

Bethel Bible Series

The Nature of Jesus

Review - NT Studies 1-5

"He's only human" is no excuse. So was Jesus. - PK

Welcome

Opening - What is your favorite concept or lesson from the Old Testament?
Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

New Testament Study 1 - *In the Fullness of Time*

Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha

Non-canonical books written and circulated in 200 BC - 100 AD
Good for historical and ethical reading, not for doctrinal teaching
Apocrypha - Greek for *hidden*
Pseudepigrapha - Greek for *false authorship*

The Intertestamental Period

Persian Period (539-333 BC)
Exiles returned, Jerusalem rebuilt, God Law reinstated
Greek Period (333-63 BC)
Alexander the Great built the Greek Empire by eastern conquests
Greeks promoted Hellenism (Greek thought, culture, lifestyle)
Greek became world-wide language, OT translated into Greek (Septuagint)
Sabbath squelched, temple desecrated, circumcision banned by Antiochus
Maccabean and Hasmonean Periods (165-63 BC)
Family of priests led revolt and won independence for Jews
Temple was cleansed and rededicated (celebrated at Hanukkah)
Pharisees, Sadducees and other groups emerged
Rome intervened when two brothers fought for leadership
Roman Period (63 BC -)
Herod the Great was appointed governor of Galilee and *King of the Jews*
Herod's paranoia led to deaths of royal family and innocent babies
Territory was divided between Herod's sons, Judea later had procurators

In the Fullness of Time

Hour Glass

Sword

Greek Pillar

Greek Letters

Golden Eagle

White Flag

Roads to Coliseum

Manuscript

Clasped Hands

Bowed Head

Upraised Arms

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New Testament Study 2 - *The Word Became Flesh*

First Century Jewish Worship Centers

The Temple

Central place to look to God and present offerings and sacrifices
Original temple built by Solomon, Destroyed by Babylonians at exile
Post-exile temple expanded and embellished by Herod the Great

The Synagogue (*Greek for Coming Together*)

Local gathering place for worship, Bible Study, public meetings
Originated during Babylonian captivity when there was no temple
Where Jesus and Paul taught in towns they visited

First Century Jewish Movements

Pharisees

Lay movement focused entirely on keeping God's Law, Led synagogues
Accepted OT books, believed dead would rise when Messiah came

Sadducees

Snobbish priests and nobility, Accepted Pentateuch, Focused on worship rituals
Rejected Pharisee law, resurrection, afterlife, angels

Zealots

Militant group who opposed foreign domination, Fell at Masada in 73 AD

Scribes

Experts of God's Law, Were judges in the Sanhedrin, Evolved into rabbis

Essenes

Pious sect separated from society, Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran, 150BC-70AD
Celibate (adopted babies), lived communally, objected to temple and sacrifices

Who Was Jesus? - Names Given By Others

Jesus (physical name)

Son, Brother

Son of David

Rabbi (Teacher)

Great Prophet

Lord, King

Son of God

God With Us (Immanuel)

Lamb of God

Savior (Jesus, Joshua)

The Anointed One

Christ, Messiah

The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1-3

John 1:14a

John 14:9

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New Testament Study 3 - *Jesus the Man*

The Mystery of The Trinity

There is only one God

There are 3 Persons in that one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Though each Person is fully God, each Person is distinct from the other 2

Wrong Concepts of The Trinity

The Trinity by Division

The Trinity by Addition

The Trinity by Shiftwork

The Trinity by Succession

Creeds, Our Statements of Faith

Nicene Creed - Speaks to the divinity of Jesus

Apostles' Creed - Speaks to the humanity of Jesus

Outlines Christ's descent of humility and ascent of exaltation

Both God and Man

Jesus was both fully God and fully man

Jesus as God revealed Himself and His plan to His world

Jesus as man gave us the perfect example of how we are to live as humans

The Human Nature of Jesus

Temptation

Sorrow

Fear

Friendship

Mourning

Anger

Fatigue

Hunger

Thirst

Jesus - The New Adam

Similarities

Born in the fullness of God's image

Born without sin

Tempted by Satan

Called to live within a limited freedom

Differences

Yearning for greatness

Introduce death vs. resurrection

Jesus the Man

Kneeling Figure

Cradle and Infant

Hand and Dust

Halo Behind Head

Bowed Head

Crown

Flower-decked Staff

Shaft of Light

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New Testament Study 4 - *Jesus, Spokesman to Distortion*

Jesus as Prophet, Priest and King

The Anointed One (Greek - *Christ*, Hebrew - *Messiah*)

Jesus was physically anointed at His baptism

Prophets, Priests and Kings were anointed into God's service

The Jews recognized Jesus as a great prophet

Jesus was the Great High Priest by becoming the ultimate sacrifice

Jesus is King of kings, not of this world

The Role of a Prophet

United for a Destiny - Old Testament Study 6

God blessed Israel with Uniting Factors to allow her to be a blessing

Israel forgot they were means to an end and made them ends in themselves

Recalling a Destiny - Old Testament Study 14

God called prophets to remind Israel of her destiny

Even after returning from exile and rededicating herself to God's service,

Israel reverted back to focusing on the factors,

thereby distorting God's plan to Bless Israel to be a Blessing

A new prophet was needed who would guide a new Israel into her destiny

Jesus' Response to Distortion

Jesus responded to this distortion with His words and actions

by continually trying to lead the Jews back to the purpose of the factors

Matthew 22:34-40 - Summarized Law in two Great Commandments

Matthew 5:17 - Didn't come to abolish Law or Prophets but to fulfill them

Jesus - Spokesman to Distortion

Law Tablets

Scroll

White Band Around Tablets and Scroll

Bright Sky and White Clouds Behind Symbols

Distorted Reflection in Water

Hands Reaching out of Water

Figure

Figure Facing Distortion in Water

Figure in Stance of a Rescuer

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New Testament Study 5 - *Jesus the Teacher*

First Century Education

Beth-Sefer
Beth-Talmud
Beth-Midrash

The Rabbi's Yoke

Yoke
Yoke binds and loosens
Rabbi tested disciples with questions
Come, follow me
Jesus' disciples

Shmihah
You have heard it said ..., but I tell you ...
2 rabbis with Shmihah laid hands on Rabbi with new Shmihah

Jesus the Teacher

Lighted Lamp
Parted Curtains
Great Crown Over Earth
First Diamond in Crown
Second Diamond in Crown
Small Crown at End of Staff
Beams from Crown Bathe Kneeling Figure
Discarded Masks
Storm Clouds
Towel and Basin
Evaluate Motives
Love Others
Forgive Others
Serve Others
Make Disciples
Flower Bed
Power Over Satan
Forgiveness of Sins
Eternal Life
Diamond and Key

Closing Prayer

Next Week - *Jesus the Savior*