LIFE OF CHRIST 1

Tracing Messianic Lineage in the Old Testament
Prophesies about Christ in the Old Testament

Old Testament	Fulfillment in New Testament
1. Seed of a woman – Genesis 3:15, first prophecy	Luke 2:7; Galatians 4:4
2. Seed of Abraham – Genesis 17:6-8; 18:18	Galatians 3:16-18
3. Promised Seed of Isaac – Genesis 17:19	Matthew 1:1
4. Promised Seed of Jacob – Numbers 24:17	Matthew 1:2
5. Descend from the Tribe of Judah – Genesis 49:10	Matthew 1:2
6. Heir to the Throne of David – 1Chronicles 17:7-14, Isaiah 9:7; 11:1	Luke 1:32
7. Place of the Birth – Micah 5:2	Matthew 1:2
8. The Time of Birth – Daniel 9:25	Luke 2:1-7
9. Born of a Virgin – Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:18

Every Human being share one vital thing – every person's life here on earth and eternity depends on our personal relationship with God.

STATISTICS ON THE LIFE OF CHRIST

A. Heavenly Father – the first person of the trinity, *Luke 2:49*
B. His mother – Mary, *Luke 2:7*
C. His half-brothers – James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas, *Matthew 13:55*
D. His half-sisters – unnamed, addition *Matthew 13:56*
E. His famous ancestors – Abraham and David, *Matthew 1:1*
F. First mention – seed of woman, *Genesis 3:15*
G. Final mention – the Lord Jesus Christ*, Revelation 22:21*
H. Meaning of His name – Jesus means *"Saviour"*, Christ means *"the anointed one"*
I. Frequency of this name – these three key names and titles: a. Jesus b. Christ c. Lord
   - Appear 2,000 times in NT
   - In addition, there are hundreds of other names and titles throughout the Bible as second Adam, *1 Corinthians 15:14;* Advocate, *1 John 2:1;* Head of Church, *Colossians 1:18;* Emmanuel, *Matthew 1:23* and many more
J. Biblical books mentioning Him - He is referred to every one of the 66 books of the Bible, as seed of woman, *Genesis 3:15,* the wisdom of God, the one above the Sun, *Ecclesiastes,* etc.

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT HIS LIFE

– He was the Son of God who became the sinless son of man, that sinful man might become the sons of God

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OLD AND THE NEW TESTAMENT

Old Testament (OT)	**New Testament (NT)**
1. In OT, we have interpretation of the human need *Example: Adam, Abel, Noah, Abraham*	In NT, we have revelations of divine supply
2. In OT, we have unveiling of the human heart	In NT, we have unveilings of God's heart
3. In OT, we have questions	In NT, we have answers
4. In OT, we discover four things, as we read	

a. It's a book of unexplained ceremonies b. It's a book of unachieved purposes as Abraham was called out c. It's a book of unsatisfied longings d. It's a book of unfulfilled prophecies	
5. In OT we have a message – He is coming	In NT, we have a message He is here
6. In OT, we have Christ of prophesy	In NT, we have Christ of history
7. In OT and NT – explain and interpret each other, as Exodus 12:12-13 is explained and interpreted of 1Corinthians 5:7	
8. In OT, we have preparation of the Redeemer	In NT, we have provision of Redeemer
9. In OT is to the NT – what a foundation is to a building and what roots are to a tree	
10. In OT is to the NT – concealed	In OT is to NT – revealed

THE GENEALOGY OF CHRIST

Genealogy means an account of the descent of a person family or group from an ancestor or from older form

THE PURPOSE OF THE GENEALOGY OF CHRIST

It is God's way of establishing the LEGAL and HUMAN right and Privileges of His Son to the Throne of David, 2 Samuel 7:16, Luke 1:32, Isaiah 9:6-7

THE TWO GENEALOGISTS OF CHRIST

A. Matthew's Genealogy – it features, Matthew 1:1-16

a. Presented in the gospel as a King
b. That Christ is the rightful heir to the throne, *Matthew 1:1-17*
c. Also known as the Legal Genealogy
d. Starts with the first Adam and ends with the last Adam, *v.16*
e. The ancestry of Joseph, the husband of Mary, whom Christ was born, *v.16*
f. From Adam to David, to Solomon
g. Whom was born Jesus – which refer to His virgin birth
h. It contains 42 generations in three groups of 14 each
   1. 1st group – begins with the Abraham and ends with David, *1:2-6*
   2. 2nd group – begins with Solomon and ends with Jechonias, also known as Jehoachin or Coniah (all three names same person) *Matthew1:7-11; 1 Chronicles 3, 11; 2 Chronicles 36*
   3. 3rd group – begins with Salatiel and ends with Christ, *Matthew 1:12-16*

FOUR WOMEN WHO WERE INCLUDED IN MATTHEW'S GENEALOGY, TWO OF THEM WERE HARLOTS, ALL WERE GENTILES

1. TAMAR

— Mother of illegitimate sons, Pharez and Zerah, through Judah
— An Amorite, refer to Matthew 1:3; Genesis 38
— LESSON:
   a. Her desire to obey the law
   b. That God chooses whomever He desires to carry out His will.

2. RAHAB

— A Caananite, book of Joshua
— A converted harlot
— Mother of Boaz
— LESSON:

A lesson of faith refers to Matthew 1:5, Book of Joshua

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

3. RUTH

— A Moabite, book of Ruth
— A godly foreigner who married Boaz
— LESSON:
A lesson in righteousness, character and influence
Refer to Matthew 1:5

4. BATHSHEBA

— She committed adultery but became the legitimate wife of David
— Mother or Solomon and Nathan
— LESSON:
A lesson of grace
Refer to Matthew 1:6; 2 Samuel 11; 1 Chronicles 3:5

B. Luke's Genealogy – it features, Luke 3:23-38

a. Presented in the gospel as a Perfect Man
b. Known as the Natural or Real genealogy of Christ
c. Proof of His human right to rule upon the throne of David
d. To establish His right to represent all men
e. His ancestry through Mary

B. Jewish Sources

1. Philo
- A great Jewish philosopher of Alexandria
- A contemporary of Christ

2. Josephus, AD 37-100
- Famous Jewish historians, during the rise of Christian Church

C. Christian Source

- The New Testament, the four Gospels

1. The gospel of Matthew – to the Jews
2. The gospel of Mark – to the Romans
3. The gospel of Luke – to the Greeks
4. The gospel of John – to the world

Refer to last page for more

A. GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

1. Date written: 60 AD
2. Place written: Jerusalem
3. To whom it was written: Jews
4. Christ presented or portrayed: as a king
5. Purpose: to fulfill, Matthew 5:17
6. Matthew means: gift of God
7. A converted publican: a Roman tax collector
8. Also called Levi, the son of Alpheus, Mark 2:14
9. The book of Matthew bridges the gap between the Old and New Testament
10. The book of Malachi promised the messenger of the covenant and their forerunner and the gospel of Matthew presented the Lord Jesus Christ ND His forerunner, John the Baptist, Malachi 3:1

EVENTS FROM MALACHI TO MATTHEW

A. Political History

1. The gap from Malachi to Matthew in 400 years.
2. At the close of the O.T., the Persian Empire were still in control.
3. The Israelites were in two division

a. Most of them were dispersed or scattered throughout the Persian Empire.
b. The rest, coming from the captivity of Babylon, returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.
4. In 334 BC Graeco – Macedonian Empire come into power under Alexander the Great and the Jews were treated favorably.
a. Greek language was introduced, then the New Testament was written in Greek.
b. But when the empire collapsed, Daniel 8:21-22, 11:4, it was divided among "4" of his generals.
5. Cassander, ruling the Macedonia
6. Lysimachus, ruling Thrace and Asia Minor
7. Ptolomy I, ruling the Egypt
8. Seleucus, ruling Syria and the remainder of the near east.
9. Then, Israel were invaded Syria and later on conquered by Egypt.
10. In 198 BC, Jerusalem was conquered by Antiochus III the great, and was annexed to Syria.
11. In 171 BC, his successor Antiochus IV Epiphanes, the little horn in Daniel 8:9 make interferences with the temple and priesthood, profaned the temple and plundered Jerusalem.
12. He offered sow (pig) in the temple and erected the altar of Jupiter.
    a. The acts of Antiochus provoked the revolt of Maccabus under Mattathias, a priest of great sanctify and character with a pledge to free the nation and restore the worship.
    b. Then succeeded by his son, Judas, known as Maccabus, assisted by 4 brothers, whom sinner is but known

In 165 BC, Judas regained possession of Jerusalem, purified and rededicated the temple.

But he was slain in battle and was succeeded by his brother Jonathan and they made treaty with Rome.

Some years later, a civil war was broke up in Jerusalem and ended in 63 BC by the conquest of Rome under Pompey.

In 47 BC, Antipater an idumean was made procurator of Judah by Julius Caesar.

Antipater appointed his son Herod the Great as governor of Galilee.

When Julius Caesar was assassinated, disorder broke out in Judea and Herod the Great fled to Rome.

In 40 BC, Herod the Great was appointed king of the Jews and married with Marianne, the granddaughter of Hyrcanus II, a priest and appointed the brother of Marianne, a Maccabean Aristobulus III, as high priest as a reconciliation.

Then Jesus Christ was born.

B. Religion History

a. The experience of their captivity seems to have destroyed their tendency to idolatry. During the captivity, they were longing or deprived of the temple and priest.
b. This led to the establishment of synagogue, where they met every Sabbath, for prayer, reading of the scripture and fellowship.
c. During this period also, mass of traditions and religions, rituals were added to the Law of Moses
d. Also during this period arise two great sects known as the Pharisee and Sadducees.
e. During this time, they were governed by Rome under idumean usurper, torn by bitter religious controversies and maintaining an elaborate religious rituals, appeared Jesus, the Son of God, the Christ and the Saviour of the world.

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

1. Date Written: 57AD
2. John Mark – Mark (Marcus) Roman Name
    i. John – his Jewish or Hebrew name, Acts 12:12
3. His mother's name – Mary Acts 12:12
4. He is a nephew of Barnabas –Colossians 4:10
5. He departed from the mission journey – Acts 13:5, 13
6. On the second journey there was a rift between Paul and Barnabas – Acts 15:36-40
7. Later, Paul thanked Barnabas for encouraging Mark – II Timothy 4:10
8. The shortest of the Gospel
9. He presented Christ as a servant
10. The gospel was written to the Romans in Rome
11. Symbol of Christ – an ox
12. He was of Paul in the first missionary journey – Acts 15:30
13. Emphasis – What Christ Wrought?
14. Key verses – Mark 10:45
15. Purpose – to minister, Mark 10:45
16. Key word – straightway, 43 times

GOSPEL OF JOHN

1. The youngest of the apostles
2. He died peaceably at Patmos
3. He belongs to the inner circle
4. Son of Zebedee and Salome
5. Brother of James
6. Other books written

a. Revelation
b. 1, 2 and 3 John

7. Date written – 96 AD
8. Presented Christ as the Son of God
9. This is written to the World
10. Purpose – to give life
11. Symbol of Christ – an eagle
12. Emphasis – What Christ taught?
13. Key word – believe, 101 times
14. Key verses – John 3:36, 20:21-31
15. He was a fisherman

GOSPEL OF LUKE

1. Date written – 65 AD
2. Place written – Caesarea
3. To whom it was written – Greeks
4. Symbol of Christ – a man
5. Key word – Luke 19:10
6. He was a physician, a gentile
7. Purpose – to save, Luke 19:10
8. Other books he wrought – Book of Acts
9. He is not an apostle like Mark
10. He joined Paul in the second missionary at journey of Troas – Acts 14:10

Additional Lesson We May Know About Lord Jesus Christ

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

1. The greatest figure in human history
2. No other man was born, lived or died as Christ
3. That He is the God-man, both divine and human at one and the same time
    a. He was living as his father and dying as his mother
    b. As man, He had no father, as God, He had no mother
    c. As man, He knows our every need
    d. As God, He is able to meet our every need

What We Find From the Four Gospels

1. We have four records of one glorious gospels
2. We have four biographers of one unique like
3. We have four witnesses of one wonderful person
4. We have for histories of one historical character
5. We have four pictures of one blessed subject

EZEKIELS VISSION ABOUT CHRIST
Ezekiel 1:10, Revelation 4:7

Face of a	Type	Gospel
1. Lion	King of the Jews	Matthew
2. Ox	Servant of Jehovah	Mark
3. Man	Son of Man	Luke
4. Eagle	Son of God	John

CHRIST ALSO CALLED THE BRANCH

OT	Statement	Portrait	Gospel
1. Jeremiah 23:5	A righteous branch	King – Lion	Matthew
2. Zechariah 3:8	My servant – the branch	Servant of Jehovah – Ox	Mark
3. Zechariah 6:12	The man whose name is the branch	Son of Man – Man	Luke
4. Isaiah 4:2	The branch of the Lord	Son of God – Eagle	John

TWO CLASSIFICATIONS OF THE GOSPEL

1. Synoptic Gospel
2. Gospel of John

Synoptic Gospel – means alike composed of
a. Matthew – what He said
b. Mark – what He did
c. Luke – what He sought

Gospel of John also called the **Eagle Gospel**
- An eagle flies higher, sees farther than any creature
- Deals about His Deity, inward facts
- Who Jesus is

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF DATES OF THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS OF HUMAN HISTORY

1. Adam – 4,000 BC – before Christian era

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

2. Noah – 2, 400 BC
3. Abraham – 2, 000 BC
4. Moses and Exodus – 1, 400 BC
5. Reign of David – 1, 015-975 BC
6. Reign of Solomon – 975-935 BC
7. Division of the Kingdom – 935 BC after the death of Solomon
    a. Northern Kingdom – composed of ten tribe, also known as
        *Israel
        *Ten tribes
        *Samaria (capital)
        *Ephraim, the largest and strongest tribe, son of Joseph
    b. Southern Kingdom – composed of tribes, Judah and Benjamin, also known as
        *Jerusalem, capital
        *Judah
        *House of David
        *Judah and Benjamin
8. Captivity of the Northern Kingdom by Assyria – 722 BC, they were depopulated and scattered
9. The captivity of the Southern Kingdom by Babylon – 606 BC, 597 BC and 586 BC

586 BC – the most date in OT because

a. It marks the third and final stage of Judah's fall and deportation to Babylon
b. It marks the full trust of the beginning of the times of the Gentiles
   It began when King Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the temple and it continues until Christ come again
   The fullness of the Gentiles began when Gospel was opened to the Gentiles in Acts 13 and will end when Christ return.
c. It marks the end of Judean monarchy, the last king, Zedekiah
d. It marks the destruction of Jerusalem
e. It marks the destruction of the temple

10. Judas return from Babylon – 536 BC The Babylon captivity is called the **exile,** lasted for 70 years from 606-536 BC
11. Rebuilding of the temple (Zerubbabel) – 536-516BC
12. End of the Old Testament – 400 BC
13. Inter-Testament period – 400-5 BC
14. The birth of Christ – 5 BC
15. Destruction of the Jerusalem by the Romans under General Titus – 70 AD
16. Declaration of Israel as a sovereign state or nation – 1948

November 24, 1947 – the UN approved a resolution for the creation of the state of Israel
May 14, 1948 – Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion declared the Independence of the nation Israel
On May 15, 1948 – Israel was invaded by Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon

Israel in Helpless Situation, Outnumbered

- Soldiers, 40 to one
- Equipment, 1,000 to one
- The navy composed of
    - 5 newly assembled former refuge ships
    - 1 ice breaker
    - 1 fishing trawler
- The main road leading to Jerusalem was controlled by the enemies
- The Israelites army had only 10,000 riffles each 50 rounds of ammunition
    - 4 ancient artillery guns
    - 3,600 sub-machine guns

- After 4 weeks of fighting, the UN called for a 4 week ceasefire
- Then they secretly purchased huge weapons from Czechoslovakia
- On October 15, 1948, the war resumed and the newly supplied Israel troops simply overran their enemies
- Result, they were victorious and gain 27% more territories

MT. SINAI WAR
October 29, 1956– November 5, 1956

- General Nasser of Egypt came to power
- Built up forces in Mt. Sinai
- On October 29, 1956 at 5:00PM, Israel launched a lightning attack
- Result, they had overran and cleaned the entire Sinai Peninsula
- Destroyed or disposed one-third of the Egyptian army, captured vast supplies of Russian made equipment
- Killed 2,000 to 3,000 enemies
- Taken 5,600 prisoners of war

THE SIX-DAY WAR
June 5-10, 1967

- Again Israel launched a lightning attack
- A rapid and massive land and air attack
- The Israel blows attack first airfields of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Iraq, all were completely destroyed including the airplanes
- All radar screens were destroyed
- Only two MIG planes were able to fly but were also shutdown
- 80,000-100,000 men died
- 600-700 tanks destroyed
- Captured more than 100 tanks, great amount of supplies and ammunitions, thousands of vehicles, 400 field guns, 50 self-profiled guns, larger amount of provision
- 444 planes were destroyed and 350 pilots killed
- Plus, Israel increase her territory from 8,000 sq. miles to 26,500 sq. miles
  They captured
  - Gaza strip
  - The whole Sinai Peninsula
  - All of Jordan west bank territory, including the old city of Jerusalem
  - Golan heights
- Their casualties, 679 killed and 2,563 wounded

THE YON KIPPER WAR
Saturday, October 6-25, 1973

- After two victories, Israel relaxed a bit, in spite of reports and warning
- On October 6, 1973 at 2:00 PM, they were invaded by Egypt and Syria

Yon Kipper – the Day of Atonement, the most saved of the entire year, they were celebrating

- Considered the largest conventional war since world war II
- Combined forces of the enemy
  - 838,000 soldiers
  - 3,000 tanks
  - 2,000 heavy guns
  - 1,000 aircrafts
- The Israelites were outnumbered and caught on surprised, like Hawaii
- On Friday, October 19, 1973, the greatest tank battle occurred in the Sinai Peninsula and when the smoke was cleared, Israel won a decisive battle victory

THE PHYSICAL WORLD JESUS LIVED

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

1. The names of the physical world which Jesus lived
    a. Canaan – Genesis 17:8
    b. Israel – II Kings 5:2
    c. Judea/Judah – Nehemiah 5:4
    d. Palestine – Isaiah 14:29,31
    e. Promised Land – Hebrews 11:9
    f. Holy Land – Zechariah 2:12
    g. The Lord's Land – Hosea 9:3
    h. Emmanuel's Land – Isaiah 8:8
    i. The Land of the Hebrews – Genesis 40:15
    j. Land of Judah – Isaiah 26:1
2. Location of Israel
    a. In Western Asia
    b. Bounded by
        North – Syria
        South – Egypt
        East – Arabia
        West – Mediterranean Sea
    c. It is commonly referred as Geographical Center of the World
    d. Also called the Truth Center of Divine Truth since the day of Jesus
    e. To be the peace center during the Millennium
    f. To become the Home Center of all Israel throughout the ages to come

3. Climate of Israel
    a. Semi-tropical
    b. Snow in rare and winter short

4. Famous Mountains in Israel
    a. Mt. of Temptation
    b. Mt. of Beatitudes
    c. Mt. of Transfiguration/ Mt. of Hernan
    d. Mt. Calvary
    e. Mt. of Olives
    f. Mt. Zion, fortified part of Jerusalem

5. Famous rivers/waters in Israel
    a. Jordan River which means descender
        It flows from Mt. Hernan/ Mt. of Transfiguration through the Sea of Galilee into the Dead Sea
    b. The Sea of Galilee, also known as
        - Lake Chinnereth
        - Lake Gennesaret
        - Sea of Tiberias
        Where Jesus walked on the sea
    c. The brook Kidron where David crossed when he fled from Absalom
    d. The pool of Siloam, where the blind man was healed by Jesus
    e. The pool of Bethesda (pool of healing water)
    f. Mediterranean Sea also called
        - The Great Sea
        - The Hinder Sea
        - The Western Sea
        - The Uttermost Sea
    g. The Dead Sea also known as the salt sea
        One of the richest mineral deposit on earth, estimated over 1 trillion US dollars

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

6. Political Divisions of the Land
    a. Galilee – northernmost province, capital in Capernaum
    b. Samaria – central part
    c. Judea – southernmost province. Its capital is Jerusalem, the largest city
    d. Perea – east of the Jordan River
    e. Decapolis – northwest part. It means ten liters.

7. People who held chief influence to Israel
    a. Romans – Character: powerful political people
        Contribution: government
    b. Greeks – Character: polished people
        Contribution: language, culture
    c. Jews – Character: persecuted people
        Contribution: religion (Bible)

8. Physical Divisions of the Land
    a. The coastal plains along the Mediterranean seashore 2-30 miles wide
    b. The foot hills, 300-500 ft. high
    c. The mountain region, 200-300 ft. high
    d. The Jordan valley, 5-20 miles wide
    e. The eastern tableland or plateau

9. Names of the Jewish people
    a. Jew
    b. Hebrew, descendants of Abraham
    c. Israelites, descendant of Israel (Jacob) Genesis 32:28

10. Language of the New Testament
    a. Hebrew
    b. Greek
    c. Latin (Romans)
    d. Aramaic, spoken by Jesus and His disciples

11. Temple in Jerusalem
    a. Solomon's Temple
        - 1st temple
        - built by Solomon
        - built in Mt. Moriah
        - destroyed by Babylon
    b. Zerubbabel's Temple
        - Second temple
        - ordered by Cyrus, the returned of the captivity
    c. Herod's Temple
        - 46 years in building
        - destroyed by the Roman's General Titus, 70 AD
        - left the Wailing Wall, now, Dome of the Rock

12. Synagogue of the Judaism
    - Originated during the Babylonian captivity
    - Substitute of the temple
    - Composed of at least 10 families
    - Has three officers – 1 head

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

Function of the Synagogues
- a. religious – worship
- b. educational – school
- c. social – fellowship

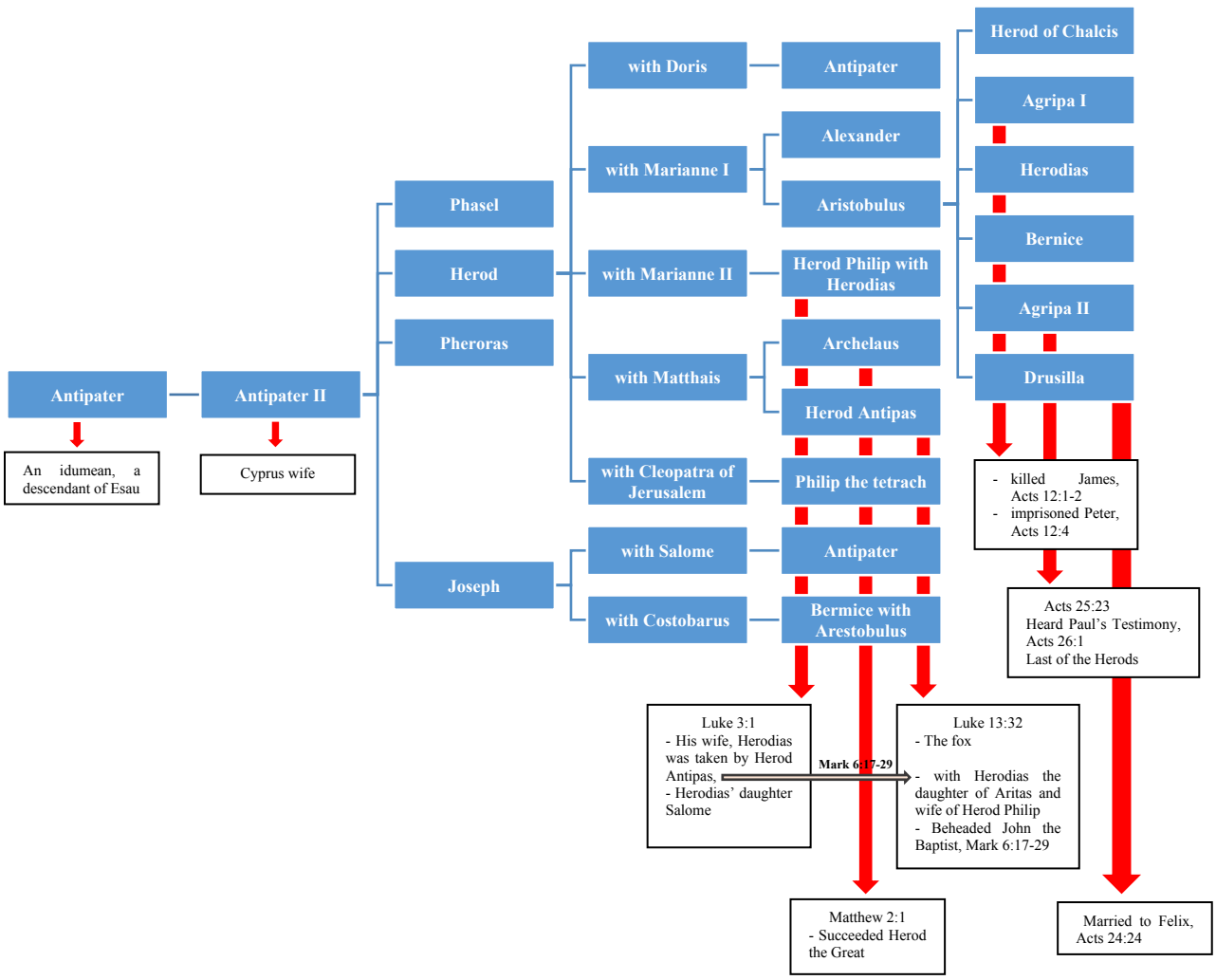
THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

a. Prophecy – Genesis 3:15 with Galatians 4:4
Isaiah 7:14 with Matthew 1:23

b. Time of birth
1. About 5 BC
2. Two individuals whose dates help us to determine the date
- Cyrenius, governor of Syria from 5 BC until 1 AD, Luke 2:2
- Herod the Great, from 37 BC to 4 BC
He died on March 4 BC

c. Place of His birth
1. The prophecy concerning the place – Micah 5:2
2. Facts about Bethlehem
- 6 miles south of Jerusalem
- 75 miles north of Nazareth
- Bethlehem means the House of Bread
- Judah means praise
- Bethlehem Judah means the House of Bread and praise

GENEALOGY OF HERODS



LIFE OF CHRIST 1

THREE ANNUNCIATION/ ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE CHRIST WAS BORN

1. Announcement of the birth of John the Baptist to Zacharias, Luke 1:5-7
   - v. 5 – a priest of the order of Abiah
   - v. 5 – His wife's name was Elizabeth
   - v. 6 – they were declared righteous before God
   - v. 7 – they were childless (Elizabeth was barren)
   - v. 8 – they were old already

There were about 20,000 priests at that time, divided into 24 courses, when Abiah, the 8th course, I Chronicles 24:10

- Each course officiated for one week and this weekly group were sub-divided into 5 to 9 groups
- Because they were many, they were chosen by lot, considered a greatest privilege to offer incense
- The message of the angel to Zacharias, Luke 1:11-17
- The response of Zacharias, v. 18-22
  - a. v. 18 – he doubted
  - b. v.19 – the angel assured him
  - c. v.20 – He became speechless/dump, because of his unbelief

2. The announcement of Jesus' birth to many, Luke 1:26-28
   a. the place of the announcement – Nazareth
   b. who announced – angel Gabriel
   c. the message – Luke 1:28-31
   d. Mary's response, Luke 1:34-38, her praise called magnificent which consist of
      - her praise
      - her announcement, v. 34
      - her submission, v.38

3. The announcement of Jesus' birth to Joseph, Matthew 1:18-22
   v. 18 – Joseph and Mary were espoused, which means already bound or betrothed, although they were not yet married.
   - To them, marriage vows were said or spoken at the betrothal and required a divorce to end it.
   - It required an interval of one year before they could live together
   - A pregnancy during the interval period or betrothal period is considered an adultery and punishable by death, Deuteronomy 22:23-24

THREE STAGES OF JEWISH MARRIAGE

a. Two families agreed to the union (arranged)
b. a public announcement is made, the betrothal
c. after a year, the couple married and start living together

THREE THINGS JOSEPH COULD LEGALLY DO WITH REGARDS TO MARY'S PREGNANCY

a. He could put her away privily and give a bill of divorcement but no public announcement
b. He could put her away publicly and get a bill of divorcement
c. He could consummate the marriage and accept the unborn baby as his own

His choice was to accept the unborn child as his own, for he believed the angel and he was a just man.

- The announcement was 6 months after the conception of John the Baptist.

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

a. His parents – Zacharias, the father, which means the Lord remembers

- Elizabeth, the mother, which means the God of the Covenant
- They were like Abraham and Sarai, childless

b. In naming him – his family and family friends wanted to name him after his father "Zacharias" but his father wrote the name "John" and his tongue was loosed and was able to speak after 9 months.

c. Elizabeth is the cousin of Mary and Mary visited Elizabeth, Luke 1:39-45
- From Nazareth to a city of Judah, stayed for 3 months until the birth of John the Baptist

EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST, LUKE 2:1-20

Reasons why they need to go to Bethlehem

1. A decree from Caesar Augustus for taxation or a census has to be made
2. Each has to return to his origin birthplace
3. Who is Caesar Augustus?
   a. He was the emperor of Rome at that times, also known as /Octavian, a good nephew and adopted him of Julius Caesar
   b. When Julius Caesar, the emperor was assassinated, he returned from his studies and claimed the inheritance
   c. During that time, there was other leaders also claiming for power, such as Mark Anthony and Lepidus
   d. By 27 BC, Augustus defeated all the other forces and became the emperor of Rome
   e. The birth of Christ occurred in the middle of his reign
   f. Syria was a large province, of which Judah is a part of it
   g. On their way, it's time for Mary to give birth, they found no room and they came to a stable
   h. The manger was probably a feeding trough for animals, thus Jesus was born probably on a stable
   i. Swaddling clothes – a bondage –like strips of cloth wrapped around the baby to insure that its arm and legs would grow straight.
      a. No swaddling cloth is a form of abuse, Ezekiel 16:2-4
   j. His birth was announced first to the shepherds by the angels
      Why the angels did announced first His birth to the shepherds?
      - They were the best group of people who can understand better what God had just accomplished
      - The angels sung praise unto God
      - The shepherds visited and praise God'
      - The shepherd raised lambs and sold them for sacrificial purposes in the temple. Christ is the great shepherd as well as the Lamb of God, John 1:29, 10:11
   k. Why was Jesus born in a place where animals lived?
      - Lambs are usually born in barns and Christ is the Lamb of God, John 1:29
4. The visit of the wise men, Matthew 2:1-12
   a. Who were the wise men?
      - They were magi or truth seeker
      - They come from the east, probably Persian, Babylon or Arabia
      - They were the first Gentile worshippers of Jesus
   b. To whom did they know that a king will be born?
      - Probably from the Jews who were dispersed (Babylon captivity)
      - Probably familiarity of the OT scripture, Numbers 24:17, Daniel 9
   c. Reasons for coming
      - To worship, Matthew 2:2
      - To seek the truth, they were wise
   d. How many were they?
      Where they present at the barn?
      - Tradition says, they were three because of the 3 gifts

- But, probably, they were many, for same reasons
    - The Bible says, wise men, not three
    - The distance is far, it takes months to travel to reach the place. The means of travel is by land only
- They were not present in the barn
    - When they found Jesus, He was already on the house, a young child, Matthew 2:11
- Along the way, it is very dangerous, many bad elements, they could be many
- When they arrived at Jerusalem, the city was moved, Matthew 2:3
- Likewise King Herod ordered to kill the children 2 years and bellows
  Herod said, he would also worshipped but actually not but to kill the baby
  But the angel warned Joseph about it and were instructed to go to Egypt.

GIFTS OF THE WISEMEN, MATTHEW 2:11

Item	Symbol	What it present
1. Gold	Royalty	Kingly Authority
2. Frankincense	Divinity	Worship
3. Myrrh	Humanity	Sorrow and Suffering

Several Important Results of the Coming of the Wise Men

1. They were the first worshippers of Christ
2. They become the first heralds of the Messiah to the Gentile world when they returned to their native lands, Luke 2:32, Isaiah 49:6
3. Their coming confirmed the prophecy of Micah 5:2
4. Their gifts might had helped or sustained the family while they were in Egypt

Their Return from Egypt – Matthew 2:19-33

When King Herod died, the Lord instructed them to return but knowing that Archelaus, succeeded his father, they went to Galilee and settled in Nazareth, to fulfill the prophecy, that He shall be called "Nazarene" not "Nazarite"

Nazarite is a hilly area of Southern Galilee, near the cross roads of great caravan trade routes. The people of Nazarite had a constant contact with the world, thus they were despised, John 1:46

When King Herod died due to incurable disease, he divided Israel into three parts for his sons

1. Judah and Samaria – Archelaus his successor
2. Galilee and Perea – Herod Antipas
3. Trachonitis – Herod Philip

The Early Jewish Customs/Rituals Performed in Jesus

1. Circumcision of Jesus, Luke 2:21

Time – 8th day, Genesis 17:9-14, Luke 2:21

Purpose – to satisfy the requirement made by God concerning the seed of Abraham, Leviticus 12:1-8

2. Presentation in the Temple, Luke 2:22-28

Time – 40th day

Purpose – to fulfill the law

– For the mother's purification, Leviticus 12:1-8

– redeem the first born, Exodus 13:2

Joseph and Mary offered 2 birds turtledoves as sin offering, for they were poor – rich people offered yearling lambs

TWO ADORATION TO JESUS

1. Adoration of Simon, Luke 2:25-35

His prophecy – Gentile would share His Messianic glory

– That the Messiah would suffer
– That the Messiah would not be universally accepted

2. Adoration of Anna, Luke 2:36-38
– A godly 84 years old widow

BOYHOOOD OF JESUS FROM 5 YRS -12 YRS OLD

1. from birth to 5 years old
   - A Jewish child is in the care of the mother
2. from 5 years to 12 years old
   - A child is under the custody of the father
3. at the age of 13
   - He become a "son of the law" and become responsible and ready to religious duty. Also he/she had to choose his occupation

Three Pilgrimage of the Jews to Jerusalem in One Year

a. Passover
b. Pentecost
c. Feast of the Tabernacle

He was left behind and the doctors were astonished at his understanding or wisdom
His first recorded word – Luke 2:49

JESUS 4 FOLD INCREASE, LUKE 2:52

a. increase in wisdom – mental maturity
b. increase in statue – physical maturity
c. increase in favor with God – spiritual maturity
d. increase in favor with man – social maturity

EDUCATION OF JESUS

1. Shema – means hear, the Jewish method of education
   – To memorize some OT portion called "Shema"
   – Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 11:13-21 and Numbers 15:34-41
2. He was trained at home and in the synagogue, such as
   – for worship
   – for education
   – for fellowship

SILENT YEARS IN NAZARETH, 18 YEARS

a. from 13-30 years or 18 years
b. no record in the Bible
c. lived in a typical Jewish home

FAMILY OF JESUS, Mark 6:3, Matthew 13:55-56

1. He had 4 brothers – James, Jude, Joses and Simon
2. He had two or more sisters (no name)
3. His occupation – a carpenter, Mark 6:3 His father's trade

THE EARLY MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

A. The ministry of John the Baptist
His Background
   a. He was named before his birth, Luke 1:13
   b. He was a second or third cousin of Jesus
   c. He was a man sent from God, John 1:6

d. God called him – John the Baptist, Matthew 3:1
e. He was sent to bear witness of that light, Jesus, John 1:8
f. He testified that Jesus was before him (eternal), John 1:15
g. He was the voice of the one crying in the wilderness, John 1:23
h. He preached repentance for the remission of sin, Luke 3:3
i. He bear record that Jesus was "the Son of God", John1:34
j. He introduced Jesus "as the Lamb of God", John 1:29, 36
k. He said, "He must increase but He must decrease", John3:30
l. Jesus called him "more than a prophet", Luke 7:26
m. He baptized Jesus and all His apostles, Matthew 3:13-17, I Corinthians 12:28
n. He was fearless, forceful, and uncompromising prophet
o. He resembled OT prophet, Elijah
p. He was the only man on record filled with the Holy Spirit, even from birth, Luke 1:15
q. He was a Nazarite by divine order, Luke 1:15, compare also with I Samuel 1:11, 27-28, Judges 16:15-20, Numbers 6:1-6
r. He was the forerunner of Christ, Luke 1:76

MESSAGE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

1. General Scope
   a. To announce the kingdom of heaven and the appearance of the Messiah
   b. To prepare the way of the Lord, Luke 1:17
   c. To publicly identify and introduce the Messiah to the people, John 1:29-30

2. Specific Theme of His Message
   a. Repentance towards God
   b. Faith towards Christ
   c. Baptism, as a result of repentance and faith

SIGNIFICANCE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST'S BAPTISM

1. It was ordained by God, John 1:33
2. It was the first baptism on record
3. It marks the beginning of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, Mark 1:1-4
4. It was the only baptism that Jesus received, Matthew 3:11-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-23
5. It was used by God to announce the messiahship of His Son, John 1:31
6. It was accompanied by the witness of the trinity, John 1:31-32
7. It was the only baptism that the apostle received, Acts 1:22
8. It was received only by the believer
9. It was administered to those who had repented and confessed, Acts 8:35-39
10. It was identified and administered by the apostles, Acts 10:37, John 4:1
11. It is the same baptism stated in the Great Commission, Matthew 28:18-20

FINAL END OF JOHN THE BAPTIST'S LIFE

1. Imprisoned by Herod Antipas when he rebuked him for having or living with Herodias, the wife of his brother, Herod Philip
2. He was later put to death by Herod Antipas to grant the wish of Herodias daughter, Matthew 14:2-11
   He was beheaded.'

Three Main Religious Groups or Parties that Asserted Influence During John the Baptist Ministry

1. Pharisee
2. Sadducees
3. Herodians

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

Matthew 3:11-17, Mark 9:9-11, Luke 3:21-23

When? – Around 27 AD
Age – About 30 years old, Luke 3:23
Where? - Jordan River, near Bethabara, publicly

WHY WAS CHRIST BAPTIZED?

a. To fulfill all righteousness and as a pattern to his follower, Matthew 3:15
b. To publicly announce His messianic works
c. To concentrate Himself to the messianic work
d. To identify with the sinners
e. To verify John's Baptism, that it was from heaven, Matthew 21:25-27
f. To set forth in type and symbol – His death, burial and resurrection

CHRIST BAPTISM PORTRAYS THREE BASIC TRUTHS

1. Historical Christianity – His death
2. Experimental Christianity, Romans 6:4, testify to the believers' death, burial and raised to walk on newness of life. – His burial
3. Prophetical Christianity – His resurrection symbolize bodily resurrection of the believer

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ATTENDED CHRIST'S BAPTISM

1. The heavens were opened – this was an acknowledgement of his sinlessness
2. The voice of God was heard – acknowledges His Sonship
3. The Holy Spirit descended – acknowledges His anointing for the ministry, Isaiah 61:6, Luke 4:16-20, Acts 10:38

THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST

Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13

When? – Immediately after His baptism, 27 AD
– TAKE NOTE: after any undertaking or accomplishment, Satan is always there
Where? – In the Judean wilderness near Jericho
How long? – 40 days and 40 nights, after which he got hungry

REASONS FOR CHRIST'S TEMPTATION

Romans 5:12-21, I Corinthians 15:45-49

1. That He might become our faithful and merciful High Priest, Hebrews 2:16-18
2. That He might prove His sinless humanity and perfect submission to the will of God, Hebrews 4:13-16, Luke 4:13
3. That He might be thoroughly approved for His ministry

HOW CHRIST WAS TEMPTED

Matthew4:1-11

Temptation	Basis for Temptation	Potential Weakness Satan Sought to Exploit	Jesus Answer
1. Make bread out of stones, Matthew 4:4, Deuteronomy 8:3, 1 John 2:16, Genesis 3:6	1. An appeal to the physical appetite - Physical need – hunger - Gratifying physical desire - Lust of the flesh	1. Distrust of God and a misguided use of His power in order to prove His sonship – Life preservation	1. Defend on God, Deuteronomy 8:3 – Focus on God's purpose
2. Dare God to save	2. Emotional need –	2. An appeal to pressure	2. Don't test God

you, 1 John 2:16, Genesis 3:6	security – Lust of the eyes – Public acclamation, misquoted, Psalm 91:11-12	on the mercy of God to prove His sonship, insecurity	– Focus on God's Man Deuteronomy 6:16
3. Worship me, Genesis 3:16, 1 John 2:16	3. Psychological need – significance, power, achievement, materialism craving and accumulating things, – Pride of life – World dominion	3. Enticement to bypass the cross to gain the kingdom of this world by worshipping Satan, rather than to inherit them through suffering of the cross – Desire for quick power, need to prove equality with God, easy solution	3. No compromise with evil – Focus on God's person Deuteronomy 6:16

NOTE: Jesus reply, He quoted the word of God

QUOTING THE SCRIPTURE DID THREE THINGS

1. He approved the writings of Moses
2. He declare the effectiveness of the word of God in meeting trials and temptation
3. He defeated every scheme of Satan

THINGS TO NOTE ABOUT TEMPTATION – Mark 1:12-13

1. Temptation usually follows a person's decision for Christ, after His baptism, v12
2. Temptation is used to make us stronger and be prepared to do great things, James 1:2-5
3. Temptation is a desert or wilderness experience – it is a worldly experience
4. Temptation is of Satan. It is deception, to ruin or testimony, v.13
5. Temptation is met by God's help, v.13. He was ministered to by angels, not left alone. He relied on the word of God

THE APOSTLES OF CHRIST

Apostles – means one who is sent or a messenger

His first 6 disciples, John 1:35-49

1. Andrew
2. Simon Peter
3. Philip
4. John
5. Nathaniel
6. James

How they met Jesus? – They were introduced by John the Baptist

Some Significant Lesson We May Learn on the First 6 Disciples

1. Soul winning, Andrew finds Peter, v.40-45
2. The omniscience of Christ. He saw Nathaniel under the fig tree
3. Messiahship of Christ was established by the testimony of the disciples, v.49

Preparation for the Choosing of the Apostles – All night in prayer, Luke 6:12

The Scope of the Apostles' Ministry

1. To assist Christ while on earth
2. To carry in His work after His departure

Specific Purpose of the Apostles

1. That they might accompany Him in His ministry
2. That they might witness His works, remember His words and testify to His resurrection
3. That they might go into all the world as his ambassadors

Three Usage of the Term Apostle

1. It refers to our Lord Jesus Christ in the NT
2. It refers to the 12 men chosen by Christ to lay the foundations of the church, Luke 6:13-16, Ephesians 2:20
3. It may refer to Christian worker in general, Acts 14:14

List of the Apostles, Matthew 10:2-4, Mark 3:16-19, Luke 6:14-16, Acts 1:13, 26

1. Simon Peter
2. Andrew – Peter's brother
3.James – Son of Zebedee
4. John – James' brother
5. Philip
6. Bartholomew (Nathaniel)
7. Thomas
8. Matthew – the publican
9. James the less – Son of Alphaeus
10. Lebbaeus – also Thaddaeus
11.Simon the Canaanite
12. Judas Iscariot

NOTE:

a. Lebbaeus – surnamed Thaddaeus is also called Judas the brother of James
b. Simon the Canaanite is also called Simon the Zealots
c. Judas Iscariot was the only apostle who was not a Galilean. He was from Kerioth, a town of Judah

Marks of the Apostle

1. They were chosen personally by Christ, Acts 22:14, Luke 6:13-16, Galatians 1:1
2. They received their message by direct revelation from God, rather than being taught by men, Acts 22:14, Galatians 1:11-12
3. They had seen the resurrected Christ, Acts 22:14, Acts 1:22, 1 Corinthians 15:7-9
4. They could impact spiritual power and gifts to others, Acts 8:17-19, II Timothy 1:6
5. They had special signs to authenticate their message, II Corinthians 12:12, Acts 2:43, Acts 4:33, Acts 5:12
6. They had the same authority as OT prophets, 2Peter 3:2
7. They wrote scriptures, 2Peter 3:15-16

Are there Apostles Today?

1. No one today qualify to be such an apostle
2. They were only 12 of them. Apart from Judas, it was not passed to other at their death
3. The first 12 apostles were called to lay the foundation of the Church. The foundations has been laid.
4. No New Testament passage instruct Church to select or ordain apostles – only pastors and deacons, 1 Timothy 3:1, Titus 1

Miracles of Jesus

Miracle – a supernatural manifestation of divine power in the external world, in themselves special revelation of the presence and power of God

Other Names of Miracle

1. Wonders – astonishment as being outside the ordinary operation of cause and effect
2. Powers or mighty works or wonderful works

Importance of Miracle

1. Serve as a great end of God's gracious revelation
2. To get the attention of man and aid in winning their acceptance of revealed truth

LIFE OF CHRIST 1

No more miracles today, for the Bible is already complete. They are temporary gifts.

Categories of Miracles

1. Physical Miracles – physical healing
2. Natural Miracles – dealing of nature
3. Spiritual Miracles – dealing with demons
4. Supernatural Miracles – raising a dead person

The First Miracle

Turning water into wine
Place: Wedding at Cana
Wine: not intoxicating

Significances:

1. v.4 – Many has no authority over Christ's ministry
2. v.1 – Christ sanctioned Himself, marriage which symbolized Himself and the Church or the relationship between Christ and the believers
   - the first wedding – at the Garden of Eden
3. When God is about to give a blessing, He gave a command v.7

Example:

a) To the young ruler – go sell and follow me, Luke 18:12
b) To the church – go ye therefore into all nation, Matthew 28:19
c) To Lazarus – arise, come out, John 11:43
d) To Christians – knock, ark, Matthew 7:7

4. v.7-8 – He choose the willing and obedient
5. v.5-7 – He choose ordinary people, servants, even things, water pots
6. v. 5 – His commands are to be obeyed "filing and drawing of water"
7. v. 9 – obeying Christ, we will discover His power
8. v. 10 – In Christ, we have the best

Healing of Noble Man's Son, John 4:46-54

1. v. 46 – Christ went back to Cana, where He performed His first miracle
2. He was a noble man or ruler
   - His son was sick and was at Capernaum, far from Cana
   - He sought Christ to heal his son
3. Lessons:
   a. A lesson of faith v. 50
   b. A lesson of obedience v. 50
      - We usually sue first before we believe, v. 48
      - Faith is believing and acting upon it
   c. Christ's action is on time
      - The boy was healed completely, the time Jesus said, v. 52 "seventh hour", yesterday
      - Our salvation is instant, the moment you receive Christ
   d. A lesson of Soul winning, "his whole house believed too"
      - A product of his salvation

Jesus Casts' Demons at Gadara, Luke 8:28-34

I. The power of the evil spirit
   a. drive man from the comfort of an honorable life
   b. to make think they are right
   c. to live in isolation
II. The misery of the man

a. the utter helplessness of man to deliver from the power of darkness
b. human effort frustrated

III. The power of Christ over the evil spirit
a. they feared Him "torment me not"
b. absolute power over them "come out of Him"
c. He can deliver us

IV. The Result
a. he was now a free man
- in his right man, clothed
- sitting at the feet of Jesus

b. he went home as a missionary
- as believers, we are God's minister

A Paralytic Healed, Luke 5:18-26

I. The paralytic man – helpless, incurable
II. We need the aid of other to reach other people
- we need to make a way to reach them
- strong faith will overcome difficulties

III. The readiness of Christ to the needy by
1. Healing the body
2. Forgiving sins

The manner how it was bestowed
1. Immediate 3. Complete 5. Authoritative
2. Free 4. Effectual

v. 25 – the healed man carried the bed which earlier carried him

IV. There was opposition encountered

The First Cleansing of the Temple, John 2:13-16

a. It is the start of His ministry
b. Reason for cleansing – the temple was being used as a place of business
c. It is for washing, prayers, etc.

Christ with Nicodemus

Nicodemus – a ruler of the Jews
- a Pharisee, a teacher of the Jews
- he was attracted to Christ's miracles doctrine
- sincere to know the truth
- he was a man of high moral character, with deep religious hunger, yet spiritually blind

Four Basic Illustration with Regards to Salvation

1. Birth v. 1-7
a. The word "again" means from above
b. All experienced natural birth on earth
c. To go to heaven, one must experience a super natural birth from above
d. Physical birth has two parents
e. Spiritual birth has also two parents
1. The spirit of God v. 5
2. The wind of God, James 1:18, 1Peter 1:23-25
f. Physical birth involves pain, suffering, John 16:21
g. Spiritual birth also, Christ suffered and died in the cross
h. Physical birth inherits the nature of parents
i. Spiritual birth, we are partaker of the Divine nature, 2Peter 1:4
j. Physical birth involves physical life

k. Spiritual birth, also involves God's life

2. The Wind, v. 8-13
   a. Wind refers to the Holy Spirit
   b. One of the symbols of the Holy Spirit
      Job 33:4, John 20:22, Acts 2:2
   c. Like the wind, the spirit is invisible but powerful
   d. We can't explain or predict the movements of the Holy Spirit
   e. Likewise the new birth is a mystery, we can't fully explain or predict
   f. Likewise also a physical birth, it's a mystery
   g. v. 12 – if we can't understand the earthly things, how much for spiritual things

III. The serpent on the pole, v.14-19
   a. It was an accident in Numbers 21:4-9, how God instructed Moses to put a brazen serpent on the top of the pole
   b. That every one bitten by the snake, just to look upon the serpent and they will be healed
      1. it is free
      2. it is for all
      3. it is by faith, "to look"
      4. it is accessible
      5. it's sufficient
      6.the effect is instant
      7. the result was proven
      8. it is effective
   c. Likewise, Christ must be lifted up on the cross
      i. It is also the same effects with the brazen serpent

IV. Light and Darkness v. 19-21
   a. Sinners don't come to the light, because the love darkness
   b. They want to persist in their evil deeds and keeps them from going to light
   c. The closer the sinner gets to the light, the more of his sins exposed
   d. It is the moral and spiritual blindness that keep them loving darkness and hating the light

PARABLES

- A true to life story to illustrate or illuminate a truth, a form of figurative language involving comparison, an extended analogy in story form
- An earthly story with heavenly meaning
- From the Greek words
  - *para* – means beside or along side
  - *ballein* - means to throw

  ***thus, a story is thrown alongside the truth to illustrate the truth**

Why Jesus Speaks in Parable?

1. To reveal truth in His followers
2. To conceal truth from those on the outside, Mark 4:11

Parables are Effective Communication

1. It sparkles interest on the hearer
2. It encourages people to think

Feature of Parable

1. Commercial items – deals with builder, merchants, debts, treasures, servants, creditors, etc.
2. Domestic items – deals of houses, coins, sweeping, etc.
3. Social events – deals with wedding, a banquet, father, a son, friend at midnight
4. Religious individuals/events –a Levite, a Samaritan, a Pharisee, a King, judge, etc.

Classification of Parables

1. Seed Parable
   Example: The Sower – Matthew 13:3-8
   The Mustard Seed – Matthew 13:31-32

2. Nature Parable
   Example: The Two Houses, On Rock and On Sand – Matthew 7:24-27
   Workers in the Vineyard – Matthew 20:1-16
3. Servant Parables
   Example: The Two Servants – Matthew 22:1-13
   The Talents – Matthew 25:14-30
4. King Parable
   Example: The Wedding Banquet – Matthew 21: 28-32
5. Father Parable
   Example: The Two Sons – Matthew 21:28-32
6. Money/Treasure Parable
   Example: The Two Debtors – Luke 7:41-43
7. Harvest Parables
   Example: The Wicked Vinedresser – Matthew 21:33-46
8. Women Parables
   Example: The Ten Virgins – Matthew 25:1-13
9. Social/ Domestic Parables
   Example: The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:30-36
10. Compassion Parable
   Example: The Lost Sheep – John 15:4-7
11. Rejoicing Parable
   Example: The Lost Coin – Luke 15:8-10
12. Feast Parable
   Example: The Great Banquet – Luke 14:15-24
13. Refused Parable
   Example: The Rich Foul – Luke 12:16-21

LET'S STUDY SOME PARABLE

I. The Workers of the Vineyard, Matthew 20:1-16
   1. This is not soul winning but be workers or servants
   2. We became God's servants at different time
   3. Every believer is a worker/servant
   4. Don't limit God's power
      v. 2 – with contract
      v. 4 – no contract
   5. The servants are the same, v. 9-10
   6. Don't be discouraged if some are more blessed, v. 11-12

II. Satan's Tare, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
   1. The man – Christ
   2. The enemy – the devil
   3. The field – the world
   4. The wheat – the believers
   5. The tares – false teachers/unbelievers/false doctrine
   6. The harvest – consummation of age
   7. The reapers – the angels
   8. The granary – Heaven
   9. The furnace – Hell

III. Hidden Treasure, Matthew 13:44
   a. Usual Interpretation
      1. That a sinner finds Christ
      2. Sell all he had to gain Him
   b. But, it is not for several reasons
      1. Christ is not hidden, v.44
      2. A sinner can't find Christ for he is blind, Romans 3:10

3. No sinner could purchase salvation
4. The world is the field, 13:38
5. The hidden treasure is Israel, Exodus 19:5, and Psalm 135:4
   - Israel was chosen to show to the world, how God's people would live, Romans 9:3-5
   - But they failed, and for the meantime, they were set aside or hidden
   - But later on Israel will be revived and will recognized Christ as the Messiah and will give glory to God

IV. Pearl of Great Price

1. Pearl is not Jesus Christ and His salvation
2. Sinner can't find Christ
3. Salvation is not for sale
4. Pearl of great price refers to the Church
   a. Christ died and bought the church
   b. The Church is product of suffering
   c. Pearl like the Church grows gradually
   d. It is the Holy Spirit convicts the sinners
   e. Pearl is hidden in the shell of the oysters under the waters
   f. The Church also is among the nations
   g. Waters refers to the nations, Revelation 13:1, 17:15
   h. Later the pearl will reveal its beauty and likewise the Church

PRAYER

- means talking and having fellowship with God
- it implies a two-way fellowship, give and take

Elements of Prayer

1. A personal relationship with God "Our Father"
   "Our Father" – refers to the believers relationship with other believers – I Corinthians 1:2
2. Faith – "which art in Heaven" – Hebrews 11:6
3. Worship – "hallowed be Thy name" – I Chronicles 32:5, 25:1, 7, Revelation 4:8
4. Expectation – "Thy kingdom come", the blessed millennial kingdom – Isaiah 2:2-4, 25:8, 35:1,8,10
5. Submission –"Thy will be done" – Matthew 26:39
6. Petition – "Give us this day", daily fellowship
7. Confession – " and forgive us" – 1 John 1:9, Psalm 66:18
8. Compassion – "as we forgive" – Matthew 18:21-35, 1 John 4:20
9. Dependance – "and lead us not" – 1 Corinthians 10:31
10. Acknowledgement – " for Thine is the kingdom" – 1 Chronicles 29:10-19

NOTE: Additional note for the 4 Gospel

1. The Jews need a proof that Christ was the Messiah. Thus, the book of Matthew was written for them.
2. The Romans were not interested in the Jewish King.
   They had Caesar as their king, emperor.
   They keyword in their government was service, a true servant.
   Thus, book of Mark was written for them.
3. The Greeks were interested song, poetry and literature.
   They need a perfect man, a perfect race.
   There was a time when the Greeks destroyed all defective children in order to destroy defects in the race.
   Their gods were in the form of man.
   Thus, the book of Luke was for them

4. The word and as well as the Christians, our favorite Gospel is the book of John.