

What it Would Have Been Like to Be Jesus

I. The person of Jesus Christ

1. Jesus Christ is the Son of God (**Luk 1:35**).
2. He is God manifest in the flesh (**Joh 1:14; 1Ti 3:16**).
3. He is also a man (**1Ti 2:5**).
4. He lived a sinless life (**1Pe 2:22**).
5. He was sent to bare the sins of His people and save them (**1Pe 2:24**).
6. He fulfilled all that was written of Him (**Luk 24:44**).

II. What would it have been like to know all those things about Himself?

1. We don't know when Jesus in His humanity became aware that He was the Son of God.
2. At 12 years old He knew that God was His Father and therefore that He was the Son of God (**Luk 2:49**).
3. He had been studying the scriptures and talking to the teachers of the law (**Luk 2:46-47**).
4. He would have likely known that He was sent to bear the sins of His people and to suffer on their behalf (**Isa 53:4-5, 10-12**).
5. Knowing this, He would likely have been a very serious child and a man of sorrows from early in life (**Isa 53:2-3; Ecc 1:18**).

III. Consider the life of Jesus Christ and what it must have been like to be Him.

1. Jesus was a carpenter before He entered the ministry (**Mar 6:3**) at about 30 years old (**Luk 3:21-23**).
 - A. He learned His carpentry skills from his step-father Joseph (**Mat 13:55**).
 - B. What would that have been like?
 - C. As a man, He didn't know everything, but had to learn things just like us (**Heb 5:8**).
 - i. His early work would have not been perfect just as any man's work is not perfect when He is learning.
 - ii. He would have been the best apprentice, always working diligently with a good and humble attitude.
 - D. Jesus worked with his hands.
 - i. He was not born into money (**Lev 12:8 c/w Luk 2:22-24**).
 - ii. He was not born into earthly royalty.
 - iii. He was a poor man while on this earth (**2Co 8:9; Mat 8:20**).
 - iv. He didn't have a prestigious job.
 - v. Nevertheless, He would have been diligent in His business and never slothful (**Pro 14:23; Rom 12:11**).
 - vi. He would have experienced getting splinters in his hands or hitting his thumb with a hammer, but he would have never reacted sinfully (**1Pe 2:22**).
 - vii. He might have had customers who were impatient when the job took longer than they thought it should have, but Jesus would have never responded unkindly to them (**1Pe 2:23**).
 - E. Jesus would have had to balance His duty to work to provide for Himself (**1Ti 5:8**) with His deep desire to study the scriptures (**Psa 119:97**) and to be about His Father's business.
2. Jesus was a man who experienced all of the same emotions and troubles that we do.

- A. Consider the following emotions that Jesus experienced:
- i. Hunger (**Mat 4:2**)
 - ii. Thirst (**Joh 4:7**)
 - iii. Joy (**Heb 12:2**)
 - iv. Love (**Joh 11:5**)
 - v. Anger (**Mar 3:5**)
 - vi. Sadness/tears (**Joh 11:35**)
 - vii. Fatigue/weariness (**Joh 4:6**)
 - viii. Social weariness (**Mat 14:23; Mar 6:31**)
 - ix. Sighing (**Mar 7:34; Mar 8:12**).
 - x. Frustration (**Luk 9:41**)
 - xi. Anxiety (**Luk 12:50**)
 - xii. Pain (**Heb 13:12**)
 - xiii. Violence (**Mar 10:34**)
 - xiv. Agony (**Luk 22:44**)
 - xv. Near insanity (**Mar 14:33**)
 - a. Amazed - 1. Driven stupid; stunned or stupefied, as by a blow; out of one's wits.
 - b. Jesus was going crazy under the pressure of what He was going to face.
 - xvi. Depression (**Mat 26:37**)
 - a. Heavy *adj.* - VII. Weighed down mentally or physically. 27. a. 'Weighed down' with sorrow or grief; sorrowful, sad, grieved, despondent.
 - b. Despondent *adj.* - 1. Characterized by loss of heart or resolution; labouring under mental depression; desponding.
 - xvii. Grief (**Isa 53:3**)
 - xviii. Trouble (**Joh 12:27**)
 - xix. Fear (**Heb 5:7**)
 - xx. Astonishment (**Mar 6:6**)
 - a. Marvel *v.* - 1. *intr.* To be filled with wonder or astonishment; to be struck with surprise.
 - b. Astonishment - 1. Loss of physical sensation, insensibility; paralysis, numbness, deadness.
 - xxi. Being let down by friends (**Mat 26:40**)
 - xxii. Being hated (**Joh 15:24-25**)
- B. Jesus experienced and overcame all of these difficult things as a man, not as a superman who was out of touch with the human experience.
- C. The difference between Jesus and us is that He never sinned when He endured all of life's difficulties (**Heb 2:18; Heb 4:15**).

3. Jesus was self-educated.

- A. He did not have formal theological training (**Joh 7:14-15**).
- B. Letter *n.1* - II. Something written. 3. a. *sing.* Anything written; an inscription, document, text; a written warrant or authority. b. *pl.* Writings, written records. *Obs.*
- C. Jesus was intimately familiar with the word of God.
 - i. He studied the scriptures from His youth up (**Luk 2:46**).

- ii. Jesus referred to the "scripture(s)" at least 11 times during His earthly ministry.
 - iii. Jesus said "it is written" at least 19 times (some of these are duplicates in the different gospels).
 - iv. Jesus referred to "the law" at least 14 times (some of these are duplicates in the different gospels).
 - v. Jesus referred to the "word(s)" of God at least 27 times.
 - D. God taught Him what He knew (He received revelation from God) (**Joh 7:16-17**).
4. Jesus' life changed dramatically when He was called by His Father into the ministry at about 30 years old.
- A. He went out into the wilderness to be baptized by His cousin John the Baptist in the Jordan river (**Mar 1:4-5, 9**).
 - B. John knew that Jesus was not an ordinary man (**Mat 3:11-14**).
 - C. When John baptized Him the Holy Ghost descended upon Him like a dove and the Father said from heaven that Jesus was His beloved Son (**Mat 3:16-17**).
 - D. His persecution by Satan ensued (**Mat 4:1**).
 - E. Jesus went from being an obscure carpenter to a famous traveling preacher (**Mat 9:26, 31; Mat 14:1**).
 - F. He healed the sick and multitudes flocked to Him (**Mat 4:24-25**).
 - G. He would never live a "normal" life again.
5. Jesus was a leader.
- A. He chose 12 (**Mar 3:14**) average (at best) (**Mat 4:18-22; Mar 2:14**) men to be His disciples.
 - B. He was light-years ahead of them in maturity, understanding, and godliness (**Mat 16:6-11; Mar 9:31-34**).
 - C. They tested His patience, but He never mistreated them (**Mat 17:14-21**).
 - D. He often had to get away by Himself and commune with His Father (**Mat 14:22-23**).
 - E. Jesus would no doubt have been a lonely man while on this earth (at least in regard to human relationships).
 - i. Jesus was rejected by many which would make one lonely (**Isa 53:3**).
 - ii. In addition to that, Jesus was the leader of His disciples and would never have been able to just feel like one of the guys.
 - iii. No one could have possibly understood what it was like to be Him, the sinless Son of God who would be the sin bearer for an untold number of people.
 - iv. "The king that is not a lonely man is a fool." (Unknown)
 - v. There has probably never been a more lonely man that has ever lived.
6. Jesus was the promised Messiah of Israel.
- A. But most of those to whom He was sent rejected Him (**Joh 1:11; Luk 19:14**).
 - B. Even His own siblings rejected him (**Joh 7:1-7**).
 - C. He did not enjoy the respect that the rabbis, Pharisees, lawyers, and teachers of the law did (**Isa 53:3**).

- D. Many that did recognize Him as the Messiah were only interested in Him because they thought that He would bring Israel back to its former power and glory (**Joh 6:15; Luk 17:20-21 c/w Luk 19:11 c/w Act 1:6**). (This was not the reason the disciples followed Him, but their question was indicative of what the Jews were expecting.)
- E. He spent time with common people (**Mar 12:37**) and saved-sinners like publicans and harlots (**Mat 9:10-13; Luk 15:1-2; Mat 21:31-32; Luk 7:29; Luk 7:37-39, 47; Luk 19:5-7**).
7. Jesus was betrayed and condemned to death.
- A. He was turned on by a trusted friend (**Mar 14:10-11; Mat 26:47-50 c/w Psa 41:9 c/w Joh 13:18**).
- B. He was forsaken by His disciples (**Mar 14:50**).
- C. He was slandered by liars (**Luk 23:1-2; Luk 23:10; Mar 14:55-56**).
- D. He was mocked (**Mat 27:29-31; Luk 23:11**).
- E. He was spit upon (**Mar 14:65**).
- F. He was scourged (**Mat 27:26 c/w Isa 50:6 c/w Psa 129:3**).
- i. Scourge *v.* - 1. *trans.* To beat with a scourge; to whip severely, flog.
 - ii. Scourge *n.* - 1. a. A whip, lash. Now only *rhetorical*, with reference to the torturing of human beings, or to ascetic discipline.
 - iii. Whip *n.* - 1. a. An instrument for flogging or beating, consisting either of a rigid rod or stick with a lash of cord, leather, etc. attached, or of a flexible switch with or without a lash, used for driving horses, chastising human beings, and other purposes.
 - iv. Lash *n.* - 1. a. *gen.* A sudden or violent blow; a dashing or sweeping stroke (*obs.*). b. *spec.* A stroke with a thong or whip. 2. a. The flexible part of a whip; now sometimes in narrower sense, the piece of whipcord or the like forming the extremity of this.
 - v. Flog *v.* - 1. a. *trans.* To beat, whip; to chastise with repeated blows of a rod or whip.
- G. His own countrymen chose a murderer over Him (**Luk 23:13-25**).
- H. He was delivered to be killed because of envy (**Mar 15:10**).
- I. He was crucified and mocked while He hung on the cross (**Mat 27:33-44**).
- J. He was forsaken by God as He was punished for our sins (**Mat 27:45-46; Isa 53:4-7, 10-12**).
- K. When He had made propitiation for our sins, He gave up the ghost and died (**Joh 19:30; Rom 5:8-11**).
- L. Through all that, He never sinned (**1Pe 2:21-24**).
8. Jesus was resurrected three days later.
- A. When He suffered sufficiently for the sins of His people, He gave up His life (**Joh 10:15**).
- B. Three days later, as God, He took up His life again and rose from the dead (**Joh 10:17-18; Mar 16:9; 1Co 15:4**).
- C. He ascended into heaven to reign at the right hand of God (**Mar 16:19**).
- D. He is going to return without sin unto salvation to them that look for Him (**Heb 9:28**).