

# Bethel Bible Series

## Jesus the Teacher

### NT Study 5

*What concerns me is not what I don't understand about the Bible, but what I do. – Abraham Lincoln - PK*

Welcome

Opening - Why was it important for Jesus to speak to the distortions of His time?  
Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

## Review of Last Week - *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 - Spokesman 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

Picture Concepts

*Law Tablets* = Israel's moral, civil and ceremonial Laws (L)  
*Scroll* = Israel's Traditions (T)  
*White Band Around Tablets and Scroll* = Israel's emphasis on Separation (S)  
*Bright Sky and White Clouds Behind Symbols* = LT&S originally intended for good purpose  
*Distorted Reflection in Water* = As time passed, LT&S were put to distorted use  
*Hands Reaching out of Water* = Distorted use of the good tended to destroy life  
*Figure* = Jesus of Nazareth  
*Figure Facing Distortion in Water* = Jesus spoke to distortion and proper use of LT&S  
*Figure in Stance of a Rescuer* = Jesus fulfills the Law and the Prophets

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### Lesson - *Jesus the Teacher*

Education in the First Century (from *Dust of the Rabbi* by Rob Bell)

How important was it for Jews to remember they were God's people chosen for a destiny?  
Numbers 15:37-41 = God even gave them visual and physical signs to remind them continually  
How important was it to God that they pass His truths to the next generations?  
Deuteronomy 4:8-10 = He commanded them to teach their children everything  
Josephus - *Above all, we pride ourselves in the education of our children* = 1<sup>st</sup> Century Jewish historian  
Talmud (rabbinic writings) - Once a child reaches 6, stuff him with the Torah like an ox

#### 3 Stages of Education

Beth-Sefer (House of the Book) = Start at 6, continue until 10  
Taught by a local rabbi in a local synagogue  
Memorized the Torah by the age of 10 = First 5 books  
2 Timothy 3:15 = Timothy knew the Scriptures since he was very young

Beth-Talmud (House of the Teaching) = From 10 until around 14  
Only the best would progress to this level  
Memorized the rest of the Hebrew scriptures  
Learned the art of Jewish questioning = What is 2+2? Answer: What is 16/4?  
Answer a questions with a question = Shows you know the answer but can go further  
Matthew 15:1-3 = Jesus' question revealed the problems behind their question  
Luke 2:42, 46-47 = At 12, Jesus listened & asked questions of rabbis, amazing understanding

Beth-Midrash (House of Interpretation) = From 14 or so  
Only the best of the best would progress on this path to become a rabbi  
Student would study under a rabbi hoping to become his disciple

#### The Rabbi's Yoke

Each rabbi had his own interpretation of the Torah  
One rabbi would permit something another would forbid = Called *to bind* or *to loose*  
Matthew 16:19 = Jesus gave authority to decide to bind or to loose  
Each rabbi had a list of items he would add to the Scripture text = The list was called his yoke  
Disciples would place themselves under their rabbi's yoke  
Matthew 11:25-30 = God gave Jesus His truth, Jesus' yoke is easy (note words in verse)  
Jesus' yoke is about freedom, not an endless list of rules

A rabbi wanted to perpetuate his yoke  
Looked for younger disciples he could trust to carry his yoke forward  
Can this student be like me? Can this student do what I do?  
Rabbi asked his students difficult questions to size them up = Jesus chose disciples by grace  
Matthew 22:41-46 = Even the most studied couldn't answer Jesus' questions  
If they didn't have what it took, the rabbi would tell the student to go home and ply his trade  
Luke 9:57-62 = Potential disciples wouldn't give their all, Jesus left them

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### Come, Follow Me

If a rabbi believed a student could carry his yoke forward, he'd say: "*Come, follow me*"

If a rabbi ever said this, the person would leave his family, home and everything

Matthew 4:18-22 = Jesus called Peter, Andrew, James & John – they left their nets and followed

Their fathers were likely very proud and not upset that they left

Matthew 19:27 = Peter claimed that they had left everything to follow Jesus

How qualified and tested were these disciples? = They were fishing, unacceptable to other rabbis

Acts 4:13 = Unschooled, uneducated - Probably not past Beth-Sefer

Disciples would copy their rabbi in everything, do whatever he did

If the rabbi picked up a rock, the disciples would pick up a rock

Matthew 14:25, 28-31 = Peter tried to be like Jesus and walked on water

*May you be covered by the dust of your rabbi* = Follow your rabbi so closely

### A Rabbi's Shmihah

Most rabbis preached the yokes of master rabbis

Rarely would rabbis have a new yoke = Called a *shmihah*

*Shmihah* - Translated as *authority*

Matthew 7:28-29 = Jesus spoke as one with a new *shmihah* – a new yoke

Rabbis with new *shmihah* would say: "*You have heard it said ..., but I tell you ...*"

Matthew 5:43-44 = Jesus said this numerous times in His "*Shmihah on the Mount*"

People would travel distances and do extra to hear a rabbi with a new *shmihah*

Mark 6:32-34 = People ran on foot for miles to reach Jesus – over 5000

Mark 2:2-4 = Men tore roof off of house to reach Jesus with their friend

A rabbi with a new *shmihah* needed 2 rabbis with *shmihah* to lay hands on him

What two rabbis with *shmihah* laid their hands on Jesus to give Him *shmihah* (authority)?

Matthew 21:23-25a = John the Baptist at His baptism

Mark 1:9-11 = God the Father at His baptism

### Jesus the Teacher

God chose to send His Son into this First Century world of rabbis and disciples

Consider a stage in a theater with the curtains closed.

You know something is behind the curtains but don't know what.

You've heard things about the play but they can't come close to what is there.

As the curtains are parted and the lights go up, the scenery appears.

The story unfolds and can now be understood.

*Lighted Lamp* = As a teacher, Jesus casts heaven's light on important issues

John 8:12 = *I am the light of the world...follow me...will have the light of life*

*Parted Curtains* = Jesus unveils the hidden and makes known the unknown

Hebrews 1:1-2 = *In the past God spoke...thru the prophets, but now by His Son*

John 12:49-50 = *Whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say*

Matthew 7:28-29 = *He taught as one who had authority, not as their teachers of the law*

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*Great Crown Over Earth* = Jesus declares that the Father is Sovereign of heaven and earth

Matthew 6:10 = *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*

*First Diamond in Crown* = Jesus proclaims the will and purpose of the Father

John 6:40 = *My Father's will is that all who believe in the Son shall have eternal life*

John 3:16 = *God so loves the world that he gave His Son, all who believe have eternal life*

*Second Diamond in Crown* = Jesus reveals the nature of God

John 14:8-11 = *Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father*

*Small Crown at End of Staff* = Jesus reveals the true nature and purpose of man

Hebrews 2:17-18 = *Like His brothers in every way to make atonement and help the tempted*

*Beams From Crown Bathe Kneeling Figure* = Jesus taught us to be God-related for the full life

Matthew 4:4 = *Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word ... of God*

*Discarded Masks* = Jesus calls us to abandon the false values that masquerade for life

Mark 8:36-38 = *What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?*

Matthew 6:19-21 = *Don't store up treasures on earth, but store up treasures in heaven*

*Storm Clouds* = Jesus identifies the adversaries that threaten our relationship with God

Luke 8:12-15 = *Seed Parable - devil takes Word from heart, Word choked by life's worries*

*Towel and Basin* = Jesus tells of responsibilities of those in a right relationship with the Father

Motives - Matthew 6:1-4 = *Acts of righteousness - reward from men or God*

Love Others - Matthew 5:43-47 = *Love even your enemies*

Forgive Others - Luke 17:3-4 = *If brother repents, forgive him; even 7/dy (Mt18:21,70x7)*

Serve Others - Matthew 20:26-28 = *Whoever wants to become great...must be...servant*

Make Disciples - Matthew 28:19-20 = *Go and make disciples of all nations*

*Flower Bed* = Jesus declares the promises, powers and blessings inherited by the God-related

Power Over Satan - Luke 10:18-19 = *I saw Satan fall ... I give you authority...*

Forgiveness of Sins - John 20:23 = *If you forgive sins, they're forgiven - Mt16:19 OofKeys*

Eternal Life - John 5:24 = *Whoever hears and believes has eternal life*

*Diamond and Key* = Jesus asserts that our divine treasures come to us by faith

Matthew 17:20 = *With faith as small as a mustard seed, you can move a mountain*

Closing Prayer

Summary = Go back over picture concepts

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 5 and Assignment

Next Week - *Jesus the Savior*