

# THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

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**The Years of Jesus' Life ...** is seen in **The Table of Contents** (previous). It is a **Table Layout** showing several possible **Gospel** revelations, regarding time and dates, which are found in the **Gospel of Jesus**.

**A. John Uniquely Wrote ...** about all four of the Passovers that occurred following His baptism. Thus, from a single writer, the chronological perspective of the years of the life of Christ was established. He must have felt that it was essential to the understanding of the **"Gospel of Jesus."**

Passover was in the Spring and was celebrated in the first Jewish month of every year, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan. In Luke 3, after Jesus was baptized, a voice came out of heaven saying that He was a beloved Son. Then in verse 23a, the writer says "... **Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, ...**" That happens to be the customary age of becoming a Jewish Priest. ch4 5 En48 p67

Hence, Jesus was ushered into the Priesthood and His ministry. Very soon, following this, John tells us that Jesus traveled to Jerusalem for the Jew's Passover. We may conclude that Jesus, being **"about thirty years of age,"** was approximately, thirty and a half years old at the date of that year's Passover. The other three Passovers that Jesus attended followed in sequence every successive year.

Thus, we can establish the age of Jesus at every occurrence of Passover. For all Gospel Passover records associated with the life of Jesus, see ch5 En41 p88

The Fourth Passover is a historical Passover, commonly known as **Passion Week**, detailing the death and resurrection of Jesus. Here, we come to perceive the dates and days of the week as they are laid out in divine inspiration, providing us a greater understanding of the **Story**.

**B. Two Sabbaths ...** An exact benchmark is written about what becomes the foundation for an unfolding of days and dates, as seen in Lk 23:56. There, it is stated that the church: **"... rested on the Sabbath day according to the commandment."** ch17 En12 p550

This statement occurred while Jesus was entombed during the third day. It was the seventh day of the week, Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath, according to Moses' commandment for the keeping God's specified weekly seventh day.

That still does not give to us a date to apply, two thousand years after the fact. However, moving back from this day, we know that the second day in the tomb was Friday, and the first day had to have been Thursday. Now that day is spoken of and described as a **"High Day."**

We are to understand that it was a special day, with a date affixed to it! It was a **Holy Day** on the Jewish calendar which always occurred on a specific day of the year. It was the first day of the annual Passover that began a feast called "Unleavened Bread." It could fall on any day of the week and is an additional Sabbath.. In Jn 19:31, we are told:

**"... it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the Sabbath day, (for that Sabbath day was an high day), ..."** ch16 En82 p525

This High Day Sabbath was always on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month of Nisan. Therefore, with that date being on a Thursday of that year, we may apply days and dates to preceding and following days, to the extent that they are described as a stated beginning and end.

**C. Crucifixion Day †...** may be accurately identified as:

	<b>Wednesday,</b>	14 Nisan,	ch 13-16
<b>5 days before †</b>	Ministry Conclusion:		
	<b>Friday,</b>	9 Nisan	ch 8
<b>4 days before †</b>	Rest, no activities recorded:		
	<b>Sabbath,</b>	10 Nisan	ch 9
<b>3 days before †</b>	Final Offer to Israel:		
	<b>Sunday,</b>	11 Nisan	ch 10
<b>2 days before †</b>	Final Temple cry:		
	<b>Monday,</b>	12 Nisan	ch 11
<b>1 day before †</b>	Final Exhortations:		
	<b>Tuesday,</b>	13 Nisan,	ch 12
<b>Crucifixion:</b>	<b>Wednesday,</b>	14 Nisan,	ch 13-16
<b>1 day after †</b>	0-24 hrs in the heart of the earth:		
	<b>Thursday,</b>	15 Nisan,	ch 17
<b>2 days after †</b>	25-48 hrs in the heart of the earth:		
	<b>Friday,</b>	16 Nisan,	ch 17
<b>3 days after †</b>	49-72 hrs. in the heart of the earth:		
	<b>Sabbath,</b>	17 Nisan,	ch 17
	<b>Identifiable days before the</b>	<b>†</b>	<b>5 days</b>
	<b>Crucifixion Day,</b>	<b>†</b>	<b>1 day</b>
	<b>Identifiable days after the</b>	<b>†</b>	<b>3 days</b>
			<b>9 days</b>

**D. The Jubilee of Christ's Liberation from this Earth ...**

**Jesus is Seen Alive:** **1<sup>st</sup> day of week,** 18 Nisan, ch 18

**Jesus is Seen Alive:** **39 additional days (40 total),** ch 19

**7 x 7 = 49:** Total identifiable days: **49 days**

**50<sup>th</sup> Day:** Ascension to the Father: **A Day of Jubilee!**

In Gethsemane, Jesus cried out in anguish, sweating blood. He understood His Father's will for Him to become a sin sacrifice and a heretofore unexperienced separation from God's presence: To be forsaken and die in that awful state of sin's dissolution and unmitigated disengagement.

See? Religious Israel rejected Jesus as the Messiah. The disciples fled. Peter denied his Master, and Judas personally betrayed Him. He was numbered among transgressors. He was mocked, mutilated and, lifted up naked, crying out in utter aloneness: **My God, why have you forsaken Me?**

• **Christ's Resurrection** proved God's love, freed Him from His birth shackles as a Son of Man and confirmed His Messiahship. For the next 40 days, Jesus walked as an immortal Spirit!

• **Christ's Ascension** proclaimed liberty and set Him free! God released the shackles of Christ's earthly residence and took His Word back within/unto Himself. Jesus reclaimed incorruptibility and immortality, repossessing His substance as Jehovah God. This liberation from earth's hold returns the servant, Jesus, to His Father's house, and becomes His Jubilee.

**E. The Jubilee of Man's Liberation from his Flesh ...**

**Passover** Sacrificial Lamb (cross) Wednesday

**Unleavened Bread:** 1<sup>st</sup> day in earthly Grave, Thursday

**First fruits:** 2<sup>nd</sup> day in earthly Grave Friday

**Pentecost:** 50<sup>th</sup> day after First Fruits High Sabbath

In parallel, just as Jesus willingly and obediently walked through the steps required by His Father, so we, likewise, have been called to a similar and coordinate journey.

We will also face testing and trials in our journey as believers. Our mandate is to break away from the grip of the kingdom of this earth. Dying to our old way of the flesh is required of us. Finally, as we see the Kingdom of God, we desire its coming. There, we may begin to hear His voice, and begin perfectly walking in His way and will. Pentecost also presents a similar potential Jubilee for us, as followers of Christ!

# A. YEARS OF JESUS' LIFE

PRELUDE

CH	4 PASSOVERS	JESUS, PERSONAL ACTIVITY CALANDER	SEASON / AGE / DATE
1		<b>JESUS INTRODUCED</b>	<i>AS WORD WAS GOD,</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>IN THE BEGINNING</b></span>
2		<b>THE BIRTH OF JESUS</b>	<i>SON OF THE HIGHEST,</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>FALL, BIRTH</b></span>
3		<b>JOHN HERALDS JESUS</b>	<i>IN THE SPIRIT OF ELIJAH,</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>SPRING, 29<sup>1/2</sup></b></span>
4		<b>JESUS, THIRTY YRS OLD</b>	<i>AT THE AGE OF PRIESTHOOD.</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>FALL, 30 YRS</b></span>
5	<b>#1, P 88</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>KINGDOM OF GOD ..... AFFIRMED</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>SPRING, 30<sup>1/2</sup></b></span>
6	<b>#2, 132</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>MESSIAHSHIP ..... CONFIRMED</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>SPRING, 31<sup>1/2</sup></b></span>
7	<b>#3, 163</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>MESSIAHSHIP ..... RENOUNCED</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>SPRING, 32<sup>1/2</sup></b></span>
8-16	<b>#4, 348</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>KINGDOM OF GOD ..... REJECTED</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>SPRING, 33<sup>1/2</sup></b></span>
8	<i>5 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>1 •MINISTRY CONCLUSION ..... FRIDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>9<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
9	<i>4 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>2 •REST, NO ACTIVITY ..... SABBATH</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>10<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
10	<i>3 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>3 •ENDING OFFER TO ISRAEL .. SUNDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>11<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
11	<i>2 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>4 •CLOSING TEMPLE CRY ..... MONDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>12<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
12	<i>1 DAY</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>5 •FINAL EXHORTATIONS ..... TUESDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>13<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
13	<i>DUSK</i>	<b>DAY OF THE CROSS</b>	<i>6 •DINING TOGETHER ..... WEDNESDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>14<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
14	<i>EVEN</i>	<b>DAY OF THE CROSS</b>	<i>• DEJECTION, GARDEN .. WEDNESDAY</i> <span style="float: right;">✓</span>
15	<i>NIGHT</i>	<b>DAY OF THE CROSS</b>	<i>•DENIALS &amp; TRIALS ..... WEDNESDAY</i> <span style="float: right;">✓</span>
16	<i>LIGHT</i>	<b>THE CRUCIFIXION</b>	<i>•DEATH &amp; BURIAL ..... WEDNESDAY</i> <span style="float: right;">✓</span>
17	<i>24 HRS</i>	<b>JESUS ENTOMBED</b>	<i>7 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY, A HOLY DAY ..... THURSDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>15<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
	<i>24 HRS</i>	✓	<i>8 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY, PURCHASE SPICES .... FRIDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>16<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
	<i>24 HRS</i>	✓	<i>9 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY, RESTED ON THE ... SABBATH</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>17<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
18	<i>1 DAY</i>	<b>JESUS IS ALIVE !</b>	<i>10 MUCH BUSY ACTIVITY ..... SUNDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>18<sup>TH</sup> NISAN</b></span>
19	<i>39 DAYS</i>	<b>JESUS IN GALILEE</b>	<i>49 RESURRECTION WALK ... THURSDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>SPRING 33<sup>1/2</sup></b></span>
	<i>40 DAYS</i>	<b>JESUS' ASCENSION</b>	<i>50 CH 8-19, 50 DAYS ..... FRIDAY</i> <span style="float: right; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>JUBILEE</b></span>

<i>50 DAYS,</i>	FROM KINGDOM OF GOD REJECTION TO CHRIST'S ASCENSION	<i>HIS WALK ON EARTH</i>
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**Content Distribution ...** is a modification of *The Table of Contents*. It is a *Table Layout* that shows the combined quantitative pages that were written about various Gospel portions, as the writers contributed to the *Story of Jesus*.

**A. Overall Content Breakdown ...**

	Chap	Pgs.	Pg%	Pg/day
1. Passover/Crucifixion, 6 days:	8-16	78	30%	13.0
2. Entombed in a Grave, 3 days:	17	2	1%	0.7
3. Seen of Many for 40 days:	18-19	13	5%	0.3
4. Ministry to Israel, 3½ years:	5-7	132	52%	0.1
5. Early Life of Jesus, 30 yrs:	1-4	30	12%	0.003

**Later Story ...** By far, is the most detailed and comprehensive part of the *Gospel of Jesus*, is the above items 1-3: chapters 8-19. It contains extensive content that details extended dissertations regarding the 49 days from Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, up to the day of His ascension. 1. The six days from the Passover preparation to the cross is the most detailed portion. Items 2 & 3 are written, recording much less content per day of activity than item one.

This preceding, very short period of 49 days precipitates 36% of the written content of the *Story of Jesus*. This content presents a concentration of *two full pages of writings per day*, in this portion of the life of Jesus.

**Early Story ...** Chapters 1-7 encompasses the 33½ years of the life of Jesus and is detailed in 162 pages, or throughout 64% of the Gospel writings. This content concentration averages less than *five pages per year* of His life.

**Therefore ...** We come to see that the promptings of the Holy Spirit evidently led the Gospel authors to concentrate their writings greatly upon the atonement aspect of the life of Jesus. The baby years of Jesus were sparsely covered. Then, there followed many years with almost no accounting. The activity and venture of that portion of His life may only hold speculation. The reader, perhaps, might desire to know more about what Jesus involved Himself in, during those long 28 years. However, it was not important in the perspective of eternal accounting.

What would our biography contain if it were written from God's viewpoint? Or rather, would it hold a vast void of nothingness, with only a brief history of our birth and salvation experience, only to be followed by a concluding lifetime, for which there is no transcript. And then, in a flash of death, vanish into ob-scure with a forgotten obituary record?

Perhaps Jesus warned about this in some of His parables. Do not produce a thirty-fold yield, nor return only a single stewardship talent, at the end of your life. Let not the fowls steal nor destroy the sower's seed upon the soil of our lives.

**B. The Writings about the Ministry of Jesus ...** To most people, this is the most familiar section of the Gospels, although it is only three and a half years out of 33½ in the life of Christ. Overall, it is a stark observation of a very divided reception of the ministry of Jesus. The ordinary people avidly and openly received this Man as one sent from God. However, religious Israel began with skepticism and caution and eventually came to hold Jesus as a blaspheming imposter, believing that He had shamed Jehovah.

There are two major topics that Jesus proclaimed, over and over, throughout His ministry. One was that He came to Israel as their God-gifted *Messiah*. The other one was that He taught the coming of the *God's Kingdom*.

**Chapter 5 ...** *The Kingdom of God Affirmed*. In this chapter, Jesus begins His ministry *proclaiming*: The Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe the Gospel. Further, He presented: *Laws of the Kingdom* and taught as one having authority. This chapter is only 16 pages long and represents 12% of Christ's Galilean ministry content.

**Chapter 6 ...** *Christ's Messiahship Confirmed*. Jesus presents Himself as the anointed Christ to Israel. Here, He healed and delivered many people. It is the longest of the *proclaiming* chapters, at 61 pages and 46% content.

**Chapter 7 ...** *Christ's Messiahship Renounced*. Jesus begins to announce His suffering and death to Judea. Here, the religious Jews begin to rise openly in their rejection of the Messiah.

This chapter is the termination of His traveling ministry out-side of Jerusalem. It takes 55 pages to tell and contains 42% of Jesus' public ministry to Israel.

**Chapters 8-16 ...** *The Kingdom of God Rejected*. Although this section includes extensive teaching, it is mainly to His twelve disciples. Israel now aggressively *rejects* Jesus as Messiah. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, presenting Himself as Israel's King, this was confirmed twice. Legally, the Jewish nation *rejected* God's Messiah in utter disregard.

This obstinate refusal was demonstrated and acted out during this *Feast of Passover*. Christ's blood was upon their hands instead of being upon the doorpost of their hearts. The death angel passed over Israel, and the first-born became sin for that house. He was cast outside of Jerusalem's gates and crucified amongst transgressors. The Kingdom, which Jehovah sent to the sons of Abraham, was now again legally *rejected* by the house of Israel.

**Concluding ...** We observe that Christ's ministry of *proclamation* covers about two years detailed in 77 pages for about 37% of the ministry of Jesus. Israel's *rejection* of Him as Messiah and the rejection of His Kingdom message from the heart of God also covers two years and is penned throughout 132 pages for 63% Christ's ministry content.

Said in another way: The written content of the Gospel writer's message of Jesus' *Proclamation* of God's word to Israel, entailed about a third of Story's content. The *Rejection* necessitated about two-thirds of the writings.

**C. Writing Content Before the Cross ...** There was not a significant amount penned during the days of chapters 8-11, preceding the crucifixion. However, in chapter 12, on the day just before the cross, there was twice as much written on that day as was recorded in the four previous days.

In chapter twelve, Jesus made His final Messianic offer to Israel, including His "woes be to" them. It was on that day, upon Mount of Olives, that Jesus instructed His disciples concerning thing that would shortly come to pass. It was there that the second anointing for His burial was administered, and Judas formalized his plot with the religious leaders of Israel.

**D. The Writings about the Day of the Cross ...** In chapters 13-16, we find the greatest density of detailed explanation in any of the Gospel writings, meticulously recording the whole of that infamous day. The content of that 24 hours is greater than any other period: 38 pages to cover one day! That is an average of 1.6 written pages per hour, for that all-day and all-night ordeal.

## B. CONTENT DISTRIBUTION

PRELUDE

CH	CONTENT	RELATIVE BAR GRAPH	SUBJECT ASPECT	TEXT AMOUNT: PGS/CH
<b>1</b>	<b>JESUS INTRODUCED</b>		<i>AS WORD OF GOD,</i>	<b>10</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>THE BIRTH OF JESUS</b>		<i>SON OF THE HIGHEST,</i>	<b>8</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>JOHN HERALDS JESUS</b>		<i>IN THE SPIRIT OF ELIJAH,</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>JESUS, THIRTY YRS OLD</b>		<i>AT THE AGE OF PRIESTHOOD</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>KINGDOM OF GOD ..... AFFIRMED</i>	<b>16</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>MESSIAHSHIP ..... CONFIRMED</i>	<b>61</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>MESSIAHSHIP ..... RENOUNCED</i>	<b>55</b>
<b>8-16</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>JESUS' MINISTRY</b>	<i>KINGDOM OF GOD ..... REJECTED</i>	<b>78</b>
<b>8</b>	<i>5 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>•MINISTRY CONCLUSION ..... FRIDAY</i>	<b>4</b>
<b>9</b>	<i>4 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>•REST, NO ACTIVITY ..... SABBATH</i>	<b>2</b>
<b>10</b>	<i>3 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>•ENDING OFFER TO ISRAEL ..... SUNDAY</i>	<b>5</b>
<b>11</b>	<i>2 DAYS</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>•CLOSING TEMPLE CRY ..... MONDAY</i>	<b>3</b>
<b>12</b>	<i>1 DAY</i>	<b>BEFORE THE CROSS</b>	<i>•FINAL EXHORTATIONS ..... TUESDAY</i>	<b>26</b>
<b>13</b>	<i>DUSK</i>	<b>DAY OF THE CROSS</b>	<i>•PASSEVER SUPPER ..... WEDNESDAY</i>	<b>4</b>
<b>14</b>	<i>EVEN DAY</i>	<b>DAY OF THE CROSS</b>	<i>• DEJECTION, GARDEN ..... WEDNESDAY</i>	<b>15</b>
<b>15</b>	<i>NIGHT</i>	<b>DAY OF THE CROSS</b>	<i>•DENIALS &amp; TRIALS ..... WEDNESDAY</i>	<b>11</b>
<b>16</b>	<i>LIGHT</i>	<b>THE CRUCIFIXION</b>	<i>•DEATH &amp; BURIAL ..... WEDNESDAY</i>	<b>8</b>
<b>17</b>	<i>72 HRS</i>	<b>JESUS ENTOMBED</b>	<i>ALL OF HOLY DAY, .... FRIDAY, ..&amp;.. SABBATH</i>	<b>2</b>
<b>18</b>	<i>ALL DAY</i>	<b>JESUS IS ALIVE !</b>	<i>MUCH ACTIVITY ..... SUNDAY</i>	<b>7</b>
<b>19</b>	<i>40 DAYS</i>	<b>JESUS' ASCENSION</b>	<i>SEEN BY ANY ..... THURSDAY</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>19 CHAPTERS</b>				<b>PAGES PENNED BY THE APOSTLES: 255</b>



## THE GOSPEL OF JESUS

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### The Outline

#### 1. The Person of Jesus ...

**In the Nature of God ...** The nineteen chapters of this Gospel of Jesus is specifically about His person. He was God's gift to mankind and was sent to the earth as the Son of the Most High. Jehovah's kindly contact with His creation gave entrance to a Jesus epoch of thirty-three years, terminated by His expiration, and became an atoning moment of everlasting salvation. It was a brief tangible demonstration of Father God's light and love, revealing the essence of His eternal existence.

All the while, the Jewish nation was anticipating and expecting God to reveal His promised Messiah momentarily, as having come into their midst. They reasoned that the Anointed Christ would come to them as a royal Jewish ruling king, establishing a divine place of national supremacy and reigning over the entire world.

His coming to the earth was of divine design, coming out of the very heart and being of Jehovah God. Previously, Jesus existed in the beginning and was, singularly, the only God of Gods. This Jesus was the creator of heaven and earth; the One who decreed the creation into existence, as detailed in the opening chapters of the Gospel of John.

**Jesus, The Word ...** There, God spoke His Word, and through that power, all that was created was brought into tangible existence. Those Utterances were the compelling power that encapsulated and pent up the atomic potential of the universe. That Bidding brought into being and fashioned all matter under a common design, an inherently signatory to the plan and nature of the singularity of Jehovah God.

Therefore, we understand that this Verbalized portion of God's nature, termed as His Word, was sent to this earth as the Redeemer Messiah, to approach His chosen people: The descendants of Abraham. John addresses this One as the Word. Jesus talks of God as being His Father. The angel, Gabriel, spoke of Jesus as being the Son of the Highest.

**His Birth ...** Jesus came to this earth as a baby, however not by normal procreation. It was God's impartation that was pressed into the womb of Mary by a divine implantation. The Holy Spirit, we understand, seized the Virgin's womb, and she was found to be with child: The person of Jesus.

The birth of Jesus was hailed as the consolation of Israel, as a light to the Gentiles, and was to be known as the Son of God. He was sought by Wise Men from afar and narrowly escaped death at the hand of a jealous king. Jesus grew up being in subjection to His parents and alert to His Father God.

**His Baptism ...** Now Jesus, being about thirty years old, came to the age of priesthood and presented Himself to John the Baptist, at the River Jordan, for baptism in water. And with that, His Father God spoke the Word of Blessing and Pleasure over the life of Jesus. That moment represents the beginning of the ministry of this One, Jesus of Nazareth.

#### 2. The Ministry of Jesus ...

Jesus would come to live three and a half additional years before coming to an ignominious death by crucifixion. During that time, He would demonstrate His divine origin through communication and a demonstration of a flowing out of His being, both signs and wonders, always relating it to being in oneness with His Father.

Characteristically, Jesus often spoke, using allegorical stories. To those who were not enlightened spiritually, the stories were interesting but were not motivating towards a spiritual conviction. However, to those who were being prompted by God's spirit, they realized that the parables were showing them a path of life towards a great Light, prompting following the teachings of the master.

We may roughly break the life and ministry of Jesus into four periods of time:

- |                       |                 |              |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. The Kingdom of God | Affirmed .....  | Chapter 5    |
| 2. His Messiahship    | Confirmed ..... | Chapter 6    |
| 3. His Messiahship    | Renounced ..... | Chapter 7    |
| 4. The Kingdom of God | Rejected .....  | Chapter 8-16 |

**Proclamation ...** The ministry of Jesus may be roughly divided into four divisions. Regarding the message that Jesus proclaimed, His ministry begins and ends with an emphasis on the Kingdom of God. In the middle portion of His earthly ministry and leadership, He accentuates and authenticates His provision as God's Messiah to Israel.

Further, His ministry begins with Israel happily proclaiming the ministry of Jesus, as a gift from God. Both the commoners and religious leaders were attending and listening to the words of this prophet preaching in the temples and upon the hillsides. Word was now spreading far and wide that this may be the promised Messiah.

Notwithstanding, the religious rulers, the scribes, and the Pharisees were beginning to have reservations, as to the validity of this young upstart making brash statements. He was saying that He was God's Son, which they all considered being of a blasphemous nature. Also, they were observing that He was breaking the Jewish Law by not strictly observing the Sabbath upon many occasions. Further, He rubbed shoulders and ate with unclean Gentile Goiem. Primarily, this man Jesus did not fit their mind's picture of the promised Messiah that they had fabricated in their mind's eye.

**Rejection ...** Now there came a point in these years of the ministry of Jesus, where the leadership of Israel began to realize that they could no longer tolerate Jesus in their midst. Thus, they began to diminish His credibility with rigorous religious disdain. So, using their traditions of reasoning, they carefully crafted disputes that were designed to discredit and deride His positional rank in their midst.

However, Jesus always seemed to point out their sectarian motivations by directing them to consider Jehovah's written words of admonition. Thus, the Scribes and Pharisees were often left speechless, with no ability to respond. And lo, the confrontation was terminated in voluntary silence, leaving nothing for them to say.

*Conviction ... Their final recourse was to arrest Jesus, litigated upon their accusation of religious blasphemy against God, which carried a conviction sentence of mandatory death by stoning. Although religious zealots attempted to arrest Jesus on numerous occasions, they were not successful. Detention required seizure, a physically taking hold of Him, then manhandling the suspect to be remanded to a judge.*

*No one was able to accomplish the capture of Jesus until the time came when Jesus knew all things before His Father was settled. Upon every attempt, Jesus would slip out of their hands and disappear from them into the crowd.*

### 3. Thirty Years of Preparation ...

*Following the birth of Jesus and the Magi visit at the age of 18-20 months, we have only one additional record of His early life. When Jesus was twelve years old, He attended Passover in Jerusalem. There, it was said that He: increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Then, for another eighteen years, nothing is Biblically recorded regarding things about the adult years of Jesus.*

*We know that He had brothers and sisters and perhaps, according to tradition, Joseph taught his son to be a builder of stone, even as he was. That may be somewhat credible, in that, towards the end of His life; Jesus told the Jews that if they destroyed the sanctuary (stones), He would build it up in three days. Further, He did not follow family traditions of marriage, but rather, likely continued to grow in His hearing relationship with His birth-father, God.*

*Although the people always remembered Jesus as the Nazarene, His home was now destined to be in the byways of God's calling, laying throughout the regions from Galilee to Jerusalem.*

*These thirty years represent ninety percent of His entire life in preparation, bringing Him to the full age of priesthood. Then, at that time, Jesus traveled away from His home in Nazareth of Galilee to Jordan, going directly to John the Baptist, for the purpose of being baptized by him. Although the people always remembered Him as the Nazarene, His home was now destined to be in the byways of God's calling.*

### 4. The Lamb of God ...

*John declared: Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world. The Apostle John said that Jesus was the Word, that He was the Light of the world, and that, if we receive Him, we also may become sons of God.*

*Chapter 5, Kingdom of God Affirmed ... Jesus here calls His disciples, teaches a young ruler, Nicodemus, how to be saved, and exhorts the lengthy sermon on the mount. He ends the 16 pages with sayings and other teachings, accentuating that it is wise to hear and obey!*

*Chapter 6, Messiahship Confirmed ... This chapter is the longest, 30% (61 pages) of the writings. Under this topic, there are many records of healings and deliverances, two great storms at sea, and five of the seven solitary retreats of Jesus, to be alone with His Father for prayer time. It includes two trips to Jerusalem for Passover; so, it encompasses at least a year and possibly up to almost two years of time. Twelve disciples are ordained to be Apostles and sent out on mission tours.*

*A sinner gentile woman breaks an alabaster box (1st of three occasions) and in contrition, anoints the feet of Jesus, receiving salvation. Jesus extensively reveals seven Kingdom mysteries. Two women, one, a lady that was sick for twelve years and the other, a dying girl that was twelve years old. Both were healed one after the other.*

*John the Baptist, we discover, has been beheaded by Herod. Jesus and the disciples come to a quiet place to rest. However, vast throngs of people follow Jesus, traveling for considerable distances over several days. Twice He feeds many thousands of followers from small offerings of food.*

*Chapter 7, Messiahship Renounced ... This chapter is the second longest chapter, at 55 pages. It contains the midpoint of the Gospel Story Text. That point is where Jesus separates Himself for the seventh time to pray. At the end of this chapter, the three and a half years Christ's ministry are completed, and the five-day countdown to the crucifixion begins.*

### 5. The Rejection of Jesus ...

*Chapters 8-12 ... This portion of the story is broken into chapters, encompassing the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem for the annual Passover celebration. It continues through five days when Judas covenants to betray Jesus into their hands of the chief priests. These exact days may be easily determined by following the recorded comments of terminating each of the days' activity with Jesus spending the night in Bethany. The next day's activities were often further delineated with things that occurred on their walk back into the city.*

*In these five days in Jerusalem, just preceding His crucifixion, more than one-third of the volume of the ministry of Jesus is detailed. The Gospel writers evidently considered the weight of detail as important, as they penned their writings.*

*Thus, one may observe that, roughly, one-half of the volume of the written Gospel account is used to tell us about the Birth and Ministry of Jesus that extended for 33½ years. The final half of the number of Gospel pages tells about His last Passover season in Jerusalem, detailing His death, resurrection, and ascension. This period of activity records the last 50 days of His life. Therefore, the Gospel writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) have written their impression of all the important things to record, concerning their accounts of the life of Christ. In this Story of Jesus, they wrote a certain amount of words to cover most of His 33½ years of His life (97% of it). Then, they continued to be led by the Spirit of God to allocate a nearly equal amount of verbiage to recount the details of the last fifty days of His life (3%).*

*From the day that Jesus and His disciples entered Jerusalem for the last Passover celebration until His Passion Week ended forty-nine days later, there were seven weeks of seven days each! Then on the next day, Jesus led His disciples out of Jerusalem, to the Mount of Olives on the Sabbath day, blessed them and ascended to the right hand of His Father.*

*Therefore, the ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ was His second glorification of being lifted up. Upon the fiftieth day after entering Jerusalem, this ascent to the Father, becomes an enduring Pentecost.*