

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE LIFE OF JESUS

RLJ-1704

JOHN S. TORELL

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PART 1: JESUS LAUNCHES HIS MINISTRY

INTRODUCTION

This series is a continuation of my previous series, "The Destiny of Humanity," which showed God's master plan and how it countered the Devil's accusations that God is not righteous, working out the redemption plan for the human race, culminating with the long awaited Messiah being incarnated into a human body. God could only pay for the sins of the humanity by living a sinless life in a human body and then sacrificing it on the cross.

The purpose of this series is to bring out how Jesus thought, and examine the many healings, casting out demons, the creation of food for the multitude, and preparing the disciples for His death on the cross.

The legal age at the time of Jesus was 30 years old and Jesus stayed with his parents until that time. **Luke 3:23**

Joseph was a carpenter by trade, and as the oldest son, Jesus would have worked with His stepfather until He started His ministry. **Matthew 13:53-56**

It must have been a shock to the family when the oldest son left the family business to start a public ministry. It is assumed by most scholars that Joseph was dead by the time Jesus left his home and family because there is no further mention of him. Jesus' personal friends from Nazareth thought He was mentally deranged. **Mark 3:19-21**

The scribes from Jerusalem stated that Jesus was possessed by Satan. **verse 22**

Jesus' family was concerned enough that they tried to get Him away from the crowd. **verses 30-35**

Jesus knew that two men had previously claimed to be the messiah and been executed. He would certainly have given some thought about what the people of Israel would say when he began to proclaim He was the Messiah. **Acts 5:34-38**

STARTING HIS MINISTRY

The first thing Jesus did was to leave Nazareth and walk south into Judea to meet John the Baptist, whose mother, Elizabeth, was a cousin to His mother. **Luke 1:35-40**

John the Baptist was already established as a prophetic voice and Jesus wanted to fulfill the messianic prophecy and be baptized by John. **Matthew 3:13-17**

Following the water baptism, the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus and gave Him the power needed to start His ministry. **Matthew 4:1-2**

Once Jesus was baptized in water and filled with the Holy Spirit, He was led by the Holy Spirit to walk into the wilderness by Himself in order to fast, pray, and be tempted by the Devil for 40 days.



As God, Jesus had previously met Lucifer in the throne room of God prior to his fall into sin. He had judged Lucifer for his rebellion and seen him tempt Eve. But this time Jesus was in a human body and he was going to face the Devil as God and man.

Satan knew that this was an opportunity to derail the redemption plan for the human race if he could trip up Jesus and maybe his sentence to the Lake of Fire could be rescinded.

The three different proposals of the Devil were real temptations. **Luke 4:1-13**

1. The physical body of Jesus was hungry.
2. By performing a stunt from the pinnacle of the temple, Jesus could have established His power among the people.
3. By worshipping the Devil just one time, Jesus would have gained the whole world and there would have been no need to go to the cross.

BACK TO GALILEE

Once Jesus rebuffed the Devil, He returned to Nazareth where he had lived for some 25 years and attended the familiar local synagogue, but this time it was different as He was there to declare His Messiahship, which was soundly rejected by the townspeople. **Luke 4:14-30**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?