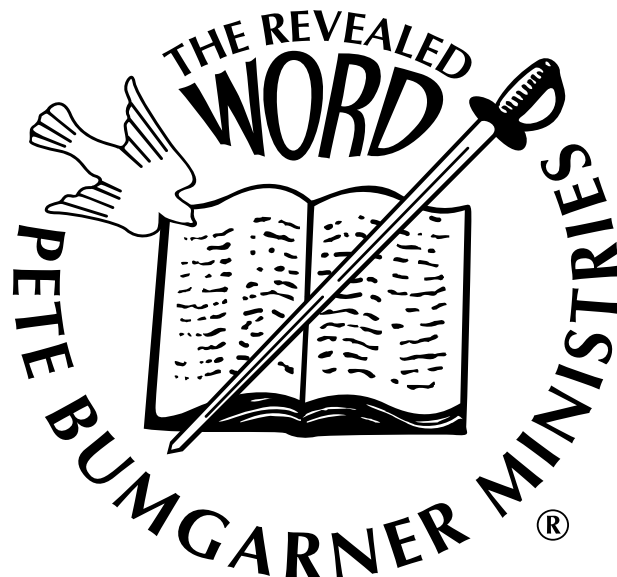


PETE BUMGARNER MINISTRIES

**A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION
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THE LIFE OF JESUS

STUDY GUIDE



THE LIFE OF JESUS

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, a virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a Son; His name will be called Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:6-7

For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. The government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Miraculous Counselor, Powerful God, Everlasting Father, Chief of Peace. There will be no end to this great government and peace. He will sit upon the throne of David and be over His kingdom to establish and support it with right judgment from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of multitudes will make this happen.

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word; the Word was with God; the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him, and apart from Him, not one thing came into existence. In Him was life, and His life was the illumination for men. The light shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. God sent a man; his name was John. He came as a witness so that he could bear witness of the Light, in order that all men might believe because of him. He was not that Light, but was sent to testify of that Light. This Light was the true Light that gives illumination to every man who comes into the world. He was in the world that was made by Him, but the world did not know Him. He came to His own; however, they did not receive Him, but to all those who did receive Him and believe in His name, He gave them the privilege of becoming children of God. These children were not born of blood, or the determination of the flesh; they were created anew by God. This Word became flesh and lived among us. We observed His glory—the glory as the exclusive son of the Father—full of grace and truth.

THEME

The life and ministry of Jesus have a direct effect upon the life and ministry of every believer. It is imperative that we know how Jesus conducted Himself and what He did when He literally lived in earth in a physical body. Studying the life of Jesus should enable us to live a more effective and productive life for Jesus.

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The Word of God teaches us that there are three Who bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit. (I John 5:7)
 - 1. It is important for us to realize that prior to the New Testament Jesus did not exist as we know Him today.
 - 2. The Word has always existed, just as the Father and Holy Spirit have always existed.
 - 3. Jesus came into existence when the Word was made flesh. (John 1:14)
 - 4. Jesus is the Son of God, but God did not reproduce a Son until the virgin Mary gave birth to Jesus. (Luke 1:35)
- B. Jesus was born as the **second** man and the **last** Adam. (I Corinthians 15:45-47)
 - 1. God formed the first man from the dust of the ground. (Genesis 2:7)
 - 2. God spoke to Mary, the young virgin. She received His Word into her body, and the second man was conceived. (Luke 1:34-38; I Corinthians 15:47)
 - 3. Jesus, the last Adam, did not submit to temptation. When tempted by Satan, unlike the first Adam, Jesus referred to the Word of God. (I Corinthians 15:45)

II. THE SUPERNATURAL CONCEPTION OF JESUS (Luke 1:26-38)

- A. The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a young virgin named Mary. (Luke 1:26-27)
- B. Gabriel informed Mary that a special honor was about to be bestowed upon her. (Luke 1:28)
- C. Gabriel told Mary that she would conceive and give birth to a son. (Luke 1:31)
- D. The angel told Mary that she was to name the baby Jesus. (Luke 1:31)
- E. The angel then proclaimed that this Son would be great and that He would be called the Son of the Highest. (Luke 1:32)
- F. Gabriel declared that the Lord God would give unto this child the throne of His ancestor David. (Luke 1:32)
- G. Gabriel also announced that this Son would reign over the house of Jacob and that there would be no end to His kingdom. (Luke 1:33)
- H. Mary asked the angel how she, a virgin, could become pregnant. (Luke 1:34)
- I. Gabriel explained how the conception would take place. (Luke 1:35)
 - 1. Gabriel told Mary that the Holy Spirit would come upon her.
 - 2. He declared that the power of the Highest would overshadow her.
 - 3. Then, he informed her that God would be the Father of this child. (Matthew 1:18)
- J. Upon hearing the angel's explanation, Mary said, "Be it unto me according to the word that you have spoken." (Luke 1:38)
- K. Mary became pregnant with the Word of God.

III. THE BIRTH OF JESUS (Luke 2:1-20)

- A. Joseph took Mary to be his wife after God spoke to him in a dream. (Matthew 1:18-25)
- B. At the time of Mary's pregnancy, Caesar called for some type of census. (Luke 2:1-3)
- C. Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem to fulfill Caesar's command. (Luke 2:3-5)
- D. While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, Mary went into labor and gave birth to Jesus. (Luke 2:6-7)
 - 1. Jesus was laid in a manger because there was no vacancy in the inn. (Luke 2:7)
 - 2. Both God and Mary had their firstborn son. (Luke 2:7; John 3:16; Romans 8:29; Hebrews 1:6; Hebrews 12:23)
- E. The birth of Jesus was announced by the angel of the Lord. (Luke 2:8-14)

IV. THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS

- A. The genealogy of Jesus demonstrates the grace and mercy of God. It reveals how God uses imperfect people to produce a perfect work. (Matthew 1:1-16; Luke 3:23-38)
- B. Incest can be found in the genealogy of Jesus. (Matthew 1:3; Genesis 38:13-30)
- C. One of Jesus' ancestors was a prostitute. (Matthew 1:5)
- D. A Moabitess can also be found in the genealogy of Jesus. (Matthew 1:5; Ruth 4:13-19)
- E. A man guilty of adultery and murder and a woman guilty of adultery were included in the genealogy of Jesus. (Matthew 1:6; II Samuel 11 & II Samuel 12:1-25)
- F. The sins committed in the genealogy of Jesus were not acceptable to God, but they were forgiven by God.
- G. Although the genealogy of Jesus can be identified as dysfunctional, it did not affect His life or ministry.

V. FROM INFANCY TO THE MINISTRY (Luke 2:21-52)

- A. Shepherds came to visit Jesus soon after He was born. (Luke 2:15-18)
- B. Jesus was circumcised the eighth day after His birth, thus fulfilling the Abrahamic Covenant. (Genesis 17:9-14; Luke 2:22-23)
- C. Simeon and Anna prophesied of Jesus as salvation and redemption for the people. (Luke 2:22-38)
- D. Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem in search of the “King of the Jews.” (Matthew 2:1-2)
- E. King Herod directed the wise men to Bethlehem, requesting that they report back to him. (Matthew 2:3-8)
- F. The wise men came to the house where Jesus was and worshipped Him, giving gifts unto Him. (Matthew 2:11)
- G. After the wise men’s visit, the angel of the Lord warned Joseph in a dream of Herod’s plot and told him to take Jesus to Egypt. (Matthew 2:13)
- H. Following the death of Herod, Joseph was told by an angel to return to Israel with his wife and Jesus. (Matthew 2:19-22)
- I. Joseph brought his wife and Jesus to Nazareth. (Matthew 2:21-23)
- J. Jesus grew both physically and spiritually. (Luke 2:40)
- K. Jesus was filled with wisdom, and God’s grace was upon Him. (Luke 2:40)
- L. At twelve years of age, Jesus confounded the religious leaders as He conversed with them in the temple. (Luke 2:42-47)
- M. Jesus submitted Himself to His earthly parents, Joseph and Mary. (Luke 2:51)
- N. Jesus grew in wisdom and stature. He gained favor, both with God and man. (Luke 2:52)

VI. THE BAPTISM OF JESUS (Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22)

- A. Jesus was approximately thirty years old when He was baptized by John. (Luke 3:21-23)
- B. John was reluctant to baptize Jesus, but Jesus persuaded him to do so. (Matthew 3:13-15)
- C. The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus when He was baptized in water. (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:9-10; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32-34)
- D. When Jesus was baptized in water, God spoke and identified Jesus as, “My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:16-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22)

VII. THE TEMPTATIONS OF JESUS (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13)

- A. Immediately after Jesus was baptized in water, the Spirit of God led Him into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (Matthew 4:1-2; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-2)
- B. Satan tempted Jesus in the same three ways he tempted Eve. (Genesis 3:6; I John 2:16)
 - 1. Satan tempted Jesus with the “lust of the flesh” by asking Him to turn stones into bread to satisfy His hunger. (Matthew 4:3; Luke 4:3)
 - 2. Satan tempted Jesus with the “lust of the eyes” by showing Him all the kingdoms of the world and offering Jesus power over all these kingdoms. (Matthew 4:8-9; Luke 4:5-7)
 - 3. Satan tempted Jesus with the “pride of life” by asking Him to jump from the pinnacle (highest part) of the temple, thereby proving His deity. (Matthew 4:5-6; Luke 4:9-11)
- C. Each time Jesus countered Satan by referring to the Word of God. (Matthew 4:4,7,& 10; Luke 4:4,8, & 12)
- D. Being unsuccessful with his temptations, Satan left Jesus for a season. (Matthew 4:11; Luke 4:13)

VIII. THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

- A. After His temptations, Jesus went to Galilee and began preaching about the Kingdom of God. (Mark 1:14; Luke 4:14)
- B. Jesus chose twelve disciples, whom He called apostles, to assist Him in ministry. (Matthew 10:1-4; Luke 6:12-16)
- C. Jesus did not begin His ministry until God had anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and power. (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32-33; Acts 10:38)
- D. Jesus performed His first recorded miracle in Cana of Galilee. (John 2:1-11)
- E. Jesus was first rejected in His hometown, Nazareth. (Luke 4:16-30)
- F. Jesus proclaimed and explained the Kingdom of God. (Matthew 4:23; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 4:43; Luke 9:11; Acts 1:3)
- G. Often, Jesus used physical illustrations to teach spiritual truths. We call these illustrations “parables.”
- H. Jesus healed many people.
- I. Jesus performed many miracles.
- J. Jesus raised some from the dead.
- K. The power and wisdom of Jesus’ ministry was unprecedented.
- L. Multitudes came to hear and see Jesus.
- M. The religious leaders became so jealous of Jesus’ ministry that they began to plot His death.
- N. Jesus kept His focus and fulfilled His ministry. (John 17:4)

IX. THE BETRAYAL OF JESUS (Matthew 26:14-16, 47-50; Mark 14:43-46; Luke 22:2-6; John 18:1-5)

- A. Jesus knew when He chose the twelve apostles that one of them would betray Him. (John 6:64)
- B. Judas Iscariot plotted with the religious leaders and agreed to turn Jesus over to them for thirty pieces of silver. (Matthew 26:14-16)
- C. Judas knew where Jesus and the disciples often gathered together. He chose this special place to betray Jesus. (John 18:1-2)
- D. Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss. (Luke 22:47-48)
- E. The betrayal of Jesus had such impact upon Judas that he committed suicide. (Matthew 27:3-5; Acts 1:16-18)
 - 1. Judas never spent the money he received for betraying Jesus. (Matthew 27:3-5)
 - 2. The money which Judas returned was used to buy a field in which to bury strangers. (Zechariah 11:12-13; Matthew 27:6-8; Acts 1:18)

X. THE TRIAL OF JESUS (Matthew 26:57-27:31; Mark 14:53-15:20; Luke 22:54-23:24; John 18:12-19:16)

- A. Jesus was brought before Annas, Caiaphas, and the religious council. (Matthew 26:57; Luke 22:66; John 18:12-13, & 24)
 - 1. Those who should have known the Messiah denied and rejected the Messiah.
 - 2. Caiaphas, the high priest, had prophesied that Jesus should die for the people, but he was so insensitive to the Spirit that he did not realize that God had spoken through him. (John 11:49-53)
 - 3. At the Jewish trial, Jesus was mocked and physically abused. (Isaiah 52:14)
 - a. His abusers spit in His face. (Isaiah 50:6; Matthew 26:67; Matthew 27:30; Mark 14:65; Mark 15:19)

- b. They beat and slapped Him. (Matthew 26:67; Mark 14:65; Luke 22:63-64; John 18:22; John 19:3)
 - c. His beard was plucked. (Isaiah 50:6)
 - d. Pilate had Him beaten with a whip. (Matthew 27:26; Mark 15:15; Luke 23:16; John 19:1)
 - e. A crown of thorns was placed upon His head. (Matthew 27:29; Mark 15:17; John 19:2)
 - f. He was struck across the head with a reed. (Matthew 27:30; Mark 15:19)
 - g. After His scourging, He was made to carry His cross. (John 19:17)
 - h. He was crucified. (Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:33; John 19:16)
4. The Jews were not authorized to kill Jesus, so they brought Him to Pilate and demanded that He be crucified. (Matthew 27:22-26; Mark 15:12-15; Luke 23:13-25; John 18:31; John 19:1-16)

B. Jesus was tried, both by Pilate and Herod.

- 1. Neither Pilate nor Herod found any fault with Jesus. (Luke 23:13-15)
- 2. Although Pilate could not find any fault with Jesus, he let the pressure of the guilty force him into killing the innocent.
- 3. In an attempt to clear his conscience, Pilate washed his hands before the people and declared that he was innocent of the blood of this just person. (Matthew 27:24)
- 4. Pilate rejected the warning of his wife and consented to the death of Jesus. (Matthew 27:19)

- C. Although the trial and abuse were unprovoked by Jesus, the scriptures were fulfilled, and believers now enjoy the benefits that resulted from the stripes and wounds which Jesus received at this time. (Isaiah 53:4-5)
- D. The trial of Jesus consummated the examination of the Passover lamb. (Exodus 12:3-6)

XI. THE DEATH OF JESUS (Matthew 27:33-51; Mark 15:22-39; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:16-37)

- A. Jesus is the “Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” (John 17:24; Ephesians 1:3-4; I Peter 1:17-21; Revelation 13:8)
 - 1. Before Jesus was born, His death and method of execution had already been determined by God.
 - 2. Every occurrence preceding and during the death of Jesus was foreordained.
 - 3. After every prophecy concerning the Messiah’s natural (although supernatural) life was fulfilled, He died.
 - 4. The crucifixion and death of Jesus were a forethought of God, not an afterthought of men.
- B. Jesus was beaten with a whip before He was crucified. (Isaiah 50:6; Isaiah 53:4-5; I Peter 2:24; Matthew 27:26; Mark 15:15; John 19:1)
- C. A crown of thorns was placed upon His head as a mockery. (Matthew 27:29; Mark 15:17)
- D. Jesus carried the cross on which He was crucified. (John 19:16-17)
- E. Jesus was led to Golgotha, where He was crucified. (Matthew 27:33-35; Mark 15:22-24; John 19:17)
 - 1. Golgotha is a word of Aramaic origin that means “the skull.” It is a knoll near the city of Jerusalem. (John 19:17)
 - 2. Golgotha was also referred to as “Calvary.” Calvary was translated from the Greek word *kranion*,; which means a skull. (Luke 23:33)

- F. Jesus was nailed to a cross and hung there between two thieves until His death. (Deuteronomy 21:22-23; Galatians 3:13)
- G. Jesus died a slow, painful death.
- H. Jesus ministered to others, even while He was dying.
 - 1. Jesus asked God to forgive those who had crucified Him. (Luke 23:34)
 - 2. Jesus saved one of the thieves who was crucified with Him. (Luke 23:39-43)
 - 3. Jesus made arrangements for the care of His mother, Mary. (John 19:26-27)
- I. For the first time in Jesus' life, He felt forsaken by the Father. (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34)
- J. Jesus spoke from the cross seven times before He died.
 - 1. "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Leviticus 4:27-29; Leviticus 16:20-22; Psalms 22:1; Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34)
 - a. Jesus fulfilled both goats of Atonement, the Lord's goat and the scapegoat.
 - (1) The Lord's goat of Atonement was fulfilled when Jesus died on the cross.
 - (2) The scapegoat was fulfilled when Jesus descended into the lower parts of the earth, thereby removing sin. (Psalm 88; Isaiah 59:2; Matthew 12:40; Acts 13:29-37; Acts 26:22-23; Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:7-10; Colossians 1:18; Revelation 1:5; I Peter 3:18; Revelation 1:18)
 - b. The physical body of Jesus fulfilled the Lord's goat. It dealt with the sin acts. (Romans 5:6-12)
 - c. The spirit-man of Jesus fulfilled the scapegoat. It dealt with the sin nature. (Psalm 16:8-11; Acts 2:25-32; Acts 13:33; I Peter 3:18-22; Revelation 1:5)

- d. Jesus became a curse for us so that the curse of the law could be removed from us. (Deuteronomy 21:22-23; Galatians 3:13)
 - (1) The curse of the law can be found in Deuteronomy 28:15-68.
 - (2) The curse of the law must not be confused with the curse found in the third chapter of Genesis.
- e. The key to being free from the curse of the law is found in Galatians 5:18 and Colossians 2:14.
 - (1) The curse has been removed through Jesus, but we must walk in the spirit.
 - (2) The curse was directed toward the physical man.
 - (3) Physical laws do not apply to spirit beings.
 - (4) Those who follow the law will be governed by the law; those who follow the spirit will be governed by grace, not law.
- 2. "Father, forgive them because they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)
- 3. "I am telling you the truth, today you will be with Me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)
- 4. "Woman, behold your son! Behold your mother!" (John 19:26-27)
- 5. "I am thirsty." (Psalm 22:15; John 19:28)
- 6. "It is finished." (John 19:30; Colossians 2:13-15)
 - a. This statement is not referring to redemption; at this time, redemption had not yet been consummated.
 - b. This statement refers to the fulfillment of the law by a physical man. Jesus lived His entire physical life without breaking the law.

- c. When Jesus said "It is finished," He had accomplished everything that God had ordained for the physical body that had been prepared for Him.
 - d. Jesus fulfilled the law in the body that was nailed to the cross, thereby removing the rules and regulations that were in opposition to us. (Colossians 2:13-14)
 - e. Everyone who becomes one with Jesus fulfills the law through Him.
7. "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." (Luke 23:46; John 10:17-18)
- K. To be certain of His death, a Roman soldier stuck a spear into the side of Jesus, yet no bones were broken. (Exodus 12:46; Psalm 22:14; Zechariah 12:10; John 19:31-37)
- L. Jesus' life was not taken from Him; He willingly gave His life. (John 10:17-18)
- M. An earthquake occurred when Jesus died. (Matthew 27:54)
- N. When Jesus died, the veil of the temple was torn from the top to the bottom. (Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:37-38)
- 1. The veil separated man from the presence of God.
 - 2. Jesus is the veil through which we enter into the presence of God. (Hebrew 10:19-20)

XII. THE BURIAL OF JESUS (Matthew 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42)

- A. Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. (Matthew 27:57-60; Mark 15:43; Luke 23:50-52; John 19:38)
- B. Joseph and Nicodemus took Jesus' body from the cross and wrapped it in strips of linen cloth and spread spices over them. (John 19:39-40)
- C. Joseph carried the body of Jesus and laid it in a tomb which he had made for himself. (Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:60; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:41-42)

- D. After preparing the body of Jesus, Joseph rolled a great stone over the opening of the tomb. (Matthew 27:60; Mark 15:46)
- E. Certain women observed where the body of Jesus had been laid, intending to come back after the Sabbath and further preserve the body. (Matthew 27:61; Mark 15:47; Luke 23:55-56)
- F. The chief priests and Pharisees went to Pilate and requested that the tomb be guarded. (Matthew 27:62-66)
 - 1. These religious people remembered that Jesus had declared He would rise again in three days. (Matthew 12:40; John 2:19-22)
 - 2. Pilate granted their request, the tomb was sealed, and a watch was set to guard the tomb.

XIII. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS (Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-14; Luke 24:1-48; John 20:1-31)

- A. Neither the soldiers or the religious leaders could stop the resurrection of Jesus.
- B. Not only did Jesus come forth from the grave, but others also were resurrected. (Matthew 27:52-53)
 - 1. Hymenaeus and Philetus taught that the resurrection had already taken place. (II Timothy 2:16-18)
 - 2. They may have mistaken the resurrection of the saints who came forth at Jesus' resurrection as the final resurrection.
- C. According to Matthew 28:2, a great earthquake occurred when the angel of the Lord came down from heaven and rolled the stone from the tomb opening.
- D. The guards shook with fear when they saw the angel, and they became as dead men (slain in the spirit). (Matthew 28:2-4)
- E. The women who had come very early in the morning were surprised to see the stone rolled away from the opening of the tomb. (Mark 16:1-4; Luke 24:1-2; John 20:1)

- F. Mary Magdalene thought someone had stolen the body of Jesus, so she ran to tell Peter. (John 20:1-2)
1. It appears that other women were with Mary Magdalene when she first visited the tomb. (Matthew 28:5-8; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-4)
 2. The angels asked the women why they were seeking the living among the dead. (Luke 24:5)
- G. Both Peter and John ran to the sepulchre. John outran Peter, but he did not enter the tomb until Peter came and entered. (John 20:3-8)
- H. Peter and John returned home, but Mary Magdalene stayed at the tomb. (John 20:10-11)
1. When Mary looked inside the sepulchre, she saw two angels in white; one was sitting at the head, and the other was sitting at the feet where Jesus had lain. (John 20:11-12)
 2. The angels asked Mary why she was crying. She replied by saying, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have put him." (John 20:13)
 3. After Mary had spoken to the angels, she turned around and saw someone whom she thought to be the gardener. (John 20:15)
 4. He said to Mary, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" (John 20:15)
 5. Mary replied by saying, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you put Him, and I will take Him away." (John 20:15)
 6. Then, Jesus called Mary by her name, and she recognized Him. (John 20:16)
 7. Jesus told Mary not to detain Him because He had not yet ascended to His Father. Then, He told her, "Go to My brethren, and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father; to My God and your God.'" (John 20:17; Hebrews 9:12)

8. Mary did what Jesus told her to do. (John 20:18)
- I. Other women saw Jesus also, but according to Mark 16:9, Mary Magdalene was the first to see Jesus after His resurrection. (Matthew 28:9-10)
- J. The guards who had been placed by the tomb were bribed into saying that the disciples of Jesus stole His body while they were sleeping. (Matthew 28:11-15)
- K. Jesus appeared to two disciples as they were walking to the village of Emmaus, but they did not recognize Him until He broke bread with them. (Luke 24:13-31)
- L. Afterward, Jesus appeared to the apostles. (Mark 16:14)
1. Jesus rebuked the apostles because of their unbelief. (Mark 16:14)
 2. When Jesus first appeared to the apostles, they were terrified. (Luke 24:36-37)
 3. Jesus showed the apostles His hands and feet. (Luke 24:39)
 4. Jesus invited them to touch Him. Then, He ate fish and some honeycomb in their presence to prove that He was not a ghost. (Luke 24:41-43)
- M. Thomas was absent when Jesus first appeared to the apostles, and he refused to believe that Jesus was alive. (John 20:24-25)
- N. Eight days later, Jesus again appeared to the apostles. He told Thomas to put his finger into His hand and to put his hand into His side and believe. (John 20:26-29)
- O. Jesus breathed upon the apostles and told them to receive the Holy Spirit. (John 20:21-23)
- P. Jesus told the disciples to go to Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit. (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5)
- Q. After His resurrection, Jesus talked to His disciples about things pertaining to the Kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3)

- R. There were many people who were eyewitnesses of the resurrection of Jesus.
- S. According to I Corinthians 15:6, Jesus was seen by more than five hundred brethren at one time after His resurrection.
- T. Before He ascended back into heaven, Jesus gave a commission to His apostles. (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-18)
- U. The following scriptures tell of the appearances of Jesus after His resurrection: Matthew 28:9-10; Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:9-20; Luke 24:13-51; John 20:11-29; John 21:1-25; Acts 1:3-9; I Corinthians 15:3-7.

XIV. THE ASCENSION OF JESUS (Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-11)

- A. Jesus ascended back into heaven from Mount Olivet. (Acts 1:12)
- B. The last thing Jesus did before His ascension was to bless those who were with Him. (Luke 24:50-51)
- C. Those who had assembled with Jesus saw Him ascend into heaven and a cloud receive Him. (Acts 1:9)
- D. While those assembled were still looking toward heaven, two men stood by them in white apparel and announced the return of Jesus. (Zechariah 14:1-4; Acts 1:10-11)
- E. After Jesus' ascension, the disciples worshipped and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. They were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. (Luke 24:52-53)

XV. THE MINISTRY OF JESUS TODAY

- A. Jesus has ascended into heaven, and He is seated at the right hand of the Father. (Mark 16:19)
- B. Jesus is the Head of the Church, which is His Body. (Ephesians 1:22-23; Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:18)
 - 1. The Head thinks for the Body.

2. The Body acts for the Head.
3. We must listen to the Head and carry out His desires.

C. Jesus is our Intercessor. (Hebrews 7:25)

1. This truth does not mean that Jesus begs the Father for us; the Father and Son are in agreement.
2. Jesus intercedes by His blood and His Body.
 - a. Jesus' blood has been applied to the mercy seat in heaven. (Hebrews 9:11-12; Hebrews 12:24)
 - b. The Church is the Body of Jesus. Much intercession is made by the Church. (Acts 12:5; Romans 8:26-27)

D. Jesus began His earthly ministry in a body prepared for Him by God. He is continuing His ministry through the Church, which is His Body in earth. (Mark 16:20; Acts 1:1; Hebrews 10:5)

E. Jesus is alive, and He continues to do the will of the Father through His Body.

XVI. SUMMARY

- A. The Word of God has always existed, but prior to the New Testament the person Jesus did not exist.
- B. The Three Who bear record in heaven are the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit. (I John 5:7)
- C. The Word became flesh, and God named Him Jesus.
- D. Jesus was supernaturally conceived when the virgin Mary cooperated with the Word of God.
- E. Jesus is the second man and the last Adam, thus signifying a new race of people.
- F. The first Adam was formed from the dust of the earth. The last Adam was Fathered by God.

- G. From infancy to ministry, very little is mentioned about Jesus.
 - 1. We do know that Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.
 - 2. We know also that Jesus submitted Himself to His earthly parents.
- H. Jesus was water baptized by John. At the time of His baptism, the Spirit of God descended from heaven and remained upon Him until His death.
- I. Jesus was tempted in all points, just as we are, but He never sinned. (Hebrews 4:15)
- J. Adam failed through disobedience. Jesus overcame through obedience. (Romans 5:19)
- K. The earthly ministry of Jesus was powerful in word and deed.
- L. Jesus was betrayed by one whom He had chosen to take part in His great ministry.
- M. The trial of Jesus was a mockery, but it produced great benefits for us. (Isaiah 53:4-5)
- N. Jesus was greatly abused and then died the most horrible of all deaths, crucifixion.
- O. Jesus was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea.
- P. After three days, Jesus came forth from the tomb and revealed Himself to many people.
- Q. Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven and sat down at the right hand of the Father.
- R. Today, Jesus continues His ministry through the Church, which is His Body.

XVII. CONCLUSION

- A. Because a **man** fell through disobedience, only a **man** could redeem through obedience. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. (I John 3:8)
- B. Jesus became the Redeemer of mankind.
- C. By “law,” the redeemer had to be related to the one needing redemption; the related party had to be willing to redeem; and the willing party had to have the means to redeem. Jesus met all three requirements.
- D. Jesus, in His earthly ministry, demonstrated the type ministry He wanted to continue through the Church, which is His Body.
- E. The death of Jesus was temporary. Jesus is alive and continues to do the will of the Father through His Body, the Church.
- F. The present day ministry of Jesus is a continuation and duplication of His earthly ministry.
- G. We are ambassadors for Jesus; therefore, we **must** preach and teach “**the words of this life.**” (Acts 5:20)
- H. We must declare the life of Jesus through proclamation, explanation, and demonstration.
- I. In Him is **life**, and **His life** is the illumination of men.
- J. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. (John 14:6)