

Questions / Answers

1. Name 4 people that God made promises to, which Jesus fulfilled.
Adam, Abraham, David, Zedekiah.
2. What does the name Jesus Christ mean?
Jesus means Saviour. Christ means King. Jesus is the Saviour King.
3. How was Jesus the Son of God?
He was born by the power of the Holy Spirit on Mary.
4. How was Jesus the Son of Man?
He was born of Mary who was descended from those to whom the promises were made.
5. Was Jesus God the Son. How many times does the Bible mention God the Son?
No Jesus was not God the Son. It is never mentioned in the Bible.
6. What happened when Jesus was baptised?
The Holy Spirit came on Jesus and God said, "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased."
7. What three things was Jesus tempted to do in the wilderness?
Make stones into bread, throw himself from the top of the Temple, make himself king.
8. Was Jesus really tempted like us? Did he find it hard to do right?
Yes Jesus was tempted exactly like us. He found it hard to do right.
9. What did Jesus do to help him overcome temptations?
He prayed to God and remembered God's words in the Bible.
10. How can Jesus help us overcome our temptations?
He pleads to God to forgive us. He understands how we feel.

Memory verses

Luke 1:35 Matthew 3:16—17 Hebrews 4:14—15 Hebrews 5:7—8

Discussion

How was Jesus Son of God and Son of Man. How do we know he was not God the Son?

Writing

Read Matthew 4:1—11. Write about the 3 temptations Jesus had and the words from the Bible that he used to overcome them.

CBM Senior Lessons



Lesson 31 Jesus—the coming of the King

READING Luke 1:26—35; Matthew 3:13—17; Matthew 4:1—11

LESSON

Over 500 years went by from the time that Cyrus let God's people of Israel go back to their own land until the birth of Jesus. God's people were now called the Jews. During these 500 years the Jews did not have their own king. God took the kingdom away from His people because they were so wicked. Foreign empires ruled over them. The Jews struggled to be free, but they were always part of one of the empires that ruled the Middle East - Babylon, Medo Persia, Greece and Rome, exactly as God showed Daniel by Nebuchadnezzar's dream .

God had made many promises to His people in the Old Testament. Now the time had come when God was ready to fulfil His promises.

God's Promises	
Adam	God promised that his special descendant would conquer sin
Abraham	God promised that his special descendant would bring happiness to people of all nations
David	God promised that his special descendant would be king on David's throne in Jerusalem. He would rule over God's Kingdom on earth for ever.
Zedekiah	God took away the crown from Zedekiah because he was wicked. But God promised that he would give back the crown to a righteous man.
Jesus fulfils all these promises	

Many Jews knew the promises God had made. They were waiting for the promised King descended from David to come and free them from the Romans. The Jews had a word for the king they were expecting. He was their Messiah. 'Messiah' means 'anointed one.' The New Testament word for Messiah is Christ. The word Christ means 'King'. It always refers to Jesus. The word Jesus means 'Saviour'. Jesus Christ means 'the Saviour King'.

Jesus came to fulfil all these promises of God. Jesus came to conquer sin. He came to bring happiness to people of all nations. He brings the hope of salvation in God's wonderful kingdom. Jesus lived a righteous life. God will give him the crown so that he can be king of God's people. Jesus will be king on David's throne in Jerusalem. He will rule over God's Kingdom on earth for ever.

At last the time came for the king to come and our New Testament story begins. Look at the first verse of the New Testament. This tells us that Jesus came to fulfil the promises that God made in the Old Testament. Jesus is the special descendant that God promised to Abraham and David. The angel Gabriel told Mary that her son, Jesus, would be king on David's throne and his kingdom would last for ever. Jesus is the Messiah promised by God. (Luke 1:32—33).

No wonder the angels rejoiced when Jesus was born! The angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on the earth peace and goodwill to men." God's promises were being fulfilled by the birth of Jesus.

Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit on his mother, Mary. (Luke 1: 35). Nine months later Jesus was born. Jesus did not exist as a person before he was born. Jesus was born and began to live in the same way that other men are born. The birth of Jesus was special because Mary was a virgin when Jesus was born. Jesus was the Son of God.

Joseph was the husband of Mary. But Joseph was not the father of Jesus. Joseph did not consummate the marriage until after Jesus was born. God was the Father of Jesus. Joseph helped Mary to look after him.

Jesus was a very special child. He was the Messiah that God had promised. Jesus was the special descendant who came to fulfil all God's promises. God had promised this special descendant to Adam and Eve, to Abraham and to David. Mary was a descendant of these people. Jesus was the son of Mary. Jesus was the descendant of these people from the Old Testament. Jesus was a human being. He was a descendant of a line of human beings.

Jesus was the Son of God. He was NOT God the Son. The Bible never mentions God the Son. This was an idea brought into the Christian Church several hundred years after Jesus went to Heaven. God the Son is never taught in the Bible. Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus did not exist as a person before he was born in Bethlehem. God knew from the very beginning that He would send Jesus. God made promises about Jesus from the time of Adam and Eve. Jesus was part of the purpose and promises of God from the beginning. But Jesus did not exist as a person until he was born to Mary.

Jesus was also Son of Man. Jesus was a human being like us because Mary was his mother. Jesus was happy and sad like us. He was hungry and thirsty like us. Jesus was tempted to sin like us. He was descended from Adam like us. But Jesus was also the Son of God. God was his Father. Jesus had a character like God's.

Jesus lived with his family in Nazareth until he was 30 years old. Then his cousin, John the Baptist, began teaching the people that the Messiah was coming. Many people listened to John. John baptised them in the River Jordan to show that they repented of their sins and would try to live better lives.

One day Jesus came to John. John said that Jesus did not need to be baptised because he had done nothing wrong. But Jesus asked John to baptise him, because it was God's command. As Jesus came up out of the water, a dove came and settled on his head. This was a sign that God had given Jesus His power, the Holy Spirit. God spoke to Jesus from heaven, "This is my beloved son, in you I am well pleased." This was the start of Jesus' three years of teaching God's people.

Immediately after his baptism, God led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted for 40 days and nights. Jesus had a great work to do for God. He needed to have his faith tested and to show his total commitment to God.

Jesus was tempted to use God's power to help himself. He was tempted to turn stones into bread because he was very hungry. He was tempted to throw himself off the high tower of the temple so that angels could save him. Then people would know he had God's power and would accept him as Messiah. He was tempted to use God's power to make himself king. Jesus overcame all his temptations by remembering God's words in the Bible. God was very pleased that Jesus loved Him and obeyed Him.

Jesus had human nature like us. He was tempted in exactly the same way that we are tempted. He wanted to do wrong things. He found it difficult to do right things. Jesus always chose to do the right things, but the choice was a real struggle for him. Jesus had to spend long hours praying to God for help to overcome his temptations. Jesus was NOT God. God cannot be tempted. God cannot sin or die. Jesus was really tempted. He found it difficult not to sin when he was tempted. Jesus fought a great battle against sin and won a great victory. Jesus overcame the power of sin in himself.

We can have salvation because Jesus succeeded in overcoming sin and gave his sinless life as a sacrifice. Now Jesus can plead to God to forgive our sins. Jesus understands when we are tempted. He knows how difficult it is to fight against sin. Jesus helps us when we find it difficult because he understands how we feel.