

Answer Key



Life of Christ I

International Alpha Bible Course
by Ralph Vincent Reynolds

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson One

1. Name the three Synoptic Gospels.
 - a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke

2. Name the two Gospels which were written by men who had not been numbered among the twelve disciples.
 - a. Mark
 - b. Luke

3. What aspect of Jesus is given in each of the Gospels?
 - a. Matthew: Christ the King
 - b. Mark: Christ the Servant; ministry
 - c. Luke: Christ the Man; humanity
 - d. John: Christ the Son of God; deity

4. To whom was each of the Synoptic Gospels written?
 - a. Matthew was written to the Jews
 - b. Mark was written to Roman Christians
 - c. Luke was written to Theophilus

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Two

1. What is the size of the country of Palestine?

The country of Palestine is 140 miles long and about forty miles wide.

2. Describe the surface of Palestine from west to east.

1. Maritime Plain
2. Foothills
3. Mountains
4. Jordan Valley
5. East Jordan Country

3. Write a description of the Jordan Valley.

The Jordan depression is one of the most remarkable geological phenomena on the earth's surface. From the point where the Jordan River leaves the Sea of Galilee to the place where it enters the Dead Sea is sixty-five miles. The Jordan has a barrier of cliffs on either side, two to fifteen miles apart. The plain of Jericho, immediately north of the Dead Sea, is fourteen miles wide.

By its windings, the Jordan is about 200 miles long. It varies in width from eighty to 180 feet. Its depth is from five to twelve feet. During its course, it falls over 3,000 feet, an average of twenty-two feet per mile.

4. How large is the Dead Sea?

The Dead Sea is forty-eight miles long with a maximum width of ten miles. It's reaches a depth of 1,300 feet.

5. What is the altitude of the Dead Sea?

Its surface is 1,292 feet below sea level

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Three

Fill in the blanks with the correct word:

Antiochus	Maccabeus	Pompey
Antipater	Palestine	Syrians
Babylon	Pharisees	Jews
Herod the Great		

1. Alexander the Great died in **Babylon**.
2. Judas **Maccabeus** was called "The Hammerer."
3. **Antiochus** offered a sow on the altar of the temple.
4. Aristobulus crucified eight hundred **Pharisees**.
5. **Palestine** is the bridge connecting Asia and Africa.
6. **Pompey** massacred twelve thousand Jews.
7. Pompey made **Antipater** procurator over Judea.
8. **Herod the Great** was the son of Antipater.
9. The **Syrians** were driven from Palestine by Judas Maccabeus.
10. Pompey attacked the **Jews** on the Sabbath Day.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Four

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

Antipas	Mariamne
Babylon	Messianic Hope
Caesarea	Pharisees
Herod	religious
Herodians	Sadducees

1. The **Herodians** were supporters of the government of the Herods.
2. The synagogue originated during the exile in **Babylon**.
3. The **Pharisees** believed in the resurrection of the body.
4. **Antipas** was the son Herod the Great.
5. The Roman procurators lived at **Caesarea**.
6. The **Messianic Hope** expressed the hope of the Jews.
7. **Mariamne** was the wife of Herod the Great.
8. **Herod** built a new temple for the Jews.
9. The **Sadducees** were mainly interested in politics.
10. The Pharisees opposed Jesus on **religious** grounds.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Five

1. Describe the physical appearance of John the Baptist.

He used a camel's skin for clothing.

His appearance with disheveled hair, raiment of camel's skin held in place about his body by a leathern girdle, bare feet, bare arms, and an uncropped beard must have been very striking.

2. Describe the message that John the Baptist preached.

1. Repentance
2. Preparation for the kingdom of Heaven
3. Baptism by immersion

3. Summarize the story of John's death.

John denounced Herod publicly for living with Herod's half-brother's wife, Herodias. Herod had John arrested and cast into the fortress prison at Machaerus. John was placed in one of the dungeons beneath this fortress. Herod had no intention of killing John, for in his heart he admired John and accepted his teachings as divinely inspired. Herodias, however, hated John and plotted to destroy him.

When Herod had a great festival on his birthday and a large crowd of the rich and nobility had gathered, Herodias saw her opportunity. Salome danced shamelessly in wild lascivious motions which won the applause of the drunken revelers. When Herod told her she could ask anything to the half of his kingdom, she asked for the head of John the Baptist.

Herod could have refused, for John's head was worth more than half of his kingdom. But nevertheless, he consented and had John the Baptist beheaded. John was still a young man, thirty-one or thirty-two years of age.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Six

1. Clearly explain the difference between the meaning of “virgin birth” and “immaculate conception.”

The meaning of “virgin birth” is that Jesus was born of a virgin, Mary, who had not known any man.

The “immaculate conception,” is a dogma of the Roman Catholic Church which teaches that Mary was born without the taint of original sin.

2. When was Jesus born?

Jesus was likely born in the late summer or early fall of 5 BC, six months after John the Baptist. We do not know the day and the month of His birth. It took place while the flocks were still in the open pasture. Therefore, it had to be in late summer or early fall, no later than October.

3. Explain how December 25 came to be the day that the birth of Jesus is celebrated.

December 25 was the date of the Roman pagan feast of Saturnalia. It was a time of great revelry and debauchery. It was a time of good will when no criminal was executed and friends gave gifts to one another. For this whole day the slaves enjoyed their freedom. The Christians took advantage of this holiday to spend the day celebrating the birth of our Lord.

4. Describe the boyhood and growth of Jesus.

“And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him” (Luke 2:40).

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man” (Luke 2:52).

While we are told very little about the boyhood days of Jesus, there are two verses that tell us of His growth and development.

The Jewish child’s education began in the home. As soon as the child could talk, the mother taught him the *Shema* (Deuteronomy 6:4, 9; Numbers 11:13-21; 15:37-41). The father was responsible to teach his son the Torah. We can be certain that Joseph and Mary were diligent in their responsibilities. The formal education began at the age of six in the local synagogue. From six to ten years of age, the chief textbook was the Old Testament.

Only once are we given a glimpse of Jesus’ childhood. This was an occasion when He accompanied His parents to Jerusalem at the time of the Passover. He was twelve years old. When His parents started back to Nazareth, they traveled one whole day before they discovered that He had been left behind. They hastened back and found Him on the third day in the Temple sitting at the feet of the learned doctors. Everyone was amazed at the wisdom and knowledge of this twelve-year-old Boy.

The reply He gave His mother revealed that even then He was conscious of His identity and mission: “Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?” (Luke 2:49).

It should be noted that He submitted to His parents and obeyed them (verse 51).

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Seven

1. Explain the two errors which we must avoid in studying the baptism of Jesus.
 1. Here, some say, is seen the Trinity, the three persons in the Godhead. This is not true. There was a threefold phenomenon in the upper room, but this was no proof of the Trinity. Although they could feel the Holy Spirit, see tongues of fire and hear tongues, there was only one Spirit. Likewise, the two manifestations at Jordan do not prove the Trinity.
 2. Some say that Jesus was only human up to this point and it is then He became divine. However, Jesus was divine from the conception in the womb of the virgin. Again, Jesus was fulfilling the righteousness of the Old Testament. Every prophet and king had to be anointed as they entered into their ministry. Here Jesus was being anointed prophet, priest, and king.
2. Give the order of events following the baptism of Jesus:
 - a. Jesus was baptized and straightway led into the wilderness.
 - b. Jesus was tempted for forty days.
 - c. Jesus returned to Jordan and stood among the crowd (verse 26).
 - d. The next day John said, "Behold the Lamb of God" (verse 29).
 - e. The next day John also said, "Behold the Lamb of God," and two of his disciples followed Jesus (verse 37). These disciples were Andrew and John, the beloved disciple. Andrew brought Simon Peter to Jesus.
 - f. The day following, Jesus went forth into Galilee after calling Philip and Nathanael.
3. Explain clearly why Jesus was baptized.

Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness. "Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15).

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Eight

1. Compare the temptation of Jesus with that of Eve.

Eve's Temptation (Genesis 3:6)

1. The tree "was good for food" — lust of the flesh
2. The tree "pleasant to the eyes" — lust of the eyes
3. The tree "desired to make one wise" — pride of life

Christ's Temptation (Matthew 4:3-5):

1. "Command this stone that it be made bread" — lust of the flesh
2. The devil showed unto him "all the kingdoms of the world" — lust of the eyes
3. "Cast thyself down from hence, for . . . he shall give his angels charge over thee" — pride of life

Eve yielded to temptation because Satan succeeded in planting a doubt in her heart: "Yea, hath God said?" (Genesis 3:1). The devil tried to do the same thing with our Lord. At Jordan, the voice from Heaven had declared, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). Now the devil suggested a great doubt by the use of an *if*: "If thou be the Son of God" (Matthew 4:3 and 6).

Jesus won the victory by using the Word of God. "It is written" brought the victory each time (Matthew 4:4, 7 and 10). This teaches us the great lesson that we also may have the victory by the use of God's Word.

2. "Jesus came to ministers to others." Explain the relationship of this to His temptation.

Jesus was tempted to use:

1. His power to satisfy self, to minister to Himself
2. His power as a sign of His power, to display His power for show only
3. Worldly means to gain power

"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

Jesus came to minister to others. Jesus was no ascetic. He came "eating and drinking." Yet, if He had yielded to the suggestion, the very purpose of His coming would have been defeated.

We should pay careful attention to the lessons to be learned here. Only too often a man's ministry is defeated because he yields to the temptation of ministering to himself, to make a display of his ministry and gift, and to permit his ministry to be defeated by a carnal ambition of using wrong means to gain power.

3. Write a paragraph explaining the truth: “Jesus was tempted in all points like as we are.”

“For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted” (Hebrews 2:18).

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).

We must literally accept the truths stated in the above Scriptures. There is no temptation that comes to man that Jesus has not already experienced. The sufferings and temptations of our Lord covered the entire field of weakness and tendency to yield to sin— physical, mental and spiritual.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Nine

1. From memory, list the names of the twelve disciples.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| a. Simon Peter | g. Thomas |
| b. Andrew | h. Matthew |
| c. James | i. James, son of Alphaeus |
| d. John | j. Thaddaeus (Matthew & Mark) or Judas, son of James (Luke & Acts) |
| e. Philip | k. Simon, the Cananaean |
| f. Bartholomew | l. Judas Iscariot |

2. The apostle Peter received three distinct calls. Give the scriptural reference where these three calls are given.

- Peter was called to be a disciple (learner) in John 1:40-42. Andrew was the first to find his brother, Simon. Simon was given a new name by Jesus, Cephas or Peter, which meant a stone.
- Peter was called to be a minister in Mark 1:16-18, Matthew 4:18-20, Luke 5:3-10. In Mark 1 and Matthew 4, we read that Jesus found Peter and Andrew casting a net into the sea and addressed them immediately. "Come ye after me and I will make you to become fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going a little farther, He found James and John who were mending their nets. Jesus also called them and they responded as quickly as the first pair. They left their father and the hired servants to look after the boats.

Luke gave a longer story. Walking by the lake, Jesus found two empty boats since the fishermen were washing their nets. He entered into Simon's and had him put out to sea a little so that He could speak to the people who had followed Him. Then He told Peter to put out his nets. Peter demurred, as they had just come in from a night of futile fishing. However, Peter obeyed and brought in such a net full that they were all amazed. Peter was overcome by his own unworthiness. Peter cried, "Depart from me, I am a sinful man, O Lord" (Luke 5:8). Jesus then called them to be fishers of men, and they forsook their nets.

- Peter was called to be an apostle in John 21.

3. Write a clear definition of the following terms:

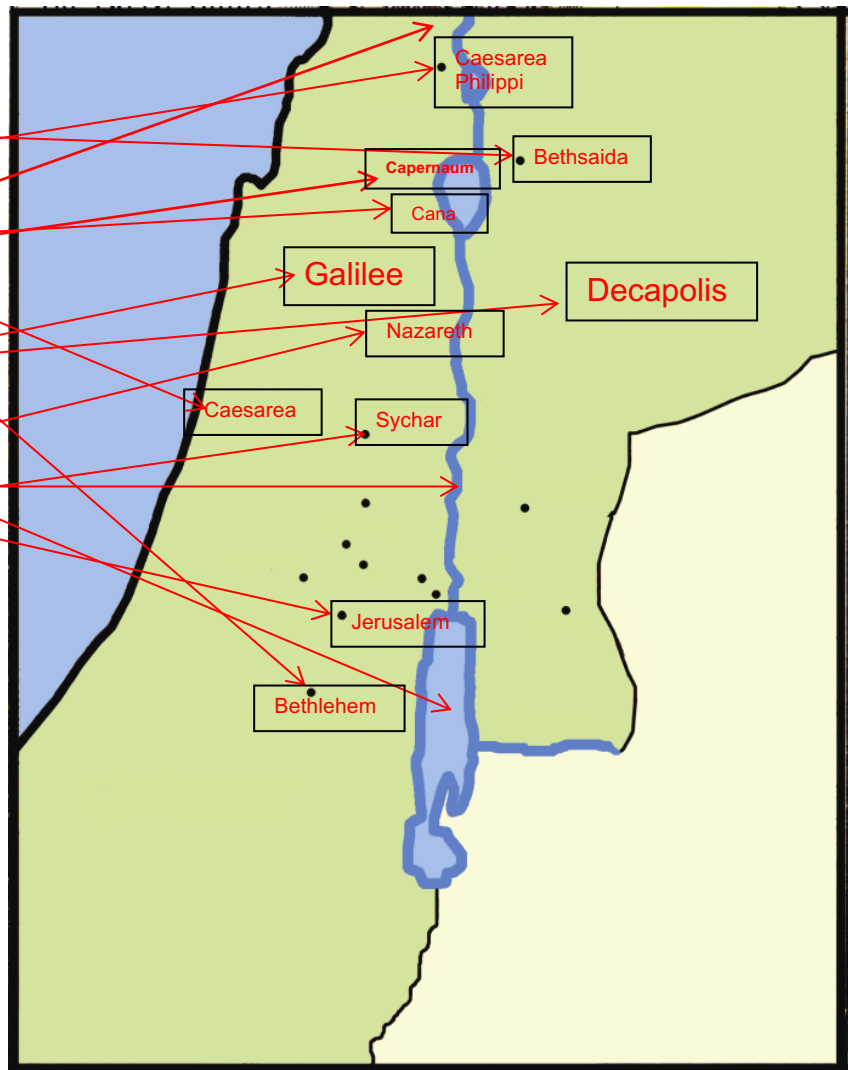
- Disciple - The word *disciple* means "learner" and is applied to all followers of Jesus Christ.
- apostle - The word *apostle* means "one sent forth on a mission" or "a missionary." Jesus knew that He must have trained workers to carry on His ministry and work. These apostles were to be fellow laborers with Him in founding His church and in evangelizing the world.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I**Lesson Ten**

Locate the following places on the map:

Bethlehem
 Bethsaida
 Caesarea
 Caesarea
 Philippi
 Cana
 Capernaum
 Damascus
 Dead Sea
 Decapolis
 Galilee
 Jerusalem
 Jordan River
 Nazareth
 Sychar



NOTE: Damascus is not on the map in lesson 10. So if the student cannot put it in it's place then do not mark it incorrect. Also, the dots are not placed in the right places. So the student will need to disregard the dots.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Eleven

Give scriptural reference to show that the ministry and teaching of Jesus revealed His deity. Give two references with Scriptures for each of the following:

1. Jesus accepted worship.

- a. "Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him" (Matthew 14:33).
- b. "Then came she and worshipped him" (Matthew 15:25).
- c. "And they worshipped him" (Luke 24:52).

2. Jesus forgave sin.

- a. "And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven" (Luke 7:48).
- b. "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee" (Mark 2:5).

3. Jesus is the Creator.

- a. Turning water into wine John 2:1-11
- b. Feeding the five thousand John 6:1-13
- c. Walking on the water John 6:19
- d. Quieting the storm Mark 4:39

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Life of Christ I

Lesson Twelve

1. List the three experiences Peter, James, and John had that the other disciples did not have:

- a. Mount of Transfiguration
- b. To the home of Jairus, where Jairus' daughter was raised from the dead
- c. In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus took them farther (into the garden) than the other disciples.

2. Why did the scene on the Mount of Transfiguration take place?

Jesus desired to encourage them and at the same time draw the curtain back and allow them to catch a glimpse of the glory to come.

3. What truth was taught on the Mount?

Man's way is always that of pampering and preserving self. God's way is that of self-sacrifice. The way of the cross leads to glory and to eternal life; the way of self-preservation leads to death.

4. Why were the three disciples unable to fully comprehend what they witnessed?

The three disciples were not able to fully comprehend what they witnessed because they did not understand that Jesus had to die or that Jesus had not died yet