

The Supreme Sacrifice: Jesus

The Bible is more than an encyclopaedia: it records how God created the earth and ends with God re-creating the new earth and what happened for ~6000 years and future 1000 years, how it will all end. It also tells how sin entered the world and how it will be removed (*Genesis 3:15*). **The penalty for sin is death** (*Genesis 2:17*). **When Adam and Eve sinned, death passed to the entire human race** (*Romans 5:12*). So, in an act of incredible love, God chose to send His only begotten Son into the world to die in your place and mine. **Our sins and death penalty were placed upon Him, and we were set free**: *Romans 3:23; 6:23; Hebrews 9:22; 1 Corinthians 15:3; 1 Peter 3:18*.

- **Jesus born to Mary (& Joseph) in a manger in Bethlehem**. **Satan influenced Herod Antipas of Rome to kill Jesus**: killing all infants in vicinity of Bethlehem *Matthew 2:16; Revelation 12:4-9*

The life of Jesus is an example for all – with 3 temptations Satan tested Jesus: *Matthew 4:1-11*.

1. **Stones into bread** - Hedonism (hunger / satisfaction) - "**lust of flesh**" – *1 John 2:16*.
 - **Attack on the Bible** - *Table of Shew Bread in the Holy Place: Jesus is the High Priest*.
2. **Jump from the Temple** - Egoism (spectacular throw / might) - "**pride of life**" – *1 John 2:16*.
 - **Attack on Prayer** - *Alter of Incense in the Holy Place: Jesus is the High Priest*.
3. **Kingdoms of the World** - Materialism (kingdoms / wealth) – "**lust of eyes**" – *1 John 2:16*.
 - **Attack on Witnessing** - *7 Branch Candlesticks in the Holy Place: Jesus is the High Priest*.
 - **On these three points all humanity would be tempted by Satan as well** - *1 John 2:12-17*.

Did Jesus deal with difficult unchangeable features? God's design in the life of Christ:

1. **His Parents**: A Shadow of Illegitimacy: Mary conceived by Holy Spirit. - *Matthew 1:18–25*.
2. **His Time in History**: A Wicked Ruler: Killed all Jewish boys around 2 years. - *Matthew 2:16*.
3. **His Race**: A Despised People: Surrounding nations hated the Israelites. - *John 11:47–48*.
4. **His Nation**: A Conquered Land: Their land occupied & ruled by Rome. - *John 18:28–19:30*.
5. **His Gender**: A Predetermined Vocation: Male work in father's trade for 30 yrs. - *Luke 3:23*.
6. **His Birth Order**: A Lifetime Responsibility: Cared for His widowed mother. - *John 19:26–27*.
7. **His Family**: A Prophet without Honor: Friends accused Him of being insane. - *Mark 3:21–22*.
8. **His Appearance**: A Lack of Beauty: No special physical attractiveness. - *Isaiah 53* (see v2).
9. **His Divine Nature**: An Offense to Friends: They wanted to kill Him. - *Luke 4:16–30*.
10. **His Death**: A Public Shame: Cross, painful and ruthless form of execution. - *Galatians 3:13*.

Jesus wounded in six places representing six articles of the Sanctuary = Symbol of CROSS.

Alter of Sacrifice - Nail driven through both feet to the vertical beam of the cross.

Laver - Roman centurion thrust a spear into Jesus' side to confirm his death.

Table of Shewbread - Nail driven through the left wrist to the horizontal beam.

Alter of Incense - Jesus died of a broken heart for all the sins of all humanity.

7 Branch Candlestick - Nail driven through the right wrist to the horizontal beam.

Ark of the Covenant - Platted a crown of thorns and put it upon his head.

* **Our death penalty was assumed by Jesus and our guilt was removed**. See: *John 3:16; Revelation 14:6; Acts 16:31; John 1:12*. **What Love for you and me!**

- **Jesus paid it all 2000 years ago: thereafter no more blood sacrifice is required by God!**
- After His resurrection, Jesus ascended up to heaven into the Holy Place (*Hebrews 9:12*) and to God's throne (*Acts 1:9-11*), where He is beyond the reach of Satan (*Revelation 12:13*).

History proves Jesus: BC (Before Christ) and AD (Anno Domini: "year of the Lord" - Jesus' birth).

* **The Secret Rapture & 7 Years of Tribulation doctrine removes Jesus Sacrifice completely.**



Once Saved, Always Saved? Can one be lost once one has accepted Christ as his Saviour?:

Only in God's Word can we find an answer to this question: *Hebrews 10:23, 24, 26*. Nowhere does the Bible teach that our responsibility ends when we become a Christian: *2 Peter 2:20-22; Ezekiel 18:24; 1 Corinthians 10:12; John 15:4*. The Bible says "I die daily" (*1 Corinthians 15:31; Luke 9:23*).

Many often fail in Christian living because they accept Jesus as Saviour but not ruler of their lives. When we accept Jesus as Lord, we give the steering wheel to direct us (*Isaiah 53:6; 2 Peter 3:2*).

- **Don't forget the last lap of Jesus trails in 3 places – Gethsemane** (*Matthew 26:36-56*), **Gabbatha** (*John 19:1-16*) & **Golgotha** (*Matthew 27:24-54*). His faithful followers will suffer too!

Will you choose now to live with God forever? **Answer:** _____