

# The Story of Jesus: Our Savior

The life of Jesus of Nazareth is the most powerful and transformative story ever told. He wasn't merely a great teacher or a prophet; He was the very Son of God, who came to Earth driven by immense love for humanity. He is the heart of our faith and the hope of millions.



## The Miracle of His Birth and Early Years

It all begins with a divine promise, centuries before it happened. A little over two thousand years ago, in the humble village of Nazareth, a pure-hearted young virgin named Mary received a visit from an angel. The message was astonishing: by the power of the Holy Spirit, she would conceive a son whom she would name Jesus, and He would be nothing less than the Savior of the world. Her fiancé, Joseph, a righteous and God-fearing man, accepted this mystery after an angel also revealed the divine plan to him in a dream.

# Birth in Bethlehem and Adoration

Jesus wasn't born in a palace, but in the most humble of places: a manger in Bethlehem. There was no room for them in any inn. Imagine that scene! Surrounded by animals, in the quiet of the night, the King of Kings entered the world.

- **The Shepherds:** Humble shepherds were the first to worship Him, guided by angels who filled the night sky singing: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests!"
- **The Magi:** Later, mysterious Magi from the East, wise men guided by a miraculous star, arrived to pay Him homage. They offered gold, frankincense, and myrrh, recognizing Him as King, as God, and as the one who would die to give us life.



## Flight to Egypt and Growth in Nazareth

Soon after His birth, Jesus' family had to flee to Egypt to escape the cruel King Herod, who, filled with jealousy, ordered the killing of all male children in Bethlehem. But God protected them. After Herod's death, they returned and

settled in Nazareth, where Jesus grew up. Even as a child, it was clear He was special; at twelve years old, He astonished the teachers in the Temple in Jerusalem with His wisdom and understanding of the Scriptures.

## The Beginning of His Divine and Public Mission

Jesus lived a simple, hidden life until He was about thirty years old. It was then that His cousin, John the Baptist, a prophet filled with the Spirit, baptized Him in the Jordan River.

## Baptism and Temptation

This moment marked the beginning of His public ministry:

- **The Baptism of Jesus:** When Jesus came out of the water, the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in the form of a dove. A majestic voice, the voice of God the Father, resonated from heaven: “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” It was the divine confirmation of His identity and mission.
- **The Temptations in the Desert:** Immediately afterward, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert, where He spent forty days and nights, fasting and being tempted by the devil. However, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, resisted every trial, showing us that we can overcome evil and temptation with divine help.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)





## His Profound Teachings and Powerful Miracles

With an authority no one had ever seen before, Jesus began traveling through towns and cities. He preached the Good News of the Kingdom of God, teaching in synagogues, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, and wherever people gathered.

## The Heart of His Message

Jesus' message was clear and revolutionary, centered on:

- **Love:** Loving God with all our being and our neighbor as ourselves.
- **Forgiveness:** The need to forgive those who offend us and to seek God's forgiveness.
- **Humility:** The importance of serving and putting oneself last.
- **Justice:** Seeking God's will in all our actions.
- **Trust in God:** Unwavering faith in the providence and love of the heavenly Father.

His teachings were often presented in **parables**, simple stories with deep meanings that invited reflection and transformation.

# The Miracles That Demonstrated His Divine Power

Jesus' words were accompanied by astonishing **miracles**, which not only showed His divinity but also His immense compassion for those who suffered:

- **Healings:** He healed the blind, paralytics, lepers, and people with all kinds of diseases, freeing them from pain and affliction.
- **Deliverances:** He cast out demons, freeing people oppressed by evil spirits and demonstrating His authority over the forces of darkness.
- **Resurrections:** He brought back to life Jairus' daughter, the widow of Nain's son, and His dear friend Lazarus, proving that He is Lord even over death itself.
- **Control over Nature:** He walked on the turbulent waters of the Sea of Galilee, calmed storms with a single word, and multiplied a few loaves and fish to feed thousands of hungry people.

Jesus called twelve disciples to accompany Him closely, learn directly from Him, and eventually continue His mission. These men, many of them simple fishermen, became the pillars upon which the Church would be built.



# The Passion, Death, and Glorious Final Triumph

As the time drew near, Jesus resolutely headed to Jerusalem, knowing the purpose for which He had come. His entry into the city was triumphant, acclaimed by the crowd, but only a few days later, everything would change.

## The Last Supper and the Betrayal

- **The Last Supper:** He celebrated Passover with His disciples in what we know as the Last Supper. There, He instituted the Holy Communion, a perpetual reminder of His body given and His blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.
- **Judas's Betrayal:** That same night, He was betrayed by one of His own disciples, Judas Iscariot, handed over for only a few silver coins.

## The Unjust Trial and the Crucifixion

Jesus was arrested and subjected to unjust trials, first before the Jewish religious authorities and then before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. Although Pilate found no fault in Him, he yielded to the pressure of the crowd. The people, incited by the religious leaders, shouted, "Crucify him!"

Jesus was brutally scourged and then forced to carry His own cross to Calvary (or Golgotha). There, He was nailed to the cross, an unthinkable sacrifice. On the cross, Jesus, the sinless Son of God, took upon Himself all our sins, our guilt, and the punishment we deserved. His death was not a defeat, but the greatest and most supreme act of love in the history of humanity—the perfect sacrifice so that you and I could have forgiveness, reconciliation with God, and eternal life. His last words before giving up His spirit were: "It is finished," meaning that the work of redemption was complete.





## The Glorious Resurrection and Ascension

But the story of Jesus doesn't end with death and the cross. By no means! Three days after His crucifixion, the tomb was completely empty! Jesus had risen! He conquered death, sin, and the power of Satan, proving that He is truly who He said He was: the Lord of life.

- **Appearances:** For forty days, Jesus appeared to His disciples and hundreds of others, ate with them, taught them, and gave them irrefutable proof of His resurrection.
- **The Great Commission:** He commanded them to go into all the world and preach the gospel, making disciples of all nations.
- **Ascension:** Finally, before the eyes of His disciples, Jesus ascended into heaven, where, according to the Bible, He sits at the right hand of God the Father.

The life of Jesus, as we find it in the Gospels, is a personal invitation to each of us. He came so that we may have life, and life in abundance. His story calls us to believe in Him, to repent of our sins, and to live a life that glorifies Him. It is a message of hope that continues to transform lives worldwide.

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