

Forty days after His resurrection Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them He ascended to heaven. Two angels assured the disciples that Jesus would come back the second time in a similar manner to which they had seen Him go.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



Jesus committed no sin, but He bore the punishment of our sins. Therefore we can stand in Christ's righteousness, because He has paid our penalty.

**John 10:27,28** My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.

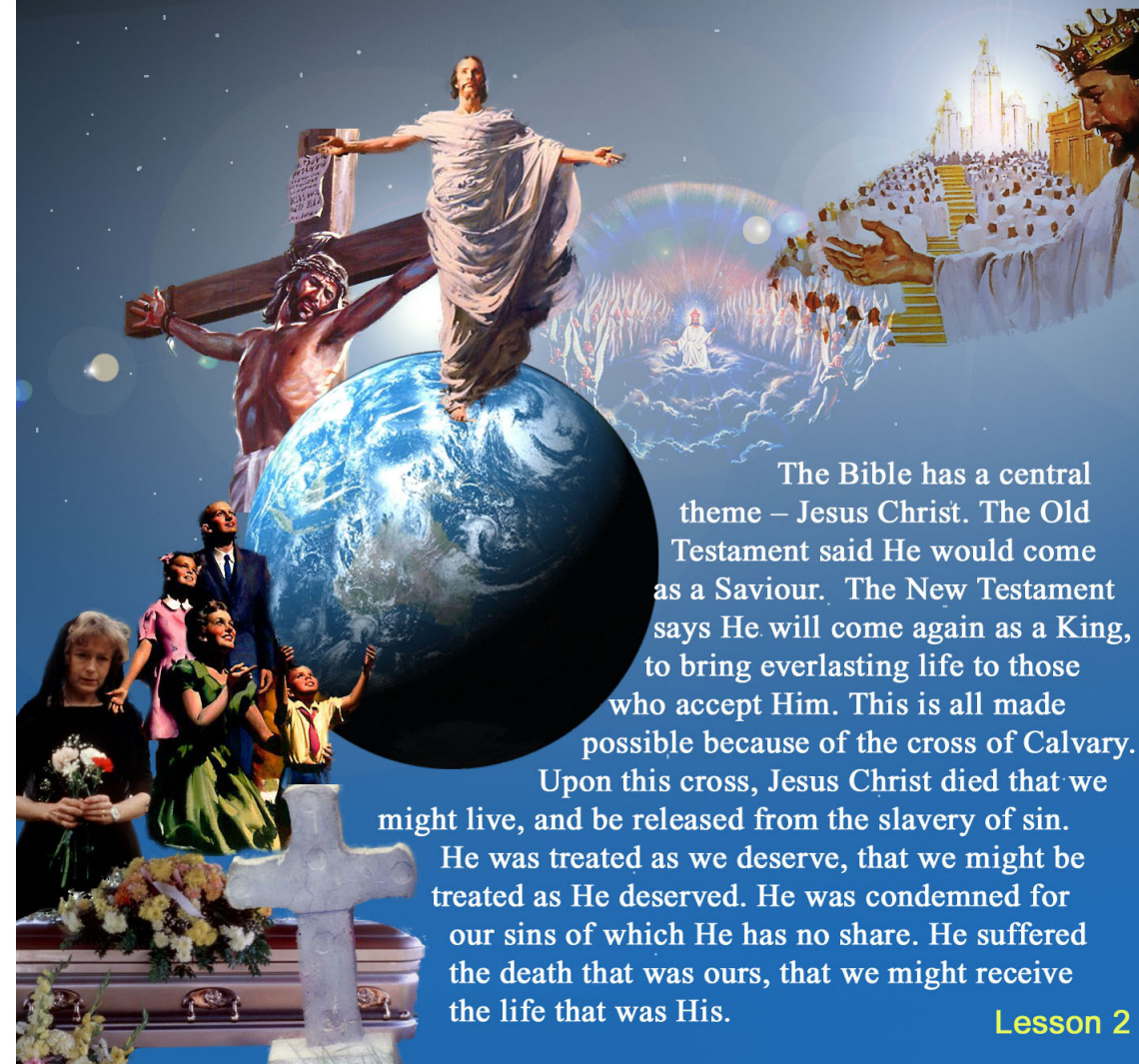
Jesus is the only way to eternal life. He has given everything for you so that you can be with Him always. If you surrender yourself to Him, you will be with Him forever in peace and joy. Could you walk away from Jesus and all He has to offer, knowing all He has done for you and what He wants for you? Why not give yourself to Him now?

Perhaps you would like to pray this prayer: Dear God in heaven, I know I am a sinner and unworthy. Please forgive me for my sinful past. I come to you Lord, just as I am. Please make me a new person. I am thankful for Jesus' death for me. Lord today, I accept Him as my personal Saviour, Please help me to live for Him. Amen.

Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour? \_\_\_\_\_

# Life's VITAL ANSWERS

## Good News For the World.



The Bible has a central theme – Jesus Christ. The Old Testament said He would come as a Saviour. The New Testament says He will come again as a King, to bring everlasting life to those who accept Him. This is all made possible because of the cross of Calvary. Upon this cross, Jesus Christ died that we might live, and be released from the slavery of sin. He was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserved. He was condemned for our sins of which He has no share. He suffered the death that was ours, that we might receive the life that was His.

Many years before Jesus Christ was born, hundreds of prophecies were made concerning His life and death. In fact, 330 details were predicted, and were fulfilled while He lived on this earth about 2,000 years ago. Here are but a few:

### PREDICTIONS ABOUT THE MESSIAH OR JESUS CHRIST

No human mind could make such exacting predictions and expect them to come true, but God, who knows what the future holds, revealed these many details concerning Jesus Christ. In noting their fulfilment, we can see without doubt that Christ was no mere man, but was One sent by God to save humankind from eternal destruction.

### WHO WAS JESUS CHRIST?

**John 1:1-3,14.** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the \_\_\_\_\_. He was with God in the beginning. **Through him all things were made;** without him nothing was made that has been made.... The Word \_\_\_\_\_. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Prediction Text	Prediction	Fulfilment
Micah 5:2	He would be born in Bethlehem	Luke 2:4-7
Psalms 22:16	Christ would be crucified	Luke 23:33
Zechariah 11:12	He would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver	Matthew 26:14,15
Psalms 34:20	No bones would be broken	John 19:33
Isaiah 7:14	His mother would be a virgin	Matthew 1:18-23
Psalms 22:18	Lots would be cast for his garment	Luke 23:34
Psalms 16:10	He would be resurrected	Matthew 28:6

Here we see Jesus Christ existing from the beginning with God. In fact, He is called God in the same way as God the Father is called God. However, He hid His divinity from man's view when He came to this earth, being clothed in human flesh.

**Matthew 1:23** The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son,

not for any wrong He had done, but for the sins of a fallen race. It cost the life of the Son of God to bring lost man to his eternal home. Through the sufferings and death of Jesus, people can find the way to God and the way to Paradise. Jesus didn't have to die, but He chose to, for you and all the whole world.

**Luke 23:46** Jesus called out with a loud voice, **“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.”** When he had said this, he breathed his last.

**Mark 15:39** And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, **“Surely this man was the Son of God!”**

On the Friday afternoon of the crucifixion, nature rebelled at the suffering Son of God. The sun was darkened, and there was a great earthquake. Having seen everything, the Roman centurion recognised Jesus as indeed the Son of God.

Jesus was placed in a tomb with a stone rolled across the entrance. A full Roman guard was placed around the tomb. Matthew 27:64-66. But no human power could keep Jesus in the bonds of death. One of the most convincing arguments in favour of the resurrection was the fact that every effort was made to prevent it – but Jesus rose in spite of the authorities' best opposition.



**Matthew 28:5,6** The angel said to the women, **“Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.”**

After His resurrection Jesus appeared to various persons and groups no less than ten times. Some are recorded in Mark 16: 9-14. On one occasion he appeared to a large gathering of five hundred people. 1 Corinthians 15:6.

**Acts 1:11** **“Men of Galilee,”** they said, **“why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into Heaven \_\_\_\_\_”**



be good. He wants us to come just as we are, then He will transform us as we give our lives to Him.

**John 11:26** And whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

To believe in Jesus and live for Him means life eternal.

**Luke 22:42,44** "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."... And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ falling to the ground.

It wasn't easy for Jesus to lay down His life, but He chose to, for the otherwise lost race, including you and me. His agony was so great He sweated drops of blood. Soon after, a mob came to arrest Jesus. Judas, one of the disciples, betrayed his master with a kiss to reveal the identity of Jesus. The disciples scattered and Peter denied his Lord, but later repented. Jesus was taken before Annas, the Sanhedrin, Pilate, and Herod, then back to Pilate again. His trial was only a mockery, revealing no trace of justice.

**Matthew 27:29-31** And then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. \_\_\_\_\_,  
and took the staff and \_\_\_\_\_  
on the head again and again. After they had \_\_\_\_\_, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.



Jesus was punched, ridiculed, mocked and spoke blasphemously against. He had done no wrong. Even Pilate said, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person". Matthew 27:24. Jesus was led away to be crucified. His hands were nailed to the cross; but they had done no wrong. They were used to heal the sick and reached out to bless those in need. His feet were nailed to the cross, but they had only been used to run errands of mercy for mankind. He was put to death,

and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

While Jesus Christ was on this earth, God indeed dwelt with the human race. He lived as the people lived at that time, but never practised the sin of mankind.

### WHY DID CHRIST COME TO OUR PLANET?

When God first created Adam, He made him in His own image. Genesis 1:26. He was made perfect – he was sinless. However, God made humans with the power of choice. He did not want them to serve Him because they had to, but because they wanted to, motivated by love for their Creator. The first couple failed in the test of obedience, and in partaking of the forbidden fruit rebelled against God and became sinners. Genesis 2:16,17 and Genesis 3:6,9.

**Romans 5:12** Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way \_\_\_\_\_, because all sinned.

Because of Adam's sin, all of his descendants are born with a tendency toward evil. All people by nature are sinners, and the consequence of sin is eternal death.

### RESCUE MISSION

**John 10:10,11** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come \_\_\_\_\_, and have it to the full. "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.



Jesus came to this world to save us from eternal death. He came that we might have the more abundant life – here and for eternity. However, it was a great sacrifice. The mighty God humbled Himself to become a man, and then die in our place. He gave His life for the sheep – us. Without His sacrifice, all would have been left to perish.

**John 3:16,17** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ . For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Eternal life is not automatic. Truly Christ died in our place, but in order to receive the gift of life we need to respond to the convictions of God in our hearts, and believe in Jesus. If we really believe, we will demonstrate our love for Him by obeying His words. Christ died for all, but only those who accept Him will receive life eternal.



### THE LIFE OF CHRIST

**Luke 1:37** For nothing is impossible with God.

Jesus' mother was a virgin. Matthew 1:18-21. Many are not prepared to believe this; yet when we consider the great God who made our planet and all

life, including Adam and Eve, surely it's not too much for Him to create life in Mary's womb. The Originator of life is not dependent upon His own creation to reproduce humans; He is well able to act independently.

**Luke 2:7** . . . and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Jesus was born of humble parents, and born in a humble place. He did not choose to live in the palace of a king and live in luxury; instead, He lived with common people.

**Luke 2:52** And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

From the earliest years He was possessed with one main purpose – to bring blessing to others. He upheld God and served man.

**John 1:29** The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, \_\_\_\_\_!"

John the Baptist had prepared the way for Christ's mission. At the beginning of Christ's ministry, John introduced the Saviour as the Lamb of God. He was to be the supreme sacrifice in place of the lambs that were sacrificed in Old Testament times. This was indeed the purpose of His coming to earth. He was born to die, that His shed blood might cover the sins of all humankind. Without His supreme sacrifice all would be eternally lost.



**John 9:10,11** "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded. He replied, "\_\_\_\_\_"

\_\_\_\_\_ He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.."

Jesus lived among people, caring for their physical and spiritual needs. To a cripple He said, "Take up your bed and walk". Jesus healed all kinds of diseases. The insane became sane, the lepers were cleansed, the blind saw, the deaf heard, the lame jumped for joy and even the dead were raised to life again.

**Matthew 9:12,13** When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come \_\_\_\_\_." (NKJV)

He assured the people that God was prepared to forgive all sin if it was confessed in prayer and forsaken. Jesus Christ hated sin, but loved the sinner. Jesus performed many miracles – He stopped a storm, turned water into wine, fed a multitude with the lunch of one small boy; but the greatest miracle was His ability to save the sinner. He is changing men and women from sinners, to children of God, just as much today as He did when He was living in the world.

**John 14:6** Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Jesus is the way. All we have to do is come to Him. We don't have to