

Lesson 4

Jesus, Our Friend



Introduction: All our lessons are about Jesus and His truth, but this is a special lesson on who Jesus is and what He wants to do for us. Because of Satan's rebellion, and because Jesus loved us too much to leave us under Satan's control, Jesus left heaven and came to this earth to redeem all who want to be saved. So today we will discuss His wonderful love and compassion that He has for mankind. Additionally, we will share information about His saving grace.




JESUS' DIVINITY AND PREEXISTENCE

1. Shortly after Jesus was conceived within Mary, an angel explained His birth to Joseph and said He would be called Immanuel. What does Immanuel mean? Matt. 1:21-23 [The Further-study verses are Col. 2:9; Isa. 9:6; Rev. 22:13]

- *Matthew 1:21-23*
- ²¹ And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
- ²² Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
- ²³ Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.
- Colosians 2:9
 - ⁹ For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

Isaiah 9:6

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

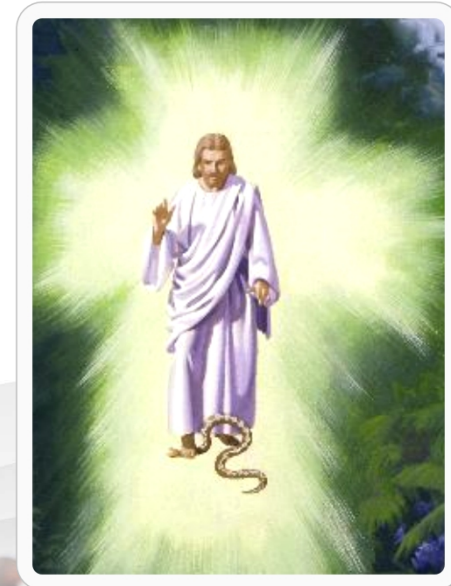


2. Where was Jesus before the world was formed?

John 17:4, 5 [John 8:58]

- *John 17:4, 5*
- ⁴ I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.
- ⁵ And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was

- *John 8:58*
- ⁵⁸ Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.



Answer: In Heaven with the Father

3. What work did Jesus do in the beginning? John 1:1-3 Col. 1:16, 17]

- *John 1:1-3*
- ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- ² The same was in the beginning with God.
- ³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- *Colosians 1:16, 17*
- ⁶ For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:
- ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Answer: He created all things



4. What does Paul call Christ? [1 Cor. 10:4;. 2 Sam. 23:3; Deut. 32:4; Ps. 18:2; 31:3; 42:9; 62:2, 6]

- *1 Corinthians 10:4*
- ⁴ And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.
- *2 Samuel 23:3*
- ³ The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God

Psalms 18:2

² The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Answer: The Rock

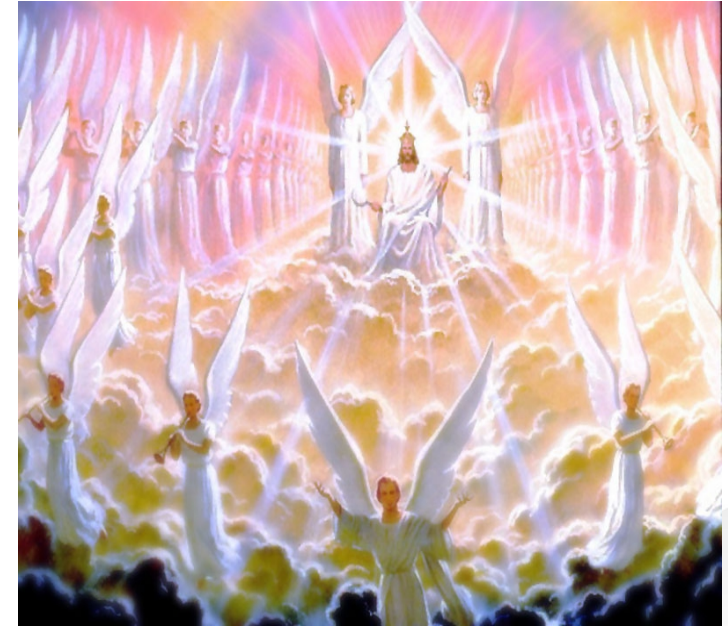


WHY JESUS CAME TO EARTH

5. Why are all human beings, including ourselves, doomed? Rom. 5:12 [Rom. 3:23; 6:23]

Romans 5:12

- ¹² Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
- Romans 3:23
- ²³ For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- Romans 6:23
- ²³ For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.



6. Life is only in God, and only by remaining in harmony with God can life continue. Through sin, the inhabitants of this world have placed themselves out of harmony with God and have received the death penalty. What has Jesus done to pay the penalty for our sins? Isa. 53:4-6 [John 1:29]

- Isaiah 53:4-6
- ⁴ Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
- ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

John 1:29

²⁹ The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

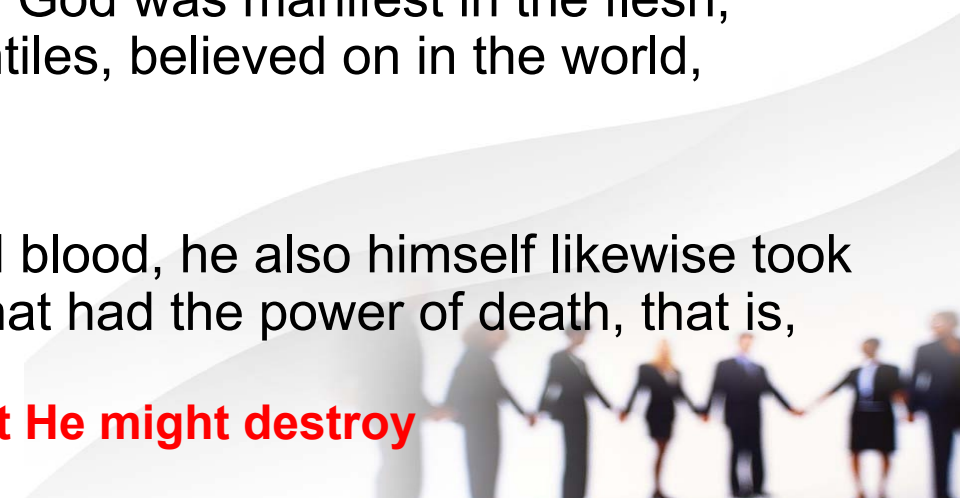
Note: Jesus died so all of us would have a chance to be saved.



7. What did Jesus have to do to take our place (i. e., become our substitute) and pay for our sins? Phil. 2:5-8 [John 1:14; 1 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 2:14]

- Philippians 2:5-8
- ⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
- *1 Timothy 3:16*
- ¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.
- *Hebrews 2:14*
- ¹⁴ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Answer: Become in the likeness of man and die on the cross that He might destroy the works of the Devil



8. Can we receive forgiveness by keeping God's law?

Rom. 3:20 [Gal. 2:16]

- *Romans 3:20*
- ²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Galatians 2:16

¹⁶ Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

- **Answer: No, by the law is the knowledge of sin: If we believe in Jesus Christ, we accept Him by faith. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.**



9. If keeping the law will not save us, how can we be saved from our sins? Acts 16:30, 31

- *Acts 16:30,31*
- ³⁰ The keeper of the prisoners brought Paul and Silas out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
- ³¹ And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
- **[Note: Belief in Jesus involves more than a mere acknowledgement of His existence, for “even the demons believe” that (James 2:19). Saving belief means accepting Jesus as “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6), and as our personal Lord and Savior. Matt. 1:21]: *Jesus came to manifest the Father and that the world can be saved through His spotless life.***
- **Matthew 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.



10. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, what does God do with our “sins that were previously committed”? Rom. 3:23 - 25

- Romans 3:23 - 25
- ²³ For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- ²⁴ Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:
- ²⁵ Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

[Note: When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, He becomes our substitute and we are free from condemnation. From that point on, Christ will begin to mold and fashion us after His own likeness. Eph. 2:8] For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:



11. In order for us to be forgiven, a change must take place in our attitudes. We must be sorry for our sins. How can we become sorry (repentant) for our sins so that we can receive the merits of Christ's death in our behalf? Acts 5:30, 31

- *Acts 5:30. 31*
- ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.
- ³¹ Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

- Romans 2:4
- ⁴ Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

- 2 Corinithians 7:10
- ¹⁰ For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Answer: We cannot make ourselves sorry for our sins. We must come to Jesus just as we are, and He will give us both repentance and forgiveness. Rom. 2:4; 2 Cor. 7:10; Luke 24:47]



12. Besides giving us repentance and forgiveness for the sins we have committed, what else does Jesus promise to do for us? 1 John 1:9 [Ans: To cleanse us. Eze. 36:25-29]

- *1 John 1:9*
- ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness
Ezekiel 36:25-29
- ²⁵ Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.
- ²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
- ²⁷ And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.
- ²⁸ And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.
- ²⁹ I will also save you from all your uncleannesses: and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you.
- **[Answer: To cleanse us]**



13. How does God cleanse us from sin, transforming our characters? Rom. 8:1-4, 13-14

- *Romans 8:1-4*
- There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
- ³ For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
- ⁴ That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- ¹³ For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.
- ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.


- **[Ans: By giving us the same Spirit (that is, the same divine power) that kept Jesus from sin. 2 Cor. 5:21; Matt. 1:21; John 8:34-36] Matt. 1-21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.**



14. After Jesus came down to live and die in our behalf, where did He go and what is He doing for us today? Heb. 4:14-16

- *Hebrew 4:14-16*
- ¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.
- ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.
- ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

[Answer: He went back to heaven to become our “High Priest” that He might help those who are weak and tempted and who call upon Him for help. Heb. 7:25; 2:17, 18; 6:19, 20]

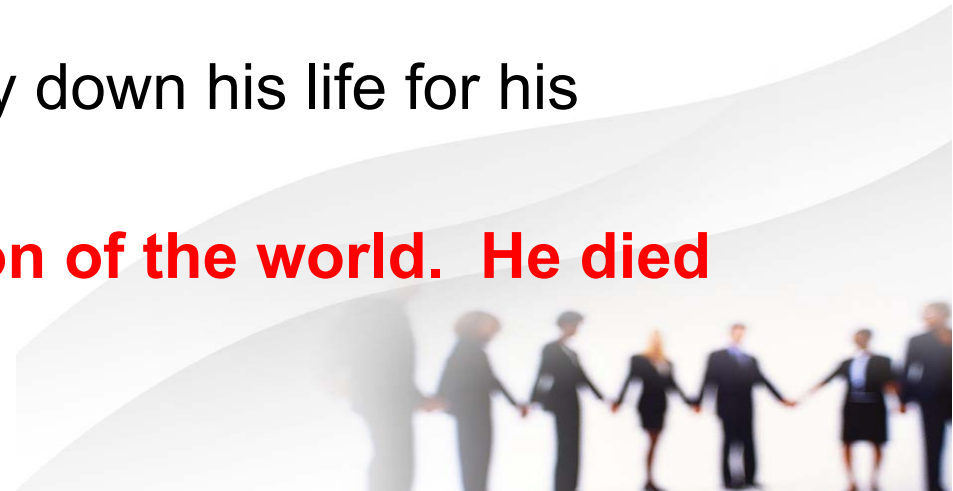


15. What motive prompted God to give us this wonderful friend and Savior, Jesus, who can save us from sin and give us eternal life?

John 3:16 [Acts 4:12; John 15:13; John 1:12; 1 John 3:1-3]

- *John 3:16*
- ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- Acts 4:12
- ¹² Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
- John 15:13
- ¹³ Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

[Note: Jesus was a lamb slain before the foundation of the world. He died so we would not have to die that second death]



Why did God send His Son?

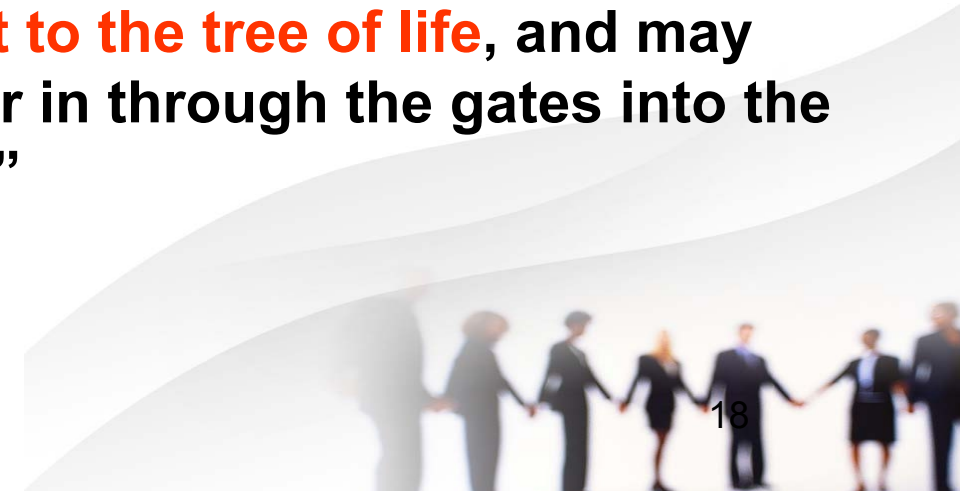
John 3:16



What Promise is Given to Those Who Obey?



- **Rev. 3:10:**
 - “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, **I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation** which shall come upon the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.”
- **Rev. 22:14:**
 - “Blessed are they that do His commandments that **they may have right to the tree of life**, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”



Are you willing to obey as God reveals His truth?

Holy



Bible

Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth". John 17:17

- **Commitment:** If you believe in Jesus as your Savior, He will give you repentance and forgiveness, and He will help you in every time of need. God loves you, and He wants you to live with Him forever. That is why He gave His only Son to die in your place. That is why Jesus is still ministering for you in heaven as your High Priest. Will you accept Him as your Lord and Savior today? Will you ask Jesus to come into your life and make you His child?

