

LONG STORY SHORT

The Messiah

John 1:1-5, 14; Luke 4:16-21; Hebrews 1:1-3; Luke 24:13-32

His Appearance

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**... Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was **the light of all mankind**. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has **not overcome** it... The Word became **flesh** and made his **dwelling among us**. We have seen his **glory**, the glory of the **one and only Son**, who came from the Father, full of **grace** and **truth**. (John 1:1-5, 14, NIV)

He really came!

His Message

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. **He stood up to read**, and the scroll of the **prophet Isaiah** was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has **anointed** me
to proclaim **good news** to the poor.
He has sent me
to proclaim **freedom** for the prisoners
and **recovery of sight** for the blind,
to set the **oppressed** free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s **favor**.” (Luke 4:16–19, NIV)

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were **fastened on him**. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is **fulfilled** in your hearing.” (Luke 4:20-21, NIV)

He really said that!

He will deal with your sins.

He will defeat your death.

He will determine your eternity.

His Sacrifice

Throughout our history **God has spoken** to our ancestors by his prophets in many different ways. The **revelation** he gave them was only a fragment at a time, building one truth upon another. But to us living in these last days, God now speaks to us openly in the language of a **Son**, the appointed Heir of everything, for through him God created the panorama of all things and all time. The Son is the dazzling radiance of God’s splendor, **the exact expression** of God’s true nature—his mirror image! He holds the universe together and expands it by **the mighty power of his spoken word**. He accomplished for us the **complete cleansing of sins**... (Hebrews 1:1-3, Passion)

He really died!

**It was not the weight of our sin that held Jesus to the cross,
it was the weight of His love for us.**

His Victory

Now that same day **two of them** were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, **Jesus himself** came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces **downcast**. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “**What things?**” he asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. “The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had **hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem** Israel. And what is more, it is **the third day** since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but **didn’t find his body**. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was **alive**. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.” He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and **then enter his glory?**” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all **the Scriptures concerning himself**. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, “**Stay with us**, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took **bread**, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they **recognized** him. (Luke 24:13–31, NIV)

He really rose again!