

WHO REALLY IS JESUS CHRIST?

Note to the speaker:

Emphasize Jesus' central role in God's purpose. Tactfully address mistaken ideas about Jesus that are common in your area. Encourage listeners to learn more about Jesus by attending the upcoming Memorial of his death

MANY DO NOT KNOW WHO JESUS REALLY IS (4 min.)

Jesus is widely recognized as one of the most influential historical figures (*w05* 3/15 3-4 ¶2-3; *g16.5* 3)

Many in the first century misunderstood who Jesus really was [**Read Matthew 16:13, 14**] (*w01* 12/15 3-4 ¶2)

Some expected him to be a political activist or a philanthropist or to act as a judge (Lu 12:13; Joh 6:15, 26)

Today, many have been misinformed about Jesus and view him as merely a good man, a prophet, or a reformer

Millions who claim to be Christian believe that he is God

What does the Bible say about who Jesus is, why he came to earth, and what he is doing now?

WHAT IS THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS? (12 min.)

The Bible contains a reliable record of Jesus' unique personality, teachings, and works, proving that he was not an ordinary man (Mt 7:28, 29; 9:35, 36; Mr 6:2)

He possessed qualities that are universally appealing (*gy* 317)

His teachings helped his listeners draw closer to God (Mt 6:9-15)

He fulfilled numerous prophecies recorded centuries in advance (*bh* 199-201)

He did not claim to be God; nor did his early disciples believe him to be God [**Read Matthew 16:15, 16**] (Joh 10:36)

Jesus gave God all credit for his teachings and powerful works (Joh 7:16; 14:10)

Jesus had a prehuman existence in heaven (Joh 6:38)

He was the first and only direct creation of Jehovah God; therefore, he is rightly called "the only-begotten Son of God" (Joh 3:18; Col 1:15, 16)

He was sent to earth to teach the truth and to proclaim the Kingdom of God (Mt 4:17; Joh 18:37)

He became the promised Messiah, or Christ, who would give his life in behalf of mankind (Joh 3:16)

Jesus was resurrected to life in heaven, where Jehovah delegated Kingdom authority to him (Mt 28:18; Ac 2:32, 33; *cl* 88-89 ¶6)

JESUS CHRIST IS AN IDEAL RULER (8 min.)

Mankind desperately needs good government (Ec 8:9)

Jesus possesses the qualities and abilities desired in a good leader (*w02* 3/15 6 ¶4; *it-2* 70 ¶5)

He even demonstrated control over weather, disease, and death (Mt 8:1-3; Mr 4:39; Joh 11:43, 44)

Jesus rejected human efforts to make him a king (Joh 6:14, 15)

His Kingdom is no part of the world's political system under Satan's control (Joh 18:36; 1Jo 5:19)

Jesus waited for Jehovah's appointed time to establish the heavenly government (Heb 10:12, 13)

Bible prophecy indicates that Jesus is now ruling in heaven as King of God's Kingdom (Mt 24:3-12)

Jesus will soon carry out on a global scale works like the ones he performed while on earth (Lu 7:21, 22; Re 21:3, 4)

People everywhere are now being invited to become citizens of God's government (Mt 24:14; 28:19, 20)

GET TO KNOW THE REAL JESUS CHRIST (6 min.)

The truth about Jesus Christ is a precious gift from Jehovah God [**Read Matthew 16:17**]

You can find happiness and peace now by imitating Jesus' example and applying his teachings in your life (Mt 7:24, 25; 11:28-30; 1Pe 2:21)

The truth about Jesus can benefit you forever (Joh 17:3)

Many have heard it said that Jesus died for us

How can the death of one man make everlasting life possible for many?

Can Jesus' death nearly 2,000 years ago really affect us today?

These questions will be answered at the Memorial of Jesus' death [Play the 1 minute 41 second Memorial invitation video, *Remember Jesus' Death*, and warmly invite all to attend]

Make it your priority to get to know the real Jesus Christ—God's provision for life (Joh 14:6)

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School* book, pages 52-55, 166-169]