



JESUS

THE UNIQUE ONE

**A study of the life of Jesus the Messiah
– the unique representative of God.**

Who is Jesus?

Who is Jesus? Your answer to this question is very important because it will determine your entire life, even your afterlife. People have a lot of opinions of who Jesus is, but it is important to study the holy writings so you can learn for yourself. We will study 7 parts of Jesus' life, so you can understand for yourself who Jesus really is.

- 1- Birth
- 2- Power Over Satan
- 3- Teaching
- 4- Authority to Forgive Sin
- 5- Power to Honor and Clean
- 6- Death
- 7- Afterlife

Many people think Jesus was only a good person, teacher or prophet of God, but Jesus claimed to be much more than that. Jesus is more because he is so unique and not like any other person, even other prophets. Jesus himself claimed to be a unique representative of God who must be followed by all people.

It is a fact that Jesus is higher than all men. The only question is ... How will you respond to him?

1-JESUS' UNIQUE BIRTH

INTRODUCTION

1. What does it mean to have a good father?
2. Imagine if you got pregnant without ever being with a man? How would you feel? What would others think about you?

LESSON

Read Matthew 1:18-25, then answer the questions

1. Who was Jesus' mother?
2. Who was Jesus' father?
3. Why was Jesus born? Read the following two verses.

"This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Messiah Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost." (1Timothy 1:15)

"The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven." (1Corinthians 15:47-49)

Two men fell into a deep pit. One said to the other, "Save me from the dark place." The other answered, "You idiot! How can I? I am in the same situation as you." Then they heard a voice of a third person from above, "Grab the rope and I will lift you out of the pit."

How is this story a picture of Jesus' birth?¹

What is the difference between rain and dirt?

What does it mean that Jesus is like rain and all other people are like dirt?²

CONCLUSION

How is Jesus' birth unique from all other people, including God's prophets?

What is the meaning and application of Jesus' unique birth for us today?

¹ The men in the pit could not save themselves. Even the best prophets can not save us from the pit of sin because they are born as children of Adam like all normal human beings. But Jesus came from above, without sin or dirt, so he can lift us up.

² Dirt is dirty, defiles other things, from below, and unwanted. Humans are created from dirt and defiling. Rain is pure, cleanses other things, from above, and wanted. Jesus is spotless with no sin, cleanses us, is from heaven, and is a needed savior.

2-JESUS' UNIQUE POWER OVER SATAN

INTRODUCTION

1. What are spiritual places in Osh and Kyrgyzstan where spiritual powers dwell?
2. Have you ever been visited by Basarik?
3. What actions make a person vulnerable to the spirits?
4. What are common practices that people do to have freedom from the spirits?

LESSON

This week we learn about Jesus unique power of Satan and spirits.

Who is Satan?

What did he do in the Garden of Eden?

What is his purpose?

"The thief (Satan) comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I (Jesus) came that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

Read Luke 4:1-13, then answer the questions.

1. What did Satan tempt Jesus with each time?
2. How did Jesus respond?
3. How does Jesus' response contrast with Adam and Eve's response to Satan?

Jesus is unique because he has power to resist Satan, but he also has the power to free people from the power of Satan and evil spirits.

Read Luke 4:31-37, then answer the questions.

1. What happened when the demon encountered Jesus?
2. What kind of relationship did Jesus have with the demon?
3. Why did the bystanders respond the way they did?

CONCLUSION

How is Jesus' power over Satan unique from all other people, including God's prophets?³

What are the meaning and application of Jesus' unique power over Satan for us today?⁴

³ People must do a magical act or say a formula to affect the spirits. Since people do not have their own power, they must use the power of something else. Jesus, in contrast, has power in his own words. He just speaks and the powers obey him.

⁴ For example: What can you do when Basarik visits you? What can you do when you are alone in the dark? What can you do to protect yourself from evil spirits? Should you be afraid of evil spirits?

3-JESUS' UNIQUE TEACHING

INTRODUCTION

1. Who was the best teacher you ever had? Why?
2. Who was the worst teacher you ever had? Why?

LESSON

Read John 14:1-14, then answer the following questions.

1. How does Jesus answer Thomas' question? How does this differ from the message of other prophets?
2. How does Jesus answer Phillip's question? How does this differ from the message of other prophets?

Even Jesus' enemies said, "'No one ever spoke like this man!" (John 7:46).

How are the sun and moon different?

How is Jesus like the sun and all other prophets like the moon?⁵

CONCLUSION

How is Jesus' teaching unique from all other people, including God's prophets?

What are the meaning and application of Jesus' unique teaching for us today?

⁵ The sun stays forever, is only one, and has its own light. The moon comes then goes away, is new each month, and only reflects the sun's light. Jesus is eternal, there is only one Savior like him, and he teaches about himself. Other men and prophets live their life then die, are always different each generation, teach about someone or something else.

4-JESUS' UNIQUE AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS

INTRODUCTION

1. What can a police man legally say or do to the driver?
2. What can a parent say or do to a disobedient child?
3. What is authority? Where does it come from?
4. What people have the authority to forgive sins?

LESSON

This week we will learn about Jesus unique power to forgive sins.

1. What is sin?
2. Why is it important to have our sins forgiven?

Read Mark 2:1-11, then answer the questions

1. If you took your sick friend to the hospital, and the doctor said, "Your sins are forgiven!" what would you think or do?
2. What does Jesus mean in verse 9?
3. How do people react? Why do they react that way?
4. Why is Jesus able to forgive our sins?

"You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin." (1 John 3:5)

CONCLUSION

How is Jesus' authority to forgive unique from all other people, including God's prophets?

What are the meaning and application of Jesus' unique authority to forgive sins for us today?

5-JESUS' UNIQUE POWER TO CLEANSE THE SHAMED

INTRODUCTION

1. What actions bring shame upon a person and family?
2. What actions, people, places, or things make a person socially dirty and unclean?
3. When a person is shamed or defiled, how can they restore their honor and purity?

LESSON

Read Mark 5:1-20

1. Why would society have considered that man dirty, defiled, and shameful?⁶
2. How does Jesus remove his shame, restore his honor, and incorporate him into society again?

Read Mark 5:21-43

1. Who are the two people healed in this story?
2. Why would society have considered them unclean and shameful?
3. How are they healed of their uncleanness and restored to society?

CONCLUSION

How is Jesus' power to cleanse and honor the shamed unique from all other people, including God's prophets?⁷

What are the meaning and application of Jesus' unique power to cleanse and honor the shamed for us today?

⁶ He was naked, demon-possessed, and lived in the tombs.

⁷ All other people are defiled when they touch something dirty. But Jesus is so pure and honorable that when he touches something dirty, he makes it clean. He is the exact opposite of all other human beings in this sense.

6-JESUS' UNIQUE DEATH

INTRODUCTION

1. When, where, and how were you born?
2. When, (from) where, and how did you come here (where you are right now)?
3. When, where, and how will you die?
Why is the last question impossible to answer?⁸

LESSON

Several weeks before his death, Jesus foretells his own death in Matthew 20:17-19.

And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day."

According to his prediction, where, how, and when would Jesus die?

Now read the full account of Jesus' death in Mark 15.

What details of Jesus' prediction were correct and which were incorrect?

Jesus not only knows about his future death, he actually controls it.

For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." (John 10:17-18)

Jesus' foreknowledge was only a small part of Jesus' unique death. What made Jesus' death especially unique was that it had a purpose. Most people simply die, but Jesus died for the sake of something. Jesus even predicted WHY he would die!!

"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

Why did Jesus give his life? From what does Jesus' death "ransom" believers?⁹

CONCLUSION

How is Jesus' death unique from all other people, including God's prophets?

What is the meaning and application of Jesus' unique death for us today?

⁸ Nobody knows the circumstances of their death, not even God's prophets who spoke God's words. People can die whenever, wherever, and however, regardless of their age, wealth, or status. Only God knows how we will die. But Jesus is unique!!

⁹ "Ransom" means that Jesus saved us from something bad. Jesus ransomed us from many things: sin (Col 2:14), the power of spirits and Satan (Col 2:15), shame, selfishness (Phil 2:4-8), and death (5:17).

7- UNIQUE AFTERLIFE (TO HEAVEN AND BACK)

INTRODUCTION

1. If you went to heaven, who and what do you think you would see there?
2. What do you think happens to your body and soul when you die?

LESSON

For all people, death is the end of life until the end of the world. But for Jesus, death was only the beginning. Three days after he died, Jesus resurrected from the dead. Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven where he is now. In the future, Jesus will return to the earth.

To learn about Jesus' unique ascension to heaven, read John 20.

1. What did Jesus do after the resurrection?
2. What is said about faith (vv. 28-31)?

To learn about Jesus' unique return to earth, read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

1. What unique events will accompany Jesus' return?
2. What is Paul's purpose in writing these words?

CONCLUSION

How is Jesus' afterlife unique from all other people, including God's prophets?

What is the meaning and application of Jesus' afterlife for us today?

CONCLUSION: JESUS' UNIQUE CALLING TO YOU

Every part of Jesus' life was unique: his birth was from above, he has complete power over Satan, his teaching is incomparable, he has authority to forgive sins, his touch honors the shame, his death was predicted and purposeful, and he lives today and will return in the future. Jesus is completely unique. He is higher than all men and all the prophets.

Another unique aspect of Jesus is his calling. He often commanded people, "Follow me!" To receive salvation from God you must follow Jesus and believe in him. The following verses explain this fact.

- **"But to all who receive Jesus, who believe in his name, God gives the right to become children of God" John 1:12**
- **"For God so loved the world, that he gave his unique representative Jesus, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16**
- **"Everyone who believes in Jesus will not be put to shame." Romans 10:11**
- **"For by grace you have been saved through faith in Jesus. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9**

It is a fact that Jesus is higher than all men, including the prophets. The only question is ... "How will you respond?"

You can believe in Jesus by praying the following:

"Jesus, I know you are the unique representative from God. You are higher than all people, and only you can give me honor, power, forgiveness, and new life. I am weak, shameful, and sinful. I need you in my life. I believe in you and will follow you with all my life. Take my life into your hands and lead me."

When you believe in Jesus you receive: God's Holy Spirit in you, the power of Jesus over Satan and demons, forgiveness of sins, honor from God, and eternal life in heaven.

PERSONAL NOTES
