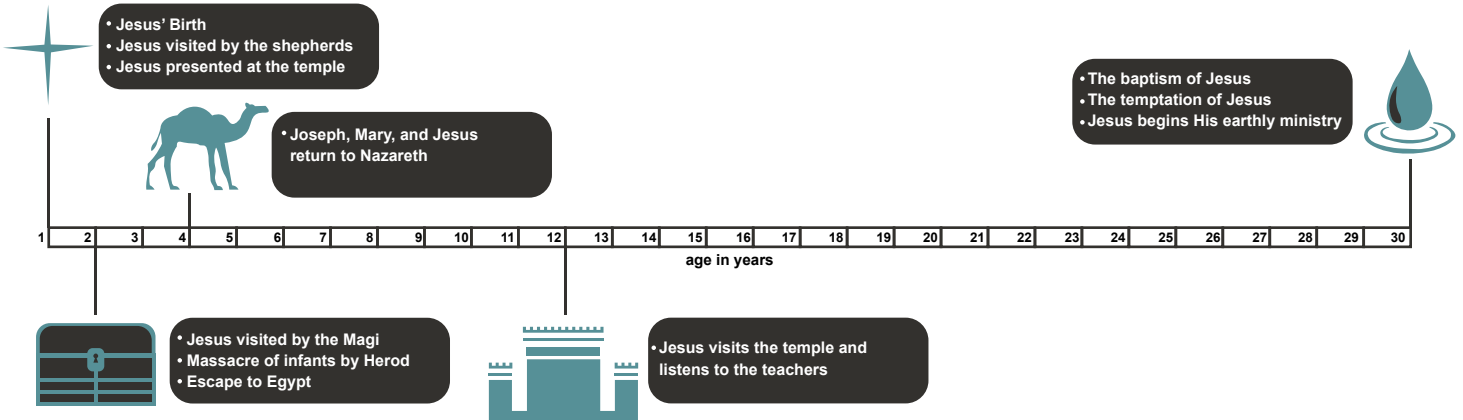




BEFORE THE MINISTRY OF JESUS



1

Birth

Jesus was born in Bethlehem to the virgin Mary. Rather than being born into royalty, Jesus had a humble beginning. He was born in a manger and based on Mary's offering of 2 doves (Luke 2:24), his family was poor.

2

Childhood

When Jesus was about 2 years old, the Magi visited Him. This led to Herod ordering the massacre of all children 2 years old and younger. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus fled to Egypt to escape Herod.

3

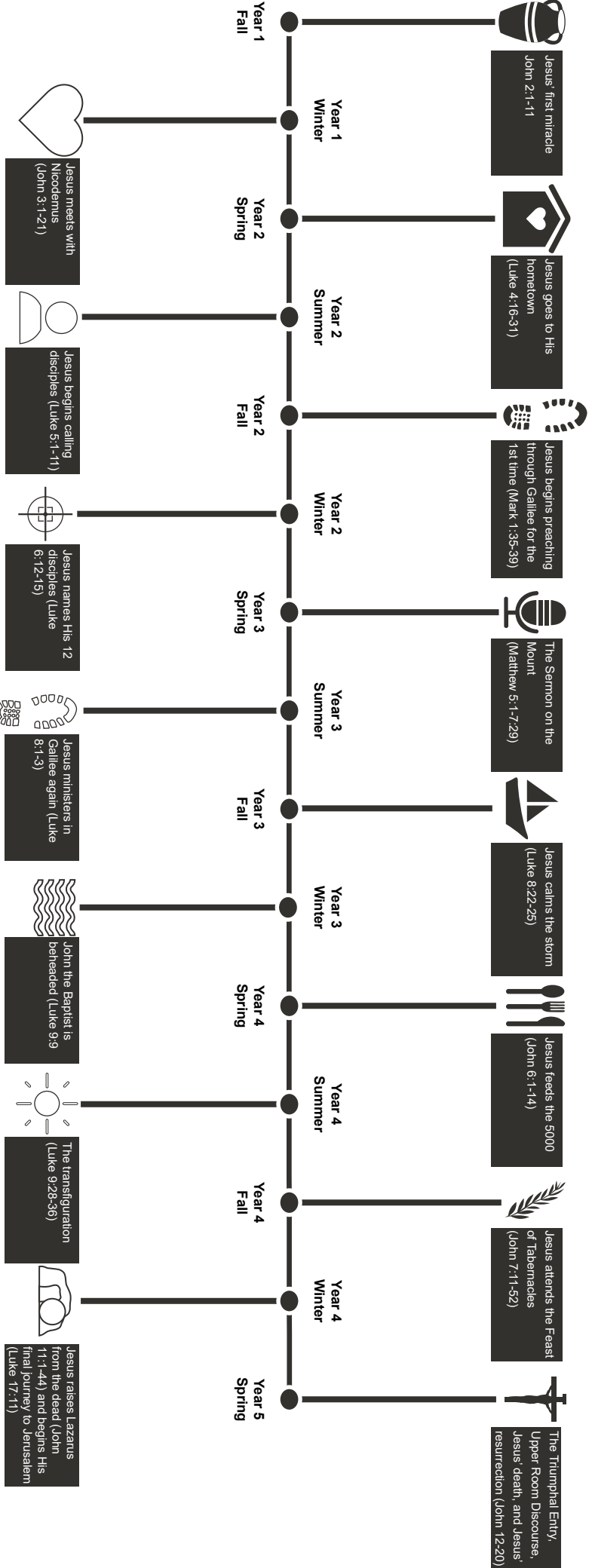
Adolescence

When Jesus was 12 years old, He engaged with the teachers at the Feast of the Passover and astonished everyone with His questions and answers.

4

Adulthood

When Jesus was 30 years old, He began His earthly ministry. It was at this time that Jesus was baptized and also went out into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan.



***these dates are debated among Christians and are approximate.



THE 12 DISCIPLES OF JESUS

Simon (Peter)

Peter was part of the inner circle of Jesus' disciples. He is the author of 1 and 2 Peter. Peter became a spokesman for the disciples and a leader of the early Church.

Andrew

Andrew is Simon Peter's brother and was originally a disciple of John the Baptist. Andrew convinced Peter that he had found the Messiah. He was a fisherman before following Jesus.

James

son of Zebedee

James was part of the inner circle of Jesus' disciples. He and his brother John were a bit brash in their demeanor. They requested to sit at Jesus' right hand and they wanted to destroy a city for not welcoming them.

John

John was part of the inner circle of Jesus' disciples. He is the author of John, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, and Revelation. He was exiled to the island of Patmos where he wrote the book of Revelation.

Philip

Philip was originally a disciple of John the Baptist before becoming Jesus' disciple. He then told Bartholomew about Jesus which led to Bartholomew becoming a disciple of Jesus as well.

Thomas

Thomas said he was willing to die with Jesus (John 11:16) which showed his loyalty to Jesus. However, he is remembered for his desire to see the risen Jesus because of his thirst for truth.

Bartholomew

Bartholomew is also known as Nathanael. He mocked the fact that Jesus was from Nazareth however he still followed Jesus after he met Him.

Matthew

Matthew wrote the gospel which bears his name. Before becoming Jesus' disciple, he was a tax collector which was a despised occupation during that time.

James

son of Alphaeus

There is little information about James. His title was James the lesser which likely indicated that he was younger than James son of Zebedee.

Thaddaeus

Thaddaeus was also named Judas son of James. The only words spoken by Thaddaeus recorded in the Bible is in the Upper Room gathering in the gospel of John.

Simon

Simon was a zealot which is all we know about him. Zealots at that time were passionate about overturning Roman rule and establishing a theocracy.

Judas Iscariot

Judas Iscariot was the treasurer for Jesus and his disciples which he abused because he stole from the treasury. Of course, Judas is most known for his betrayal of Jesus for 30 silver coins.

Discipleship -

"...learning from and following a teacher."¹ Jesus poured out His life into a small group of men who were equipped to take over His ministry after His death. Evangelism focuses on bringing people to salvation while discipleship focuses on bringing people to spiritual maturity.



THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

“A miracle is a less common kind of God’s activity in which He arouses people’s awe and wonder and bears witness to Himself.”
Wayne Grudem²

Reasons Jesus Performed Miracles



Authenticate His claims

Jesus listed off His miracles to affirm to John the Baptist that He is the Messiah (Luke 7:22).



Help people

Jesus healed people out of compassion for them (Mark 1:41).



Glorify God

People glorified God because of Jesus’ miracles (Matthew 9:8).

Problems Due to Miracles



Nominal Followers

Jesus’ miracles caused many people to follow Him not out of genuine devotion but out of a desire to see more miracles.



Threatened Religious Leaders

The religious leaders plotted to kill Jesus following one of His miracles (John 11:53)



Healed on the Sabbath

Jesus performed miracles on the Sabbath which led to problems with the religious leaders.

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS



	Miracle	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
N A T U R E	Calming the storm	8:23-27	4:37-41	8:22-25	
	Coin in the mouth of the fish	17:24-27			
	Feeding the 4000	15:32-38	8:1-9		
	Feeding the 5000	14:15-21	6:35-44	9:12-17	6:6-13
	Large catch of fish			5:4-11	
	Large catch of fish (2)				21:1-11
	Turning water into wine				2:1-11
	Walking on the water	14:25	6:48-51		6:19-21
	Withering the fig tree	21:18-22	11:12-25		
I L L N E S S	Bleeding woman	9:20-22	5:25-29	8:43-48	
	Blind man		5:25-29		
	Blind, mute, and demon possessed man	12:22		11:14	
	Canaanite woman's daughter	15:21-28	7:24-30		
	Crippled woman			13:11-13	
	Deaf and mute man		7:31-37		
	Demon possessed boy	17:14-18	9:17-29	9:38-43	
	Demon possessed man in synagogue		1:23-26	4:33-35	
	Man born blind				9:1-7
	Man with dropsy			14:1-4	
	Man with leprosy	8:2-4	1:40-42	5:12-13	
	Man with shriveled hand	12:10-13	3:1-5	6:6-10	
	Mute and demon possessed man	9:32-33			
	Official's son				4:46-54
	Paralyzed man	9:2-7	2:3-12	5:18-25	
	Peter's mother-in-law	8:14-15	1:30-31	4:38-39	
	Roman centurion's servant	8:5-13		7:1-10	
	Sick man at the pool				5:1-9
	The high priest's servant			22:50-51	
	Two blind men	9:27-31			
	Two blind men	20:29-34	10:46-52	18:35-43	
	Two demon possessed men	8:28-34	5:1-15	8:27-35	
	Two men with leprosy			17:11-19	
D E A T H	His own resurrection	28:1-10	16:1-8	24:1-12	20:1-10
	Jairus's daughter	9:18-25	5:22-42	8:41-56	
	Lazarus				11:1-44
	The widow's son			7:11-15	

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS



Although this fact is typically lost on readers today, Jesus was revolutionary in the ways He broke down barriers between people of different genders, races, and social classes.

Jesus and...

Women

In Jesus' day, women were seen as inferior to men. As a matter of fact, their testimony was not even accepted as credible. It is important then to notice just how much Jesus cares for and appreciates women. He spent a lot of time teaching them, healing them, and serving them while on earth.

Gentiles

Gentiles are any individuals that are not Jewish. It was rare for Jews to associate with other races (especially Samaritans), however Jesus is seen teaching and ministering to Gentiles often. Paul even writes about ministering to Gentiles on a number of occasions in his letters to churches.

“Sinners”

Jesus especially targeted “sinners” with His ministry. The outcasts of society who seemed to have no hope of forgiveness found Jesus accepted them and encouraged them to repent and follow Him. Tax collectors, murderers, and prostitutes were among some of the people Jesus ministered to.

The Poor

Many of Jesus' disciples were ordinary men who had little to offer by worldly standards, yet Jesus spent His entire ministry equipping them for taking on His ministry. Jesus also took time to heal people who had nothing to give Him in return.

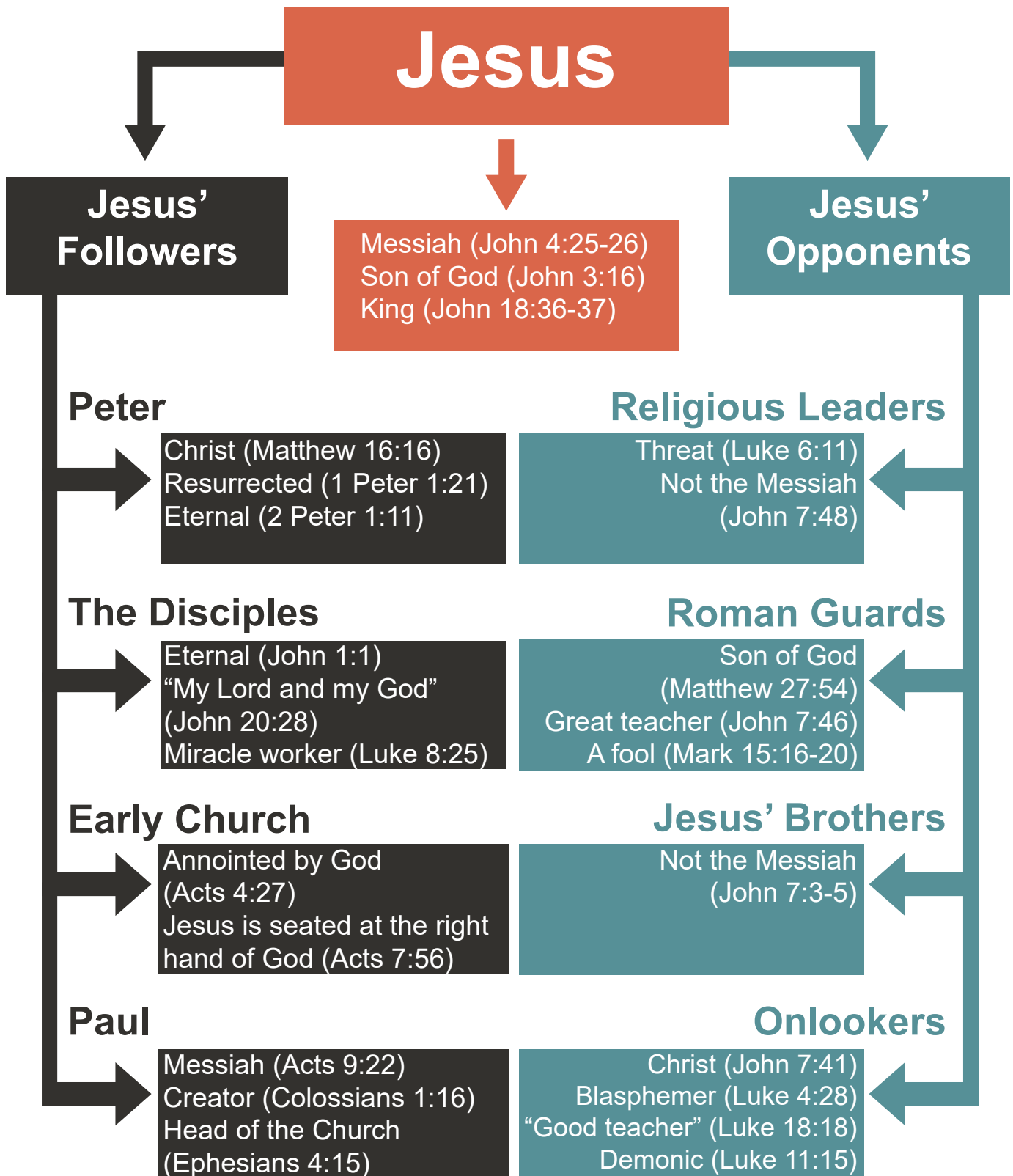


THE CLAIMS OF JESUS ABOUT HIMSELF

Claim	Passage(s)
The fulfillment of the Old Testament Law	Matthew 5:17
Able to forgive people's sins	Matthew 9:2 Luke 7:48
The Son of Man (referencing Daniel 7:13)	Matthew 19:28 John 9:35-37
Peter called Jesus "the Christ, the Son of the Living God" which Jesus affirmed	Matthew 16:16-17
The Lord	Matthew 21:3
The Son of Man who will return on the clouds	Matthew 26:64
The Son of Man who will be seated at the right hand of God	Mark 14:61-62
The Son of God	John 3:16
The Messiah	John 4:25-26
The judge of the world	John 5:22
The bread of life	John 6:35
I AM (referencing the name of God found in Exodus 3:14)	John 8:58
The good shepherd	John 10:11
The Father is in Jesus and Jesus is in the Father	John 10:38, 14:9-11
The resurrection and the life	John 11:25
Teacher and Lord	John 13:13
The way, the truth, and the life	John 14:6
The only way to the Father	John 14:6
A King, not of this world but of another	John 18:36-37



THE CLAIMS ABOUT JESUS





THE PROPHECIES OF JESUS

Prophecy	Passage(s)
There will be many wars prior to and during the end times.	Matthew 24:6
There will be famine and many earthquakes prior to and during the end times.	Matthew 24:8
There will be many false prophets that rise up prior to and during the end times.	Matthew 24:11
There will be mass persecution of Christians prior to and during the end times.	Luke 21:12
Jesus will return suddenly.	Matthew 24:39-42
Jesus will return in the sky.	Matthew 24:30
Jesus will die at the hand of Gentiles.	Luke 18:31-34
Jesus will rise from the dead after 3 days.	Luke 18:31-34
Jesus will be betrayed by one of His disciples.	John 13:21
All of Jesus' disciples will abandon Him when He is arrested.	Matthew 26:31
Peter will disown Jesus.	Matthew 26:34
Jesus will be seated at the right hand of God.	Matthew 26:64
Jesus' followers will go to heaven.	Matthew 26:46
Jesus' followers will be with Him in paradise.	Luke 23:43
Jesus' followers will live forever.	John 6:58
Jesus will prepare a place for His followers.	John 14:2
The disciples' grief will turn to joy.	John 16:22
Those who do not follow Jesus will go to hell.	Matthew 26:46
Those who do not follow Jesus will experience weeping and gnashing of teeth.	Luke 13:28
The Holy Spirit will be given to Jesus' followers.	John 14:26



THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS

Jesus was fully God and fully man while being only one person. He will remain this way for all eternity.

HUMANITY

"I say this because many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist."

2 John 1:7

DIVINITY

"If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Romans 10:9

Jesus had 2 natures while still being only 1 person.

“ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.

Colossians 2:9

”

Importance of Jesus'...

HUMANITY

Jesus needed to be fully human in order to pay the penalty of our sins (Hebrews 2:16-17) and in order to relate with our sufferings in a unique way (Hebrews 2:18).

DIVINITY

Only God Himself could handle the full wrath of God for our sins.

THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS



Jesus' Humanity	
Evidence	Verse
Became hungry	Matthew 4:2
Became thirsty	John 19:28
Became tired	John 4:6
Born of a woman	Luke 2:7
Did not know when the Father would send Him back to earth	Mark 13:32
Grew in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and man	Luke 2:52
Rose bodily from the dead	Luke 24:39
Sweated drops of blood	Luke 22:44
Was seen as a human man	Matthew 13:54
Wept when Lazarus died	John 11:35

Jesus' Divinity	
Evidence	Verse
Able to forgive sins	Mark 2:5-7
Conceived by the Holy Spirit	Matthew 1:20
Created all things	Colossians 1:16
Did not sin	2 Corinthians 5:21
Eternal	John 17:5
Fullness of God dwelled in Jesus	Colossians 1:19
Immortality	Hebrews 7:16
Is God	John 1:1
Omnipotence	Matthew 8:26-27
Omnipresence	Matthew 28:20
Omniscience	Mark 2:8
Worshipped by angels	Revelation 5:12-13

