

***I Believe in Jesus
Christ***

THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD

Fallen Man

- **What is Sin?**
- At the core of sin is a rejection of God and the refusal to accept his love. This is manifested in a disregard for his commandments.



Original Sin

- Sin in the strictest sense implies guilt for which one is personally responsible. Therefore the term “Original Sin” refers, not to a personal sin, but rather to the disastrous, fallen state of mankind into which the individual is born, even before he himself sins by a free decision.
- **Are we compelled to sin by original sin?**
- No, Man, though is deeply wounded by original sin and is inclined to sin. Nevertheless, with God’s help he is capable of doing good.



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G.K Chesterton on Original Sin

“Modern masters of science are much impressed with the need of beginning all inquiry with a fact. The ancient masters of religion were quite equally impressed with that necessity. They began with the fact of sin -- a fact as practical as potatoes. Whether or not man could be washed in miraculous waters, there was no doubt at any rate that he wanted washing. But certain religious leaders in London, not mere materialists, have begun in our day not to deny the highly disputable water, but to deny the indisputable dirt. “



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G.K. Chesterton on Original Sin

- “Certain new theologians dispute original sin, which is the only part of Christian theology which can really be proved. Some followers of the Reverend R. J. Campbell, in their almost too fastidious spirituality, admit divine sinlessness, which they cannot see even in their dreams. But they essentially deny human sin, which they can see in the street. The strongest saints and the strongest sceptics alike took positive evil as the starting-point of their argument.”



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*How does God
draw us out of
the whirlpool of
Evil?*

God does not look on as man gradually destroys himself and the world around him through the chain reaction of sin. He sends us Jesus Christ, the Saviour and Redeemer, who snatches us from the power of sin.

Parable of the Prodigal Son

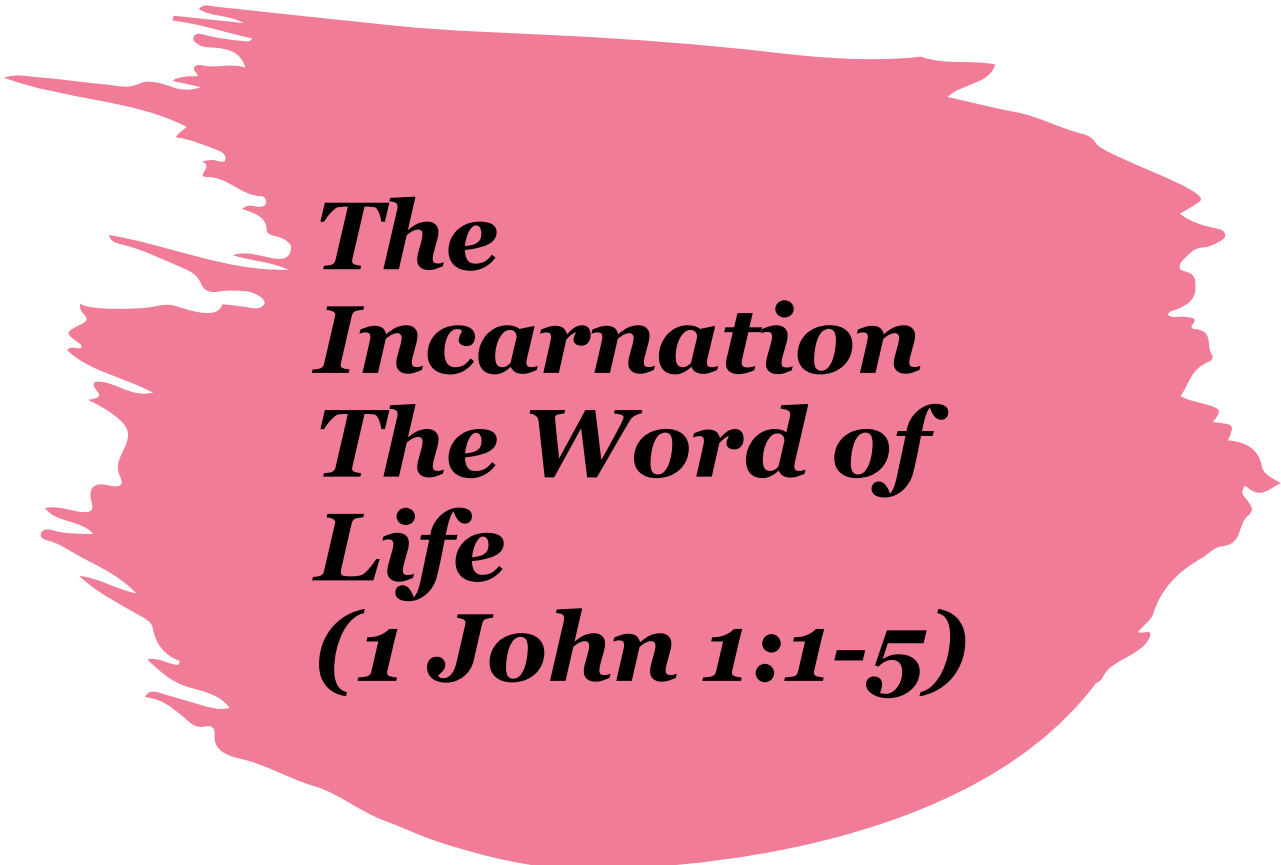


- **The Parable of the Prodigal Son: Luke 15**
- ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'²² **But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; ²³and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; ²⁴for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.'** And they began to make merry.

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God Has Spoken by His Son

1 In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; **2** **but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.** **3** He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, **4** having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs.

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***The
Incarnation
The Word of
Life
(1 John 1:1-5)***

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— **2** the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— **3** that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. **4** And we are writing this that our^[a] joy may be complete.

Who Will Take the Son

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art.

One day the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while saving another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only child.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood there with a large package in his hands. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you and your love of art." The young man held out his package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this."

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. The father stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the pictures. "Oh, no, sir. I could never repay what your son did for me. It is a gift."

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home, he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the man's son. The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?" There was silence. Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip that one." But the auctioneer persisted. "Will someone bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? \$100. \$200?"

Another voice shouted angrily. "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Goughs, the Rembrandts. Get on with the real bids." But still the auctioneer continued. "The son! Who will take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. "I'll give \$10 for the painting." Being a poor man, it was all he could afford. "We have \$10, who will bid \$20?"

"Give it to him for \$10! Let's see the masters." But the auctioneer continued. "\$10 is the bid, won't someone bid \$20?" The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son. They wanted the more "worthy" investments for their collections. The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!"

A man sitting on the second row shouted, "Now let's get on with the collection!" But the auctioneer laid down his gavel. "I'm sorry, the auction is over."

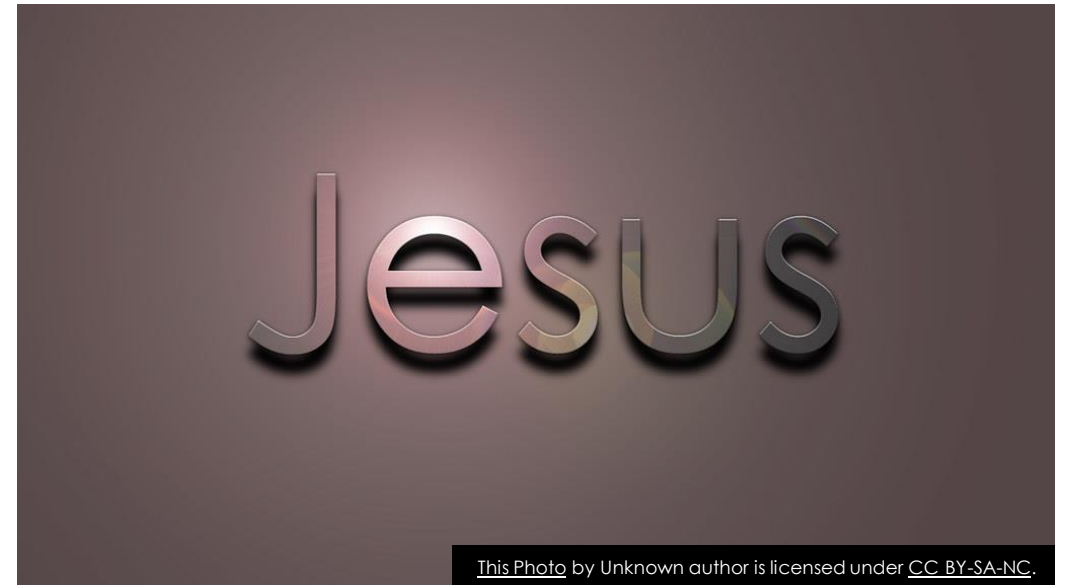
"What about the paintings?"

"I am sorry. When I was called to conduct the auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings. The man who took the son gets everything."

God gave his son over 2000 years ago to die on a cruel cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is, "The Son, the Son, who will take the Son?" Because, you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything!"

Names of Jesus and Meaning

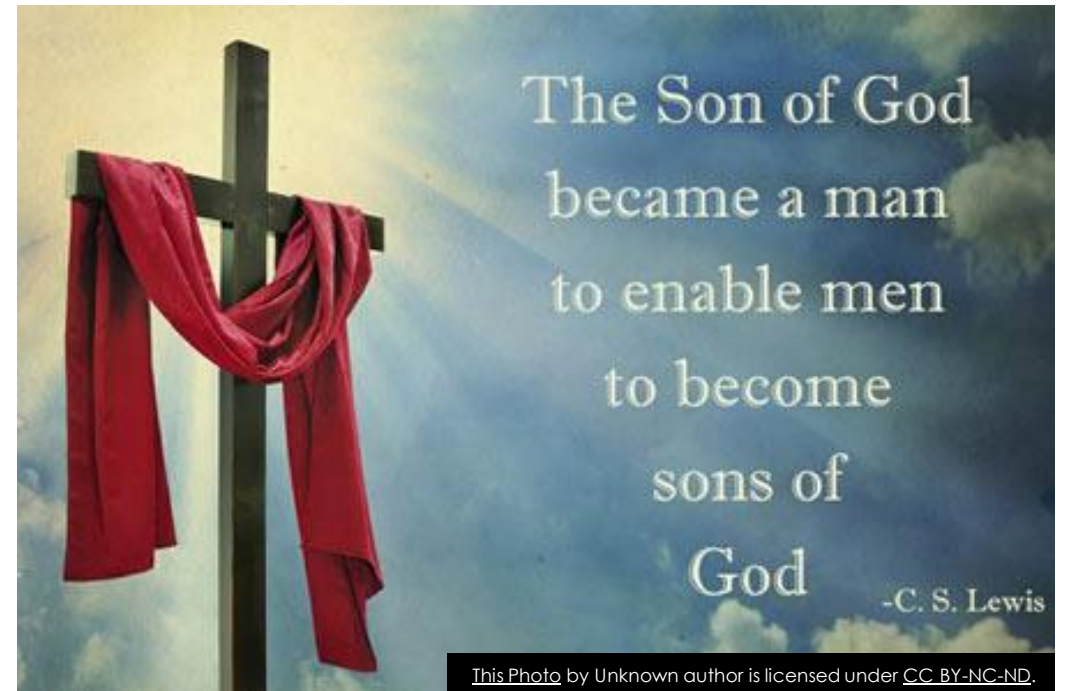
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- **1. Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:1, John 1:41):**
"Jesus" is His given name, and "Christ" is a title meaning "Messiah" or "Anointed One," signifying Jesus as the promised Savior and King. **Matthew 1:1** - "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham." **John 1:41** - "He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which means Christ)."
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Names of Jesus and Meaning

- **2. Son of God (Matthew 16:16, Mark 1:1):** This title highlights Jesus' divine nature and unique relationship with God the Father, affirming His deity. **Matthew 16:16** - "Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'" **Mark 1:1** - "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."

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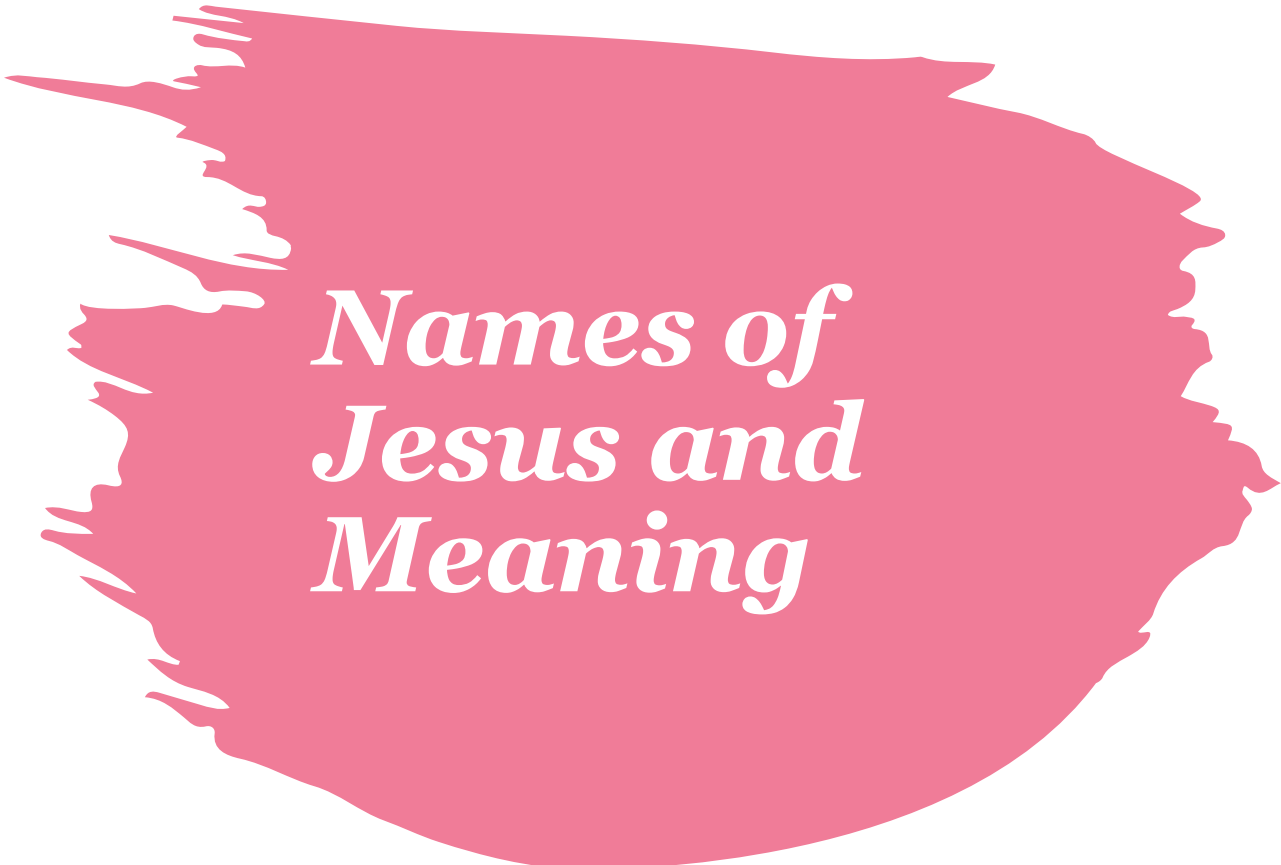


Names of Jesus and Meaning

- **3. Son of Man (Mark 8:31, Matthew 24:30):** Jesus often referred to Himself as the Son of Man, connecting to the Messianic figure in **Daniel 7:13-14** and emphasizing His humanity and authority as the coming King. **Mark 8:31** - "And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again." **Matthew 24:30** - "Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

**The Son of Man himself
did not come to be
served but to serve**

Mark : 10-45

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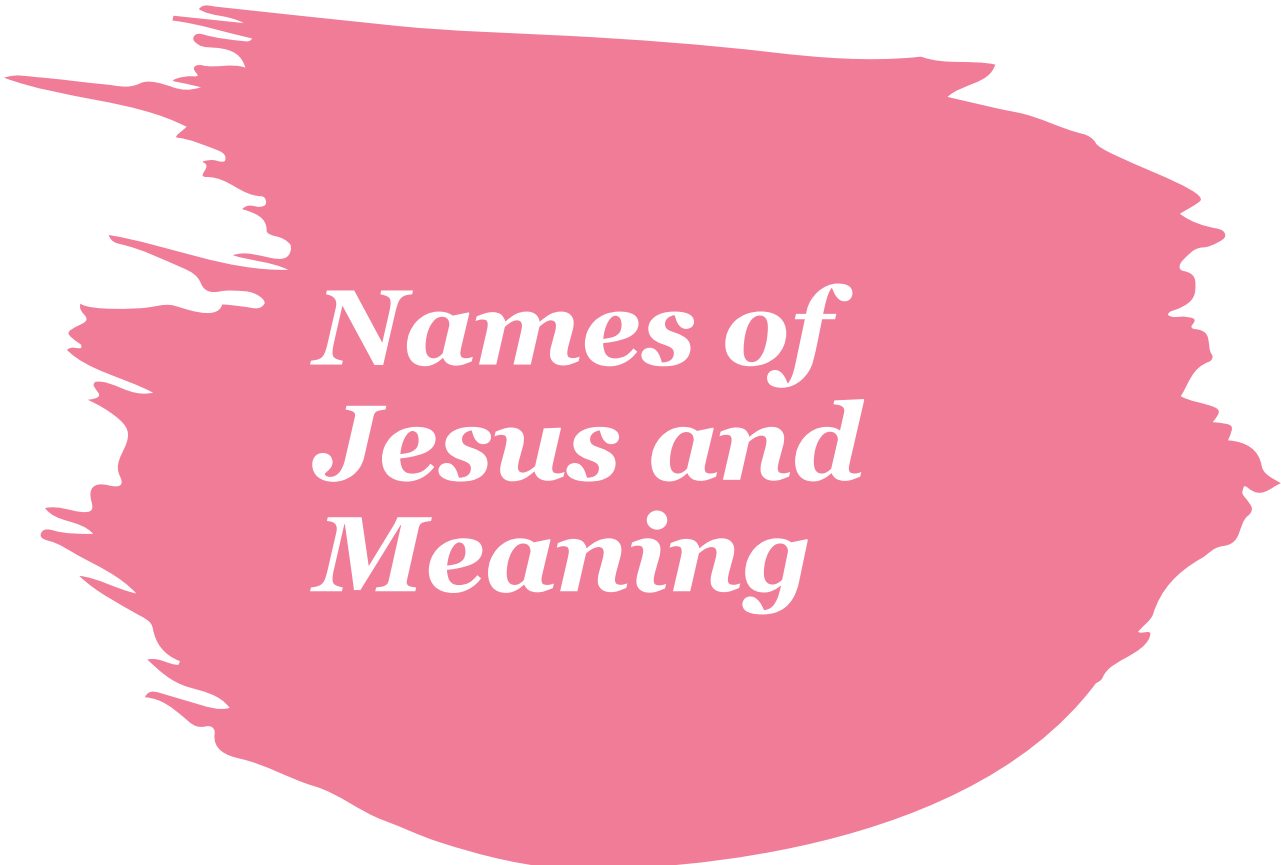
Names of Jesus and Meaning

4. Lamb of God (John 1:29, 1 Peter 1:19): This metaphorical title portrays Jesus as the sacrificial offering for the sins of humanity, drawing from the imagery of the Passover lamb and the sacrificial system. **John 1:29** - "The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'" **1 Peter 1:19** - "But with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot."

Names of Jesus and Meaning



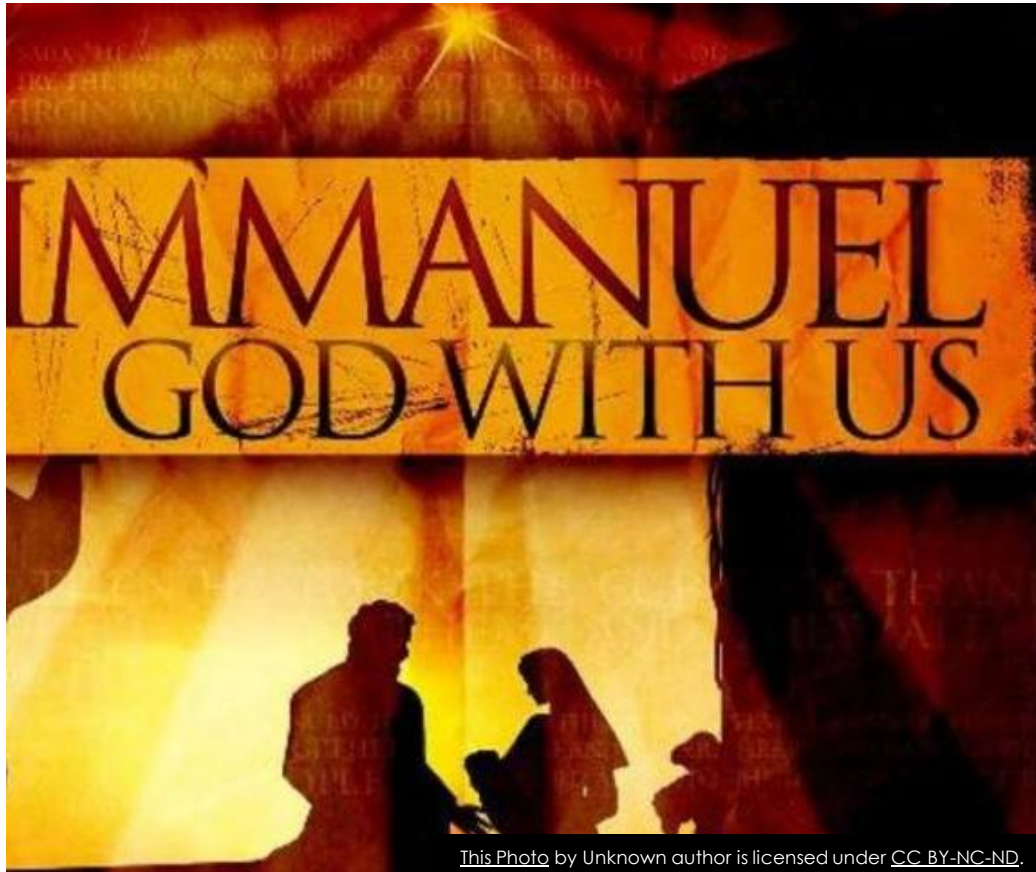
- **5. Lord (Luke 2:11, Acts 2:36):** "Lord" acknowledges Jesus' authority, sovereignty, and divine status, affirming His supreme position and lordship over all creation. **Luke 2:11** - "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." **Acts 2:36** - "Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

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Names of Jesus and Meaning

6. Savior (Luke 2:11, Acts 5:31): Jesus is called the Savior because He came to save humanity from sin and offer eternal life through His death and resurrection. **Luke 2:11** - "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." **Acts 5:31** - "God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins."

Names of Jesus and Meaning



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- **7. Emmanuel (Matthew 1:23):** This name means "God with us" and emphasizes the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus, indicating that God became physically present among humanity through Jesus. **Matthew 1:23** - "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel (which means, God with us)."

Incarnation

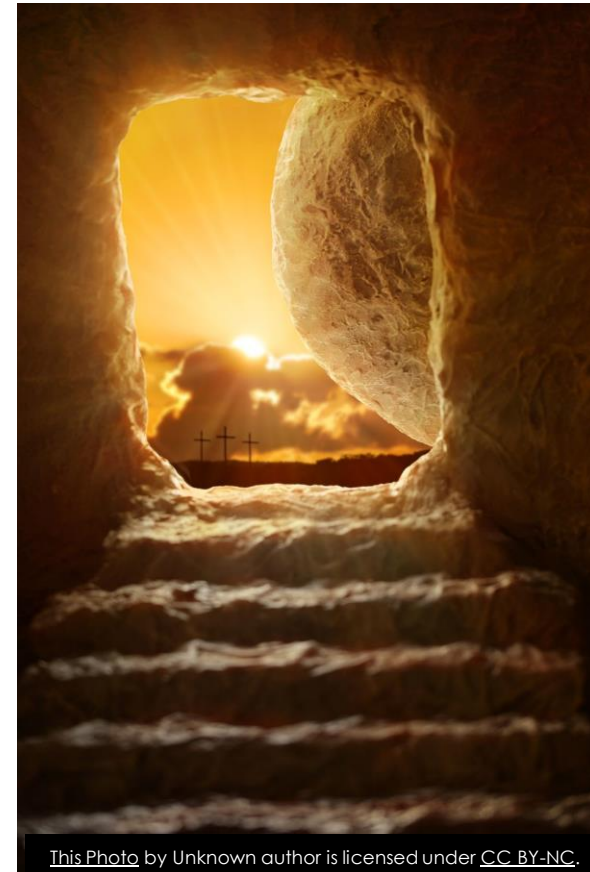
- **“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (Jn 1:14, RSVCE).** St. John expresses the central mission of the Son of God in that beloved passage, that God became flesh — that in Jesus Christ he took on a humanity like ours in all things but sin (see Heb 4:15).
- Why does this doctrine matter so much? **Simply put, without the Incarnation, the human race would still remain in sin and, therefore, separated from God.** It is because of the Incarnation that salvation comes to us through Jesus’ cross and resurrection, but it also opens the way to an even greater inheritance.



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Incarnation

- **This greater inheritance begins with eternal life.** That became possible because, by taking our humanity to the cross, Jesus crucifies to death the old humanity, conquering sin and death through death. **This victory is completed in his resurrection where he is raised from the dead, no longer subject to corruption or death, with a body definitively glorified. His resurrection is the first fruits, a sign and basis for the hope that we will be raised from the dead in glorified bodies.** None of this is possible unless Jesus took on not just a similar humanity, but also took on our very humanity. That is why St. Paul says, "For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life" (1 Cor 15:22). This is the promise that because Christ has raised humanity to life in his body, so we — members of his body by baptism — are promised the inheritance of the Resurrection.



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Incarnation

The Incarnation, however, effects an even greater inheritance. The early Church Father St. Athanasius enunciates it in his famous phrase: “For the Son of God became man so that we might become God.” This is known in the Church as the **doctrine of divinization: that the Incarnation effects not just a restoration of our relationship with God, but that because God took on our humanity, it has been raised to a greater dignity than before. The fact of the Incarnation now lifts our human nature to greater heights than it ever hoped for. As St. Paul says, “You received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, ‘Abba, Father!’” (Rom 8:15).**

Incarnation

HE WAS LIKE US IN ALL THINGS BUT SIN. **THE FATHERS: WHAT WAS NOT TAKEN UP BY JESUS HAS NOT BEEN REDEEMED. (THE APPEARANCES OF JESUS TO HIS DISCIPLES). LUKE 24FF.**

²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, ²⁹ but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us^[e] while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?" ³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, ³⁴ who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.



MARY



- Why is Mary a Virgin?
- God willed that Jesus Christ should have a true human mother but only God himself as his Father, because he wanted to make a new beginning that could be credited to him alone and not to earthly forces.
- What the Catholic Faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Jesus. CCC 487

MARY

Isn't it improper to call Mary the "Mother" of God?

- No, Anyone who calls Mary the Mother of God thereby professes that her Son is God.

Strictly speaking, Jesus did not need baptism, because he was sinless. That he submitted to baptism shows us two things:

- He takes our sins upon himself
- Jesus understands his baptism as an anticipation of his passion and resurrection.

Jesus



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Apostles: Jesus had a large circle of disciples around him, both men and women. From these, he selected twelve men whom he called Apostles. (Lk 6: 12-16). He sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal. (Lk 9:2). Jesus took only these twelve apostles with him to the Last Supper, where he gave them then command, "Do this in remembrance of me." (Lk 22:19b)

The apostles became witnesses of Jesus' Resurrection and guarantors of the truth about him. They continued Jesus' mission after his death. They choose successors for their ministry: the bishops. To this day, the successors of the apostles exercise the authority conferred by Jesus. They govern and teach and celebrate the liturgy.

Jesus

Kingdom of God: God wills "all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim 2:4). The "Kingdom of God" begins in those who allow themselves to be transformed by God's love. In Jesus' experience these are above all the poor and the lowly.



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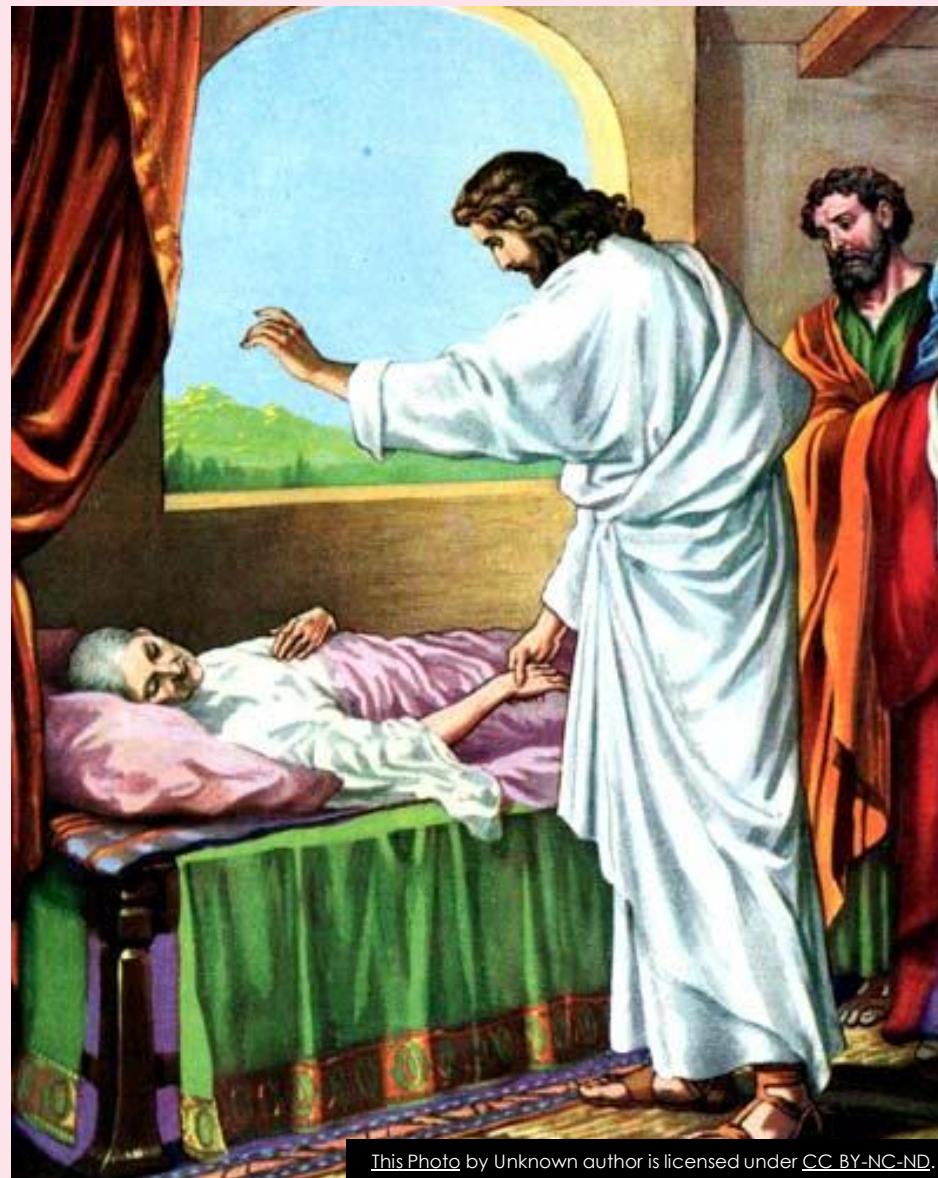
Jesus

Miracles: Jesus worked miracles and so did the Apostles. The miracles took place in public; some of the persons involved were known by name, for instance, blind Bartimaeus (Mk 10:46-52), Peter's mother-in-law, (Mt 8:14-15)

The Miracles that Jesus worked were signs that the Kingdom of God was beginning. They expressed his love for mankind and reaffirmed his mission.

"A miracle does not take place contrary to nature but rather contrary to our knowledge of nature."

St. Augustine



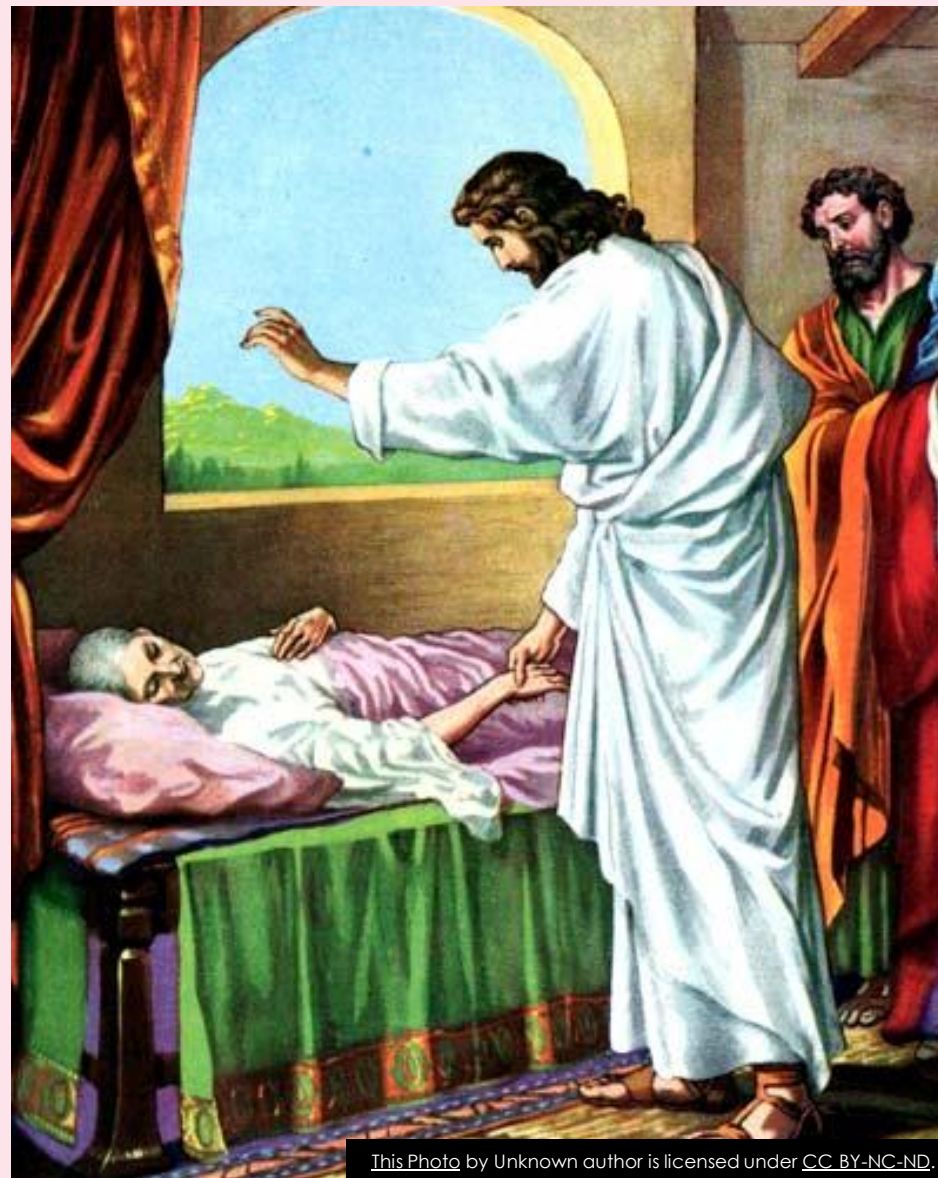
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Jesus

Miracles: Faced with this astounding dogma I asked Mr. Blatchford why he thought miracles would not occur. He replied that the Universe was governed by laws. Obviously this answer is of no use whatever. For we cannot call a thing impossible because the world is governed by laws, unless we know what laws. Does Mr. Blatchford know all about all the laws in the Universe? And if he does not know about the laws how can he possibly know anything about the exceptions?

For, obviously, the mere fact that a thing happens seldom, under odd circumstances and with no explanation within our knowledge, is no proof that it is against natural law. That would apply to the Siamese twins, or to a new comet, or to radium three years ago.

The philosophical case against miracles is somewhat easily dealt with. There is no philosophical case against miracles. There are such things as the laws of Nature rationally speaking. What everybody knows is this only. That there is repetition in nature. What everybody knows is that pumpkins produce pumpkins. What nobody knows is why they should not produce elephants and giraffes.



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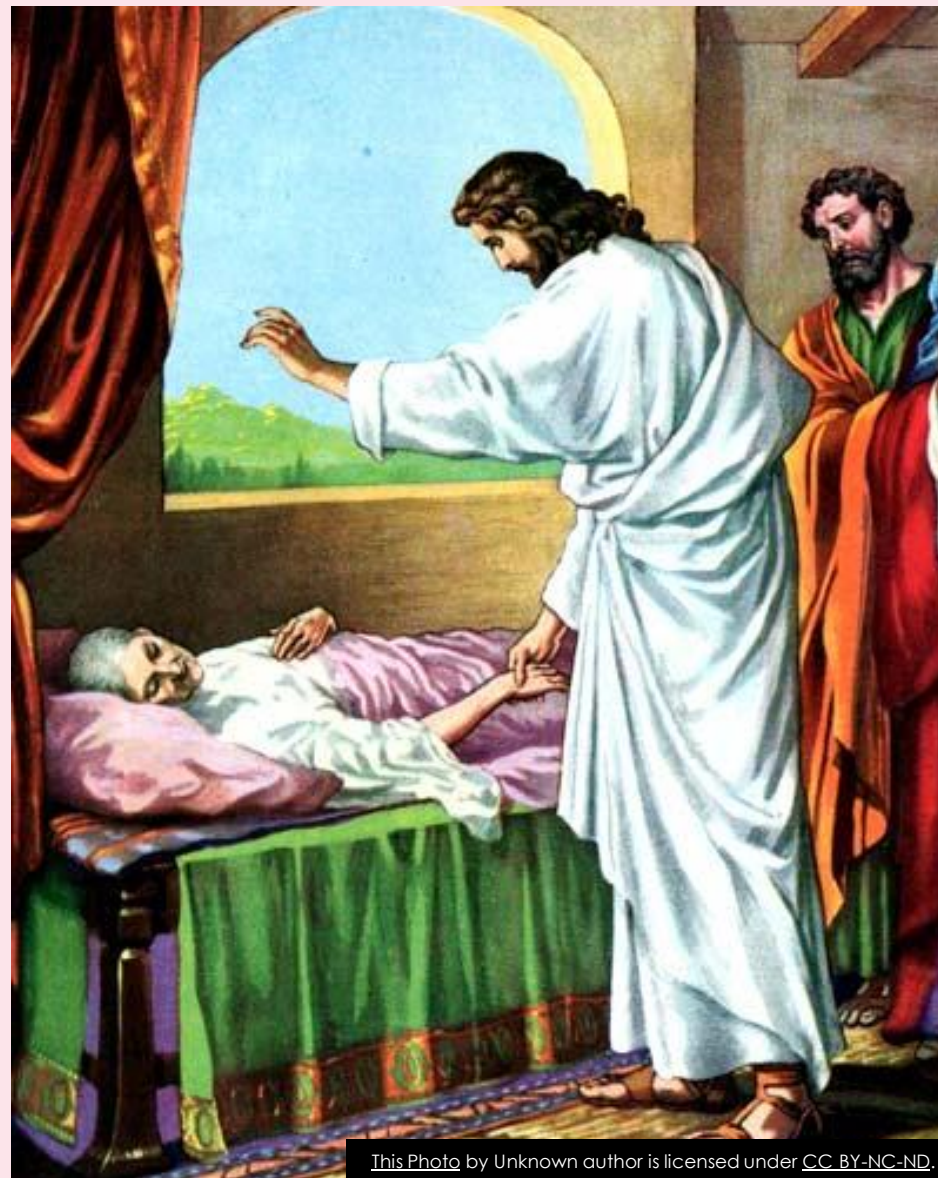
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There is one philosophical question about miracles and only one. Many able modern Rationalists cannot apparently even get it into their heads. The poorest lad at Oxford in the Middle Ages would have understood it. (Note. As the last sentence will seem strange in our "enlightened" age I may explain that under "the cruel reign of mediaeval superstition," poor lads were educated at Oxford to a most reckless extent. Thank God, we live in better days.)

The question of miracles is merely this. Do you know why a pumpkin goes on being a pumpkin? If you do not, you cannot possibly tell whether a pumpkin could turn into a coach or couldn't. That is all.

All the other scientific expressions you are in the habit of using at breakfast are words and winds. You say "It is a law of nature that pumpkins should remain pumpkins." That only means that pumpkins generally do remain pumpkins, which is obvious; it does not say why. You say "Experience is against it." That only means, "I have known many pumpkins intimately and none of them turned into coaches."



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Jesus

Passover: Why did Jesus choose the date of the Jewish feast of Passover for his death and resurrection?

Jesus chose the Passover feast of his people Israel as a symbol of what was to happen through his death and resurrection. As the people were freed from slavery to Egypt, so Christ frees us from the slavery of sin and the power of death.

Jesus washed the feet of his apostles on the evening before his death; he instituted the Eucharist and founded the priesthood of the New Covenant.



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Jesus



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- **Death:** Jesus really died on the Cross; his body was buried. All the sources testify to this. In John 19:33ff., the soldiers even make an explicit determination of death: They open the side of Jesus' body with a lance and see blood and water come out.
- Can you be a Christian without believing in the resurrection of Christ? No, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain."

(1 Cor 15:14)

- The disciples who had lost all hope, came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection because they saw him in a different way after his death, spoke with him and experienced him as being alive.

Jesus



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- **Resurrection:** There are no proofs for the resurrection of Jesus in the scientific sense. There are however, very strong individual and collective testimonies by a large number of contemporaries of those events in Jerusalem. The disciples took the fact of the empty tomb (Lk 24:2-3) as the first indication of the reality of the Resurrection.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me." (1Cor 15::3-6)

Jesus

- **Resurrection:** What changed in the world as a result of the resurrection?
- Because death is now no longer the end of everything, joy and hope came into the world. Now that death "no longer has dominion" (Rom 6:9) over Jesus, it has no power over us, either, who belong to Jesus.
- **Ascension:** With Jesus, one of us has arrived home with God and remains there forever. In his Son, God is close to us (mankind) in a human way.

Jesus

- **He will come again to judge the living and the dead**
- What will it be like when the world comes to an end?
- When the world comes to an end, Christ comes-for all to see.
- Even Christ cannot help someone who does not want to know anything about love; such a person judges himself.

Summary

- *452 The name Jesus means "God saves". the child born of the Virgin Mary is called Jesus, "for he will save his people from their sins" (Mt 1:21): "there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).*
- *479 At the time appointed by God, the only Son of the Father, the eternal Word, that is, the Word and substantial Image of the Father, became incarnate; without losing his divine nature he has assumed human nature.*
- *480 Jesus Christ is true God and true man, in the unity of his divine person; for this reason he is the one and only mediator between God and men.*

Summary

- *509 Mary is truly "Mother of God" since she is the mother of the eternal Son of God made man, who is God himself.*
- *567 The kingdom of heaven was inaugurated on earth by Christ. "This kingdom shone out before men in the word, in the works and in the presence of Christ" (LG 5). the Church is the seed and beginning of this kingdom. Its keys are entrusted to Peter.*
- *629 To the benefit of every man, Jesus Christ tasted death (cf Heb 2:9). It is truly the Son of God made man who died and was buried.*
- *636 By the expression "He descended into hell", the Apostles' Creed confesses that Jesus did really die and through his death for us conquered death and the devil "who has the power of death" (Heb 2:14).*

Summary

- *657 The empty tomb and the linen cloths lying there signify in themselves that by God's power Christ's body had escaped the bonds of death and corruption. They prepared the disciples to encounter the Risen Lord.*
- *666 Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father's glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him forever.*
- *667 Jesus Christ, having entered the sanctuary of heaven once and for all, intercedes constantly for us as the mediator who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit.*

Summary

- *680 Christ the Lord already reigns through the Church, but all the things of this world are not yet subjected to him. the triumph of Christ's kingdom will not come about without one last assault by the powers of evil.*
- *681 On Judgement Day at the end of the world, Christ will come in glory to achieve the definitive triumph of good over evil which, like the wheat and the tares, have grown up together in the course of history.*
- *682 When he comes at the end of time to judge the living and the dead, the glorious Christ will reveal the secret disposition of hearts and will render to each man according to his works, and according to his acceptance or refusal of grace.*