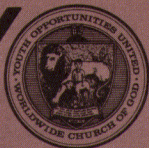


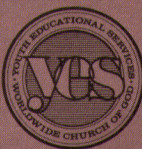
YOUTH



LEVEL 8

BIBLE

LESSONS



LESSON 1



An Introduction to Jesus Christ—Yesterday, Today and Forever

# AN INTRODUCTION TO JESUS CHRIST —YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER

**W**hat is most important to you in your life right now? Is it your friends, your parents or that new outfit you've been wanting? Perhaps the most important thing to you right now is just being able to pass the next exam coming up in math class.

You may ask, "How can all these things relate to a man who lived on the earth nearly 2,000 years ago?" Surprising as it may seem, this same Jesus Christ is alive today and is concerned about the same things as you and I. He wants us to have every good thing. Christ came that we might have life and that we might have it more abundantly! (John 10:10).

Get ready to learn the astonishing facts about Jesus Christ. His earthly life, death and resurrection to awesome power *do* have great impact on the daily lives of each and every one of us.

In this lesson and the following lessons, we will learn who Jesus really was and is. We will find out about His background, His teachings and the mysterious events surrounding His death and resurrection. By the end of this year you will know who Christ is, why He came, what He accomplished and what He will do yet in the future.

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARENTS?

How well do you know your parents? Could you pick them out if they were mingled in with a huge crowd of people? Can you describe their physical appearances in specific terms, such as:

color of hair, eyes and complexion; physical build and size of body frame; length and style of hair; kind of nose or shape of mouth? Without looking at them, on the following lines write a description of each of your parents. \_\_\_\_\_

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Now check to see how accurate your descriptions were by looking closely at your parents. If you really know your parents, you should have been able to quite completely describe their physical appearances.

Of course, knowing someone is more than just recognizing his physical appearance. Knowing someone also involves understanding his personality and character traits—how he lives and what he believes and stands for. You really know someone when you know *all* about him.

Is it important to know your physical parents? Of course it is. God has placed them in your lives to give you the love, teaching, training and physical necessities of life. You go to them to have your physical and emotional needs met, not to strangers. How many times have you gone up to a total stranger and asked him for food or clothes? Probably never. You don't expect a stranger to provide for you, but you do expect

your parents to! And how do you distinguish between your parents and a stranger? You know your parents—their physical appearances, their personalities, their characters!

Have you ever been in a large crowd searching for your parents? In the distance you see the back of a man you are certain is your father. He has the same physical build, same color hair and is wearing the same color clothes. You need another dollar from your father in order to buy lunch, so breathlessly you race to your father and ask him for it. As he turns toward you with a puzzled expression on his face, you suddenly realize he is not your father—much to your embarrassment. You don't expect a stranger to give you money. Indeed, you would probably be quite shocked if he offered you the dollar. But had the man been your father, you would have expected that he provide the dollar for you.

### DO YOU KNOW YOUR GOD?

You know your physical parents, but the next question is, "How well do you know Jesus Christ?" What kind of description could you give of Jesus? Do you know what His personality and character are like? Given a statement attributed



Did Jesus stand out from the crowd?

R. Herzog (FPG)

to Christ, could you tell whether it was something He would have said or not, based on your knowledge of His character and personality?

Just as you need to know your human parents in order to ask for your physical needs, so you need to know God the Father in order to ask the right Person who can and will give you your spiritual needs. Turn to Matthew 7:7-11, and complete the quote by supplying the words from your Bible: "\_\_\_\_\_, and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that \_\_\_\_\_; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his \_\_\_\_\_ bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your \_\_\_\_\_ which is in heaven \_\_\_\_\_ things to them that \_\_\_\_\_ him?"

You come to know the Father by knowing what Christ was like. Turn to John 14:6-11 and supply the missing words in the quote: "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the \_\_\_\_\_, but by \_\_\_\_\_. If ye had \_\_\_\_\_ me, ye should have \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not \_\_\_\_\_ me, Philip? he that hath seen \_\_\_\_\_ hath seen the \_\_\_\_\_; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the \_\_\_\_\_, and the Father in \_\_\_\_\_? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of \_\_\_\_\_: but the Father that dwelleth in me, \_\_\_\_\_ doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the \_\_\_\_\_, and the Father in \_\_\_\_\_: or else believe me for the very works' sake."

Knowing who Jesus Christ was and is, what He did, what He looked like and what He stood for is essential to knowing God the Father. And

knowing the Father is essential to receiving those things you ask Him for. So, let us come to know them both by examining the description of what and who Jesus Christ was and is.

### CHRIST DESCRIBES HIMSELF

The description Jesus Christ has given us of Himself is a written description, just like the one you were asked to give of your parents earlier in this lesson. While Christ has not left us any pictures of Himself, He has given us a written record of what He looked like when He was on this earth. In fact, He also tells us what He looks like today. Both descriptions of Christ are found in the Holy Bible. That is where we must turn to learn what Jesus really looked like in the past and what He looks like today. The true description of Jesus comes from Him, not from the imaginations of painters who did not understand the Bible.

What then is the description that Jesus Christ gives of Himself in His written Word? To find out we must look at all the scriptures bearing on the subject. Doing that will give us an accurate description, which is *as complete as Christ wants us to have*.

Open your Bible to Isaiah and complete this quote from chapter 53, verse 2: "For he [Jesus] shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_; and when we shall see him, there is no \_\_\_\_\_ that we should \_\_\_\_\_ him." "Form" means "figure or appearance." Jesus had no unusual or particularly outstanding physical appearance. Nor did He have "comeliness"—a physical "magnificence or splendor." He was neither handsome nor ugly. There was nothing about Christ's physical appearance that immediately impressed people and caused them to flock to Him. He was not tall, dark and handsome. He did not have bulging biceps like a weightlifter and His eyes did not make women swoon. He was probably what we would call plain looking. Jesus possessed no striking physical traits that made Him instantly recognizable—He had no halo!

On the contrary, Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Christ, had to kiss Him in order to point out the

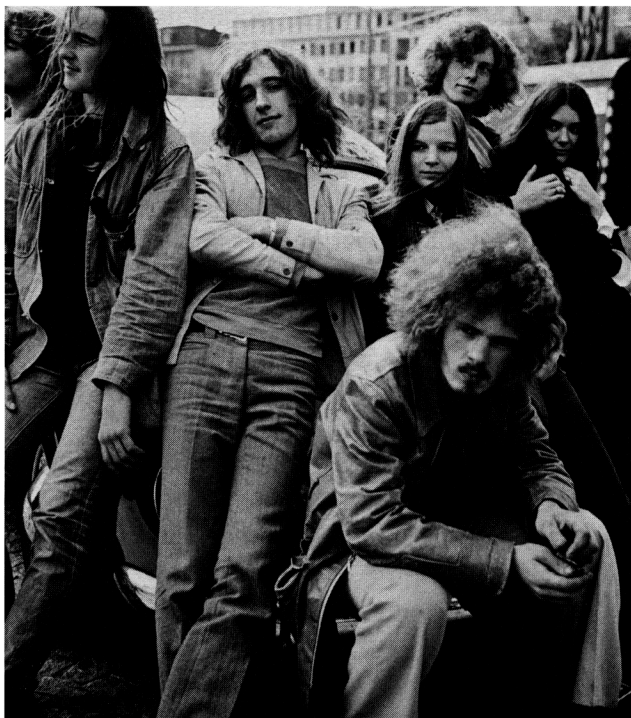
right man to those who arrested Him. Read the account in Matthew 26:47-50: "And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast. And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, Master; and kissed him. And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him." Whom did Judas tell that he would kiss Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Judas said he would kiss Jesus in order to give the mob a sign. "Sign" in the original Greek means also an "indication." A sign or indication points out or shows something.

Notice what else Jesus had to say about the situation when Judas kissed Him. It's recorded in Luke 22:52-53. Complete the quotation: "Then Jesus said unto the chief \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ of the temple, and the \_\_\_\_\_, which were come to him, Be ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and staves? When \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is \_\_\_\_\_ hour, and the power of darkness." Jesus said that those who sought Him had seen Him many times in the Temple. If Christ had had any distinguishable physical trait, surely these men who had seen Him at least once before would not have needed Judas' sign in order to point out Jesus.

### A MANLY HAIR STYLE

Christ inspired the apostle Paul to write in I Corinthians 11:3-15 that it is a shame for a man to have long hair. Pay particular note to verses 4, 7, 14-15: "Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head [*head* here refers to Christ] . . . For a man indeed ought not to cover his head . . . Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given



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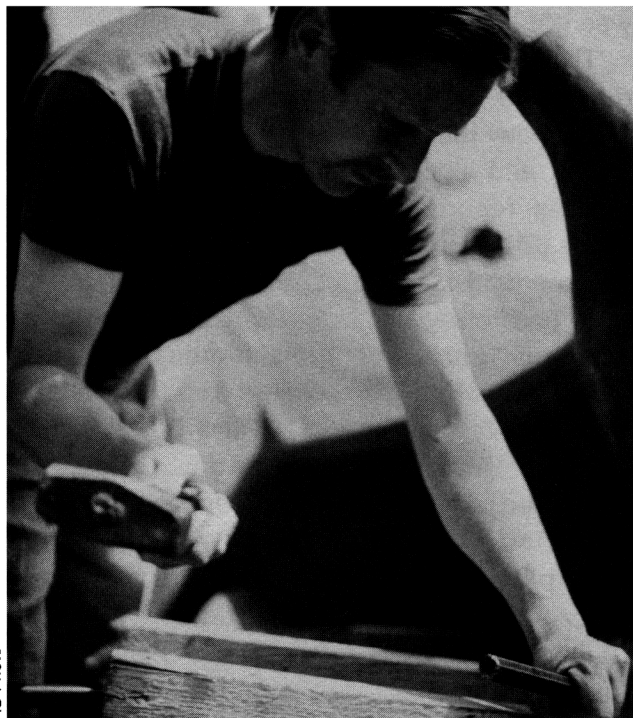
What does the Bible say about long hair?

her for a covering." What is a woman given her for a covering? \_\_\_\_\_. So the covering of the head talked about in this chapter is hair, and more specifically, the length of the hair. What kind of hair is shameful or disgraceful for a man to have? (See verse 14.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ The Greek word for "long hair" means ornamental "tresses of hair." Look up the word *tresses* in a dictionary and write its definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Many supposed pictures of Jesus have Him wearing curly, shoulder-length locks of hair. Are those pictures consistent with what Christ said was appropriate hair length for men to wear? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ From this we know that Jesus did not wear His hair shoulder length, as the world pictures Him. Certainly Christ would not have done something that He Himself said, through Paul, was shameful and dishonored Him. Rather, His hair was probably worn in some short style common among Jewish men of His day. Remember, there was nothing outstanding about Christ's physical appearance. What was outstanding and recognizable about Jesus was His message!



AC Photo

Jesus was a carpenter, a man of strength.

## A MAN OF STRENGTH

Jesus' legal father was Joseph. He was a carpenter by occupation, as Matthew tells us in chapter 13, verse 55: "Is not this the carpenter's son? [referring to Christ] . . ." No doubt Jesus helped Joseph with his work and became a carpenter in His own right, since Mark mentions the people calling Christ "the carpenter" in chapter 6, verse 3. Doing the physical labor of a carpenter throughout His teen-age and young adult years made Jesus a strong, muscular man. His strength was that graceful power that comes from physical work and play and not from vain body building.

John gives us a glimpse of His strength in John 2:13-15. Complete the quotation: "And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he \_\_\_\_\_ them all [the moneychangers and sellers] out of the temple, and the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_; and \_\_\_\_\_ out the changers' money, and \_\_\_\_\_ the

tables.” Certainly, the cleansing of the Temple was not accomplished by a weak man!

The beatings and abuse that Jesus suffered during the time from His arrest until His death also show that He must have been physically strong and vigorous. Notice what was done to Him as recorded by Matthew in chapter 26, verse 67. Fill in the blanks. “Then did they spit in his face, and \_\_\_\_\_ [rapped with the fist] him; and others \_\_\_\_\_ [slapped] him with the palms of their hands.” Matthew describes what the soldiers did to Christ in chapter 27, verses 26, 29 and 30. Finish the quote: “And when he had \_\_\_\_\_ [whipped] Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. . . . And when they had platted [braided] a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, they put it upon his \_\_\_\_\_, and a reed in his right hand . . . And they \_\_\_\_\_ upon him, and took the reed, and \_\_\_\_\_ him on the head.” Of course, Jesus also had the spiritual strength of God, but a weak man would have probably died of the scourging and never made it alive to the stake to be crucified. Again, the world’s concept of Jesus is incorrect.

### A TYPICAL JEW OF HIS DAY

Racially, Jesus was a Jew and a descendant of King David. Luke records Christ’s genealogy through His mother Mary. Read Luke 3:23-38, paying particular attention to verses 31-33: “Which was the son of David, Which was the son of Jesse . . . which was the son of Juda.” As a Jew (one of the family of Judah), He was Caucasian, not Oriental or black, and His skin color could have been anything from olive to white. His facial features would have been those characteristic of Jews. The color of His hair could have been black, brown or red. It is doubtful that His hair color was such that it would have drawn one’s immediate attention. The color of His eyes could have been most any color common to mankind.

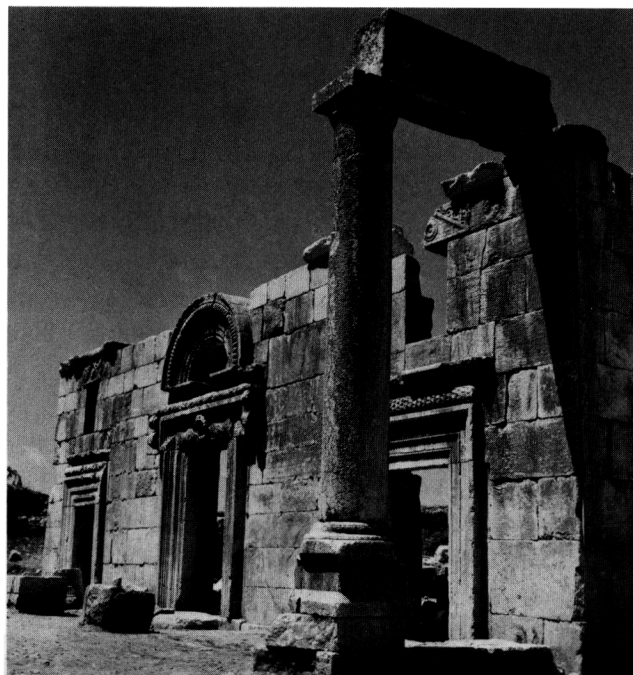
Jesus Christ did not leave us any more specific details about His physical appearance. What He told us is enough to rule out the world’s false ideas of an *effeminate* Christ. At the same

time, His description lacks enough details for us to be able to draw a completely accurate representation of Him. No doubt this was intentional on His part. For it prevents us from making, and consequently worshiping, pictures of Him, which would break the Second Commandment. Christ’s physical appearance is not the most important aspect of His human life, anyway. What He wants us to understand and imitate most are His mental, spiritual and emotional traits of character.

### How Well Do You Remember?

Answer the following questions by circling the best answer.

1. Jesus told His disciples that they would know what God the Father was like by
  - A. asking the Pharisees and priests.
  - B. looking at the pictures men drew of God the Father.
  - C. knowing what Christ said and did.Hint: If you need help, read John 14:6-11.
2. The most *accurate* description of Jesus when He was a human being is found
  - A. in the pictures in your Bible.
  - B. in the words in your Bible.
  - C. in pictures of Him in art museums.



Jesus may have taught in this very synagogue.

3. Which is the best description of what Christ looked like as a human being?
  - A. Plain looking; an average-looking Jew of His day.
  - B. Tall, Dark and handsome.
  - C. Short, pale and ugly.
4. Judas Iscariot kissed Jesus:
  - A. because he had not seen his Friend in a long time.
  - B. to identify the Man the soldiers wanted.
  - C. in order to embarrass Christ.
5. Which physical trait made Jesus Christ instantly recognizable?
  - A. A large scar on His right cheek.
  - B. A halo over His head.
  - C. Shoulder-length bright red hair.
  - D. All of the above.
  - E. None of the above.
6. As a human being, Jesus Christ was
  - A. an Oriental.
  - B. a Jew.
  - C. a Black.
  - D. all of the above.
  - E. none of the above.

### THE CHARACTER OF CHRIST

Let us now look at the character Jesus developed as a human being—at the mental, spiritual and emotional traits that made Him the most balanced Person ever.

Even as a young boy of 12, Jesus was interested in using the mind God had given Him to increase His learning and knowledge—especially the spiritual knowledge contained in the Bible. Jesus listened to and asked questions of the teachers, and that, together with the Holy Spirit, which He had from birth, gave Him such spiritual understanding that even His teachers marveled. Notice what Luke records about this in chapter 2, verses 46 and 47, by completing the quotation: “And it came to pass, that after three days they [His parents, Joseph and Mary] found him [Jesus] in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors [teachers], both \_\_\_\_\_ them, and \_\_\_\_\_ them questions. And all that heard him were \_\_\_\_\_ at his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.” As a result of this attitude toward learning, Luke records in

chapter 2, verse 52: “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.” As Jesus grew mentally and spiritually, His favor with God and man increased. In other words, Jesus’ mental and spiritual knowledge and understanding benefited Him not only in His relationship with God the Father, but also in His relationship with other people.

### CHRIST A LAWKEEPER

Matthew 5:17 shows us that Christ kept the Law of God perfectly. Look up this verse and complete the quote: “Think not that I [Christ] am come to destroy the \_\_\_\_\_, or the \_\_\_\_\_: I am not come to \_\_\_\_\_, but to \_\_\_\_\_.” The “law” and the “prophets” is a reference to the Old Testament scriptures. “Fulfill” means to “fill up, complete, perfect or perform fully.” Read all of Matthew 5 and see how Jesus shows us the Law of God is to be obeyed and lived in its spiritual intent—not just in its literal sense. For example, we keep the Sixth Commandment in its *literal* sense by not murdering someone. But Jesus showed us in Matthew 5:21-22 that we must keep the Sixth Commandment in its *spiritual* intent by not even hating someone, since hatred is the spiritual expression of murder.

What did Christ say was the spiritual intent of the Seventh Commandment against adultery? Write the 28th verse of Matthew 5: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Christ said it was breaking the intent of the Seventh Commandment to look lustfully after a woman. Notice also what He said about swearing and the taking of oaths. This is found in Matthew 5:34. Complete the verse: “But I say unto you, Swear \_\_\_\_\_; neither by heaven; for it is God’s throne.” From these scriptures in Matthew 5 we can be sure that Christ did not have hatred toward any other man, did not look lustfully after women and did not swear.

Additional insight into Jesus’ spiritual character is found in Luke 4:16. Read the scripture.

What did Christ customarily do on the Sabbath day? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .  
The synagogue was where the Jews in Jesus' day assembled on the Sabbath to worship God and receive religious instruction. It was the equivalent of our Sabbath services today. Jesus kept not only the letter of the Law by not working on the Sabbath (see Exodus 20:8-11), but also the spiritual intent by attending Sabbath services—at the synagogue.

### EMOTIONAL BALANCE

Now that we have had a glimpse of the spiritual character of Christ, let us see what He was like emotionally. You would certainly have to admit that Jesus was bold and courageous. Notice Matthew 14:22-25. These verses contain the account of Jesus walking on the stormy sea to His disciples who were in a ship. Not everyone has the faith and courage to start walking on water! The incident shows the great trust Jesus had in God the Father to even make it possible for Him to do this.

Matthew 21:12-13 witnesses to Christ's courage. These verses recount the time when Jesus marched into the Temple and drove out the moneychangers and the animals. The moneychangers and sellers obviously did not like what Christ did to their businesses. Surely Jesus was not ignorant of that fact, and He went into the Temple knowing full well that they would hate Him for what He would do. But Jesus knew what was right, and that was all that mattered to Him. He acted regardless of what the others thought of Him. He did what His Father wanted Him to do! This Temple incident also points up another aspect of Christ's emotional side: He could and would show righteous anger—God's anger in Him! Jesus did not become angry because He was hurt by their words and actions, but because He realized how deeply they were hurting themselves by their actions of disrespect toward God the Father!

Jesus also had great compassion on all people and felt deeply their physical and spiritual suffering. Notice Matthew 9:35-36. Supply the

missing words in the scripture: "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and \_\_\_\_\_ every sickness and every disease among the \_\_\_\_\_. But when he saw the multitudes [of people], he was moved with \_\_\_\_\_ on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd."

Another illustration of Christ's compassion and generosity is given in Matthew 15:32-38, where He miraculously fed more than 4,000 people who had been following Him. Read, in verse 32, what Jesus said to His disciples: "I have \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ because they continue with me now three days, and \_\_\_\_\_: and I will not \_\_\_\_\_

lest they faint in the way."

Sorrow and grief are other emotions that were not unknown to Jesus Christ. In a prophecy about Christ, Isaiah mentioned in chapter 53, verse 3, that "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of \_\_\_\_\_, and acquainted with \_\_\_\_\_ . . . ." "Sorrows" means "anguish" or "pain"—both physical and emotional. "Grief" means "intense emotional suffering" or "acute sorrow." Jesus was very familiar with the intense emotional pain people sometimes suffered. Turn to John 11:17-45 and read the account of Lazarus' death and his resurrection to life by Jesus.

Lazarus was a friend of Jesus, and the brother of Mary and Martha. Jesus knew that God would resurrect Lazarus through Him. He arrived at the home of Mary and Martha after Lazarus had already died. Martha was very disappointed and hurt that Jesus had not hurried to their house after learning of Lazarus' illness, since she knew He could have healed him. Mary's reaction was much the same. Jesus explained that Lazarus would be raised again to life—that Jesus' delay in coming was to fulfill a great purpose. Resurrecting Lazarus would be a great witness to the people and would teach Mary and Martha an important lesson they needed to learn. Now notice in particular verses 33-35 of John 11:

"When Jesus therefore saw her [Mary] weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he [Jesus] \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, and was \_\_\_\_\_. And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_. " Christ sighed with disappointment and wept because He realized how pitiful was the spiritual condition of those present. Jesus did not cry because He felt sorry for Himself for losing a close friend. He cried because He felt sorrow for others.

Jesus Christ had emotions and He expressed them. He became angry, in a right way and for right reasons. He laughed and experienced enjoyment. He also cried, in sorrow and compassion for others. It is important to realize that He did not stifle His emotions, nor did He let them control Him. Rather, He learned how to correctly express His emotions. Emotionally, as in all other aspects of His life, He was active and balanced.

### How Well Do You Remember?

Answer the following questions by circling the best answer.

1. Jesus Christ fulfilled the Law by
  - A. keeping it for us so we don't have to obey the Law today.
  - B. showing mankind how to keep the Law in its spiritual intent as well as in the letter.
  - C. breaking the Law.
2. Which was *not* a character trait of Jesus Christ?
  - A. Courage.
  - B. Compassion.
  - C. Timidity.
  - D. All of the above.
  - E. None of the above.
3. Which emotion did Christ *never* show?
  - A. Revengefulness.
  - B. Anger.
  - C. Sorrow.
  - D. All of the above.
  - E. None of the above.

### CHRIST—GOD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Now that we understand what Jesus Christ



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Jesus was called the "Lamb of God."

was like as a human being, let's look backward and forward in time from His human existence. Who and what was the One who became Jesus Christ? Again Jesus gives us the answer Himself, through the apostle John. Complete the quote from John 1:1-5 and 10-14: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was \_\_\_\_\_. God, and the Word was \_\_\_\_\_. The same was in the beginning with God. \_\_\_\_\_ things were made \_\_\_\_\_; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was \_\_\_\_\_; and the life was the \_\_\_\_\_ of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. . . . He [Christ] was in the world, and the \_\_\_\_\_ was made by \_\_\_\_\_, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born [begotten], not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the \_\_\_\_\_ was made \_\_\_\_\_, and dwelt among \_\_\_\_\_, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

"Word" means "Spokesman"—one who speaks on behalf of another. Before becoming a human being, Jesus Christ was the God Being

who spoke for the One we know as the Father. He was the One who spoke to Adam and Eve, Moses and the patriarchs. The Word was God—one Person of the Godhead (God Family). He was also the One through whom all things were made. That means that the One who later became Jesus Christ was also the One who was the Creator mentioned in Genesis 1. He was the Creator who emptied Himself of His Godhood and became a human being—the “Son of man”—in order to accomplish all that was necessary in order for us also to become members of the God Family.

In addition, Jesus Christ was the One referred to in the Old Testament as “the LORD [Eternal].” Turn to I Corinthians 10:1-4 and finish the scripture: “Moreover, brethren, I [Paul] would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea [Red Sea]; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that \_\_\_\_\_ them: and that \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_.” This clearly shows that the “LORD” who spoke to Moses and led Israel out of Egypt was the One who later became Jesus Christ. He was the same Lord who spoke to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Samuel and Jeremiah.

As the Lord of the Old Testament, Jesus had many names, each of which identified one of His characteristics or named a function He performed. One of His names identified Him as the Healer. Notice Exodus 15:26: “And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the \_\_\_\_\_.” In the Hebrew “Lord that healeth thee” is one name: *Yahveh-Rapheka*.

Another Old Testament name for Jesus is *Yahveh-Mekaddishkem*. It is found in Exodus 31:13 and is translated “the Lord that doth sanctify [set apart] you.”

Jesus was also known as “the Lord of hosts.” (See I Samuel 1:3.) “Hosts” are “masses of people” or “armies.” Christ is the Commander of angelic armies, which will soon return with Him.

Psalm 7:17 speaks of Christ as “the Lord most high,” showing that there is no greater god than the Lord, or Eternal. And Jeremiah records in chapter 23, verse 6, that Jesus shall be called “The Lord our righteousness.”

Another title Christ held in the Old Testament was that of High Priest. Genesis 14:18 speaks of Melchizedek, who was “the priest of the most high God.” In Hebrews 7:1-3 we learn who Melchizedek really was: “For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, \_\_\_\_\_ of the most high \_\_\_\_\_ . . . first being by interpretation \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ . . . without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_; abideth a \_\_\_\_\_ continually.” So Christ was, in addition to His many other offices in the Old Testament, the high priest Melchizedek.

Spokesman, Creator, Healer, the Lord who sanctifies, the Lord of hosts, the Lord our righteousness, High Priest—all of these were different names for the One who became Jesus Christ.

## WHAT IS CHRIST LIKE TODAY?

What is Jesus Christ like today in appearance? The book of Revelation contains a description of Jesus as He appears today in His glorified state. Open your Bible to Revelation chapter 1, verses 13-16, and complete the quote: “And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the \_\_\_\_\_, clothed with a garment down to the \_\_\_\_\_, and girt about the paps [chest] with a golden girdle [belt]. His \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_ like wool, as white as \_\_\_\_\_; and his \_\_\_\_\_ were as a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_; And his \_\_\_\_\_ like unto fine brass, as if they \_\_\_\_\_ in a furnace; and his \_\_\_\_\_ as the sound of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. And he had in his right  
\_\_\_\_\_ seven stars: and out of his  
\_\_\_\_\_ went a sharp two-edged sword:  
and his \_\_\_\_\_ [face] was as  
the \_\_\_\_\_ shineth in his strength.”

Jesus’ face, as the resurrected firstborn Son of God, is brighter to look at than the sun. Notice that Christ still has the form of a man, but He is now composed of spirit—not flesh and blood. He has a head, hair, eyes and feet as we have. His features are just not physical like ours. Jesus explained what being spirit is like to Nicodemus in John 3:8: “The \_\_\_\_\_ bloweth where it listeth [chooses], and thou \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ thereof, but canst not \_\_\_\_\_ whence it \_\_\_\_\_, and whither it \_\_\_\_\_: so is every one that is \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.” He compared being composed of spirit to the wind, which you cannot see, though you can see what it does. We cannot see spirit beings, but we can see what is done by them. Through the apostle Paul, Jesus says that spirit is immortal—that is, it cannot die or cease to exist. (Read I Corinthians 15:51-57.) Jesus is immortal and, therefore, will exist forever. We who become born sons of God will also exist forever.

What names and offices does Jesus Christ have today? Read Hebrews 9:11. What has Christ become once again? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. As our High Priest, Jesus Christ makes it possible for us to come to God the Father in prayer. God says through Isaiah in chapter 59, verse 2: “But your \_\_\_\_\_ have separated between you and your God, and your \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ his face from you, that he will not \_\_\_\_\_.” However, Christ’s death paid the penalty of our sins, so that now God the Father will hear our prayers.

Revelation 19:16 tells us of another title Christ holds: “And he [Christ] hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, \_\_\_\_\_ OF KINGS, AND \_\_\_\_\_ OF LORDS.” Jesus shall soon return to earth to restore God’s government on it forever. He shall then be King over all other kings and Lord over all other lords.

John the Baptist called Jesus “the Lamb of God,” because Christ was to give His life for all of us just as a lamb was sacrificed in ancient Israel for sins. (Read John 1:29.) Christ referred to Himself in John 6:35 as “the bread of life,” meaning His teachings were the spiritual food necessary to sustain our spiritual lives. We must eat (read) and digest (understand) and assimilate (apply) Christ’s teachings in order to grow spiritually.

“The good shepherd” was another name Jesus applied to Himself in John 10:11, because He did, and does, take care of His people as a shepherd does his flock. He provides for our needs both physically and spiritually, and He protects us from those who would do us physical and/or spiritual harm.

Jesus was also called “Emmanuel” (Matthew 1:23), which means “God with us.” He was God who became a man and dwelt among men. The name *Jesus* actually means “Savior,” and “Christ” means “the Anointed One” or “Messiah.” He was specially chosen by the Father to save mankind from the spiritual death penalty.

You have just had a glimpse into the life of Christ—yesterday, today and forever. In the following lessons we will be looking more closely at the wonderful example of balanced living that Jesus Christ set for us. We will learn how Christ lived life fully, yet always within God’s laws, for He is “our lawgiver” (Isaiah 33:22).

### How Well Do You Remember?

Answer the following questions by circling the *best* answer.

1. Which are names for the same Person who became Jesus Christ?
  - A. Spokesman or Word.
  - B. God of Abraham.
  - C. The Lord of hosts.
  - D. All of the above.
  - E. None of the above.
2. Which describes Jesus Christ today?
  - A. Brighter than the sun.
  - B. Composed of spirit.
  - C. Possessing a head, hands, feet, face.
  - D. All of the above.
  - E. None of the above.

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**BIBLE MEMORY:**  
The Twelve Disciples

Peter  
Andrew  
James, the son of Zebedee  
John

Philip  
Bartholomew  
Thomas  
Matthew

James, the son of Alphaeus  
Thaddaeus  
Simon  
Judas

## NAMES AND OFFICES OF CHRIST



WORD SEARCH

God of Abraham  
God of Isaac  
✓ Creator  
Christ  
Eternal  
Lord of lords  
God of Jacob  
Son of Man  
Jesus  
High Priest  
Word  
Spokesman