

Do You Know Jesus?

Many have _____ of Jesus and even imagine that they know Him well. We're asking if they simply know what they've heard or have they _____ for themselves.

James Allan Francis in a book published in 1963, called "One Solitary Life," wrote:

Here is a man who was _____ in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a _____ shop until he was thirty, and then for three years he was an itinerant _____. He never owned a _____. He never wrote a _____. He never held _____. He never had a _____. He never went to _____. He never put his foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the _____ where he was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany _____. He had no credentials but himself....

While still a young man, the _____ of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them _____ Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a _____. He was nailed upon a _____ between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for the only piece of property he had on earth—his coat. And when he was dead, he was taken down and laid in a borrowed _____ through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen long centuries have come and gone and today he is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of _____. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever were built; all the parliaments that ever sat and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life.

Our reading today comes from the gospel according to John 14:6-11.

Here Jesus helps us to understand who He is, and why we should believe in Him.

Have you ever contemplated what the _____ would be like if there were no Jesus Christ? Jesus is _____ among men. There's no one like Him who ever lived. He was better, nobler, more holy, more kind, and more generous than any I have ever known. John the Baptist said of Jesus, "but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I'm not fit to remove His _____" (Matthew 3:11).

In Deuteronomy 18:15, Moses said of Jesus, "The LORD your God will raise up for you a _____ like me from among you, from your countrymen, and you shall _____ to him." In verses 18-19 God said, "I will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like you, and I will put My _____ in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And it shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him."

David prophesied of Jesus, "The LORD says to my Lord: 'Sit at My right _____, Until I make Thine enemies a footstool for Thy feet'" (Psalm 110:1). Isaiah could say of Jesus, "For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the _____ will rest on His shoulders; And His name

Longer quotations may not appear in the Study Sheet, but can be read in the accompanying transcript.

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will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his _____, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness, From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this” (Isaiah 9:6-7).

Before his birth, an angel of the Lord told Joseph about Mary, ““And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His _____ Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their _____.’ Now all this took place that what was _____ by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, ‘Behold, the _____ shall be with child, and shall bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel,’ which translated means, ‘God with us”” (Matthew 1:21-23). At his death, the centurion who crucified Him said, “Surely he was the _____ of God!” (Matthew 27:54). Jesus was certainly no ordinary man; He deserves a closer inspection. I’ve found the more that we know about Him, the more we love and we honor Him. The myriads of myriads of angels and living creatures around the _____ of God honor Him with a loud voice, saying, “Worthy is the Lamb (speaking of Jesus) that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing” (Revelation 5:12).

What would _____ be like without Jesus? First, we’d lack a true _____ of righteousness and morality. Many today believe morality, right and wrong, _____ over time and something wrong in other societies could be all right in this age. But nothing could be farther from the _____. What God called sin in the first century is still sin in this twenty-first century. How do we know that? The Jesus that was Lord then is _____ Lord now. The things He taught then, He still teaches now. We must _____ the words that Jesus spoke for all time rather than assume that _____ can overrule the Lord.

Jesus is the only person who ever lived about whom it could be said, “He never sinned.” The apostle Peter pointed to Jesus as our example said, “For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an _____ for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in his mouth; and while being reviled, He didn’t revile in return; and while suffering, He uttered no threats, but He kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously” 91 Peter 2:21-23).

Hebrews 4:14-15 describes the Lord Jesus, “Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been _____ in all things as we are, yet without sin.” Jesus was tempted, but He never _____. Some people believe that Jesus sinned, but where is your proof? Jesus could confront His enemies with the question, “Can any of you prove me _____ of sin?” (John 8:46). Jesus was entirely holy and without any moral impurity. No one could point to a transgression of God’s will on His part. Jesus made it clear in John 8:29, “And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are _____ to Him.”

Second, we have no example of compassion for those who are in _____, greater than in Jesus Christ. I know other men have shown love and compassion, but has anyone shown _____ like Jesus? Because of the heart and teaching of Jesus we have a _____ that believes in compassion. Jesus could see what others couldn’t see. He could see those who were spiritually _____ and misguided. Matthew 9:36-38 says, “And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd. And then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are _____. Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers

into His harvest.” He was loving and compassionate to the sick and _____ them; to sinners and _____ them; to the poor and provided for them; and to the burdened and gave them _____. The Lord Jesus called to people, “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you _____. Take My yoke upon you and _____ from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30). Jesus didn’t simply talk love and compassion; He _____ it!

Have you considered the contributions of Jesus through the _____ to society? Many of the _____ we have today came because of Christian care and concern for the sick. Many of the world’s greatest universities were started by Christians for Christian _____. Nearly all of the first one hundred _____ established in America were started as Christian schools. Reading the Bible was a primary _____ for literacy and education for the masses. True Christian love and respect was the cause for the abolition of _____, both in antiquity and in more modern times.

Because of Jesus and His teaching, _____ live with greater freedom and respect. Because of Jesus and His teaching, the sanctity of _____ and the sanctity of biblical _____ is more precious. Because of Jesus and His teaching in passages like the good Samaritan, people have become more benevolent and generous to those in _____. Jesus taught people to judge with righteous judgment. Jesus elevated the common man, saying that even his _____ is more valuable than the whole world.

More than a few societies through the ages have left barbaric practices to _____ the steps of Jesus. He has influenced music, art, and literature _____ than any other person. He has changed lives for the _____ wherever His teaching has gone. Many of the _____ of the world have been codified and set to writing, so people could learn the Bible. Jesus alone has the words of eternal life; and if we refuse to listen to Him, we lose our _____ of heaven.

No one has ever loved you or me to the _____ that Jesus has loved us. First John 4:10-11 says, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and _____ His Son to be the propitiation (the atoning sacrifice) for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also _____ to love one another.” Later, in verse 19, he says, “We love, because He _____ loved us.” We may think we know about love, but Jesus shows us _____ love. He willingly _____ Himself to save us, knowing that we couldn’t save ourselves. He was willing to take our _____ seriously when, as ungodly people, we didn’t give Him a second thought. He paid the _____ to willingly offer righteousness to sinners by demonstrating His love on the cross. He loved us and gave His body and blood for us despite our weaknesses and sins. Jesus acted on His love!

Third, Jesus showed us the _____ truth and the way of salvation. Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one _____ to the Father but through Me” (John 14:6). He paved the way for our salvation by offering His _____ upon the cross for our sins. He paved the way for our resurrection hope at the last day when God _____ Him from the dead. If you ask, “What is the gospel?”, my answer is that it’s the _____ of His death and resurrection!

First Corinthians 15:1-4 says, “Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I _____ to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are _____, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ _____ for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was _____, and that He was _____ on the third day according to the Scriptures.” The _____ who witnessed His death and resurrection preached this

gospel (or good news) message of what happened to the Lord Jesus. The Corinthians, just as Christians in the whole known world in the first century, accepted it and took their stand upon it because it was _____!

They are _____ by this gospel message, if they hold fast to it and do not wander away from the truth. I often ask people to believe, repent, and be baptized. Baptism is the _____ birth that brings “newness of life” (John 3:5 and Romans 6:4). Christianity begins with a new birth, but our faith and commitment to Christ must _____ as long as we live. We don’t want anyone to believe in _____. We don’t want anyone to draw close to God and then fall away from the faith.

The gospel story _____ that Christ died for our sins. He shed His _____ so that we might be cleansed from sin and can live to righteousness. This sacrifice was personal to Jesus; He willingly _____ His body to terrible suffering and crucifixion out of love. He personally bore the punishment that was _____ to us for our sins. After dying, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus _____ Him. A giant _____ was rolled over the entrance to the tomb.

Jesus predicted that He would _____ from the dead on the third day, a resurrection predicted in the Scriptures and witnessed by the apostles after He arose. Acts 1:3 says, “To these He also presented Himself _____ after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of _____ days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.” First Corinthians 15 lists how he appeared to Cephas (Peter), to the twelve, to the five hundred brethren at one time, to James, to all the apostles, and last of all to Paul. These witnesses were willing to die for their faith because they knew God had raised Jesus up from the _____. This resurrection gives us hope; our bodies one day will be raised from the dead; and we’ll have a _____ in heaven. That’s what the Lord Jesus did for you and for me!

The apostle Paul, who left his _____ life as a Pharisee and persecutor of the church to come to Christ, said, “But whatever things were _____ to me, those things I’ve counted as _____ for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing _____ of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may _____ Christ” (Philippians 3:7-8). Paul said he would rather _____ Jesus than possess anything else. It’s more important than the Pharisee culture in his upbringing.

What is knowledge of Jesus _____ to you? Many think they know Jesus, but the Jesus they think they know is _____ the one presented in Scripture. They’ve seen a _____ or two that only show a portion of His character or His life. Like Philip, they missed seeing Him as He truly is. If we don’t know Him, we can’t assume that we have a relationship with Him that _____ Him. If we don’t know Him, we can’t be sure that He _____ of us. We may be like the five foolish virgins who ran out of oil and weren’t allowed in the master’s house. And He may say to us, “I do not know you.”

At the end time, nothing else will matter. Does Jesus know you? Have you placed your faith in Him? Have you turned away from sins that offend Him and turned to Him in obedience? Have you confessed the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God? Have you been baptized into Christ (that is immersed in water) for the forgiveness of your sins, as Acts 2:38 teaches? When you’re baptized into Christ, you become a child of God and precious in His sight. Why not come to Jesus today!