- EPOCH SIX -SHINING LIGHT



As you can see through our study thus far, the arrival of the Son in human form is not whimsical or reactionary. God's Son literally *incarnates* into a human child and grows to adulthood for the express purpose of *buying back* the souls of mankind.

This is what the concept of *Messiah* is all about. The word means *to smear* or anoint - and clearly is the fulfilled requirment of acceptable blood sacrifice foreshadowed in Adam and Eve and their two sons, Cain and Abel - as well as the Law of Moses.

This SHINING LIGHT is none other than the Creator Himself. There is no doubt that a *covenant* or agreement was made before the foundations of the world between the eternal Father and His eternal Son.

This is the prophesied "Shiloh" of GENESIS 49, the prophet of DEUTERONOMY 18, and the Shining Light spoken of in ISAIAH 9. He is the great High Priest of all who believe in Him (HEBREWS 3).

John the Baptist knew who He was (JOHN 2). His followers knew as well (MAT-THEW 16). All that remains is for us to believe or disbelieve.

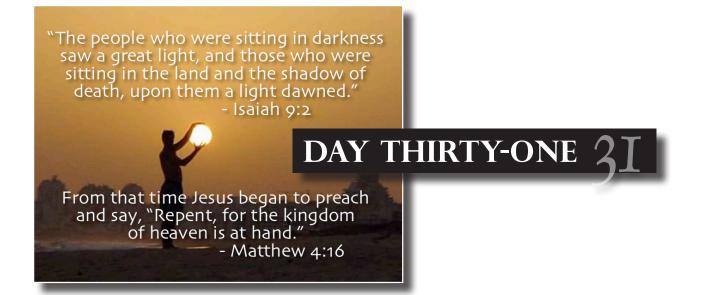
DAY THIRTY The Hebrew earthly expressions are copies of what is in Heaven. Hebrews 9 nua is God

READ HEBREWS 9

List the things that you learn about the *copies* on earth and the *real thing* in heaven.

 $\sqrt{}$ What do you think "a copy" means?

 $\sqrt{}$ What light does this shed on the "one story" of the scriptures?



READ ISAIAH 9.

List the things you find in this prophecy that teach you about the coming Messiah.

How does the message of the last "old testament" prophet (Malachi 4) differ from that of "God's Prophet" in MATTHEW 4:17?

MYWORLDVIEW

 $\sqrt{}$ When I consider the prophetic preparation and evidence for the coming Messiah, it makes me feel...



Is Geshua God's Son?

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. - John 1:1-3

RE-READ THE PASSAGE ABOVE FROM JOHN 1

All of humanity is left with one all-or-nothing question.

 $\sqrt{}$ Is Yeshua (Jesus) God's Son?

$\sqrt{}$ DID THE SON CREATE THE WORLD?

MYWORLDVIEW

When I disentangle the Son from a supposed 2000 year old religion, all kinds of possibilities arise.

 $\sqrt{}$ Who is Jesus to me?

DAY THIRTY-TWO 22

Matthew - for the <u>Fewish</u> mind Mark - for the <u>Gentile</u> mind Luke - for the <u>Greek</u> mind ohn - for the human heart

FOUR GOSPELS - FOUR PROPHETIC PURPOSES

If you were the Creator and You were going to present Yourself to thousands of cultures over thousands of years, *what approach would you take*? Yahweh (the Living God) chose to give His Story through one people via His Torah - His Law. This Law would suffice for speaking His truth until the *fullness of times*, when His own dear Son would come to conquer death and rescue mankind.

The Jewish mind would trace everything to an authentic Messiah. *His pedigree would be important, for Israel was God's chosen people to bring the Light to all the nations.* The historic Hebrew backdrop for the Good News would present the seamless Gospel - where those who *live by faith* in the Living God will find life. This is the purpose of MATTHEW.

The Gentile would be much more interested in *what Jesus did*. MARK is a book of *action*, and the thoughtful listener to his testimony was struck with the *authority* by which the Word made flesh commanded the blind and the sick.

The Greek mind would be interested in a *chronological account* regarding such an amazing, explosive appearance. This is where Dr. LUKE came in, placing the weight of Jesus' deeds into the greater Story - a "meta-story!"

JOHN, arguably the closest person to the Son of God during His public ministry, wrote for the *human heart* in every nation under heaven. Here was a personal Gospel, and even though it was contained in an historic context, we have only a small part of all that Jesus taught and did! $\sqrt{}$ Read JOHN 21:24,25.



The prophetic Word concerning the Messiah is significant to every human being who ever has or ever will live on the face of the earth. Check out 2 PETER 1:19. *The Morning Star was a re-set point for travelers in the ancient world. It is a reset point for us as well!*

 $\sqrt{\text{READ GENESIS 3:15,21...}}$ Why do you think this prophecy is pertinent to you?

 $\sqrt{\text{READ DEUTERONOMY 18:15-19...}}$ Why do you think this prophecy is pertinent to you?

 $\sqrt{\text{READ ISAIAH 9:1-7...}}$ Why do you think this prophecy is pertinent to you?

 $\sqrt{\text{READ JOHN 5:46...}}$ Why do you think this statement is pertinent to you?

DAY THIRTY-THREE 2

"This is the same disciple who was eyewitness to all these things and wrote them down. And we all know that his eyewitness account is reliable and accurate.

There are so many other things Jesus did. If they were all written down, each of them, one by one, I can't imagine a world big enough to hold such a library of books."

- John 21:24,25

EYE WITNESSES

The Gospels record approximately 30 days of Jesus' 3-4 year public ministry, with about 35 of what must have been thousands of miracles (LUKE 4:40). There were many eyewitness encounters with the resurrected Messiah.

 $\sqrt{1}$ CORINTHIANS 15:6 indicates that over 500 people saw Him at one time! $\sqrt{1}$ And here is a mind-blower. Read MATTHEW 27:50-53.

READ 2 PETER 1:16

What do you learn about first century witnesses?

MYWORLDVIEW

 $\sqrt{1}$ If you were writing your own account of your encounter with the Messiah, how would you describe it?

We have recorded about 30 days of His 3-4 year public ministry.

JESUS' DAYS

BIRTH

These accounts are limited in scope. LUKE gives us the fullest account of the amazing event. This is the birth of the True King!

DAY THIRTY-THREE

BAPTIST

John the Baptist was the one spoken of in ISAIAH 40 who would *prepare the way* for the coming Messiah. While his ministry was brief, he accomplished all the scriptures prophesied about this "Elijah."

TRAINING THE TWELVE

Jesus spent most of His time in GALILEE, training His followers, preaching the Gospel to the non-religious poor, and *healing the sick and the suffering*.

JERUSALEM TEACHING

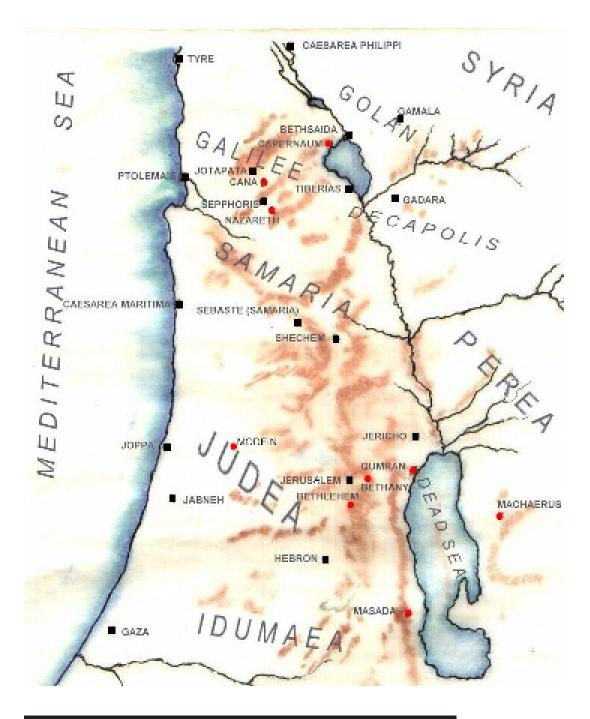
He would come to JERUSALEM for feasts and celebrations, most often spending His nights in the Garden of Gethsemane. Two times He scourged the money-lenders in the Temple - and often did intense battle with the religious leaders.

JERUSALEM KILLING

Jesus' destiny was completely in His own hands. He is *laying down His life* willingly and on the Father's timetable. A LAMB - then a King!

RISEN LORD!

As if the many who saw Him after His resurrection were not enough, men and women from every NATION under heaven are experiencing Him - every day in every year!



DAY THIRTY-THREE 23

The center of spiritual life: GALILEE The center of religious life: JERUSALEM

Take a moment and familiarize yourself with the regions, cities, and geographical markers.

Doesn't it seem odd that Jesus would work from Galilee rather than Jerusalem?

Page 78-The Shining Light

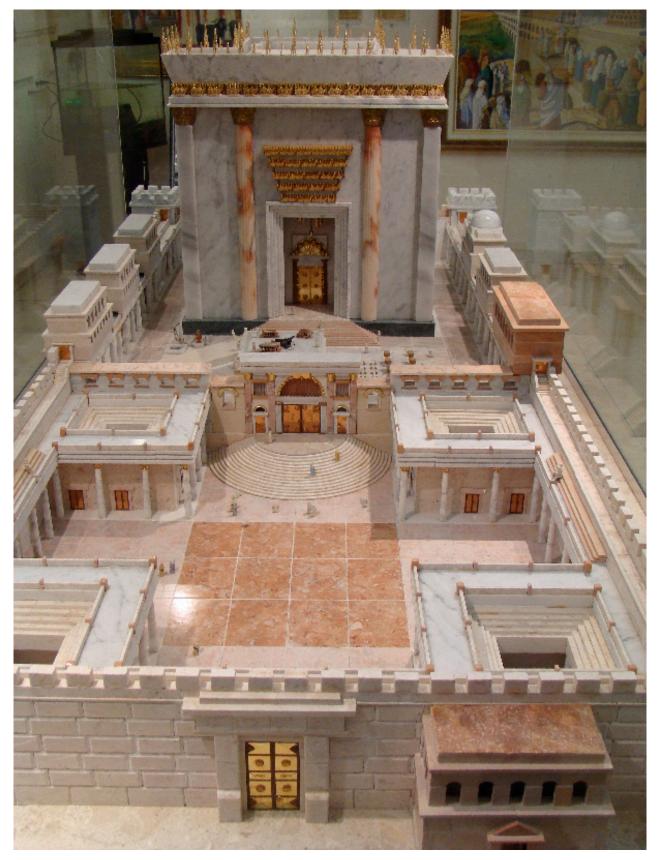


TAKE A FEW MINUTES AND REVIEW THIS SNAPSHOT OF THE NATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

- $\sqrt{}$ Egypt and Africa are to the south and west.
- $\sqrt{}$ Asia and Rome are to the west and north above the Mediterranean.
- $\sqrt{}$ Afghanistan, Russia, and China to the east and north.

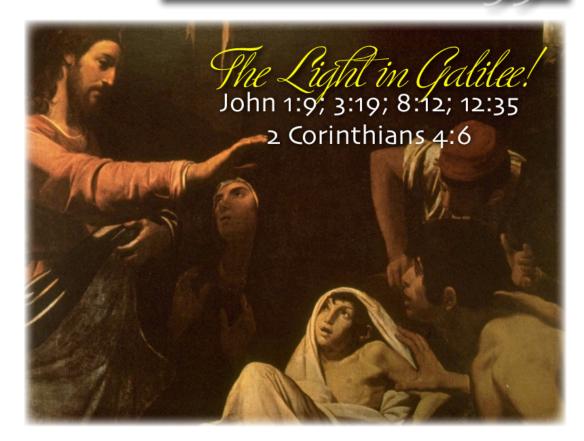
 $\sqrt{}$ It is truly incredible that the tiny nation of Israel is right in the middle of everything - and she will be until the end of time!

 $\sqrt{}$ What does this map reveal about current and end time events?



THE TEMPLE AT THE TIME OF JESUS





THE ABOVE PASSAGES ARE A "STUDY IN LIGHT" What does each one teach us about the nature and impact of light?

√ JOHN 1:9

√ JOHN 3:19

√ JOHN 8:12

JOHN 12:35

MYWORLDVIEW

Read 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6.

 $\sqrt{}$ In what specific ways has Light shone into my life?



READ LUKE 4:16-21

 $\sqrt{}$ What were the signs that the Promised One had arrived?

MYWORLDVIEW

 $\sqrt{}$ The most stirring things I see from Christ's life are...

TAKE THE TIME TO NOTE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING "KEY VERSE" REFERENCES IN YOUR BIBLE.

 $\sqrt{}$ What do you notice about the variety and cohesiveness of these basic themes?

Book	Theme	Key Verse		
	5 HISTORICAL			
Matthew	King Comes	4:17		
Mark	Servant Sacrificed	10:45		
Luke	Man Suffers	19:10		
John	God Revealed	20:31		
Acts	Church Witnesses	1:8		
12	CHURCH LETTERS			
Romans	Our Salvation	1:16,17		
1 Corinthians	Carnality's Consequences	3:1,3		
2 Corinthians	Authority's Care	2:17		
Galatians	True Gospel	3:3		
Ephesians	Christ's Body	4:16		
Philippians	Christ's Joy	3:1		
Colossians	Christ's Headship	1:17,18		
1 Thessalonians	Excel More	4:1		
2 Thessalonians	Day of the Lord	2:1,2		
5 PASTORAL & 7 GENERAL LETTERS				
1 Timothy	Church's Ministry	3:15		
2 Timothy	Church's Minister	2:15		
Titus	Sound Teaching	1:9		
Philemon	Forgive & Beget	10		
Hebrews	Better Covenant	8:6		
James	Tested Faith	1:12		
1 Peter	Trust in Trials	4:19		
2 Peter	Full Knowledge	1:19		
1 John	True Fellowship	1:3		
2 John	Wrong Hospitality	10		
3 John	Right Hospitality	6		
Jude	Contend & Build	3,20		
PROPHETIC				
Revelation	Judge Revealed	19:16		

DAY THIRTY-SIX 2(

"And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life."

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life."

- 1 John 5:11-13

READ 1 JOHN 5

How do we know we belong to God?

What does it mean to overcome in this life?

What does it mean to *have God*?

How do you feel about the power of the evil one?

Why do you think John ended this letter the way He did?

MYWORLDVIEW

 $\sqrt{}$ On the basis of 1 JOHN 5 - I would say that my spiritual life is...

THE LIFE OF JESUS

It is key to grasp the events of the life of Christ in order to understand His role in our present and our future. **Just as He walked this earth in submission to His Father's will, we are to pursue the will of the Lord Jesus Christ for our own lives.** By understanding the chronological sequence of events, we can clearly see the plan of the Master as He accomplished His purposes. In the Gospels we see firsthand "the **author** (beginner) and **perfecter** (finisher) of our **faith**."

As we observe the **footsteps of Jesus** we see the pattern for a spiritually productive life; lived perfectly by the only One who was able to do so. This comparative chronology will help us to learn more about this effective pattern for living to help us please the One who created us. The four Gospels give four harmonizing perspectives on this miraculous life!

GOD COMES NEAR

Christ is prepared as the perfect submitted human heart coming to seek and to save what has been lost. Here are the major events of His preparation.

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
The Method God Chose The "Word" Revealed			1:1-4	1 1 10
The "Word" Introduced (by genealogy)	1:1-17		3:23-28	1:1-18
The word infroduced (by genealogy)	1.1 17		5.25 20	
THE BIRTH				
Baptist Announced			1:5-25	
Jesus Announced			1:26-38	
Elizabeth's Song			1:39-45	
Mary's Song			1:46-56	
Baptist's Childhood & Birth			1:57-80	
Joseph Prepared	1:18-25			
JESUS IS BORN			2:1-7	
Angels and Shepherds			2:8-20	
Jesus is Circumcised			2:21	
Simeon and Anna			2:22-38	
Visit of the Magi	2:1-12			
Flight to Egypt/Children Slain	2:13-18			
To Nazareth	2:19-23		2:39	
Jesus in the Temple			2:41-50	
Childhood at Nazareth			2:51-52	
THE BAPTIST				
Beginnings		1:1	2:1	
Message	3:1-6	1:1	2:1 3:3-6	
Preaching	3:7-10	1.4 0	3:7-14	
Baptism	3:13-17	7:9-11	3:21-23	
Temptation	4:1-11	1:12-13	4:1-13	
±				

ALONE WITH HIS OWN

ALONE WITH HIS OWN				
	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
TRAINING THE TWELVE				
Resting/Feeding	14:13-21	6:30-44	9:10-17	6:1-14
Prevented Proclamation	14:22-23	6:45-46		6:14-15
Water Walk	14:24-33	6:47-52		6:16-21
Parable for Traditions	15:1-20	7:1-23		7:1
Open Opposition	15:39-16:4		8:10-12	
Faith Test	16:13-20	8:27-30	9:18-21	
Death Predicted	16:21-26	8:31-37	9:22-25	
Transfiguration	17:1-8	9:2-8	9:28-36	
Future Resurrection	17:22-23	9:30-32	9:43-45	
A Child's Lesson	18:1-5	9:33-37	9:46-48	
Mistaken Zeal Rebuked	18:6-14	9:38-50	9:49-50	
Forgiveness	18:15-35			
Forsaking All	8:19-22		9:57-62	
Private Approach			9:51-56	7:10

PREPARING FOR THE END

Jesus knew when His time had come to give Himself to be crucified.

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
IN JUDEA				
Messiah at the Feast				7:11-52
Adulterous Woman				7:53-8:11
"Light of the World"				8:12-20
Attempted Stoning				8:21-59
"The Good Shepherd"				10:1-21
70 Sent Forth			10:1-24	
Good Samaritan			10:30-37	
Martha and Mary			10:38-42	
Prayer			11:1-13	
Parable of the Fig Tree			14:1-9	
Repeated Parables			13:10-21	
Attempted Stoning				10:22-39
IN PEREA				
Messiah at the Feast				
Withdrawal to Safety				10:40-42
Count the Cost			14:25-35	
Three Parables			15:1-32	
Lazarus Raised				11:1-44
To Jerusalem	10.10.00		17:11-37	
Rich Young Ruler	19:16-20	10:17-31	18:18-30	
Rebuke For the Future	20:17-28	10:32-45	18:31-34	

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
IN JERUSALEM TEACHING				
Triumphal Entry	21:1-11,14,17	11:1-11	19:29-44	12:12-19
Fig Tree Cursed/Second Cleansing	21:18-29,12-13	11:12-18	19:45-48	
"If I Am Lifted Up:				12:20-50
The Greatest Commandment	22:34-40	12:28-34		
Religious Leaders Denounced	23:1-39	12:38-40	20:45-47	
Future Things	24:25	13:1-37	21:5-36	
Foot Washing				13:1-20
Desertion Warning	26:31-35	14:27-31	22:31-38	13:31-38
Lord's Supper	26:26-29	14:22-25	22:17-20	1Co 11:23-26
Upper Room Farewell				14
On the Way to Gethsemane				15:16
Intercessory Prayer				17
Agony in the Garden	26:20,36-46	14:26,32-42	22:36-39	18:1
TAKEN IN JERUSALEM				
Betrayed, Arrested, Forsaken	26:47-56	14:43-52	22:47-53	18:2-12
Peter's Denial	26:58,69-75	14:54,66-72	22:54-62	18:15-18,25-27
Before Pilate	27:2,11-14	15:1-5	23:1-5	18:28-38
Before Herod			23:6-12	
Before Pilate	27:15-26	15:6-15	23:13-25	18:39-19:16
First Three Hours	27:35-44	15:24-32	23:33-43	19:18-27
Three Hours of Darkness	27:45-50	15:33-37	23:44-46	19:28-30
Death's Phenomena	27:51-56	15:38-41	23:45-47,49)
Burial	27:57-60	15:42-46	23:50-54	19:31-42
Tomb Watch	27:61-66	15:47	23:55-56	

A NEW BEGINNING!

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15, "For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in you sins...If we have only hoped in Christ in this life, we are of all men most to be pitied."

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
RISEN				
Rolling Earthquake	28:2-4			
Sunday Sunrise Visit	28:5-8	16:2-8	24:1-8	20:1
Guard Report	28:11-15			
The Road to Emmaus		16:12-13	24:13-32	
Catch of Fishes				21
Appearance of 500/Commission Given	28:16-20	16:15-18		1Co 15:6
Another Commission			24:44-49	Acts 1:3-8
Final Appearance/Ascension		16:19-20	24:51-53	Acts 1:9-12