

Who is Jesus?

Question	Short Answer	Medium Answer	Long Answer	Scripture
1 What is Jesus' relationship to God?	Jesus is God.	Jesus, along with the Father and the Holy Spirit, is God.	Jesus, along with the Father and the Holy Spirit, is God. He is equal in essence with the Father <i>and</i> the Holy Spirit while being unique in his personhood from the Father <i>and</i> the Holy Spirit.	1 Corinthians 8:6; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 4:4-6
2 Was there a time when Jesus did not exist?	No, he has existed forever.	No, Jesus has existed for all of eternity past as the Word of God.	No, Jesus has existed for all of eternity past as the Word of God (prior to his incarnation) in relationship with the Father and the Holy Spirit.	John 1:1; Isaiah 6:1-4; John 12:41
3 What happened at the incarnation?	Jesus became a man.	Jesus, the Word of God, became a man by becoming flesh.	Jesus, the Word of God, became a man by becoming flesh. He did not <i>change</i> from what he was before; instead, he <i>added</i> to what he was before.	John 1:14; Philippians 2:7; Colossians 2:9
4 How was Jesus born?	By the Holy Spirit.	The Holy Spirit caused Mary to be pregnant.	Through the work of God, by means of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God became flesh through conception of Mary.	Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:35
5 Who were Jesus' earthly parents?	Mary and Joseph.	Mary gave birth to Jesus and Joseph was his earthly father, though not his biological father.	Mary gave birth to Jesus after she conceived through the Holy Spirit and her husband to be, Joseph, was his earthly father, though not his biological father.	Matthew 1:18-20; Luke 2:16-21
6 What do we know about Jesus' childhood?	He wanted to do what his Father was doing.	He wanted to be involved in what his Father was doing and he grew in wisdom and stature.	He knew the importance of being involved with his Father's business. As a child, he grew in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and man.	Luke 2:46-52
7 How did Jesus begin his public ministry?	He was baptized and tempted or tested.	He was baptized and then led into the wilderness to be tempted or tested.	He was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River and then led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to fast and be tempted or tested by Satan.	Matthew 3:13-4:11; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:31-34
8 Why did Jesus pick twelve men to follow him?	To continue the story of the Old Testament.	To continue the story that God had begun in the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures).	He chose twelve men as a way to show that he was continuing the story that God had begun in the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) with his chosen people--Israel.	Genesis 49:1-28; Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16; Revelation 7:4-8; 21:12

9	Why did Jesus speak in parables?	To conceal truth and reveal truth.	So those who couldn't understand wouldn't understand the truth and those who could understand would understand the truth.	He spoke in parables to ensure that those who did not have ears to hear and understand would not hear and understand the truth and to ensure that those who had ears to hear and understand would hear and understand the truth.	Isaiah 6:9-10; Matthew 13:10-17; Mark 4:9-12
10	Why did Jesus do miracles?	To point people to God.	He did miracles to point people to God and reveal God's character.	He did miracles as <i>signs</i> to point people to God and, specifically, to God's sovereignty, providence, grace, mercy, and love.	Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56; John 11:1-44
11	What was Jesus' main message to the world?	The kingdom of God has come near.	The kingdom of God has come near, so repent and believe the good news.	The kingdom of God has come near in the person and work of Jesus and he called people to repent and believe the good news (the gospel).	Mark 1:15
12	How did Jesus relate to the Old Covenant?	He fulfilled the Old Covenant.	He fulfilled the Old Covenant and lived during the transition to the New Covenant.	Through his life of obedience to the Old Covenant, his death, and his resurrection, Jesus fulfilled the Old Covenant requirements and lived during the transition period between the Old and the New Covenants.	Matthew 5:17-20; Mark 13:1-2
13	How did Jesus establish the New Covenant?	By resurrecting from the dead.	Jesus resurrected from the dead to show that the Old had passed and the New has come.	Jesus resurrected from the dead to show that the Old had passed and the New had come. At least two signs were given for the establishment of the New Covenant: the Lord's Supper and the new birth.	Ezekiel 36:22-28; 37:1-14; Matthew 26:17-28; Mark 14:12-24; Luke 22:7-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25; Hebrews 8
14	Why did Jesus have confrontations with the religious leaders?	He was bringing the kingdom of God.	He was bringing in the kingdom of God, which put him against those who didn't want things to change.	His life's mission was to bring in the kingdom of God, which meant pushing back against some of what the religious leaders were doing as they were intent on keeping the traditions of old.	Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-17; Luke 19:45-46; John 2:13-25
15	What did Jesus say about his impending death?	He must die.	He said he must die so God could be glorified and so people would believe in him.	He said God was going to be glorified through his death and his death was how God was going to call all people to himself.	John 12:20-36
16	What happened at Jesus' trial before Pilate?	He was sentenced to die.	The crowd asked for him to be put to death and Pilate ordered it be done.	He was brought before a crowd of people by Pilate to see what they wanted to do with him and they asked for him to be put to death.	Matthew 27:11-26; Mark 15:1-15; Luke 22:66-23:25; John 18:28-19:16

17	Why was Jesus crucified?	God planned for it to be done.	God planned for his death to be the sign of his own glory.	God planned for his death to be the sign of his glory and the sign for the world to believe in him.	Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Acts 2:22-23; 4:23-28
18	What was accomplished by Jesus' death?	Justice for God and salvation for people.	God showed himself to be just and he made salvation possible for those who would believe in him.	God showed himself to be righteous by not ignoring sin and God made a way of salvation for all who would believe in Jesus.	Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; 15:38-39; John 3:16-17; Romans 3:25-26
19	What is the importance of Jesus' burial?	He really died.	He really died and was really buried in a tomb.	He really died on the cross, so he was really buried in a tomb. There's no truth to the story that Jesus didn't really die.	Matthew 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42
20	What happened at Jesus' resurrection?	He came back to life.	He defeated death by rising from the dead.	He defeated death by rising from the dead never to die again.	Acts 2:24; Romans 6:9
21	What did Jesus say at the Great Commission?	Make disciples.	He has all authority, so go and make disciples.	He told those who believed in him that he has all authority in heaven and on earth; therefore, go and make disciples of all people.	Matthew 28:18-20
22	Why did Jesus ascend to the right hand of the Father?	He is the Son of Man.	He ascended to the Father to show the world that he is the Son of Man.	He ascended to the right hand of the Father to show that he is the <i>one like a Son of Man</i> and rule from his (God's) throne.	Daniel 7:13-14; Acts 1:9
23	What is Jesus doing at the right hand of the Father?	Ruling and praying.	He is ruling and interceding on behalf of the believers by praying.	He is ruling from his (God's) throne and interceding on behalf of those who believe in him by praying for them.	Psalms 110:1; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; 1 John 2:1; Revelation 5
24	What will happen when Jesus returns?	We will live with him.	The dead believers will be raised to life with God and the dead unbelievers will be raised in separation from God.	The dead in Christ will be raised to live with God on Earth. The dead outside of Christ will be raised in separation from him. Jesus will complete the salvation of the world.	Romans 8:22-23; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10; 1 John 2:28; Revelation 22:12
25	How will Jesus fully establish his kingdom on Earth?	He will remake our home on Earth.	Jesus will bring together the New Heavens and New Earth and live with his people.	Jesus will make real the New Heavens and New Earth through the full and complete restoration of Eden (God's temple) forever on Earth where he will live with his people.	Revelation 21-22