

Life of Christ III - IABC

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Self Help Test: Life of Christ III **Lesson One**

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

1. Write a paragraph showing how the righteousness of the Christian may exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees. (Matthew 5:20)

Jesus said that unless our righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, we will by no means enter into the kingdom of heaven. The scribes and Pharisees loved to show their piety outwardly, but Jesus taught that true righteousness is a matter of the heart. It is not on how others treat us but rather how we treat them. A Christian with the right spirit will find himself almost automatically turning his other cheek, giving a needy person his own cloak, and going the second mile. The righteousness of the Law will be fulfilled in the heart and life of a Christian if he lives by the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount.

2. What four things could we say the Sermon on the Mount was?

- a. A declaration of the ideals and principles of the kingdom
- b. The constitution of the kingdom of God
- c. Christ's inaugural address
- d. An ordination sermon for the 12 disciples who had just been chosen

3. Explain what Jesus taught concerning the following:

- a. Murder: Jesus connected murder with anger and hatred, teaching that worship was not acceptable when there is hatred in the heart.
- b. Adultery: Jesus taught that adultery begins with the lustful look. Adultery is in the eye and heart before the outward act.
- c. Divorce: Jesus taught that neither husband nor wife has the right to dissolve the marriage relationship except for the single cause of unfaithfulness.
- d. Retaliation: There would be no place of personal revenge.

4. Explain how Jesus came to fulfill the Law:

Jesus declared that the moral and ethical standards of His kingdom to be the fulfillment of the Law, revealing the depths of the meaning of the Law and prophets. His emphasis is not on the external, but rather upon the spiritual and eternal, and the real inward character of a person.

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Self Help Test: Life of Christ III
Lesson Two

1. Define what is meant by a parable.

A parable is a story that has been told for the definite purpose of making some truth clear. It is an illustration to throw light upon some doctrine.

2. Why did Jesus teach using parables? Quote scripture to prove your answer.

A parable must be interpreted to be understood. It takes divine revelation to understand the truths brought out in parables. When Jesus taught in parables, He gave simple stories that were interesting and would be remembered. By doing so, he helped his disciples, and later the church, to more clearly understand and remember much longer the truths contained in the parables. He hid the meaning of the stories from the Pharisees and the unsaved. However, they would remember the stories and perhaps would later understand the truths contained in the parables. Mark 4:11-12 says, "And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables."

3. Give two rules for the interpretation of parables:

a. Parables are not to be interpreted literally. Doctrines must not be formed on the basis of parables alone. Parables are for illustrating doctrines and making them clear, but not for formulating doctrines.

b. Never make a parable out of a literal, historical story. Jesus never gave the names to characters in parables. Stories such as the beggar and the rich man must be accepted as an actual account of something that had happened.

4. Write a paragraph stating fully the truths taught by the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The direct lesson by the story of the good Samaritan is to define just who is our neighbor. Our neighbor is any man who is in need of our help. The Jewish man represents all mankind traveling the downward road away from God. Jesus Christ is the Good Samaritan, who had compassion, who came where the fallen man is. He pours in the wine and the oil, both of which represented the Holy Spirit. He clothed the sinner with His own righteousness and carries him to the inn. This speaks to us of the church. Even the two pence have meaning here. A penny was a day's wage, and speaks of providing for the man for two days. A day is with the Lord as 1000 years. Therefore, this parable taught that the church would minister to the sinner for a period of 2000 years.

5. In the parable of the debtor and his fellow servant, answer the following:

a. How much did the servant owe the King?

The servant owed the king 10,000 talents or about 12 million dollars.

b. How much did his fellow servant owe him?

100 pennies, or about \$17.00.

c. What truths are taught by this parable?

We are taught here that we cannot receive forgiveness if we are unwilling to forgive.

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Lesson Three

1. State five truths that the parables teach concerning the Kingdom.

- a. Jesus had to pay a great price to purchase the church.
- b. The sinner must surrender all in order to be safe.
- c. Jesus is the one pearl of great price.
- d. In the kingdom there will be many false members who will remain there until the judgment day.
- e. The church will have a small beginning but will enjoy a tremendous growth.

2. What is meant by the "Leaven in the three measures of meal"? (Matthew 13:33)

Leaven is a type of false doctrine. Leaven works through all the dough. For this reason we must keep out all false doctrine.

3. Give the *three-fold interpretation* of Matthew 13:44:

The field is the world. The treasure is the church. The man who sold all in order to get the treasure out of the field is Jesus Christ. He paid all when He went to Calvary and gave His life for the church.

The treasure is salvation. The sinner who comes to Jesus must surrender all and place all on the altar before he can have the treasure of salvation.

The field is the world. The treasure hid in the field is the souls of men and women. The man who pays all in order to be able to get the treasure out of the field is the evangelist, the soulwinner. In order to go into the world to win souls, the soulwinner must place all upon the altar. There is a great price to be paid if one is going to be a soulwinner.

4. Define *importunity*:

Importunity means to request and beg urgently with persistence until the answer comes.

5. Write out in full Luke 11:10 as given in the Amplified New Testament:

For every one who asks and keeps on asking receives; and he who seeks and keeps on seeking finds; and to him who knocks and keeps on knocking, the door shall be opened.

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Lesson Four

1. State four truths that are taught by the parables which concern our Lord's return:

- a. **There is a definite certainty regarding His return.**
- b. **No man knows the exact time--He may come at any hour.**
- c. **Jesus exhorted His disciples over and over to be ready.**
- d. **A definite order of events was taught.**

2. Name ten parables which concern our Lord's return. For each one, give the scriptural reference:

TITLE	SCRIPTURE
a. The Great Supper	Luke 14:15-24
b. The Wedding Garment	Matthew 22:1-14
c. Man Taking a Long Journey	Mark: 13:34-37
d. The Fig Tree	Matthew 24:32-33; Mark 13:28-29
e. Watchful Servants	Luke 12: 35-40
f. The Wise and Foolish Virgins	Matthew 25:1-13
g. The Talents	Matthew 25:14-30
h. The Pounds	Luke 19: but 11-27
i. Laborers hired for the vineyard	Matthew 20:1-16
j. Sheep and the Goats	Matthew 21:33-46

3. By reference to these parables, show that the Holy Ghost is essential to being ready for the rapture of the church:

In the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins, the wise virgins have been filled with the Holy Ghost (have an extra supply of oil). The truth taught here is that it is absolutely necessary to have the Holy Ghost to be ready for the rapture and to enter into the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

4. By reference to these parables, show that rewards will be handed out according to faithfulness:

The Parables of the Talents, the Pounds, the Laborers, and the Sheep and Goats teach basically the same thing: rewards are given in direct proportion to faithfulness.

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Lesson Five

1. Write out in full one scripture with reference to show that Jesus taught the following were essential to salvation:

a. Faith

“And he said to the woman, thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.” (Luke 7:50)

“That whosoever believeth in him should not perish” (John 3:16)

“He that believeth on him is not condemned” (John 3:18)

“He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38)

“For if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins” (John 8:24)

b. Repentance

“And the publican ... smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner” (Luke 18:13)

“I restore him fourfold. And Jesus said unto him, this day is salvation come to this house” (Luke 19:8-9)

Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24)

c. Water Baptism

“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16)

“When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John” (John 4:1)

2. Give three examples of men who repented in the Gospels with scripture reference:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| a. Publican | Luke 18:13 |
| b. Zacchaeus | Luke 19:8-9 |
| c. The Prodigal Son | Luke 15:11-24 |

3. How do we know that Jesus can forgive sins?

We know that Jesus can forgive sins because “He said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee” (Mark 2:5) and “Jesus said unto her, neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more” (John 8:11). He freely exercised the divine prerogative of being able to forgive sins.

4. Is there a sin that Jesus will not forgive? Explain your answer clearly giving scriptural reference.

“But the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men . . . but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come” (Matthew 12:31-32). The sin of blasphemy could only be committed by word of mouth. The Pharisees were accusing the Lord of casting out devils by the power of devil. This was actually blasphemy, but it could be forgiven. However, if a person said that the moving and power of the Holy Spirit as of the devil, there could be no forgiveness.

5. What is the message of the four Gospels concerning salvation?

Jesus came to provide salvation

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Lesson Six

1. Explain the two ways Jesus uses the word “rock” in Matthew 16:18.

a. He called Peter “Petros” (masculine) meaning a fragment of a rock or a building stone to be placed into the foundation.

b. However, He would build His church “on this rock” (*petra*, feminine) meaning a huge rock like Gibraltar.

2. Give three pictures the Lord gave of His church:

The Bible is full of portraits describing the church. Some of the most vivid of these pictures are given by our Lord. Such phrases as “salt of the earth,” (Matthew 5:13) “light of the world,” (Matthew 5:14) “branches,” (John 15:5) and “sheep,” (John 10:4) reveal the fact that the church is not to be a dormant, lifeless body but is to be living with a definite ministry here in this world.

3. Write out two scriptures with references to show that Christ would be dwelling within His church:

a. “At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you” (John 14:20).

b. “Abide in me, and I in you” (John 15:4)

4. What truths did Jesus teach concerning His church in the following Scriptures: Matthew 16:19 and Matthew 18:18?

“And whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Matthew 16:19).

“Verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Matthew 18:18).

In these statements the Lord revealed the terrific responsibility which He places upon the church in the binding and loosing of immortal souls.

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Lesson Seven

1. Write a paragraph to show what Jesus meant by giving the keys of the kingdom to Peter. Jesus gave to the Apostle Peter the power and authority to preach the gospel of the kingdom. Peter was given the keys to open the door of the kingdom. He used these keys and opened the door to the Jews (Acts 2), Samaritans (Acts 8), and Gentiles (Acts 10). Peter's message was repentance, water baptism in the name of Jesus, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38).

2. Write out scriptures with references to prove the kingdom of God began after the ministry of John the Baptist.

a. "Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matthew 11:11).

b. "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is reached, and every presseth into it" (Luke 16:16).

3. By using scripture, show the kingdom of God was a spiritual kingdom

Jesus said ". . . The kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17: 20-21).

Later he told Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). The Apostle Paul also taught this truth in his epistles: "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy and the Holy Ghost (Romans 14:17). "For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power". (I Corinthians 4:20).

The kingdom of God is Jesus reigning in the hearts and lives of His Spirit-filled saints.

4. By referring to Matthew 18:3 and John 3:5, name three essential requirements for entrance to the Kingdom:

Matthew 18:3 declares that Jesus said "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Jesus told Nicodemus, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God " (John 3:5).

Thus, Jesus stated very clearly that to enter the kingdom, a person must

- a. be converted and become as a child
- b. be born of water
- c. be born of the Spirit.

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Lesson Eight

1. Explain the meaning of the following terms:

a. The Moral Law:

The moral law embodied the Ten Commandments and was an expression of the righteousness of God. Its main purpose in the Old Testament was to bring to man the knowledge of sin and to cause man to know his need of a Savior.

b. The Ceremonial Law:

The ceremonial law had to do with the [Jewish] manner of worshipping God. This was mainly made up of types and shadows which pointed forward to Jesus Christ.

c. The Civil Law:

Civil law related to the administration of justice. These laws were noble in character, but have little direct application to us today.

2. "Jesus completely fulfilled the righteousness of the Law." Write a paragraph showing the truth of this statement.

Jesus was the first and only man to completely fulfill the righteousness of the Law. He obeyed the Law to the most minute detail. There was not one jot or tittle in which He had broken the Law or failed to fulfill it.

3. What did Jesus teach concerning the Sabbath?

"And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath" (Mark 2:27-28).

The Sabbath was a divinely ordained part of the Law designed for the rest of man and his worship of God. The rabbis had elaborated on the basic instructions until they had a system of 39 works which when done, rendered the offender subject to death by stoning. This excessive strictness made the observance of the Sabbath wholly impossible and brought great burden upon the people. Jesus taught that the Sabbath was not given to be a burden to man, the rather to be a blessing to him. He also taught that there was no sin in doing good and ministering to the needs of mankind on that day.

4. What is the meaning of the Scripture, "The law and the prophets were until John"? John's ministry ended the preaching of the Law and the prophets, and with the ministry of Jesus a new message was being proclaimed. The purpose for which the Law had been given was now fulfilled in Christ and therefore would no longer need to be preached.

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Lesson Nine

1. In Luke 12, why did the Lord call the rich farmer a fool?

In this parable, Jesus clearly taught the value of eternal things compared to temporal possessions. God calls the man who lays up treasure in this world only a fool. The important thing is to be rich toward God. The true value of anything can be estimated by its lasting and eternal qualities. Material things and worldly pleasures which can be enjoyed only for a few minutes are of little value compared with eternal values.

2. Explain why the rich young ruler was not saved (Mark 10).

Jesus looked into the rich young ruler's heart and saw that his wealth was the one thing which would hinder his soul's salvation. The rich young ruler loved his wealth. He refused to pay the price, part with his wealth, and went away sorrowful.

3. Show how Jesus taught the meaning of this phrase: "deceitfulness of riches."

Jesus taught about the deceitfulness of riches in the parable of the sower. He compared the deceitfulness of riches like thorns which choke out the good seed so that it became unfruitful. Riches promise many things: security, power, peace and happiness. However, riches are not able to produce those things which they promise.

4. Write a paragraph on the following Scripture: "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Whatever a man may consider most valuable in his life will be his treasure, the object of his love and devotion. He will devote most of his attention, time and energy on those things. His heart may be centered on earthly things that will pass away. Jesus taught that treasures should be laid up in heaven, which would make that treasure eternal in nature.

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Lesson Ten

1. By using Scripture, prove that there are only two destinies for man.

“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:13-14).

2. For whom is Heaven prepared?

Heaven is prepared for the redeemed.

3. Quote Scripture to prove your answer to question #2.

“In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you” (John 14:1-3).

4. For whom is Hell prepared?

Hell is prepared for the wicked.

5. Quote Scripture to prove your answer to question #4.

“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matthew 25:41).

“To go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched” (Mark 9: 43-48).

6. What two persons did Jesus teach were living in eternity? Give scriptural reference for each.

The rich man Luke 16:19

A beggar named Lazarus Luke 16:20

(The complete story is told in Luke 16:19-31)

7. Write a paragraph describing Hell as Jesus described it.

Jesus taught that there is a lake of fire prepared for the devil and his angels. The fire shall never be quenched. There will be memory there. There will be torment there. There will be remorse there. The worm never dies. It is a place of outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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Lesson Eleven

1. Write out three Scriptures with references to prove that Jesus claimed oneness with the Father.

- a. "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30).
- b. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9).
- c. "That they may be one, even as we are one" (John 17:22).

2. Explain the Scripture, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58).

The above statement means that Abraham was dependent upon Jesus, not Jesus upon him for existence. Abraham came into being at a certain point in time, but Jesus is the eternally present one: the self-existent one dwelling in the eternal present. The title "I Am" is positive, indisputable proof that Jehovah in the Old Testament is Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

3. Write out two Scriptures with references to prove that Jesus Christ is the Comforter.

- a. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever" (John 14:16).
- b. "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you" (John 14:18).

4. Name the three prerogatives of deity.

- a. The right to be worshiped
- b. The right to forgive sins
- c. The right and power to create

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Lesson Twelve

1. What is meant by the term, "Olivet Discourse"? When did Jesus give this discourse?

Chapters 24 and 25 of St. Matthew's Gospel make up the "Olivet Discourse."
This discourse was given just two days before His death.

2. What three questions did the disciples ask the Lord in Matthew 24?

- a. When shall these things be (the destruction of the temple)?
- b. What shall be the sign of thy coming?
- c. What shall be the sign of the end of the world (the consummation of the age)?

3. Explain the meaning of the following words:

- a. *Elect* (Matthew 24:31)

The word *elect* in this verse refers to the nation of Israel.

- b. *Generation* (Matthew 24:34)

The generation that is meant is the generation that is living when these things begin to come to pass.

4. Give the date of the destruction of Jerusalem under Titus.

AD 70

5. Remembering our Lord's prophecy, where did many Christians flee at this time?

They fled across the Jordan River to Pella, 17 miles south of the Sea of Galilee.

6. Give three scriptures with references to show that Jesus promised to return:

- a. "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:2-3).
- b. "Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you" (John 14:28).
- c. "A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father" (John 16:16).
- d. "I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice" (John 16: 22).
- e. "Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?" (John 21:22).