

SAMPLE PAGES

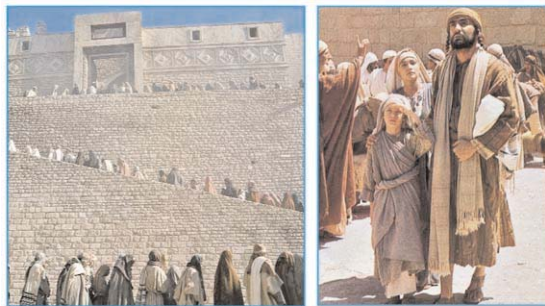
PART ONE

Birth and Early Years



PART I: BIRTH and EARLY YEARS

CHRONICLE of the LIFE and TEACHINGS of JESUS of NAZARETH



(Left) Thousands of pilgrims find it slow going as they make their way into the temple
(Right) A family from Nazareth arrives for Passover week

Passover in Jerusalem attracts record crowds

JERUSALEM, APRIL 8, AD 7



Jesus ben Joseph of Nazareth

Crowds of visitors from all parts of the Roman Empire have thronged to Jerusalem for the annual feast of the Passover. This afternoon, arriving pilgrims scrambled to make accommodations for their stay in Jerusalem. Several visitors were interviewed. One family from Nazareth brought their nearly 13-year-old son to see the great city and temple for the first time since his infancy. His name is Jesus ben Joseph, and he gave some unexpected answers when we asked his impressions. Although the lad seemed appropriately impressed by the temple, he seemed confused about the tradition of sacrificing animals to "appease" the "Father in Heaven" as he refers to God. Before he could comment further, his parents whisked him away.

INTERPLANETARY BULLETIN

JERUSALEM, Planet of Earth, APRIL 8, AD 7
The mind of Jesus was swept by a flood of spiritual illumination today as he watched the Passover multitudes. The twelve-year-old's heart was moved to great compassion and sympathy for their spiritual blindness. Tonight, a mighty angel appeared to Jesus and

said: "The hour has come. It is time that you began to be about your Father's business." This was the first supernatural event of his bestowal in human flesh. Thus, on the night before the Passover Sabbath, the youth began consideration of his earth career as the deliverer of humankind.

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CHRONICLE of the LIFE and TEACHINGS of JESUS of NAZARETH

PUBLIC NOTICE: JEWISH CENSUS ORDERED

PALESTINE, MARCH 18 BC

Caesar Augustus decreed yesterday that the census of the Roman Empire that began last year is to be completed with the registration of all residents of Judea. An official of King Herod said the delay in the census was due to the Jewish reluctance to be "numbered." Rumored domestic troubles in the palace of Herod may also have been to blame for the tardy compliance with the original decree.

Baby born in stable here

BETHLEHEM, AUGUST 21, 7 BC

A woman from Nazareth gave birth to a baby here at approximately noon. Mary and her husband Joseph are visitors from Nazareth. The couple is here to comply with the censitorial decree of Caesar Augustus. They were housed in a stable due to the crowded conditions here. A record influx of visitors are the result of the requirement for citizens to register in the city of their birth. Because no crib was available, the new baby was laid in a manger. He has been formally named Joshua (Jesus) ben Joseph.



The couple from Nazareth and their newborn baby

Mesopotamians seek baby

JERUSALEM, 7 BC

Several Chaldean priests are reportedly on a strange mission in Jerusalem. Their leader, Ananias, declared yesterday that they were seeking "the light of life," a child who is to be born here among the Jews. One of the priests referred to a teacher in Ur who disclosed a vivid dream he had about this prophesy. Some speculate that the rumored birth could be that of the "Messiah," the legendary deliverer of Israel. The priests left for Bethlehem today, possibly on the advice of a high official at the temple here. A spokesman for King Herod cautioned that speculation about a new king was not in the interests of Israel.

SCIENCE NEWS

DEBATE OVER STAR CONJUNCTION

ALEXANDRIA, SEPTEMBER 22, 7 BC

Astronomers here report an extraordinary conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn, appearing as stars in the constellation of Pisces. An earlier appearance occurred on May 25th of this year, another is projected sometime in December. The significance of these conjunctions is hotly debated. Some philosophers contend the stars portend the coming of a great teacher, others claim the conjunctions signal the birth of the Messiah or Jewish Messiah.

INTERPLANETARY BULLETIN

GABRIEL APPEARS TO MARY

NAZARETH, NOVEMBER, 8 BC

In Nazareth, a city in Palestine, one evening about midnight, before Joseph had returned home, Gabriel appeared to Mary. After she had recovered her composure, he said: "I come at the bidding of one who is thy Master and whom you shall love and nurture. To you, Mary, I bring glad tidings when I announce unto the conception within you is ordained by heaven, and that in due time you will become the mother of a son, you shall call him Jesus, and he shall inaugurate the kingdom of heaven on earth and among humankind. Speak not of this matter save to Joseph and to Elizabeth, your kinswoman, to whom I have also appeared, and who shall presently also bear a son, whose name shall be John, and who will prepare the way for the message of deliverance which your son shall proclaim to all with great power and deep occasion. "And doubt not my word, Mary, for the hour has been chosen so the moral habit of the dust of dusting My benediction rests upon you, the power of the Spirit Higher will strengthen you, and the Lord of all the earth shall overshadow you."



Gabriel appeared to Mary to announce the coming of the deliverer of all humankind. Joseph was doubtful about Mary's virginity story until he had an impressive dream in which a celestial messenger verified the miracle that was about to happen. Meanwhile, the couple await the expected August birth in their little home in the northern outskirts of Nazareth.

Will the Messiah restore the throne of David?

JERUSALEM, 8 BC

"Jews seem to agree on two things: first, that their Messiah will one day come to free them, and also that the Jewish world is Jerusalem," declared an unidentified Roman official here yesterday. Over two and a half million Jews will come to Jerusalem for the high religious holy days this year.

Human authorities are concerned

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CHRONICLE of the LIFE and TEACHINGS of JESUS of NAZARETH

Child of promise to stay



Nahor and Joseph listen as Jesus ben Joseph reads flawlessly from the Scriptures

NAZARETH, FEBRUARY, AD 2

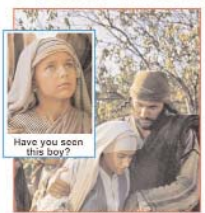
A visiting rabbi, Nahor, expressed disappointment at the decision of Jesus ben Joseph to stay with his family and not to go with him to Jerusalem for advanced training. "I respect the decision, but regret that the youth will not be exposed to a more sophisticated and controlled environment. I was somewhat shocked by his questions and his unusual views on religion and prayer." Because the parents were divided on the issue it was decided to allow Jesus to make the decision.

After two days of deliberation the lad declared the offer to move to Jerusalem, Jesus admitted he was not "positive" about what God wanted, but he felt it would be to stay with his family. Jesus expressed the opinion that his family would love him more than those who were focused purely upon his intellect.

Nahor expressed puzzlement at these comments, attributing them to the liberal atmosphere of Nazareth.

Parents seek missing youth

JERICHO, MONDAY, APRIL 18, AD 7



Have you seen this boy?

The parents of Jesus ben Joseph are retracing their steps to Jerusalem

Jesus ben Joseph, a Nazareth youth, has been reported missing by his parents. The twelve-year-old was last seen in Jerusalem. He was part of a caravan of 103 Nazarenes who came to the city for Passover. As to the custom, men and women travel separately. Each parent believed Jesus was with the other when the caravan left Sunday to return to Nazareth. Mary and Joseph are retracing their steps to Jerusalem in an attempt to locate their son. "I was concerned about his behavior at Passover," Joseph said. "He seemed very disturbed about certain things he saw. He sometimes looks to be overly sensitive." Information about the whereabouts of Jesus would be appreciated by his parents.

Execution of gentile questioned

JERUSALEM, MONDAY, APRIL 18, AD 7

A mild controversy arose in the temple discussions yesterday when a youth questioned the justice of the recent execution of a gentile who had wandered into the sacred precincts of the temple. The man was in a drunken state at the time. A lively discussion about the fairness of the punishment ensued. When it was discovered that the lad who challenged the propriety of the punishment was only twelve years of age, a rabbi insisted that he leave the group immediately. But other teachers defended the youth since he had been duly consecrated and was a certified graduate of the schools of Nazareth. Some asserted that he was nearly 17 when the age factor was a technicality. "Like the boy," said one of his supporters, "he asks remarkable questions, and he is always deeply sincere and respectful." A detractor countered: "When I heard he was from Nazareth I explained everything. As they say, 'Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?'"



A gentile is being led to his execution for wandering into the sacred precincts of the temple. Was the severe punishment just?

Nazareth youth perplexes rabbis



Rabbi David consults the Scriptures to find answers to the questions of a strange youth from Nazareth

JERUSALEM, TUESDAY, APRIL 19, AD 7
Temple teachers were challenged for the second time in as many days by the questions of a youth from Nazareth. Jesus ben Joseph delighted the crowds and confused some of the rabbis for four hours. The discussions were lively and less aggressive than yesterday's debates, possibly because some rabbis boycotted the session in protest of the sign of the youth, he will not be thirteen until August 21. The leader of the discussions permitted Jesus to participate, since he had been consecrated during Passover and was a graduate of the proper schools in Nazareth. The lad asked some of the things we have all wondered about, said one bystander.

A few of the discussion topics prompted by the inquiries of the young Nazarene were: Why can't the men and

women sit together in the temple? Why do authorities permit gross commerce in a temple dedicated to honoring God? Why can't people be told what is behind the veil of the Holy of Holies? Will the Messiah restore the Throne of David or establish a spiritual kingdom on earth? How could a loving God be pleased with the slaughter of helpless animals in sacrifice?

"I was surprised this boy got away with these questions," commented a merchant from Alexandria. "But he has such charm and is so poised and gracious. Never once did he become offensive. He seems to convey his unusual ideas in the way he asks his questions. I was astounded at his deep insight. I hope he returns tomorrow; things are getting interesting." None of the rabbis who boycotted the discussions could be reached for comment.

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Mystery youth returns home

JERUSALEM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, AD 7

Some rabbis here expressed relief when the parents of Jesus ben Joseph arrived at the temple and took him back to their Nazareth home. The leader of the temple discussions had just invited Jesus to sit beside him and give his own views on worship and prayer when the concerned parents interrupted the proceedings. The mother admonished him, saying: "My child, why have you troubled us like this? It is now more than three days that your father and I have searched for you everywhere!"

The youth surprised everyone with his strange answer: "Why is it that you no longer sought me? Would you not expect to find me in my Father's house since the time has come when I should be about my Father's business?" The crowd broke up at that juncture, and the family left the temple. Rabbis are divided as to the exact meaning of the youth's remarks to his parents. One commented: "Jesus is restless upon returning to God as a Father. It came upon him and over again in the temple discussion. Of course, I believe he meant that God is the Father of all Israel." Another rabbi disagreed: "He implied several times that God is the Father of all humankind, even including gentiles and women. This is too liberal a viewpoint for me to embrace."

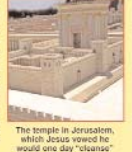


Everything seems to be back to normal in Nazareth, as the father of Jesus ben Joseph teaches carpentry

Youth vows to "cleanse temple"

JERUSALEM, AD 7

Unsettled rumors report that Jesus ben Joseph, the youth who perplexed the rabbis with his queries and comments last week, has vowed to "cleanse the temple." Apparently the young Nazarene stood upon the roof of Mount Olives and made the declaration in the company of his amazed parents. Exactly what he meant by this declaration is not known. One rabbi who heard the report dismissed it as youthful incoherence. "Jesus hinted during the temple discussions that there is too much tradition and dogma surrounding our faith. He did not like what he called 'seeds and weeds' taking place in the temple, which he actually called his Father's house. These rumors come and go, but the God of Israel will never change. Jesus must learn more respect for tradition." Another rabbi was more vigorous in his reaction: "Just when I thought we were finally rid of him he dares to say such a thing. How important God's house, he belongs in Nazareth."

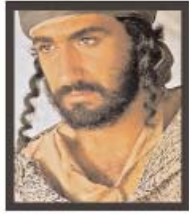


The temple in Jerusalem, which Jesus vowed he would one day "cleanse"

SAMPLE PAGES

PART TWO

Tragedy and Family Commitment



PART II: TRAGEDY and FAMILY COMMITMENT

CHRONICLE of the LIFE and TEACHINGS of JESUS of NAZARETH

Will Nazareth produce a great leader?



Local discussions continue about Jesus ben Joseph, opinions vary as to his status and future

Future bright for family of Jesus

NAZARETH, AD 8

Much of the excitement that followed the activities of Jesus ben Joseph in the temple at Passover last year has died down. The local lad, who has now turned thirteen, seems content to help his father in the family's carpentry shop, study religious reading courses, and practice music.

The family continues to see for his future education in Jerusalem. The question here is: Will Jesus repeat his performance this year at Passover? But this lad will not comment, and the parents, Joseph and Mary, admit they "cannot predict what their son will do." Meanwhile the family prospers. The hopes of locals that a great teacher-leader will emerge from Nazareth have not yet been extinguished.

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NAZARETH, AD 7

"At last, a great teacher shall come out of Nazareth in Galilee!" A local rabbi at the synagogue school claims that the recent performance of twelve-year-old Jesus, who Joseph at the temple in Jerusalem, proves that "something great will come out of Nazareth," contrary to the old saying. The rabbi is strong among some here that the young lad may become the teacher-leader that local needs. The mid local time of Jesus stems from his discussions with the elders at the temple.

Some here agree that Jesus shows promise, but doubters point out that prophets have always demonstrated their divine brightness by the working of miracles and wonders.

A detractor comments: "Jesus is a remarkable, bright young man. But he never does anything out of the ordinary. He may have a good heart, but I doubt that he is a prophet." Others say that Jesus is still young, and that his powers may unfold as he grows older. When he reaches fifteen years of age, Jesus will be permitted to formally conduct a service at the synagogue. Many look forward to this important milestone. In the meantime, his family continues to live a simple life here in Nazareth.

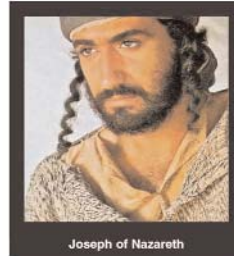
Jesus ben Joseph with his parents

Local contractor killed

SEPPHORIS, SEPTEMBER 25, AD 8

It was announced today that Joseph, a well-known local contractor and carpenter, died from injuries received from a falling derrick while working on the palace of Herod Antipas in Sepphoris. Mary, the wife of the victim, was on her way from Nazareth to the accident site and could not be reached for comment. The family has been noted for their son, Jesus, who has been acclaimed by some as a "child of destiny." The mantle of responsibility for the family will evidently fall upon fourteen-year-old Jesus. In addition to Jesus, there are seven brothers and sisters. To compound the family's problems, Mary is expecting her ninth child.

PART II: TRAGEDY and FAMILY COMMITMENT



Joseph of Nazareth

Nazareth family must bear tragedy and carry on

NAZARETH, AD 9

Last September, a tragic accident claimed the life of Joseph, the father of the family of Jesus. Since then, many things have changed. The promised rabbinical school in Jerusalem is out of the question for Jesus and his now impoverished family.

His mother's hopes for her son's grand career are all but crushed. Jesus now supports his family by working in his father's carpenter shop. He is said to be the favorite young storyteller of Nazareth, and many neighbors drop in to hear him narrate tales and play his harp. Jesus also reads aloud from rare copies of the Scriptures for family and friends. The Scriptures are written in Greek, and were a gift to the "child of promise" when he was a baby. For the foreseeable future, Jesus says he must concentrate on what he calls his "earthly duty" to assume the responsibility of helping to raise the family of his deceased father. He makes frequent journeys to the nearby hilltop for periods of prayer and meditation.



A family friend comforts Mary, the wife of Joseph

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CHRONICLE of the LIFE and TEACHINGS of JESUS of NAZARETH

Youth conducts synagogue service



Jesus ben Joseph gave a dignified and impressive presentation

NAZARETH, AUGUST, AD 9

A solemn and noble synagogue service was conducted by fifteen-year-old Jesus ben Joseph yesterday. Jesus selected several passages and read them with dignity. The struggles of his family after the death of his father are well-known throughout the community.

The local gathering seemed particularly touched when Jesus read these words: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you and I will help you; yes, I will uphold you with my right hand of my righteousness, for I am the Lord your God. And I will hold you right hand, saying to you, Fear not, for I will help you." Chances for the youth to continue his education are not favorable, but the local chazan insists he will be a great teacher one day, perhaps even the successor to the famous Gamaliel of Jerusalem.

Text of unique prayer released

NAZARETH, AD 9

Jesus ben Joseph, a local fifteen-year-old boy who amazed the rabbis in Jerusalem with his questions and comments two years ago, has furnished a prayer for his brothers and sisters. Jesus supports the family since the death of his father, Joseph, last year. One of his brothers, James, recited the unique prayer shown at right.

When reached for comment, Jesus noted that prayer is best when it is individual and expresses the feelings and thoughts of the person praying. He cautioned against automatic repetition of a prayer as a substitute for true communion with God.

"Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done. On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our bread for tomorrow. Refresh our souls with the water of life. And forgive us our debts. As we also have forgiven our debtors. Save us in temptation, Deliver us from evil, And increasingly make us perfect like yourself."

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PART II: TRAGEDY and FAMILY COMMITMENT

"No back pay" says Herod

SEPPHORIS, AD 9

Herod Antipas denied a portion of Jesus ben Joseph and his family for payment of the back pay due their father. Now an appeal of the decision, presented by the brothers of Joseph, has also been rejected by Herod. Joseph was working on the governor's palace last year when a derrick fell on him causing fatal injuries. Herod's final decision has crushed the hopes of the now impoverished family, which resides in Nazareth.

The treasurer here said the decision was "fair." He claimed that he had offered a settlement that the family refused, and they should have taken what was offered. Others have described the settlement offer as "paltry" and Herod's decision as "unjust." Jesus, who was present in the palace at the time of the decision, refused to comment.



Herod Antipas was abrupt and firm that no "back pay" would be granted the family of Jesus

Valuable manuscript donated to library



NAZARETH, AD 9

Officials of the temple here are proud of the recent acquisition of a Greek translation of the complete Scriptures, including the law and the prophets and the Psalms. The remarkable document, the second of its kind in Nazareth, was the gift of Jesus ben Joseph on his fifteenth birthday.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, explained that the family originally acquired the valuable Scriptures in Memphis, Egypt, from descendants of Matthew. A local tax official sought to confiscate the Scriptures as payment for back taxes owed by the family of Jesus, but the effort was not successful. "They belong to the synagogue library now," said one rabbi, who was not identified.

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PART II: TRAGEDY and FAMILY COMMITMENT

Female education debated



A local resident expressed approval regarding the education of female children. "I regret that I did not have that opportunity," she said.

Philosophy club successful

NAZARETH, AD 12

An official of the chazan has expressed his pleasure with the success of the young men's club for philosophical discussion which was inaugurated here this year. The club meets in the homes of different members periodically. Jesus ben Joseph is a prominent member of the club. "I am pleased that Jesus aggressively participates in our club," said one official. "Many people have a chance to hear and see him, and in my judgment some of his lost prestige has been regained as a result." Jesus lost much local support last year when he refused to enlist in the Zealot cause.

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NAZARETH, AD 11

Contrary to local custom, a family home is providing education for three female family members in their home.

The family of seventeen-year-old Jesus ben Joseph lost their father several years ago in a construction accident. Many local residents dispute the value of female education, yet there are some who express approval. Jesus' widowed mother agrees with him and supports his home-schooling program for her daughters.

Prodigy silent at Passover

JERUSALEM, AD 12

Jesus ben Joseph attended the temple discussions during Passover. But the "child of promise," who performed so remarkably two years ago when he was twelve years of age, was silent.

Some priests stated that his younger brother James urged Jesus to participate in the temple discussions. It was reported that Jesus replied: "My hour has not yet come."

Jesus and his brother have returned to their home in Nazareth and resumed their work in the family carpentry shop.

PART II: TRAGEDY and FAMILY COMMITMENT

Jesus departs Nazareth



Jesus says goodbye to his mother, Mary

Zebodee boat building innovations praised

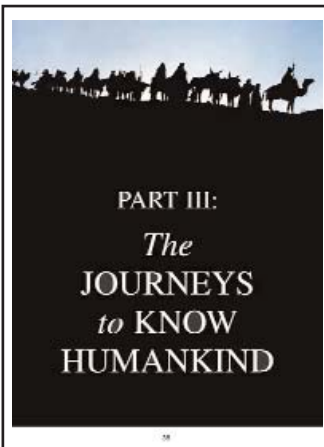
CAPITULUM, AD 22

The design and performance of my boat built by Jesus ben Joseph and John Zebodee is outstanding," said a fisherman who owns one of the new crafts created by the Zebodee boat shop. It is reported that the new design is safer and faster than any previous craft. Improved construction methods include a special technique of securing the boards.

John Zebodee gives most of the credit to his skilled craftsman, Jesus, who arrived from Nazareth a year ago. Zebodee said that Jesus is also a remarkable philosopher and teacher. Two of Zebodee's sons, James and John the younger, agree with their father about Jesus as a teacher. David Zebodee, the other son, is less enthusiastic. He stated: "Jesus is a great designer and craftsman, but his ideas on religion and philosophy are often peculiar to me."

The Zebodee boats are known for their speed and stability

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SAMPLE PAGES PART THREE The Journeys to Know Humankind

CHRONICLE of the LIFE and TEACHINGS of JESUS of NAZARETH

Jonah and the whale...did it happen?

JOPPA, AD 22

Yesterday a visiting Jewish scholar addressed a question that has challenged many who wonder whether the Jewish scriptures are literal truth. According to Gadiah, a Philistine interpreter, the Jewish tutor explained the story as illustrative of the theme of humankind.

"We all seek to escape our desires, much as did Jonah," said Gadiah. "According to Joshua," the Jewish tutor, we humans too often flee from our duties at hand, to far-off enticements. Such a flight can only cause pain and sorrow, and eventual captivity in darkness, much like the belly of the whale was for Jonah. But if such individuals sincerely seek light and truth, they will be rescued by the circumstances of life onto the shore of new opportunities... upon the beach of the freedom of loving service and wise living."

Asked whether the story of Jonah is literally true, Gadiah seemed perplexed. "You know, Joshua never really said whether it was literally true or not. I guess he implied that, at least, the story illustrates a great truth."



An artist's depiction of Jonah being washed ashore after being swallowed by a whale. Did it really happen?

Thus on the journey

Insights impress scholars

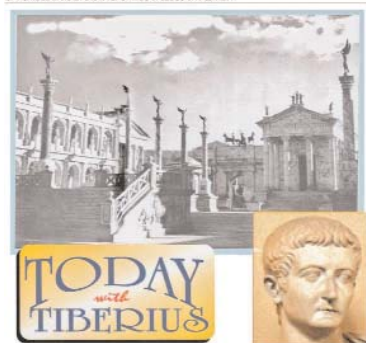
JOPPA, AD 22

Gadiah, a local Philistine interpreter, continues to impress our scholars with his insights about God and man. He claims the source of his knowledge was a mysterious Jewish tutor who has since departed for unknown reasons.

Challenged in a recent public discussion to explain why a "just" God permits evil to exist, Gadiah replied: "God is love, the essence of truth, beauty and goodness. As darkness is the absence of light, evil is the absence of God. Evil is the shadow of unreality, the consequence of God giving humankind freedom of choice. To those who choose the illusion of truth, who refuse to grasp the essence of beauty and who resist the aid power of goodness, their evildoings are of their own creation. To those who seek God, to whatever degree they are able to accept the enormous power of his reality and goodness, there is peace beyond all understanding." Gadiah professed that he had no idea how the Jewish tutor had developed his unusual philosophy.

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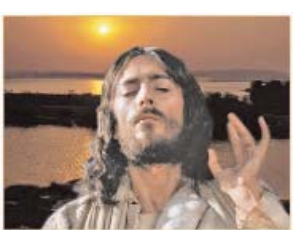
CHRONICLE of the LIFE and TEACHINGS of JESUS of NAZARETH



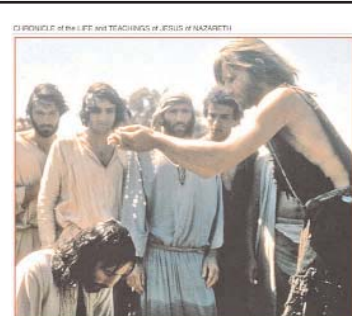
SAMPLE PAGES

PART FOUR

"My Hour Has Come"



PART IV: "MY HOUR HAS COME"



CHRONICLE OF THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN NAZARETH

John baptizes Jesus of Nazareth

Interested bystanders watch the baptism of Jesus of Nazareth. Strange "apparitions" and voices were said to have manifested during the ceremony.

PELLA, MONDAY, JANUARY 14, AD 26

John the Baptist, the controversial self-styled prophet, performed his baptism ceremony upon Jesus of Nazareth and his two brothers at the Jordan River today. Many rumors have developed around the incident, the most sensational involving a strange "color" heard after Jesus was baptized. The voice allegedly stated: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." Jesus and John, the brothers of Jesus, claimed to have heard the voice. John the Baptist also stated that he heard it, but no other corroborating witnesses could be found.

Jesus uttered a prayer immediately following the baptism, declaring: "My Father who reigns in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come! That will be done on earth, even as it is in heaven." Jesus appeared to be transfused by some sort of vision and he left immediately after the ceremony. His whereabouts are not known. John spoke of the incident declaring that the alleged "voice" was that of God. He also stated that he baptized with water, but Jesus would baptize with the "Holy Spirit." Some believe Jesus went into the desert to meditate, and they are anxiously awaiting developments.

CHRONICLE OF THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN NAZARETH

INTERPLANETARY BULLETIN

The Twelve Apostles

BETHANY, LEVI Chosen by Andrew, called the "messiah-giver" by the apostles, he is the first member of the group, age 31. He is a student of John the Baptist.

THOMAS Philip, a wealthy apostle, known for his fiery temper and his fiery temper.

ANDREW Chosen by Simon, called the "messiah-giver" by the apostles, he is the first member of the group, age 31. He is a student of John the Baptist.

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PART IV: "MY HOUR HAS COME"

Jesus preaches epic sermon

CAPERNAUM, JANUARY 12, AD 27

In the highlands north of Capernaum, Jesus of Nazareth ordained his twelve apostles and "inaugurated the kingdom of heaven on earth" in what many are referring to as the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus declared that his apostles must now live as though they had actually been to a heavenly kingdom of light and life, and had returned as ambassadors to teach their brothers and sisters about this new and better life.

The kingdom was characterized by Jesus as nonmaterial, a disappointment for many who expect him to restore the material throne of David. Jesus then outlined his philosophy for the life of an apostle: a concept of the fatherly love. Four faith attitudes, and then four attitudes of fatherly love were presented by the Master. The statements made by Jesus were at times perplexing, so this reporter spoke with the apostles to obtain information to better understand them.

Four faith attitudes:

1. "Happy are the poor in spirit, the humble." To a child, happiness is the satisfaction of immediate pleasure craving. The adult is willing to sow seeds of self-denial in order to reap subsequent harvests of augmented happiness. All too often happiness has been associated with the idea of the possession of wealth. In Jesus' story of the Pharisee and the publican praying in the temple, the one felt "rich in spirit"—egotistical; the other felt "poor in spirit"—humble. One was self-sufficient; the other was teachable and

truth-seeking. The poor in spirit seek for goals of spiritual wealth—for God. And such seekers after truth do not have to wait for rewards in a distant future; they are rewarded now. They find the kingdom of heaven within their own hearts, and they experience such happiness now.

2. "Happy are they who hunger and search for righteousness, for they shall be filled!" Only those who feel poor in spirit will ever hunger for righteousness. Only the humble seek for divine strength and crave spiritual power. But it is most dangerous to knowingly engage in spiritual fasting in order to improve one's appetite for spiritual endowments. Physical fasting becomes dangerous after four or five days; one is apt to lose all desire for food.

Prolonged fasting, either physical or spiritual, tends to destroy humor. Experiential righteousness is a pleasure, not a duty. Jesus' righteousness is a dynamic love—fatherly-brotherly affection. It is not the negative or thou-shalt-not type of righteousness. How could one ever hunger for something

(Continued on next page)

PART IV: "MY HOUR HAS COME"

Jesus declares John to be a prophet

MOUNT OLIVET, DECEMBER, AD 27

Friends of John the Baptist interrupted a gathering of Jesus and disciples near what was believed to be Jesus' private home. They brought a message from their teacher, who has longed to see him in person. Jesus had not seen him for over a year and a half. John sent a question to Jesus: "Are you the Messiah, or should we wait another?" Jesus replied that John had not been forgotten. He urged the messenger to go back to John and tell him what they have seen, that the year has gone by and Jesus has come. Then Jesus declared John to be a prophet, and

"much more." He added that no man was greater than John, but that Jesus was greater than John. He said that in the kingdom of God it is not the first who are first, but the last who are first. The occasion, however, was marked by a vision of the Father. Jesus declared: "Come, therefore, all you who labor and are heavily laden, and you shall find rest for your souls. For upon you the Son of Man will lay his yoke, and you will experience the peace of God, which passes all understanding."

PART IV: "MY HOUR HAS COME"

Herod executes John the Baptist

MACHABEUS, JANUARY 13, AD 28

By order of Herod Antipas the head of John the Baptist was presented on a platter to Herodias and her daughter Salome. The order was prompted by a request of the daughter who had danced this evening at Herod's birthday celebration. Following her performance, Herod declared that he would give her whatever she asked. Her request for the head of John the Baptist came as a surprise. It was reported that Herodias had counseled her daughter in the request.

Followers of John had immediately renewed the body of John, which they took to bury at Sebaste. When Jesus was told of the execution he gathered together the joint council of thirty-four and informed them. Jesus declared: "We shall delay no longer. The hour has come. Now we shall proclaim the kingdom of heaven and with power." The band of followers is reportedly on the way to Galilee.

Visit by Jesus' sister rumored

CAPERNAUM, JANUARY, AD 28

It is believed that Mary, the youngest sister of Jesus, visited her brother. The reported visit took place in a small boat just off shore and

lasted about an hour. Although it has not been confirmed, many believe the story because of Jesus' devotion to her brother. She has never seemed to be the ideal in him. John Zephaniah, who may have arranged the meeting, refused to comment on the story.

UNIT IV: "MY HOUR HAS COME"

Jesus leaves Zebedee boat shop

CAPERNAUM, JANUARY, AD 28

Jesus left Zebedee's boat shop today. Many have noted a great change in Jesus on his way to meet with John the Baptist, who is making his way north along the Jordan. Some believe that this signals the beginning of a public career for Jesus.

Jesus, the respected leader and teacher, has left Zebedee's boat shop today. Many have noted a great change in Jesus on his way to meet with John the Baptist, who is making his way north along the Jordan. Some believe that this signals the beginning of a public career for Jesus.

John warns Pharisees: "Repent!"



A group of Pharisees and Sadducees who traveled from Jerusalem to be baptized by John listen in stunned silence as he admonishes them to repent.



JOHN THE BAPTIST

BETHANY, AD 28

The Baptist preached to a group of Pharisees and Sadducees today with an unusual message, warning them to repent. He said that the kingdom of heaven was at hand and that they must "bring forth fruit worthy of repentance." He said that those who do not will be "cast out and cast in the fire." Some people believe John is a prophet, and foretold the imminent coming of the long-awaited Messiah.

John saw the ritual of baptism with water has been reserved for gentle proselytes. However, John declared, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" and he said that baptism is necessary for "remission of sins." He requires that all who wish to be "redeemed" submit to it.

CHRONICLE OF THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS IN NAZARETH



An overflow synagogue crowd came to hear the message of Jesus of Nazareth in Capernaum. Most found the message difficult to understand.

Jesus' teachings get mixed reaction

CAPERNAUM, JUNE 22, AD 28

Jesus of Nazareth concluded the ceremony in the synagogue today reading from the Scriptures and taking openly about a "kingdom." Jesus made several points that were hotly debated after he spoke. Jesus declared the new kingdom to be for all people, gentiles, and even women. He spoke of a spirit from God that dwells in all men and women, and a mysterious "spirit of truth" that will come when he has "finished" his work, a spirit that will be poured out upon all flesh.

Jesus made it clear that his kingdom was not of this world. "I come to proclaim the kingdom of God," he said. "I come to proclaim the kingdom of God, as the price of entrance into the kingdom of heaven. The kingdom is a spiritual experience having to do with the enlightenment of God in our hearts."

The promise of everlasting life.

Those who entered his kingdom, he stated, would gain "everlasting life." Jesus explained that the kingdom of heaven is an evolutionary experience, beginning here on earth and progressing up to Paradise. He concluded: "If you would but believe that I am your Father with an eternal love, then you are in the kingdom of God." There was a large attendance, including many Pharisees who had come to hear Jesus. Some thought they already could not understand the meaning of all of his sermon. About one third decided to reject such a spiritual concept of the kingdom. About one third were completely confused by his statements, some of his groups even thought Jesus was beside himself.

UNIT IV: "MY HOUR HAS COME"

Hundreds healed by Jesus here



The reported "healing at sundown" resulted in about 700 cures, according to eye witnesses.

CAPERNAUM, JANUARY 17, AD 28

An astonishing mass healing by Jesus has stirred new interest in his ministry. A large group assembled outside of the home of the Zebedee brothers, and tonight Jesus healed their ailments. Jesus appeared and said: "I have come into the world to heal the Father and enlighten his kingdom. For the purpose I have I laid my life to this hour. If therefore, I should be the will of Him who sent me, I would not be inconsistent with my dedication to the proclamation of the kingdom of heaven. I would desire to see my children made whole—and—"

Some claimed that they were healed after Jesus spoke to them. Those near to the Master claimed that he himself seemed perplexed at the happening.

One 100 declared the healing of the afflicted people. Word about the "healing at sundown" spread rapidly. In the morning, Jesus had gone into various sections, and had told his apostles that little spiritual progress would result from him.

"So many seek not the spiritual kingdom but rather relief from their physical and material afflictions," Jesus told them. This accident soon confirmed at Jesus' reluctance to reject the voice of salvation that followed the healing.

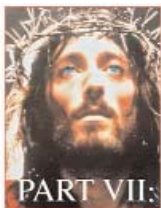
Jesus departed for Rimmon.

On Sunday afternoon Jesus suddenly left the area of the great healing and is on his way to the small city of Rimmon. His brothers, James and John, arrived with hopes that they could talk with Jesus, but they just missed his departure. The apostles were reportedly disappointed to be leaving the scene of the "healing at sundown," and they sought to convince Jesus to stay. They told him that a thousand benefits could be gained if they acted immediately. But Jesus, who seemed steady in his plans, refused to consent to returning to Capernaum. The apostles were raised by Thomas, who declared: "Let's go! For Jesus we follow a teacher who does not seek well glory."

Jesus departs for Rimmon

CAPERNAUM, JANUARY 18, AD 28

SAMPLE PAGES PART SEVEN Catastrophe, Resurrection, & The New Teacher



PART VII: CATASTROPHE, RESURRECTION, and the NEW TEACHER



Jesus told his apostles that the early Passover dinner would be their last supper together

JERUSALEM, APRIL 2, AD 30

Jesus told his apostles that the early Passover dinner would be their last supper together



Jesus appeared before Pontius Pilate and said they accused shortly after six this morning

Pilate hears charges against Jesus

JERUSALEM, APRIL 7, AD 30

2. Forbidding the people to pay tribute

Thief asks Jesus for a place in his "kingdom"



Jesus of Nazareth dies



Jesus is lifted up on the cross. Later, as the sky darkened and a massive earthquake approached, Jesus began to rectify the Father.

212

Jesus drives money-changers and merchants out of temple!

JERUSALEM, APRIL 3, AD 30

Officials here were stunned today by Jesus as he led the pilgrims in sweeping the temple courts clear of all commerce. Merchants, money-changers, and animals were driven from the temple courts as thousands of Passover pilgrims hailed Jesus with a chorus of "Hosannas." The incident began about nine o'clock this Monday morning as Jesus started to address an early assembly of pilgrims in the large court. He was distracted by three noisy incidents that seemed to stir his indignation.

INTERPLANETARY BULLETIN "Behold God and Man"

APRIL 7, AD 30

Overseer administration is advised to a

blackball while all national strategists

the new dawn upon their shores of

harvests continue to

Jesus is continued

that it is the will of the

father that he submit to

the national and

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human events as must

any mortal. He will

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