

THE GREATEST MAN ALIVE



Developed as a study course by Emmaus Correspondence School, founded in 1942.

The Greatest Man Alive

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STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

Who is the greatest person who has ever lived? Jesus Christ. Whether you know a lot or almost nothing about Him, this course will help you discover Him for yourself. You will learn from the Bible who He really is, what He did, and how you can know Him.

Lessons You Will Study

1. Who Is Jesus? 7
2. What Did He Do? 15
3. How Can I Meet Him? 23

Course Components

This course has two parts: this study course and the exam booklet.

How To Study

This study has three chapters, and each chapter has its own exam. Begin by asking God to help you understand the material. Read the chapter through at least twice, once to get a general idea of its contents and then again, slowly, looking up any Bible references given.

Begin studying immediately, or if you are in a group, as soon as the group begins. We suggest that you keep a regular schedule by trying to complete at least one chapter per week.

Exams

In the exam booklet there is one exam for each chapter (exam 1 covers chapter 1 of the course). Do not answer the questions by what you think or have always believed. The questions are designed to find out if you understand the material given in the course.

How Your Exams Are Graded

Your instructor will mark any incorrectly answered questions. You will be referred back to the place in the course where the correct answer is to be found. After finishing this course with a passing average, you will be awarded a certificate.

If you enrolled in a class, submit your exam papers to the leader or secretary of the class who will send them for the entire group to the Correspondence School.

A Note on the Exams

The exams are designed to check your knowledge of the course material and the Scriptures. After you have studied a chapter, review the exam questions for that lesson. If you have difficulty in answering the questions, re-read the material. If questions contain a Scripture reference, you may use your Bible to help you answer them. If your instructor has provided a single page Answer Sheet, record your answer on that sheet. This exam contains the following types of questions:

MULTIPLE CHOICE

You will be asked to write in the letter of the correct answer at the space on the right. Here is an example:

The color of grass is

- A. blue C. yellow
B. green D. orange

 B

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

Questions headed this way are designed to help you express your ideas and feelings. You may freely state your own opinions in answer to such questions.

Returning the Exam Booklet for Grading

- ✓ After completing the exam, check it carefully.
- ✓ Make sure you have followed the directions.
- ✓ Be sure you have written your correct name and address on all material you will send to the School.
- ✓ Return all the exams at one time instead of separating and mailing each individual exam.
- ✓ Return only the exam booklet, not the course book. If you have used the single page Answer Sheet, return only that sheet.
- ✓ Address the envelope correctly.
- ✓ Put the correct postage on the envelope.
- ✓ If you are studying this course through an Associate Instructor or associated ministry or organization, send the exams to the individual or organization from which you obtained the course. Otherwise, send them to the address on page 2.

1

WHO IS JESUS?

Who is Jesus? All kinds of people have asked that question. People asked it when Jesus was on earth, and people have asked it ever since. It is the most important question you can ask.

Jesus' followers, called "disciples," asked that question after they met Him. "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?" they asked (Mark 4:41).

The religious leaders of Jesus' day were not so kind, but they asked the question too. "Who is this who speaks blasphemies?" they asked (Luke 5:21).

Even after He had been preaching for three and a half years, people still asked that question. "And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, 'Who is this?'" (Matthew 21:10).

Who is Jesus?

How we answer that question makes a big difference in the way we live.

The four Gospels were written to help you answer that question for yourself. If you think about what they say and answer the questions honestly, your life will be changed. As one of those Gospels says, the things in them were written so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31).

In this chapter you find out what the Bible says about Jesus Christ.

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BEFORE JESUS CAME

The world was prepared in many ways for Jesus' coming.

God had revealed to His own people, the Jews, that He would raise up a great world leader from among them. The Scriptures contained many predictions about this unique man. Then, during what is called the "exile," when the Jews were scattered among the nations, they carried God's Word with them.

Those who are not Jews are called "Gentiles." Gentiles in the ancient world often lived in luxury in the East. In ancient Greece they enjoyed a brilliant civilization. Roman leaders enjoyed great power.

But none of the things the Gentiles enjoyed satisfied them or saved them from sin.

Philip Schaff, who wrote a great history of the Christian church, says that the people of that day were prepared in many ways for Jesus' coming. Jewish religion, Greek civilization, Roman rule—all made it easier for Jesus' message to be heard.

But religion, civilization, power, great thinking, art, and beautiful writings did not make the people right with God. Attempts to mix Jewish religion with other religions, the death of older religions, even the hunger of some noble souls for God, did not answer their needs.

But "when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son" (Galatians 4:4).

HE WAS A HUMAN BEING

His life was so amazing that we need to be reminded that He was a human being.

1. Read the following passages from the Bible. Write down all the qualities about Jesus Christ that show He was a real human being, just as truly human as you are.

Matthew 2:1 _____

WHO IS JESUS?

Dionysius “the Little” gave us the calendar we now use. He wisely dated our years from the birth of Jesus Christ. Philip Schaff says, “He is the center and turning point not only of chronology (time), but of all history, and the key to all its mysteries.”

Luke 2:40 _____

Luke 2:51-52 _____

Matthew 4:1-11 _____

John 4:1-7 _____

Mark 4:35-41 _____

John 11:28-37 _____

John 19:28-30 _____

What is your conclusion? You should see that the Lord Jesus was a real human being in every way. He was born. As a child He depended on His mother. He was subject to Joseph and His mother. He grew up the way we all do. He knew what it was to be hungry, thirsty, and tired. He had feelings just as you do—joy, sorrow, anger, and love. He experienced temptation and overcame it. His body, His mind, and His feelings all experienced hurt. And He died.

ALTHOUGH HE WAS HUMAN, HE WAS DIFFERENT

Because Jesus was born into a Jewish family, He lived under the rules of the Jewish law. They were very strict.

2. What unusual fact do we learn in Galatians 4:4 about Jesus’ parents?

Graham Scroggie, the Scottish preacher, says, “The question of the virgin birth of Christ is not one of theology, but of fact. Either He was born of a virgin, or He was not. The narratives are either historically

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true or they are deliberate fiction. The main sources of our information are Matthew and Luke. It is entirely a matter of evidence, and all the evidence goes to show that these records are genuine documents of the Apostolic Age; that they were written by the men whose names they bear; and that the story of the virgin birth was in each of them from the beginning.”

Jesus said and did things that show He was different from you and me. People who knew Him testified to that fact.

3. In what ways do the following Bible verses show that Jesus was different from you and me? Write down all the differences you find.

Compare Romans 3:23 with Hebrews 4:14-16

John 8:29 _____

John 8:45-47 _____

Luke 23:41 _____

HE WAS MORE THAN A HUMAN BEING

Jesus was not an ordinary human being. He never sinned. And God was His Father.

4. John's Gospel sometimes calls Jesus "the Word." What does John 1:1-5 tell us about how long He had existed?

Notice that John does not say He began "before the world was created." He writes that before the world was created He "already existed." He existed before His human birth, and there never was a time when He did not exist! Later John tells us, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

Of course, only God has always existed.



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5. Why were Jewish leaders ready to stone Jesus to death? (John 8:48-59)

6. John 3:16 tells us that Jesus is God's _____ Son.

By nature Jesus was God's SON. You can understand how important this fact is if you think of the difference between something you make and something you give birth to. If you make a table or a robot, you make something that is different from you. It is not human. But if you have a child, that child is the same kind of being you are. He or she is human, because you are.

God made man. Man is not divine. But Jesus is begotten of God. He is divine. He is God's only Son.

Matthew 1:20-23 tells us that the Old Testament predicted the coming of Jesus hundreds of years before He was born. For example, Isaiah 9:6 says, "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

7. What titles in Isaiah 9:6 clearly show that the Child is God?

8. After His disciples had time to watch Him and hear His teaching, Jesus asked them who they thought He was. According to Matthew 16:13-20, what was Peter's answer?

(Verse 17 tells us how Peter knew who Jesus was.)



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9. What did Jesus say at His trial that made the high priest tear his clothes and accuse Jesus of blasphemy (claiming to be God)? (Mark 14:61-64)
-
-

Jesus' claim was blasphemy—unless He really was who He claimed to be! He knew the Jewish leaders would call for His death. Since His death had to take place when it was God's time (John 8:20), Jesus did not make such a claim in public before this time.

10. Who did Jesus say was the only one we should worship? (Matthew 4:9-10).
-

11. Why did Peter not want Cornelius to fall at his feet and bow down before him? (Acts 10:19-33).
-

12. What did the angel say to John when John fell at his feet and was about to worship him? (Revelation 22:1-9).
-

13. What significant act did Jesus allow His disciples to do in Matthew 14:33?
-

The Bible says from Genesis to Revelation that only God should be worshipped. Deuteronomy 5:7-10 says, "You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting

WHO IS JESUS?

the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.”

14. What, according to Romans 1:4, is the greatest proof that Jesus is God?

15. What two proofs did Jesus give His disciples in Luke 24:36-43 that He had been raised from the dead?

16. Go over your answers carefully. What has impressed you most about Jesus Christ and who He is?

C. S. Lewis, well-known author of *Mere Christianity* wrote, “A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said wouldn’t be a great moral teacher. He’d either be a lunatic ... or else He’d be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool ... or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God.”

CHAPTER 1 EXAM

WHO IS JESUS?

EXAM GRADE _____

Before starting this exam, write your name and address on the front of this Exam Booklet.

Directions: Read each question carefully and write the letter of the correct answer in the blank space on the right. Use the separate answer sheet if provided.

1. The disciples asked “Who is this man?” when Jesus
 - A. turned water into wine
 - B. raised the dead
 - C. fed the five thousand
 - D. made the wind and the waves obey Him

2. The Jews prepared the world for the coming of Christ by
 - A. carrying God’s Word to the nations
 - B. showing that civilization wasn’t able to satisfy us
 - C. proving that luxury couldn’t satisfy our deepest needs
 - D. revealing that power alone couldn’t make us happy

3. Jesus was born in

A. Jerusalem	C. Nazareth
B. Bethlehem	D. Capernaum

4. Jesus’ real father was

A. Joseph	C. kept a secret
B. God	D. known once but has been forgotten

5. The Lord Jesus
 - A. was never tempted
 - B. was tempted but hardly ever sinned
 - C. never sinned
 - D. was far away from God’s saving presence

6. The Lord Jesus
 - A. came into existence when He was born
 - B. began to exist shortly before He was born
 - C. began to exist when God created Him and called Him “the Word”
 - D. always existed

- 7. Which of the following titles of the Lord is not found in Isaiah 9:6?
A. Mighty God C. Everlasting Father
B. Good Shepherd D. Prince of Peace _____

- 8. The high priest tore his clothes when he heard Jesus claim to be the Son of God because
A. he was jealous of Jesus
B. he knew Jesus was not telling the truth
C. he rejected Jesus' claim to be God
D. he tripped over his long robe in anger _____

- 9. According to Jesus, only God should be worshipped. Yet He let His disciples worship Him, and He lived a unique life. These facts prove that He
A. was deceived about Himself
B. pretended to be God
C. deliberately deceived people
D. was truly God _____

- 10. According to Romans 1:4, the greatest proof that Jesus was God's Son is
A. His virgin birth C. His resurrection
B. His miraculous life D. His ascension _____

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

Who was Jesus Christ? (Give a reason for your answer.)
