



THE LIFE AND TIMES OF Jesus Christ

**A Thirteen Lesson Bible Study
by Jeff S. Smith**

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6. (Luke 24:8-12) What did the other disciples think of the ladies' story? What did Peter do?

7. (Luke 24:13-32) Why did these two disciples fail to recognize Jesus? Why were they so disappointed in recent events (see especially verse 21)?

8. How did Jesus attempt to move their minds in the right direction about his kingdom and mission?

9. (Luke 24:33-43) What did the apostles think when they first saw the resurrected Christ? How did he try to eliminate their doubts?

10. Who was the last to believe (John 20:24-31)? What did he require?

11. (Luke 24:44-49) Was the Jewish rejection of Christ a surprise to God? How do you know?

12. What last instruction did Christ give them? When was this accomplished?

13. (John 21:1-14) How did Jesus appear a third time to his disciples?

14. (John 21:15-23) What commission did Jesus give Peter? What sad prophecy did he also make?

15. Did Jesus promise that John, the disciple whom he loved, would not die? Explain.

16. (Matthew 28:16-20) List the four actions of the great commission.

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

Introduction

We are naturally fascinated by a man who lived a perfect life on this Earth. Of course, Jesus of Nazareth was the son of God, the agent of creation himself. From the manger to Golgotha, Jesus served his father exceptionally. Even in mockery and crucifixion, the Lord remained true and just. The word, "Christian," means like Christ and a claim to be a Christian is more than a designation; it is a duty. By examining the life of Jesus under a student's microscope, he can gain a greater insight into the way that is always right and proper. Thus he can truly be like his master.

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Lesson 13: *His Resurrection and Ascension*

Perhaps the devil thought Christ's mission was ended in defeat there at Golgotha. Perhaps, like most Jews, the devil thought God's plan was to put Jesus on David's literal Jerusalem throne and have him rule Israel from there. But Christ's intention of bruising Satan's head was still in the process of accomplishment. That bruise on the Lord's heel was nothing compared to the blow administered when the ladies found an empty tomb later that weekend.

1. (Matthew 27:57-61) Each of the four gospel accounts reveals some uncommon information about Joseph of Arimathea, who retrieved and buried the body of Jesus. Give that information from each passage:

a. Matthew 27:57-60:

b. Mark 15:42-46:

c. Luke 23:50-54:

d. John 19:38-41:

2. (Matthew 27:61-66) Why did the Jews request his tomb be guarded?

3. (Matthew 28:1-10) When did Mary and Mary Magdalene appear at the tomb? What incident surprised them and the guards?

4. What announcement did the angel make? Whom did they meet on the way?

5. (Matthew 28:11-15) How did the chief priests deal with the guard's story?

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8. Describe the exchange between a remorseful Judas Iscariot and the Jewish leadership.

9. What became of the money?

10. (Matthew 27:11-26) What did Jesus answer Pilate, when he asked him if he were the king of the Jews? What did he answer the Jewish chief priests and elders? What emotion had motivated the Jews to arrest Jesus?

11. Why did the people ask for Barabbas to be released instead of their prophet, Jesus?

12. What did Pilate's wife recommend? What dramatic act did Pilate perform to show his feelings toward the Jewish request?

13. (Matthew 27:27-31) What happened to Jesus in the Praetorium?

14. (Matthew 27:32-56) What was the name of the place where Jesus was crucified?

15. What did Jesus tell the penitent thief on one side of him (Luke 23:39-43)? Why? How?

16. What happened when Jesus yielded up his spirit?

Lesson 1: *His Youth*

The Lord's life on Earth begins in a manger and ends on a cross. Between these two wooden accommodations, he lives at home with Mary and Joseph and then on a preaching trail that leads him across Judea. In this first lesson, we examine his youth, from birth through adolescence to his temptation as a young man about to begin a ministry that will change the world.

1. (Luke 1:26-35) Who explained to Mary that she would become with child of the Holy Spirit? What promises did this angel make to Mary about her son?

2. (Luke 2:1-20) Why did Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem?

3. Describe the Lord's birth.

4. What message did the shepherds first receive and then repeat?

5. (Luke 2:21-40) Why was Jesus circumcised? Is it still binding upon men that male children be circumcised to obey God's law (Galatians 5:1-6)? Is it wrong to circumcise a male child?

6. What was Simeon's prophecy concerning the messiah?

7. How did the Hebrew writer describe the word of God (Hebrews 4:12-13)?

8. While Simeon thought of Jesus as the consolation of Israel, Anna thought of him as the answer to those looking for something similar in Jerusalem. For what were they looking?

9. (Luke 2:39-40) Little is known of the life of Christ between this early journey and the Passover feast around his twelfth birthday. What do these two verses supply about that era?

10. (Matthew 2:1-11) What was it about Micah's prophecy that worried Herod?

11. (Matthew 2:12-23) What did Herod do when he realized he had been deceived? Why did this strategy fail to remove Jesus?

12. (Luke 2:41-52) At the age of twelve, Jewish boys take on a mature relationship with God and this trip to Jerusalem gave him the opportunity to stand on his own. Why did his decision concern Joseph and Mary?

13. How was Jesus spending his time alone in Jerusalem?

14. What was the reaction of the people in the temple to the Lord's conversation?

15. How did Jesus explain his trip to the temple? How did young Jesus show his respect for his parents after this? What are we told about his life after this event?

16. (Matthew 4:1-11) List the three temptations and how Jesus overcome them.

a.

b.

c.

Lesson 12: *His Trial and Crucifixion*

It becomes obvious how corrupted the Jewish and Roman governments were in Jerusalem during the days of Christ. An innocent man was not quite convicted, but executed anyway because the people demanded it.

1. (Matthew 26:47-56) Why did Judas kiss Jesus?

2. Who cut off the ear of Malchus, the high priest's servant (John 18:10)? Was Jesus appreciative of his effort?

3. How did Jesus expose the cowardice of the Jews? How did his own disciples fail as well?

4. (Matthew 26:57-68) How did the Jewish leaders attempt to convict Jesus?

5. What caused the high priest to tear his clothes? What sentence did they wish against him for this alleged blasphemy?

6. (Matthew 26:69-75) Describe the three denials that Peter makes of Jesus:

7. (Matthew 27:1-10) Why could the Jewish leaders not put Jesus to death the moment they decided to do so?

8. (Matthew 24:4-35) Would certain signs foretell the destruction of Jerusalem? What did Jesus recommend the disciples do when they perceived these signs?

9. (Matthew 24:36) Would there be any signs to predict the second coming of Jesus?

10. (Matthew 26:1-16) Contrast the attitudes toward Jesus held by the woman with the spikenard and Judas Iscariot.

11. (John 13:1-17) What was Jesus teaching when he washed his disciples' feet? How can we show we have learned the lesson?

12. (John 14:15-18) How were the disciples to prove their love for Jesus? Whom would he send then?

13. (John 14:26) What was the Holy Spirit's mission?

14. (John 17:20-21) What kind of unity did Jesus wish for his followers?

15. (Matthew 26:31-36) What promise did Peter and the others all make to Jesus?

16. (Mark 14:32-42) What did Jesus say to Peter when he found him sleeping?

Lesson 2: *His Cousin, John the Immerser*

Before Gabriel got to Mary, he visited her relatives and told them that they would bear the Messiah's forerunner. Zacharias and Elizabeth were chosen to bring up John, who would become the only man ever called a "baptist" or more properly translated, an "immerser." John's humility and courage stand out as impressive qualities.

1. (Luke 1:5-25) What was Zacharias's occupation? Why did he not have any children yet? Had he given up on having children?

2. What did the angel tell Zacharias about his son (see especially verses 13-17)? List a few things:

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.

3. What mistake did Zacharias make? How did Gabriel correct it?

4. (Luke 1:57-80) What action by Zacharias freed him of his muteness?

5. Was Zacharias a prophet and a priest? Was John a prophet? Where did John remain until his ministry commenced?

6. (Luke 3:1-17) What did John preach? Is it still proper to preach this message today (Acts 19:1-6, Acts 8:35-36 and Matthew 28:18-20)?

7. Why did John call his audience a brood of vipers? What did he tell them to do to correct themselves?

8. How could each of the following classes accomplish this reformation?
 - a. those with ample possessions
 - b. tax collectors
 - c. soldiers
9. How does John then reveal his humility, despite the fact that he is the most celebrated preacher in Israel on this day?
10. (John 3:22-36) John likens his relationship with Jesus to a wedding. What role does each play?
 - a. John is the
 - b. Jesus is the
 - c. Who is the bride (Ephesians 5:25-33)?
11. (Matthew 3:13-17) Why was John reluctant to baptize Jesus? How did Christ convince him?
12. (Luke 3:18-20) John told his disciples that when Jesus came, the immerser would decrease. When did the decrease in stature occur? What did Jesus begin to preach at that point (Matthew 4:17)?
13. (Matthew 14:1-12) Why didn't Herod just kill John to begin with?
14. What caused Herod to make an oath on his birthday?
15. What was his vow and how did it turn out?
16. How did Jesus react to the news that his cousin was dead (Matthew 14:13)?

Lesson 11: *His Last Days of Freedom*

The Lord's last week was spent in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, where the Jews had long expected their Messiah to arrive for his coronation. As the final week commenced, that happened, but not the way they anticipated. Christ spent his last days of freedom in humility, continuing to teach and prepare his apostles for his death and ultimate departure.

1. (Luke 19:29-48) Contrast the reaction of the disciples to that of the Pharisees when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt. Why could the Jewish leaders not put a stop to these things?
2. What prediction did he make about the future of the city?
3. (Matthew 22:15) The Pharisees knew they had to change the minds of the people in order to destroy Christ's influence. How did they attempt to defeat him?
4. (Matthew 22:16-22) How did he answer the Herodians, who swore allegiance to the Roman government, and the Pharisees, who contended for its overthrow, when they asked about paying taxes?
5. (Matthew 22:23-33) What was wrong with the Sadducees' attempt?
6. (Matthew 22:34-45) What happened after Jesus answered the lawyer's question about the greatest commandment?
7. (Matthew 24:1-3) What prediction made the disciples ask Jesus these three questions?

8. (Matthew 10:1-7) What was to be the theme of the apostles' preaching under the "limited commission"?

9. (John 6:10-15) Why were the people interested in making Jesus a king that day? What kind of king did they have in mind? Why did he resist, if this is what he wanted all along anyway?

10. (Matthew 16:13-19) Christ's mission from God was to build the kingdom, according to Daniel's prophecy. What does he claim he is building in this discussion with the apostles?

11. How might "the gates of Hades" have prevailed against the construction of this body (cf. Acts 2:22-28)?

12. (Matthew 16:21-27) To a carnally-minded person, the ideas of crowning a king and his death would not fit together. How did Jesus bind them together?

13. (Matthew 16:28) Explain the importance of this prophecy concerning the kingdom.

14. According to the latest census, how many people who lived in the first century are still alive today? What is the conclusion then?

15. (Luke 24:19-27) Was the Jewish rejection of Jesus a surprise to God and an occasion for postponing the kingdom?

Lesson 3: *His Relationships*

While Jesus was fully God on Earth, his spirit was enclosed in a tabernacle of flesh and he learned to live under the very laws of nature and humanity he had created in the beginning. Moreover, Jesus carried on human relations, both with his family and assorted friends. His manner provides a number of lessons that can enable us to live more godly if we follow them.

1. (John 7:1-9) How did the Lord's brothers view his claim to be something special? What did they sarcastically suggest he do? How would you characterize Christ's reply to their invitation?

2. (Luke 11:27-28) Upon hearing him teach, a woman in the crowd yells out a praise for Christ's mother. How does Jesus show that she is missing the main point of his work?

3. (Matthew 12:46-50) He echoed this same point on another occasion when his fleshly family came to visit him. Whom did he call his true family in this passage? In all this, was Jesus putting his family down? What was his point?

4. Christ's teaching and example opened the door on a new arrangement among God's people. Although the church Christ was building would comprise every race, nationality and background, it would yet rival Israel's description as God's household. Summarize how the following passages teach this concept:

- First Timothy 3:15:
- First Timothy 5:1-2:
- First Corinthians 12:12-14, 26:

5. Explain the Lord's command that his disciple "hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters" in Luke 14:25-33. Describe how this command might become a difficult test for a Christian.

6. (Luke 10:38-42) The idea that disciples of Christ form a true, spiritual family is illustrated well in Christ's love for the family of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. How was Jesus a friend to Martha on this occasion?

7. How might our friendship with brethren require us to reprove them, according to the following passages?

- Galatians 6:1-2:

- James 5:19-20:

- Hebrews 3:12-13:

- Galatians 2:11-13:

- First Corinthians 5:1-13:

8. (John 11:1-44) How did Jesus show that he was sincerely touched by the sorrow in the household of Lazarus after the man died? Short of raising the dead, what can Christians do today to aid brethren who are mourning or suffering some other trial of life (James 2:14-17, 1 John 3:13-18)?

Lesson 10: *His Impending Monarchy*

Perhaps the Jews were beginning to think of them as mere legends. The elders had long taught that the kingdom of God would be established by a Messiah, a deliverer who would come according to prophecy and bring with him freedom. While they waited, the messiah came and they could not recognize him. The freedom they had in mind was from Roman oppression. God was more interested in rescuing them from a greater oppressor, the devil.

1. (Daniel 2:31-45) The prophecy of the kingdom of God appeared very dramatically in the dreams of King Nebuchadnezzar, for whom Daniel was employed as an interpreter. Fill in the chart below as it describes the events leading to the establishment of God's kingdom.

SEQUENCE	BODY PART	KINGDOM
First		
Second		Medo-Persian
Third		Greek
Fourth		Roman

2. When was God predicting the establishment of his kingdom? What would be its duration?

3. How sure was Daniel? What is the case if he is mistaken (Deuteronomy 18:20-22)?

4. (Malachi 3:1) Before the Lord would come to establish his kingdom, what must happen first?

5. (Matthew 11:7-19) Did this happen? How?

6. (Matthew 4:23) What did Jesus teach when he went into the synagogues of the Jews? Explain the importance of this phrase.

7. (Matthew 6:10) Had the kingdom been established when Jesus took to the mount to preach this great sermon?

4. Explain what the Lord meant concerning the kingdom in verses 11-12.

5. (Matthew 12:15-21) The Jewish expectation concerning their Messiah was that he would be a military leader like the Judges and would lead a revolt against the occupying force of Roman Gentiles. This messiah, however, had a different intention concerning the Gentiles. What was it?

6. (Mark 7:24-30) Why didn't Jesus heal the Gentile woman's daughter as soon as she asked? How did she persuade him to act at once?

8. (John 4:5-26) Why was it surprising that Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink?

9. How had the two groups of people represented by Jesus and the Samaritan woman differed on the matter of worship? How and when could they be reconciled?

10. (John 10:11-16) Jesus speaks of other sheep that are not part of the current fold he had assembled, stating that these other sheep would be joined to the existing fold to create one flock behind one shepherd. How does this prophecy fit the assimilation of Gentiles into what had been a strictly Jewish faith (cf. Ephesians 2:14-22, Galatians 3:26-29)?

11. (Matthew 28:18-20) How did the great commission include the prospect of preaching to Gentiles?

Lesson 4: *His Sermon on the Mount*

The sermon on the mount appears very early in the ministry of Christ and yet the completeness of his doctrine is not lacking at all. Very clearly, God's plan is not in a state of development, but revelation.

1. (Matthew 5:1-12) This section of the sermon is known as the beatitudes, from the Latin *beatus* which begins each verse in the Vulgate and is translated "blessed." Summarize the way in which all the beatitudes fit together in a common theme.

2. (Matthew 5:13-16) Explain the common theme of the parables in these verses.

3. (Matthew 5:17-20) What was wrong with the "righteousness" of the scribes and Pharisees (Mark 7:6-8, Matthew 23:23-24)?

4. (Matthew 5:21-48) This section contains several messages that contrasted the doctrine they had been hearing with the true doctrine of the kingdom. Summarize what the doctrine had been considered to be under the law of Moses and what it would be under the law of Christ for each of these points.

POINT OF DOCTRINE UNDER MOSES UNDER CHRIST

- Murder (verses 21-26)
- Adultery (27-30)
- Divorce (31-32)
- Forswearing (33-37)
- Vengeance (38-42)
- Enemies (43-48)

5. (Matthew 6:1-18) What was wrong with the charitable deeds of the hypocrites? What was the solution? What was wrong with their prayers? What was the solution?

6. What part of the Lord's model prayer cannot be repeated today (Colossians 1:13)?

7. (Matthew 6:19-34) How does one lay up treasure in heaven?

8. Why should we avoid worry?

9. How do we seek the kingdom first ahead of other things?

10. (Matthew 7:1-12) What should we do before reproving a brother (2 Corinthians 13:5, John 7:24, James 5:19-20)?

11. (Matthew 7:13-28) The parable of the wise and foolish men serves to summarize this entire passage. List one thing from each passage that the wise man does and the foolish man does.

PASSAGE

WISE MAN

FOOLISH MAN

- 7:13-14
- 7:15-20
- 7:21-23

12. (Matthew 7:29) Why were the people astonished when Jesus finished speaking?

Lesson 9: *His Promise to Gentiles*

Jehovah promised Abraham that in him "all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Gen. 12:3). God's other two promises to the great patriarch were more quick in coming to pass. The great nation that sprang from his loins became Israel, which dwelt in the land of promise, Canaan, following a divinely led conquest. The third promise of a blessing upon every nation on earth took more time, but turned out to be worth the wait. This promise dealt with salvation, universally offered to both Jew and Gentile, through the sacrifice and doctrine of Jesus Christ.

1. The following prophecies all touch on the concept that God had not forgotten his Gentile creation and was planning to include them in an offer of redemption from sin. Briefly summarize how each passage advances this promise.

a. Daniel 2:44:

b. Daniel 7:13-14:

c. Malachi 1:11:

2. (Matthew 3:1-10) Jewish pride demanded that Gentiles be considered a lesser form of humanity. The Jews went so far as to believe that their privileged birth made them righteous in God's sight, while making the Gentiles forever unacceptable to him. How did John respond to this attitude among his countrymen? Look for the deeper importance of what he is telling them.

3. (Matthew 8:5-13) How did the Gentile centurion show his faith to Jesus? What did Jesus say in response that must have made some of the Jews seethe?

7. (Matthew 17:1-9) What did these three apostles see on this high mountain? What statement by Peter was divinely corrected?

8. (Mark 10:35-45) What did James and John request? What was wrong with such a petition? How did the other apostles react?

9. (Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75) What did all the apostles argue when Jesus said they would be made to stumble that night because of him? Which apostle stood out? How did he fulfill this sad prophecy?

10. (John 12:1-6) How faithful was Judas as the Lord's treasurer? How did this foible cost him later in his service to the Lord (Luke 22:3-6)?

11. (Matthew 27:3-10) What became of Judas and his ill-gotten gain?

12. (Acts 1:20-26) Who replaced Judas Iscariot in the apostle's company? What were his qualifications?

13. (First Peter 5:1-4) Besides being an apostle and preacher, what other role did Peter occupy in the early church? If he were the first Pope and Catholic priests and popes must be celibate, how would his position as an elder disqualify him on this ground from being a pope (First Timothy 3:2, Matthew 8:14)?

14. (Revelation 1:1-11) What became of John near the end of his life?

Lesson 5: *His Teaching With Parables*

Jesus very often taught through the use of parables. Of course, the parable was not new when he employed it, nor is it extinct now, two millennia later. The word "parable" come from a combination of Greek words which mean literally "to throw alongside." The parable is an illustration thrown alongside the main teaching to make it simpler and more obviously logical. There are 37 parables recorded in the gospel records in every account except that of John.

1. (Matthew 13:10-17) In a few words, summarize why Jesus taught with parables.

2. What was wrong with the hearts of those that could not understand the parables, according to the Lord's quotation of Isaiah's prophecy?

3. (Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23) This particular parable is among three that dealt with the "gospel seed," the concept that Christ's teaching was like a plant which God would tend. What kind of heart was indicated by the following types of soil that Jesus noted?

a. wayside:

b. stony places :

c. thorny places:

d. good soil:

4. (Matthew 13:44-46) Explain what the Lord is teaching in the twin parables of the hidden treasure and pearl of great price.

5. (Luke 10:25-37) What question was Jesus answering with the parable of the good Samaritan? What is the point of the parable?

6. (Matthew 18:21-35) What question occasioned this parable of the two debtors? What is the parable's message?

7. (Luke 14:25-33) Explain the teaching of the twin parables of building a tower and making war.

8. (Luke 18:9-14) To whom did Christ direct the parable of the Pharisee and publican? Which of the two was justified and why?

9. (Luke 14:15-24) List the excuses given by those who rejected the invitation.

- a.
- b.
- c.

10. (Matthew 21:28-32) Summarize this parable of the two sons and explain what it means.

11. (Matthew 25:1-13) Explain the parable of the ten virgins.

12. (Matthew 13:47-50) According to the parable of the dragnet, when will the good and wicked be separated? What will happen to the wicked?

13. (Matthew 25:14-30) According to the parable of the talents, what does God expect of us?

Lesson 8: *His Twelve Apostles*

The Lord Jesus selected twelve men to serve as his emissaries to Judea while he lived on Earth and to the whole world after he ascended back into heaven. Only a handful of these men receive much description in the New Testament but what we learn is greatly instructive.

1. (Matthew 10:2-4) List the names of the twelve apostles.

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 9. |
| 4. | 10. |
| 5. | 11. |
| 6. | 12. |

2. (Matthew 4:18-20) With what invitation did Jesus call Peter and Andrew? Explain what this means. What did Jesus also call Simon Peter (John 1:42)

3. (Matthew 4:21-22) What did James and John leave when Jesus called them? How long did they hesitate? What did Jesus nickname them (Mark 3:17)?

4. (Matthew 9:9-11) Where did Jesus find the apostle Matthew? What did the people generally think of Matthew's occupation?

5. (John 1:43-46) What did Philip do when Jesus called him to become a disciple and apostle?

6. (Matthew 16:13-23) Upon what did Christ promise to build his church following Peter's confession (First Corinthians 10:4)? Why did Jesus rebuke Peter a short time after this grand moment?

8. (Matthew 22:23-33) Many so-called Christians today admit that they do not believe in the resurrection of Christ because it violates scientific principles. The sect of the Sadducees felt the same way in the first century. How did Jesus rebuke them?

9. (Matthew 23:1-39) What one word in this passage stands out as the Lord's label for the scribes and Pharisees? What does it mean?

10. Note the sins in these verses and list a way that modern men copy it.

VERSES **SIN IDENTIFIED BY JESUS HOW COPIED**

- a. 23:3
- b. 23:5
- c. 3:7-12
- d. 23:14
- e. 23:16
- f. 23:23-24
- g. 23:34

11. (Mark 11:15-18) Why was Jesus so nasty to the money changers and dove merchants?

12. Describe how the apostles treated men whose teaching required correction.

- a. Acts 18:24-28:
- b. Galatians 2:11-16:
- c. Galatians 5:11-12:
- d. Second Timothy 2:14-18:

Lesson 6: *His Teaching With Miracles*

One of the most startling things about the ministry of Christ and his apostles was their ability to things that were impossible according to the natural laws of physics and science. These miracles were not simply dramatic presentations, but were designed to seal the actual teaching with evidence of a divine hand.

1. (John 1:43-51) The miracle that follows during a wedding in Cana is deemed the Lord's first miracle, but one must also consider his ability to see Nathanael under the fig tree. What did Jesus tell Nathanael when it was apparent he believed because of this sign?

2. (John 2:1-11) What two things resulted from this beginning of miracles at Cana?

3. (John 4:1-19) Why did the Samaritan woman at the well perceive that Jesus was a prophet (cf. 4:29)?

4. The signs Jesus performed here were not the objective of his teaching, but a supporting part. What was necessary to convince men to be converted (cf. John 4:42)?

5. (John 5:1-14) Did Christ's habit of performing miracles on the Sabbath violate the law of Moses the unscriptural customs of the Pharisees (cf. Matthew 15:3-9 and Mark 7:1-9)?

6. (John 6:1-15) What did the people want to do to Jesus after he fed the multitude with five loaves and two fish?

7. (John 6:30-33) That was the first bad reaction to his miracle. What was their second?

8. (John 6:53-58, 66) After begging repeatedly to have their fleshly appetites satisfied, Jesus teaches them about the bread of life and the power of his blood, implying he would not simply serve to fatten their bellies as they expected. How did they respond when this became apparent?

9. Why did Peter say he was staying?

10. (John 9:1-41) Was this man born blind because of his sins or his parents' sins? Why was he born blind (cf. John 9:33, 38)?

11. (Matthew 12:38-42) Why did Jesus refuse to entertain the Pharisees with a sign?

12. (John 12:9-11) Why did the Jewish chief priests plot to murder Lazarus?

13. (Acts 4:1-17) The apostles faced the same kind of evil attitude when they worked miracles. Describe the Jews' mindset concerning the miracles of the Christians.

14. What was the purpose of miracles according to the following passages?

- Acts 2:22:
- Hebrews 2:1-4:

- John 20:30-31:

- Mark 16:20:

15. What does First Corinthians 13:8-13 teach us about the duration of miracles?

Lesson 7: *His Attitudes Toward Error*

Christ's attitude toward error was always one of hatred. To those who sinned in ignorance, he reasoned and pleaded with them to make correction. To those who sinned in hypocrisy, he leveled scathing charges and predictions of destruction. Jesus saw error as a great enemy of faith and his mission, to seek and to save the lost.

1. (Matthew 7:15-20) How can a false prophet be distinguished from the genuine article? Explain.

2. (Matthew 12:1-8) Did Jesus and his disciples actually violate the law of Moses by picking the heads of grain on the Sabbath day? What did they violate?

3. (Matthew 15:1-20) Should the washing of hands have been made a test of fellowship in the way the scribes and Pharisees were asserting?

4. What did Isaiah prophecy about these false teachers' mouths, lips and hearts?

5. What was Jesus's attitude toward the observation that he had offended the Pharisees?

6. (Matthew 21:23-32) What was the central matter of the Jews' question here?

7. How does authority figure in to the distinction between truth and error (Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Peter 4:11)?