to be a disciple of Christ?
   What do you think this means?

2. What must we forsake to be disciple of Christ?

Parables on Things Lost: Luke 15:1-32

1. What three things are “lost” in this chapter?

2. What is the reaction in Heaven over one sinner who repents?

3. When did the prodigal son “come to himself”?
   What did he decide to do?

4. What reception was he given when he returned home?
   What did he say to his father?

5. Why was the older son angry? What did the father say to him?


1. Why did the unjust steward choose to act as he did (3, 4)?

2. Was he commended by his master because he had done something good?
   Why was he commended?

3. Did Jesus imply in verse 9 that we should use unscrupulous means to have friends (compare verse 13)?

4. How did those who love money view this parable (14)?

5. How had the Rich Man treated Lazarus?

6. Describe the place where the Rich Man dwelt.
   Describe Lazarus’ new home.

7. What did Abraham say to the Rich Man?
   Would men believe someone sent from the dead?

Lessons on Service and Faith: Luke 17:1-10

1. When we have done all that we are commanded, what should be our attitude?
Introduction

Lazarus was raised from the dead not long before the Passover Feast. This event that increased the faith of so many also solidified the determination of the Jewish leadership which plotted "from that day...to put Him to death." Jesus continued to focus on teaching during these remaining months of His life. Once more, much of the material is unique to either Luke or John.

Resurrection of Lazarus: John 11:1-54

1. What did Jesus know about the illness of Lazarus (4)?
   Did this mean He did not expect Lazarus to die (compare 11:14)?

2. If Jesus loved Mary and Martha, why did He wait two more days before going to them (compare 15)?

3. Why were the disciples surprised that Jesus would return to Judea (8)?

4. How long had Lazarus been in the tomb?

5. What did Martha say to Jesus when she saw Him coming?
   What did Mary say (32)?

6. What did Jesus promise Martha (23)?
   What did He claim to be?

7. What did Martha believe about Jesus?

8. What did Jesus do when He saw the Mary and the Jews weeping (33)?
   Why do you think Jesus wept (35)?

9. What objection did Martha make to taking away the stone?

10. What did Jesus say to Lazarus?
    What were the two reactions to this miracle?

11. What fear did the Jewish leadership express regarding Jesus (48)?
Healing of Ten Lepers: Luke 17:11-19

1. What did Jesus say to the ten lepers?
   When were they healed?

2. What did one of them do?
   What was his nationality?


1. To what days does Jesus compare the days of the Son of Man?

2. What description is given to show that not everyone will be ready (33-36)?

3. How did the Pharisee pray?
   How did the tax collector pray?

Divorce and Remarriage: Matthew 19:1-12; Mark 10:1-12

1. What question did the Pharisees ask?

2. Whom did Jesus say joined a man and a woman together?

3. Why did Moses permit divorce?

4. What singular reason is given for divorce?


1. What did Jesus say is true of children?


1. What did Jesus say should be done to inherit eternal life?
   What was the man’s reply?

2. What additional commandment did Jesus give this man?
   What was his reaction?
Introduction

Jesus' Judean and Perea ministry drew to a close, and He prepared to travel to Jerusalem for the last week of His life. The entire country was watching to see if He would make this journey, realizing the confrontation that was coming. His disciples were frightened by His steadfast pace toward the city, and, once more, He predicted His death. Yet, the week begins with a triumphal entry that would contrast tragically with the end of the week.

Laborers of the 11th Hour: Matthew 20:1-16

1. What wage did the laborers hired at the eleventh hour receive?
   Why did this upset those hired first?

2. Of the many called, how many are chosen?


1. What details did Jesus predict of His coming death?

2. What request was made by James and John?

3. What question did Jesus ask them?
   What was their answer?

4. What must one do to be great?


1. When warned to be quiet, what did Bartimaeus continue to call Jesus?

2. What made Bartimaeus well?

1. How did Zacchaeus endeavor to see Jesus?
   What did Jesus say to him?

2. For whom did Jesus come?


1. What reward was given to the first two servants?

2. How did the third servant feel about his master?
   Was he right?
   What was the master’s judgment?

3. What lesson is given (26)?

Plot against Jesus and Lazarus: John 11:55-12:1, 9-11

1. What commandment did the Pharisees issue?

2. What question did the people ponder as the Passover drew near?


1. What instructions did Jesus give the two disciples?
   What prophecy was fulfilled?

2. What did the people do to welcome Jesus?

3. From the various accounts, list the titles used by the people to address Jesus.


1. What did Jesus see in the morning (Mark 11:12-14)?
   What did disciples see in the afternoon (Mark 11:20-21)?

2. What was the reaction of the scribes and chief priests to Jesus cleansing the Temple?
**Life of Christ**

A Review of the Four Gospel Accounts

Lesson 21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATTHEW</th>
<th>MARK</th>
<th>LUKE</th>
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| Birth & Infancy | Early Preparation | Judean Ministry | Galilean Ministry | Final Week | Resurrection |

**Introduction**

During the early part of the Passover week, Jesus was tested by various groups attempting to turn the crowds against Him. Each attempt failed completely because of the divine wisdom of Jesus. When Jesus questioned them, and they were unable to answer, they stopped their efforts to discredit Him. Jesus used these remaining days to teach the crowds, and even more, to teach His disciples. But the plots of the Jewish leadership were constantly near.

**Jesus Teaches of His Sacrifice: John 12:20-50**

1. Why was Jesus troubled (27)?
2. What did Jesus mean by being lifted up (32-33)?
   
   What objection did the people raise to this (34)?
3. What prophecies of Isaiah were fulfilled by their failure to believe despite Jesus’ signs?


1. What question did the rulers ask Him?
   
   Before He answered, what question did Jesus ask them?
   
   Did they answer? Why?
2. What three parables did Jesus teach to continue His reply to the Jewish leadership?
3. What prophecies did Jesus say were fulfilled (Matthew 21:42)?


1. Who came with the disciples of the Pharisees to Jesus (Matthew 22:16)?
   
   What question did they ask Jesus?
   
   What would be the dangers of a yes or no answer?
2. What was Jesus’ reply? What was the response?
3. What did the Sadducees believe? What dilemma did they propose to Jesus?

4. What answer did Jesus give to the question?
   What additional comments did He make regarding the resurrection?

5. In response to a lawyer, what did Jesus say were the two greatest commandments?

**Jesus Asks a Question:** Matthew 22:41-46; Mark 12:35-37; Luke 20:41-44

1. What question did Jesus ask regarding a comment of David?

2. From that point on, no one dared to ask Him questions.

**Jesus’ Last Sermon:** Matthew 23:1-39; Mark 12:38-40; Luke 20:45-47

1. Whom should we call Father?
   Who is the greatest among the brethren?

2. What weightier matters of the law had been ignored by the Pharisees (Matthew 23:23)?

3. How did Jesus describe Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37)?

**Widow’s Mite:** Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4

1. Why was the widow’s gift so great?

**Coming Destruction of Jerusalem:** Matthew 24:1-51; Mark 13:1-37; Luke 21:5-36

1. What prediction did Jesus make about the temple (Mark 13:2)?
   What questions were raised by the disciples because of this prediction (Mark 13:4, Matthew 24:3)?

2. What events were not the signs of the coming destruction (Mark 13:5-13)?

3. What would be the sign that would indicate they should flee (implying that one could escape if he recognized the right sign)?
   What conditions would make flight difficult?

4. These things would occur during what generation (Mark 13:30)?
   Note that the subject changes in Mark 13:32 to a specific day, the day of Jesus’ return, of which no man knows the hour.
Introduction

During the last week of His life, Jesus stayed in Bethany at night and traveled into Jerusalem during the morning. In Bethany, Mary anointed Jesus for His death with an extremely expensive oil. To provide privacy for His last meal with the Apostles, Jesus miraculously obtained a secret location. During this meal He once more stressed to them the need for humility. He also established the Lord’s Supper.

Parables: Matthew 25:1-46

1. What two parables were taught to stress the need for preparation and readiness?
2. What general principle was taught in the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:30)?
3. What actions will distinguish the righteous and the cursed on the day of judgment?

Anointing by Mary: Matthew 26:1-13; Mark 14:1-9; Luke 22:1-2; John 12:2-8

1. Prior to His anointing, what did Jesus predict (Matthew 26:2)?
   Why did the Jewish leaders avoid taking Jesus during the feast (Matthew 26:4-5)?
2. Why were the disciples indignant at the anointing of Jesus?
   Why was Judas particularly upset (John 12:4-6)?
3. What was Jesus’ response to the criticism?
   Was He correct?

Judas Betrays Jesus: Matthew 26:14-16; Mark 14:10-11; Luke 22:3-6

1. For what price did Judas agree to betray Jesus?
2. For what did Judas look?
Passover Meal: Matthew 26:17-20; Mark 14:12-17; Luke 22:7-17, 24-30; John 13:1-20

1. How did John and Peter secure the upper room?

2. Following the eating of the Passover meal, Jesus washed the feet of the twelve Apostles. What did Peter assert to Him (John 12:8)?
   Why did he change his mind?

3. Why did Jesus say He had washed their feet?


1. What was the initial response to Jesus’ assertion that one of them would betray Him (John 12:22)?
   What question was asked?

2. What sign did Jesus give them to indicate the traitor?
   Did they know who it was (John 12:28)?

3. What did Jesus say to Judas?


1. Whom did Jesus say would deny Him (Mark 14:27)?

2. What did Peter say to this?
   What prediction did Jesus make about Peter specifically?

3. What word of hope did Jesus also give Peter (Luke 22:32)?


1. What did Jesus say was His body?
   What was His blood?

2. When did Jesus say He would drink of the fruit of the vine again?
Introduction

Following His last supper with the Apostles and the establishment of the Lord's Supper, Jesus traveled with them to the Garden of Gethsemane. Along the way, He taught them one last time. Jesus anguished greatly while praying in the Garden, but He appeared prepared for the suffering ahead as Judas betrayed Him with a kiss. From the beginning, His trial was a mockery of justice as He repeatedly endured indignations in violation of the law. His disciples fled as Jesus had predicted.

Last Address to the Apostles: John 14:1-17:26

1. What three things did Jesus claim to be (14:6)?

2. Why was Jesus upset with Philip?

3. What demonstrates our love for Christ (14:15, 23, 24)?

4. What names are given to the Holy Spirit in the 14th chapter (16-17, 26)?
   What are the Apostles promised He will do?

5. What must we do as branches (15:5)?

6. What is the greatest act of love?
   How did Jesus treat the Apostles as friends (15:15)?

7. What kinds of persecution were they to expect?

8. Of what three things would the Spirit convict the world (16:8-11)?
   Into what would the Spirit guide the Apostles?

9. For what did Jesus pray on behalf of the Apostles (17:11, 17)?

10. For what did Jesus pray on behalf of all believers (17:20-23)?


1. For what did Jesus pray in the Garden?
   Was His prayer answered?
2. What physical signs indicated the agony He suffered?

3. What did the Apostles do during His prayer?

4. How did Judas point out Jesus?

   What did Peter do?


1. Where was Jesus taken first (John 18:13)?

   What indignation did Jesus suffer there (18:22)?

2. False witnesses were brought before Caiaphas. Why did this plot fail (Matthew 26:59-62)?

3. What finally caused His condemnation (Matthew 26:64-66)?

   How was He immediately punished?

   How was He mocked?


1. What did Peter deny?

   To what extent (Matthew 26:72, 74)?

2. When Jesus looked at Peter following the denials, what did Peter do?

Jewish Condemnation:  Matthew 27:1;  Mark 15:1;  Luke 22:66-71

1. To where did the Jewish leadership decide to take Jesus?
Introduction

The Jewish leadership had condemned Jesus and would have willingly stoned Him. However, the Romans ruled Judea and had forbidden the Jews to perform capital punishment. To accomplish their ultimate goal, the Jews had to convince Pilate that Jesus was worthy of death. Pilate was not easily swayed. He recognized the innocence of Jesus and sought repeatedly to set Him free. He was unsuccessful and, because he lacked sufficient courage, he finally allowed Jesus to be crucified.


1. What statement did they first make about Jesus (John 18:30)?
   What did Pilate tell them to do?

2. What did Jesus say to Pilate regarding His kingdom (John 18:36)?

3. Why did Pilate send Jesus to Herod?

Appearance before Herod: Luke 23:8-12

1. What did Herod hope to see?

2. How did Jesus respond to the questions of Herod?

3. How was Jesus treated in Herod’s court?


1. What custom did Pilate have?
   Whom did Pilate offer to release?

2. Why did the crowd choose Barabbas (Matthew 27:20)?

3. What was Pilate’s conclusion regarding Jesus (Luke 23:14)?

4. The chastisement Pilate suggested (Luke 23:16) was probably a scourging (John 19:1).

5. What finally persuaded Pilate to allow Jesus to be crucified (John 19:12)?
6. What rash statements did the Jews make (John 19:15, Matthew 27:25)?


1. Whom did they compel to carry His cross?

2. What does Golgotha mean?


1. What groups mocked Jesus while He was on the cross?
   
   What did they say?

2. List the seven things Jesus said while on the cross.

3. When and for how long was there darkness?
Introduction

The reaction of the soldiers and the crowd was very different at the death of Jesus than during His trial. Many unusual events in Jerusalem immediately following His death also increased the sense that Jesus was not an ordinary man. The Jews took great precautions to prevent what eventually happened — finding His tomb empty — from taking place. The disciples were hardly prepared for Jesus to appear; in fact, they were extremely skeptical at each appearance or report of an appearance.


1. Why did the soldiers not break the legs of Jesus?
   What happened when they pierced His side?
   What prophecies were fulfilled by these two actions?

2. Note that John claims to have been an eyewitness (John 19:35).

3. What happened in the city of Jerusalem immediately following the death of Jesus?

4. What did the centurion say regarding these events (Matthew 27:54)?

5. How did the crowd which watched Jesus die react (Luke 23:48)?

6. Who asked for the body of Jesus?
   Describe the tomb where it was placed.

7. What did the women do to the body (Luke 23:55-56)?

8. For what did the chief priests and Pharisees ask Pilate?
   Why?

9. Describe the security at the tomb (Matthew 27:66).


1. At what time did the women come to the tomb?
   Why did they come?
What worried them during their trip (Mark 16:3)?

2. What did they find in the tomb?
   What was not there?
   What were they told?

3. Who ran to Peter and John?

4. What did Peter and John discover?

Appearance to Mary Magdalene and Other Women: Matthew 28:9-10; Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18

1. To whom did Jesus first appear?
   Was her report believed?

2. How did the women react to Jesus’ appearance?

Guards’ Report: Matthew 28:11-15

1. What were the guards paid to say?


1. Where were the two disciples traveling? How far away was it?

2. How did they describe Jesus to the one traveling with them (Luke 24:19)?

3. What were their hopes in Jesus?
   What had they heard that day?

4. How did Jesus rebuke them?
   What did He teach them?
   What was their reaction (Luke 24:32)?

5. When did they discover it was Jesus?
   Where did they go?

Appearance to Ten Apostles: Mark 16:14; Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-23

1. What did Jesus show the Apostles to prove He was not a spirit?

2. What shows that they were skeptical?
Introduction

The appearances of Jesus occurred during a seven week period and were undoubtedly more numerous than those recorded for us. The time was short and He continued to use it to prepare the Apostles for their future work. Following the ascension of Jesus, these men were greatly changed from the frightened men who had scattered at His capture in the Garden. They were ready to fulfill the great commission, requiring only the baptism of the Holy Spirit which was soon to occur.

Appearance to Thomas: John 20:26-31

1. What proof did Thomas demand?
2. How did Jesus enter the room?
   What did He offer to Thomas?
   How did Thomas respond?
3. Whom did Jesus say were blessed?
4. Why was the book of John written?

Appearance in Galilee: John 21:1-25

1. How did John realize it was Jesus on the shore (7)?
2. What did Peter do?
3. What did Jesus do for them?
4. What was Peter’s reaction at the third question of Jesus (17)?
5. What did Jesus say regarding Peter’s death?
   What improper question did Peter ask?

Appearance to 500 and James: I Corinthians 15:6, 7

1. What statement did Paul make regarding the 500?
Great Commission: Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-18; Luke 24:44-49

1. What were the Apostles to teach?
2. Where were they to go teaching?
3. Where were they to wait for power from on high?
4. Whom did Jesus say would be saved?


1. From where did Jesus ascend?
2. What did the disciples do?