

BIBLICAL STUDIES SERIES

## TIME FOR THE MESSIAH

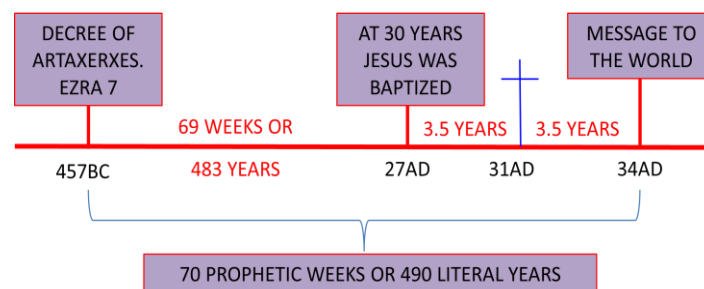
PART B

***"WHAT DID HE PREACH?"***

### INTRODUCTION:

Jesus began His mission to proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom soon after He was baptized. Now that He was anointed as the Messiah, He needed to be tested and God's Spirit led him to the wilderness. At His successful overcoming of Satan, Jesus travelled north to Galilee and began to call His disciples. He called some of them and begun His miracle workings. In due time, Jesus called Matthew and then others, tallying 12 disciples who would be the apostles to the Christian Church.

We studied that the Time of the End (TOE) had come and this spanned the entire life of John the Baptist and Jesus, right up to the end of Daniel's 70 prophetic weeks, which ended in 34AD. Beyond this time, the Gospel went to the Gentiles. Hence the diagram:



In this study, we want to explore where Jesus went and what He did after His testing in the wilderness. Let us do this with a humble and open mind. We will endeavour to remain within the Gospel narrative.

### Q1. Who was Jesus Christ?

**Note:** According to John 1:14, **the Word became flesh** and made His dwelling among us. He was God but took on humanity in order to save fallen human beings. He sympathised with our problems, issues and temptations just as we do, but relied on God for strength and faith. Jesus is the key to membership in God's family. When He stooped to our level by becoming a man, He made it possible for us to relate to Him and for God to relate to us through Him.

We are told that Jesus existed from the beginning with God His Father. **"He was with God and He was God"** (John 1:1-2). According to **Ephesians 2:8-9** He imparts grace to save us, through our faith. He does this because of His and the Father's love for mankind. (**John 3:16-17**)

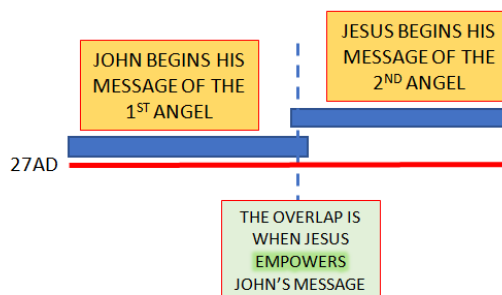
Jesus is the way, the truth and He is life (John 14:6). Scripture makes it clear that Jesus was the long awaited Messiah, but even more than that, **He was God in the flesh.**

The Bible has over 300 prophecies about the Messiah, but here we will only mention a few. (Isaiah 53 really says it all):

- a. Jesus was the Son of God (Matt 16:16, 27:43, Mark 5:7, 15:39, Luke 1:35, 22:70, John 10:36, Acts 8:37, Heb 1:1-2, 8-9).
- b. He was God as His Father was God, from the beginning (John 1:1-2, 1 John 1:1-2, John 8:58).
- c. He was the Creator of all things (John 1:3)
- d. He was the long waited "Messiah the prince" (Dan 9:25).
- e. He was to be born in Bethlehem Ephrathah (Micah 5:2).
- f. He was to be born of a virgin (Isa 7:14).
- g. The Messiah had to suffer (Luke 24:25-27).
- h. He was despised and rejected by men (Isa 53:3)
- i. He bore our griefs and carried our sorrows and was stricken and afflicted in our place (Isa 53:4-5)
- j. He would bring in a new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31).
- k. He would be forsaken and pierced and die (Ps 22:1-31, Matt 27:35,39,43-44,46, Mark 15:34, John 19:23-24,30).
- l. The Messiah was to be resurrected (Acts 2:22-32, 13:35-37).
- m. He was raised and became our High Priest in heaven (Heb 2:17,3:1,4:14-15, 7:26).

<p>1 Kings 18:21 Rev 3:16</p> <p>Rev 14:7</p> <p>Luke 3:12-14</p> <p>Matt 11:8-11</p> <p>V13</p>	<p><b>Q2. Who was John and what was his ministry about?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> John the Baptist was one who prepared the way for the Messiah to arrive. His message was that of <b>repentance</b> and the <b>fear of God</b>, as we have already studied. John was truly Elijah who came before the Messiah to bring the hearts of the people back to God.</p> <p>Elijah preached: "<b>How long will you falter between <u>two opinions</u>?</b>" this is really the same as saying "<b>So then, because you are lukewarm, and <u>neither cold nor hot</u>, I will vomit you out of My mouth.</b>" (ie, make up your minds; become serious about your faith and God).</p> <p>In other words, John's message was to bring a knowledge and a fear of God into people, so that they will turn back to Him. Revelatiobn puts it this way:</p> <p><b>"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> John's message reached the simple, the poor, the tax collector, the Pharisee, the Sadducee and Roman soldier.</p> <p><b>"Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, 'Teacher, what shall we do?'"<sup>13</sup> And he said to them, 'Collect no more than what is appointed for you.'</b> <sup>14</sup> Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, 'And what shall we do?' "</p> <p><b>Note:</b> We see also, that Jesus spoke of John very highly - as a prophet of God - one who had a very SPECIAL message to bring:</p> <p><b>"But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup> But what did you go out to see? A prophet? <u>Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet.</u> <sup>10</sup> For this is <u>he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.'</u> <sup>11</sup> <u>"Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist..."</u></b></p> <p><b>"For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. <sup>14</sup> <u>And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.</u> <sup>15</sup> He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"</b></p>
<p>Matt 5:1-12</p> <p>V19</p> <p>V20</p> <p>V22</p> <p>V24</p> <p>V28</p> <p>V32</p> <p>V44-45</p> <p>Rev 14:8</p> <p>2 Cor 5:17</p> <p>John 3:30</p>	<p><b>Q3. Why was John's ministry diminished when Christ appeared?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> John's ministry had a purpose and it was successfully achieved, despite him losing his life. Elijah doesn't always keep his head; Sometimes he loses it. Once the message of repentance and a turning to God was received by the people, the message of the second angel would continue, by repeating and enlarging the message. Now it was Christ's turn to bring in the message of righteousness.</p> <p>Jesus came preaching the same message as John, <u>with the added message</u> of the sermon on the mount – that of godliness. <u>His messages far surpassed those of John</u> because they dealt with the mind and the heart. In other words, Jesus added things like,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Ways to happiness:</u> "Blessed are poor...those that mourn...the meek...the merciful...the peacemakers...", those that are persecuted...;"</li> <li><u>keeping the commandments:</u> "... Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments,..."</li> <li><u>righteousness:</u> "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds <i>the righteousness</i> of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven."</li> <li><u>Sin in thought:</u> "But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment."</li> <li><u>Reconciliation with others and with God:</u> "...leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."</li> <li><u>Regarding adultery in the heart:</u> "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."</li> <li><u>The sacredness of marriage:</u> "But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery."</li> <li><u>Love for enemies:</u> "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be sons of your Father in heaven."</li> </ol> <p><b>Note:</b> Jesus spoke about many different aspects of life, so that people can learn more about God. He also gave the model prayer "Our father, which Art in heaven" (Matt 6:6-13). Suffice to say that His words and lifestyle, were the perfect model for us to follow today. His was truly the second angel's message because as He imparts to us His life, we can truly say "Babylon is fallen" from us. We are a new creation:</p> <p><b>"And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon"<sup>[f]</sup> is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.'</b> "</p> <p><b>"Therefore, if anyone <i>is</i> in Christ, <i>he is</i> a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> John recognized the Messiah and declared: "<b>He must increase, but I <i>must</i> decrease.</b>"</p>

John's message is empowered as Jesus repeats and enlarges upon it. Christ's timeline begins to look like this:



## GALILEAN MINISTRY 27AD, AGE 30

### Q4. Why did Jesus begin His work in Galilee?

**Note:** Christ announced His mission to His people and was shown the door. He treated with contempt, as a heretic from the word go. We read this in Matthew's account, where he describes that Christ preached His first sermon in His hometown of Nazareth, where He grew up. He went into the Synagogue and read from Isaiah saying,

**"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken hearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."**

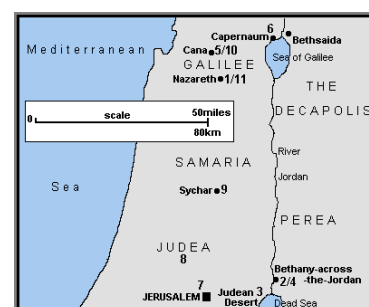
**Note:** Then He announced, **"Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."** The people were not ready to hear this. They were offended that Someone can speak like this, not realising that this was the hour of their visitation. At this they tried to throw Him out of their city. So Jesus left his hometown.

He travelled as far as Galilee to the north to begin His work, and His message also travelled throughout Samaria and Syria, further north:

**"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went throughout all Syria;"**

**Note:** All that the Lord did was according to prophecy. He was fulfilling what the Scriptures had written about Him. Isaiah wrote:

**"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned."**



### Q5. Who did the Lord call in Galilee?

**Luke wrote:** that He before He began to preach He called disciples to Himself four disciples, while by the sea of Gennesaret (Galilee). First was **James and John**, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon (Peter). These were simple fishermen. Luke gives us a look just prior to the sermon on the mount, saying that Jesus chose the remainder of 12 disciples just prior to this sermon.

**"For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.' So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him."**

**Matthew's and Mark's accounts:** are the same, that as Jesus walked by the sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, James and John (sons of Zebedee) and called them.

**"And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.' They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him."**

**In John wrote,** that the first two disciples were also disciples of John the Baptist. Jesus was baptized in Galilee and while there, Andrew who went and spoke to his brother Simon (Peter).

**"The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, 'Look, the Lamb of God!' When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus... Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had**

<p>Luke 6:13-16</p>	<p>followed Jesus. <u>The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him</u>, "We have found the Messiah."</p> <p><b>Note:</b> In the crowd of disciples that followed Him, Jesus chose another 8 more disciples, totalling 12. "And when it was day, He called His disciples to <i>Himself</i>; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles: <sup>14</sup> <u>Simon</u>, whom He also named Peter, and <u>Andrew</u> his brother; <u>James</u> and <u>John</u>; <u>Philip</u> and <u>Bartholomew</u>; <sup>15</sup> <u>Matthew</u> and <u>Thomas</u>; <u>James</u> the son of Alphaeus, and <u>Simon</u> called the Zealot; <sup>16</sup> <u>Judas the son of James</u>, and <u>Judas Iscariot</u> who also became a traitor."</p>
	<p><b>Q6. What major events are recorded during His ministry in Galilee?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Galilee was about 126Km to the north of Jerusalem, at the top end of the Sea of Galilee (see the map); a not so liked area to the Jews because of its close proximity to the Samaritans (to the left of the Jordan), that Jesus gave His sermon on the mount.</p> <p><b>Summary of Major Events:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good catch of fish (Luke 5:1-8)</li> <li>2. Calling of first four disciples (Luke 5:9-11)</li> <li>3. Wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11)</li> <li>4. Sermon on the mount, near Capernaum (Matt 5-8)</li> </ol> <p><b>Other Events and Miracles:</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Luke throws light on the events in Galilee. In Capernaum, a close by town, Jesus performed many miracles. At this time the scribes and Pharisees began to question Him for His and His disciples' actions - the way they ate, kept company, healings on the Sabbath.</p> <p><b>Some of His other deeds were:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. He cast out an unclean spirit (Luke 4:31+)</li> <li>2. He healed Peter's mother in law (Luke 4:38-39).</li> <li>3. He also cleansed a leper and healed a paralytic (Luke 5:12+, 17+).</li> <li>4. This is also where Matthew the tax collector was called (v27+).</li> <li>5. He healed a centurion's servant (Luke 7:1-10),</li> <li>6. He raised the son of Nain the widow (v11-17)</li> <li>7. He received a message from John in prison (v18-23).</li> <li>8. There he also forgave the woman who washed His feet with her tears. This was Mary Magdalene, (Luke 8:2)</li> <li>9. He raised the ruler's daughter (Matt 9:18-26)</li> <li>10. He healed the woman with the flow of blood for 12 years, as she touched His garment (Matt 9:20-22)</li> <li>11. He healed the two blind men (Matt 9:27-31)</li> <li>12. He healed the man that was mute (Matt 9:32-33)</li> <li>13. He had dinner with Simon a Pharisee (Luke 7:39-43).</li> <li>14. Healing at the pool of Bethesda (John 5:6-9)</li> </ol> <p><b>Note:</b> It was at this time that Jesus spoke to a man called Simon about forgiveness (Luke 7:41-47), by the parable of the two debtors - one who owed little and one who owed much. Their creditor forgave both of them, and the one who owed more obviously showed more respect than the man who owed a little. Jesus was making the point that because He had forgiven the woman who washed His feet, she showed more love than the man Simon, who had only given Him food. Therefore her sins were forgiven.</p>
<p>Luke 8:11</p> <p>Luke 8:19-21, Matt 12:46</p>	<p><b>Q7. Where does the record place Jesus next?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Luke 10 begins with Jesus travelling through <u>"every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God"</u> in the regions of Galilee. He was ministered to by a number of the women - Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susana and others.</p> <p>We are not told exactly where He went but that it was around Galilee and Samaria. There Jesus spoke <u>the parable of the soils</u> to make the point that good soil (a diligent mind) is required for the seed (God's Word) to take root. The soil (ground) is the mind; we need to cultivate it and prepare it, giving it good seed so that it will produce good crop – a greater knowledge of God.</p> <p><b>"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God...."</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> In verse 19 the narrative also introduces <b>Christ's mother</b> and the fact <b>that He had brothers and sisters</b> from Joseph (and Mary). Matthew mentions these two times. Referring to these actual brothers and sisters, we read,</p> <p><b>"Then His mother and brothers came to Him, and could not approach Him because of the crowd. <sup>20</sup> And it was told Him <i>by some</i>, who said, '<u>Your mother and Your brothers</u> are standing outside, desiring to see You.' <sup>21</sup> But He answered and said to them, '<u>My mother and My brothers</u> are these who hear the word of God and do it.'"</b></p>





Matt 13:54-57	<p><b>"Where did this <i>Man</i> get this wisdom and <i>these</i> mighty works?" <sup>55</sup> Is this not the carpenter's son? <u>Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?</u> <sup>56</sup> <u>And His sisters, are they not all with us?</u> Where then did this <i>Man</i> get all these things?" <sup>57</sup> So they were offended at Him.</b></p>
Desire of Ages p87.2	<p><b><u>"All this displeased His brothers.</u> Being older than Jesus, they felt that He should be under their dictation... Jesus loved His brothers, and treated them with unfailing kindness; <u>but they were jealous of Him,</u> and manifested the most decided unbelief and contempt."</b></p>
Ibid, p237.5	<p><b><u>"They had seen Him toiling up and down the hills, they were acquainted with His brothers and sisters, and knew His life and labors."</u></b></p>
Matt 10:1	<p><b>Q8. What preparation did the disciples receive to equip them for mission?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Luke informs us that when Jesus called His 12 disciples, he gave them power to do the same works that He did. Then He sent them out for a time. Keep in mind that this was not at the beginning of their experience, but towards 30AD sometime. They would have received training by then:</p> <p><b>"And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, <u>He gave them power</u> over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease."</b></p> <p><b>V5-10</b> <b><u>"These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. <sup>6</sup> But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' <sup>8</sup> Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. <sup>9</sup> Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, <sup>10</sup> nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food...."</u></b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Here we can see that the power that was His by faith, was also theirs by faith. They did exactly the same miracles that He did. However, they had a problem: Their preparation over the 3½ years with the Lord, should have prepared their characters to give the message to those around them. But they weakened when they faced a crisis. They still had not understood the purpose for His coming, thinking that He was going to free them from the Romans.</p> <p>His purpose for them was to have His divinity merge with their humanity, as He was with the Holy Spirit. By faith they would be new creations and proclaim the kingdom of God around them. But at the Last Supper they argued who will be greatest in the kingdom, and in the garden they fled.</p> <p>Our faith in knowing Jesus as our Lord and Saviour makes us new creations.</p> <p><b>2 Cor 5:17</b> <b><u>"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."</u></b></p> <p><b>Gal 2:20</b> <b><u>"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..."</u></b></p> <p><b>Col 1:27</b> <b><u>"To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is <u>Christ in you, the hope of glory.</u>"</u></b></p>
	<p><b>Q9. What other events took place while in Galilee?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> After having been sent out as missionaries, the disciples returned from their mission with a positive report, and were excited about the successes they experienced. As Jesus spoke to <u>them</u>, crowds began to gather about. Near sunset Jesus knew that the people were tired and hungry and asked the disciples to feed them. He also healed all the sick. This is the feeding of the 5,000, at which they praised God. What a day it must have been!</p> <p>Luke informs us that when Jesus was spending alone time praying, His disciples came to Him and He asked them Who they believed Him to be, at which Peter answered, <b><i>"The Christ of God"</i></b> (Luke 9:20). (See Q9 for Matthew's account).</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Jesus spoke many other parables and did many miracles in the region of Galilee before He departed. Some of these were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The wheat and the tares (Matt 13:24-30)</li> <li>➤ The parable of the mustard seed (V31-32)</li> <li>➤ The parable of leaven (v33)</li> <li>➤ The parable of hidden treasure in a field (v44)</li> <li>➤ The parable of the pearl of great price (v45-46)</li> <li>➤ The parable of the dragnet (v47-52)</li> <li>➤ The healing of the demon possessed boy (Luke 9:37-42)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> The Lord now began to predict His death (See Q10 below for Matthew's account). He had spent the majority of His days in the northern regions and now He was preparing for His descent to Jerusalem for this tragic event. While travelling south, He passed through Samaria, where a particular village did not receive Him. His disciples tried to bring resolution by thinking that they could call fire down upon these people and Jesus rebuked them.</p> <p><b>"But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> And when His disciples James and John saw <i>this</i>, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?" <sup>55</sup> But He turned and rebuked them, <sup>[k]</sup> and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. <sup>56</sup> For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save <i>them</i>." And they went to another village."</b> (Luke 9:53-55).</p>

## CHRIST'S MINISTRY ON THE WAY TO JERUSALEM 31AD, 33YEARS OF AGE

<p>Matt 15:26-28</p> <p>Matt 16:16-19</p>	<p><b>Q10. What was Christ's destination after Galilee?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Matthew writes that Jesus and His disciples set out to go back to Jerusalem, and they passed through the coastal areas of Tyre and Sidon along the Levant or Gaza strip. There He met a woman from Canaan, asking for mercy for her demon possessed daughter. Jesus tested her faith she showed to have great faith:</p> <p><b>"But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." <sup>27</sup> And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered and said to her, "<u>O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.</u>" And her daughter was healed from that very hour."</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> From there He went out on a mountain and attracted great numbers of people. He "fed the 5,000" besides women and children and then travelled to the region of Magdala by boat (v39, see the map). This was a town about half way down on the west side of the Sea of Galilee. There He was tested by the Pharisees and Sadducees as they asked Him for a sign from heaven. As we know, He gave no sign except "the sign of the prophet Jonah". This was the sign of His crucifixion over 3 days and 3 nights.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Their next stop was Caesaria-Philippi in the region of Samaria (north of the Sea of Galilee). It is where He asked the disciples who they believed He was (as discussed above), and Mathew expands on what Peter answered and what Jesus replied:</p> <p><b>"Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' <sup>17</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for <u>flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.</u> <sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that <u>you are Peter, and on this rock [this truth] I will build My church</u>, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' "</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Here Jesus revealed that it was upon Himself that the Father was going to build His church. He did not refer to Peter as the rock. The rock is that Revelation of truth: "<b>Upon this rock</b>", that is, "<b>upon this truth</b>" "<b>I will build My church.</b>"</p>				
<p>From Heaven with Love, p281.3-4, EGW</p>	<p><b>Q11. What were Christ's major activities in Caesarea-Philippi?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> It was at Caesaria-Philippi that Jesus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Began to talk about His sufferings and death</b> after He had come to Jerusalem (Matt 16:21).</li> <li>Peter displayed disbelief of this and refused to accept it, occasioning Jesus to rebuke him, saying "<b>get thee behind me Satan</b>" (Matt 16:23).</li> <li>He told them that they should be aware of the leaven of the Pharisees (v6).</li> </ol> <p><b>"Satan had interposed between Peter and his Master. The words of Christ were spoken to the one trying to separate him from his Redeemer: "Get behind Me, Satan." Let Me come face to face with Peter, that I may reveal to him the mystery of My love.</b></p> <p><b>"It was a bitter lesson, which Peter learned but slowly: the path of Christ lay through agony and humiliation. But in the heat of the furnace fire the disciple was to learn its blessing."</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Do we believe that Christ truly suffered for us, and that He's coming back to take us? Or do we say no, this is a long way off, just live your life as you think best? Do we need to learn the bitter lesson like Peter?</p>				
<p><b>Q12. Who is Jesus portrayed by the Gospel according to John?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Was Jesus a mere man or angel incarnate or a just man and a great teacher? The answer to this question really determines where we stand in relation to truth. It is important to consider what we believe on this because it is crucial to the faith we profess about a Saviour.</p> <p>The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called synoptic gospels because they are very similar. The Gospel of John presents Jesus in a very different light to the other three. John also wrote 1,2 and 3 John. In both the <b>Gospel of John</b> chapter 1 and <b>1 John</b> chapter 1, he presents Jesus as God. Consider this:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="113 1861 1318 2056"> <thead> <tr> <th>GOSPEL OF JOHN 1</th><th>1 JOHN</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>"In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the Word was God 2 He was in the beginning with God," (1:1-2).</td><td>"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life." (1:1).</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		GOSPEL OF JOHN 1	1 JOHN	"In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the Word was God 2 He was in the beginning with God," (1:1-2).	"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life." (1:1).
GOSPEL OF JOHN 1	1 JOHN				
"In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the Word was God 2 He was in the beginning with God," (1:1-2).	"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life." (1:1).				



The parallels in these two books are immediately evident, with similar language. For example, both mention “the beginning”. Genesis 1:1 also begins with “in the beginning”.

Other aspects of Christ’s divinity are also evident in the book of John:

1. giving eternal life ([John 10:27-28](#)).
2. the bread of life ([John 6:35](#), [51](#) – an obvious allusion to the manna given by God out of heaven in 6:32-35).
3. the way the truth and the life ([John 14:6](#)).
4. the light of the world ([John 8:12](#)).
5. proceeding from the Father ([John 8:42](#)).
6. being the ‘I am’ ([John 8:58](#)) – see also [Exodus 3:14](#).
7. being one with the Father ([John 10:30](#)) for which the Jews wanted to kill him – see [Lev. 24:16](#)).
8. sharing the glory of God before creation ([John 17:5](#); note that God shares His glory with no one, [Isaiah 42:8](#)).
9. calling Jesus His own Father making Himself equal with God ([John 5:18](#)).
10. receiving the same honor that you give to the Father ([John 5:23](#)).
11. knowing all things ([John 21:17](#) – something only God can do).
12. and in [John 18:5](#), in the Garden of Gethsemane when Jesus answers those who came to arrest Him with the statement, “I am,” they fall back to ground.

**Note:** Continuing in the other book John wrote – Revelation, the comparisons with other Scripture texts are stark. Consider what Jesus said and what John wrote:

BOOK OF REVELATION	REST OF SCRIPTURE
<p>“Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, 18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades,” (<a href="#">Rev. 1:17-18</a>).</p> <p>“Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. 13 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end,” (<a href="#">Rev. 22:12-13</a>).</p> <p>“These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful,” (<a href="#">Rev. 17:14</a>; <a href="#">19:16</a>).</p> <p>“for the Lamb in the center of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them to springs of the water of life; and God shall wipe every tear from their eyes,” (<a href="#">Rev. 7:17</a>).</p>	<p>“Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: ‘I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides Me,” (<a href="#">Isaiah 44:6</a>).</p> <p>“Behold, the Lord God will come with might, with His arm ruling for Him. Behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him,” (<a href="#">Isaiah 40:10</a>).</p> <p>“that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15which He will bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,” (<a href="#">1 Tim. 6:14-15</a>).</p> <p>“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters,” (<a href="#">Psalm 23:1-2</a>).</p>

**Note:** Divine themes run through the book of Revelation. Both Jesus and God are called the first and last. Both are coming to give out their reward. Both are the Lord of Lords and the King of Kings. Both are the divine shepherds. It is no wonder that in three significant verses in the gospel John records Jesus saying about Himself:

**John 8:24**, “I said therefore to you, that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am, you shall die in your sins,”

**V28**, “Jesus, therefore, said, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me,”

**V58**, “Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am,” (see also [Exodus 3:14](#)).

**Note:** It is apparent that John considered Jesus more than a man or angel. He is God in the flesh.

<p>Matt 17:2</p> <p>The Great Controversy (1858), The</p>	<p><b>Q13. Jesus manifested His glory. What form did this take?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> Christ’s appearance was according the Bible Prophecy and the Lord knew it. He was aware that,</p> <p>a. “his time had not yet come” (<a href="#">John 2:4</a>, <a href="#">7:6</a>, <a href="#">30</a>, <a href="#">8:20</a>, <a href="#">11:30</a>).</p> <p>b. His “Time was at hand” (<a href="#">Matt 26:18</a>, <a href="#">Mark 1:15</a>, <a href="#">6:35</a>, <a href="#">13:33</a>).</p> <p>So He was aware of <u>prophetic time</u>. We see this on two levels:</p> <p>1. Because He was going to die and then ascend to His Father, He wanted to leave them with an encouraging <u>hope</u>. So He took them to the mountain and was transfigured.</p> <p>“<b>And was transfigured before them:</b> and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.”</p> <p>“I saw that the faith of the disciples was greatly strengthened at the transfiguration. <u>God chose to give the followers of Jesus strong proof that he was the promised Messiah, that in their bitter</u></p>
---	--

Transfiguration, Ch6	<p><u>sorrow and disappointment they should not entirely cast away their confidence</u>. At the transfiguration the Lord sent Moses and Elias to talk with Jesus concerning his suffering and death. Instead of choosing angels to converse with his Son, God chose those who had an experience in the trials of earth”.</p>
Dan 9:25	<p>2. His references to <b>time</b> show His divinity – His omniscience. They tell us that Jesus valued prophetic time such as the great prophecy of Daniel about the coming of the Messiah:</p> <p><b>“Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem <u>unto the Messiah the Prince</u> shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks:”</b> (ie 490 literal years).</p> <p><b>Note:</b> We need to be aware of and be able to calculate prophetic time, as we near the time of tribulation ahead. This is the <b>“going to and fro”</b> in God's Word, increasing knowledge. The Lord took three of His disciples to a mountain and further revealed His glory. On the mount of Transfiguration, Jesus was transfigured before them:</p>
<p>Heb 1:13</p> <p>Heb 1:4</p> <p>Heb 2:9</p> <p>Heb 7:24</p> <p>Heb 10:19, 12:2</p> <p>Heb 12:22-24</p> <p>Heb 8:1-2</p> <p>Heb 7:1</p> <p>Heb 13:12-14</p>	<p><b>Q13. What does the apostle Paul write concerning Christ's work on earth and in heaven?</b></p> <p><b>Note:</b> The apostle Paul wrote the book of Hebrews. It is a disputed subject, but study shows that Paul's writing style is all over Hebrews. In this book he identifies Christ as:</p> <p>In chapter 1, Jesus is said to be the eternal Son of God. God says <b>“You are My Son”</b> and <b>“Your throne O God”</b> and <b>“You Lord, laid the foundation of the earth...”</b>. God says <b>“Sit at My throne.”</b></p> <p>Second, Jesus is exalted above every other name because of His death (Heb 1:3). He stepped down to our level into sinful humanity (Heb 2:6-9, 14, 17).</p> <p>Paul Jesus as <b>“having becomes much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs”</b>.</p> <p>Furthermore, <b>“we see Jesus, who was made a little lower then the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man” (Hebrews 2:9)</b>. Also <b>“was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.”</b></p> <p>Therefore, we may have <b>“boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus” (Hebrews 10:19)</b>. Thus Jesus is our sacrifice, our surety, and our way to God, as well as our eternal high priest and only Son of God. We can look <b>“unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.”</b></p> <p>Paul says that He is also our mediator and the Sanctifier of our souls. We have <b>“come unto Mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God. . . . And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant.”</b></p> <p>Jesus is presented our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary. <b>“Now <i>this</i> is the main point of the things we are saying: <u>We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,</u> <sup>2</sup><u>a Minister of the <sup>[a]</sup>sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.</u>”</b></p> <p>Jesus is of the order of Melchizedek – a priest with “no beginning or end” – one who is also a king.</p> <p><b>“For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham... king of Salem, meaning <u>“king of peace,” without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.</u>”</b></p> <p>Lastly, our main incentive to a life dedicated to Christ is that <b>“Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, <u>suffered without the gate</u>. Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.”</b></p>

JIM TYROKOMOS  
ADVANCING LIGHT MINISTRIES