

# Week 12: The Life and Ministry of Jesus

## 1. Introduction: The Purpose of Studying Jesus' Life

- 1) The life of Jesus is the center of the Christian faith and the core of the gospel.
- 2) The four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) provide four complementary perspectives on His life.
- 3) Jesus' life is not merely a biographical account but a redemptive work within God's salvation history.

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## 2. Overview of Jesus' Life

| Stage                        | Key Events                                                      |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Birth and Childhood          | Matthew 1-2, Luke 1-2                                           |
| Baptism and Temptation       | Matthew 3-4, Mark 1, Luke 3-4                                   |
| Beginning of Public Ministry | Wedding at Cana, Temple Cleansing, Calling of Disciples         |
| Galilean Ministry            | Sermon on the Mount, Feeding of the 5,000, Healing and Exorcism |
| Jerusalem Ministry           | Triumphal Entry, Last Supper, Arrest and Trial                  |
| Crucifixion                  | Death at Golgotha                                               |
| Resurrection and Ascension   | Appearances for 40 days, Ascension at Mount of Olives           |

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## 3. The Major Ministries of Jesus

### 1) Teaching Ministry

- (1) Proclaimed the coming of the Kingdom of God (Matt. 4:17)
- (2) Taught in parables revealing the mysteries of the Kingdom (Matt. 13)
- (3) Fulfilled the Law (Matt. 5:17)

### 2) Healing and Miracles

- (1) Healed the sick, cast out demons, calmed nature
- (2) Miracles were signs of the inbreaking Kingdom, not mere displays of power

### 3) Discipleship

- (1) Called and lived with the twelve disciples
- (2) Taught them through both words and example
- (3) Promised the Holy Spirit (John 14-16)

### 4) Redemptive Work

- 1) Crucifixion: the perfect sacrifice for sin (John 19)
- 2) Resurrection: victory over death (1 Cor. 15)

3) Ascension: exalted as Lord of glory (Acts 1:9)

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#### 4. Theological Significance of Jesus' Life

- 1) Incarnation: God became man (John 1:14)
  - 2) Atonement: He was the ransom for human sin (Mark 10:45)
  - 3) Resurrection: Guarantee of new life (Rom. 6:4)
  - 4) Ascension and Second Coming: He will return in glory (Acts 1:11)
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#### 5. Conclusion

- 1) Jesus' life is not merely a moral example but a divine redemptive act.
- 2) Those who believe in His work are made new and are called to carry on His ministry as His disciples.