

BI220 – THE LIFE OF CHRIST

Course: BI220 The Life of Christ
Credits: 3 credit hours
Semester: Spring 2027 Session 1
Dates: January 11 – March 5, 2027
Time: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00 -2:20 pm
Place: CABRE 103
Professor: Dr. Gary Gromacki.
Email: gary.gromacki@calvary.edu

DESCRIPTION

A study of the earthly life of Christ as revealed in the four Gospels. Special emphasis is placed on establishing a harmony of the Gospels, especially the chronology of events, Jesus' message and His miracles. (Prerequisite: BI115)

This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.

OBJECTIVES

As a result of taking this course the student will:

1. Write a broad chronological outline of the main events in the life of Jesus Christ (PLO 1, 2) (A 1-6)
2. Identify on a map the key places Jesus visited in his ministry (PLO 1, 2) (A1-6)
3. State biblical arguments defending the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, his sinless life, his miracles, his substitutionary death on the cross and his bodily resurrection from the dead (PLO 1, 2) (A1-6)
4. Explain the significance of various events in the life of Jesus Christ (the baptism of Jesus, the temptation of Jesus, the transfiguration of Jesus) (PLO 1, 2) (A1-6)

Our Mission: To prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview

5. Interpret the parables and teachings of Jesus Christ in their historic context (PLO 2) (A1-6)
6. Become a committed disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ by obeying his commands (PLO 3, 4) (A 3)

TEXTBOOKS

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases and thought for thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

Pentecost, J. Dwight. *A Harmony of the Words and Works of Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981. ISBN-13: 978-0310309512 Cost: \$12.78 (paperback on Amazon)

Brake Sr., Donald and Todd Bolen. *Jesus: A Visual History*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-0-310-51537-1 Cost: \$19.99 (paperback on Amazon)

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment #1: Read pages 1-84 in *A Harmony of the Words and Works of Jesus Christ* (sections 1-100). Keep a journal during this 8 week session. Write 20 entries in your Journal of your Journey with Jesus. For each entry give the scripture text, two observations in the text, one application for your life and write out a short prayer. Put this Word document in Assignment 1 in Canvas. (200 points)

Assignment #2: Mid-term Exam: There are 50 questions on this exam. True/False and Multiple Choice. No helps can be used. Do your best for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. (100 points)

Assignment #3: Research Paper. Write a research paper (6 -8 double spaced pages) on a topic of the life of Jesus. A list of approved topics for research papers will be provided to the students. Each research paper must follow Turabian format with footnotes. Put this Word document in Assignment 3 in Canvas (200 points)

Assignment #4: Read pages 84-167 in *A Harmony of the Words and Works of Jesus Christ* (sections 101-198) and write 20 entries in your Journal of your Journey with Jesus. For each entry give the scripture text, two observations on the text, one application for your life and write out a short prayer. Put this Word document in Assignment 4 in Canvas (200 points)

Assignment #5: Read through the textbook *Jesus: A Visual History* by Brake and Bolen and indicate in a Word document that you finished the reading. Type out 40 things you learned about the life of the Lord Jesus Christ from reading the textbook. Put this Word document in Assignment 5 in Canvas (200 points)

Assignment #6: Final Exam. There are 50 questions on this exam. True/False and Multiple Choice. No helps can be used. Do your best for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ (100 points)

GRADING SCALE AND FINAL GRADE

930-1000 points	A
900-929 points	A-
870-899 points	B+
830-869 points	B
800-829 points	B-
770-799 points	C+
730-769 points	C
700-729 points	C-
670-699 points	D+
630-669 points	D
600-629 points	D-
0-559 points	F

HELP FOR STUDENTS

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams, and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Attend class every week on time. Students are expected to be in class. Online students are expected to watch the video lecture of each class.

Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's ideas or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. If a student plagiarizes the student will receive a zero (F) for the assignment and he or she will be reported to the dean of students and the chief academic officer.

Turn all work in on time. -5 points for each day late.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week One

Introduction to the Gospels

Events before the Birth of Jesus

Week Two

The Birth and Childhood of Jesus

The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus

Week Three

The Early Ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem and Samaria

The Sermon on the Mount

Week Four

The Ministry of Jesus in Galilee

The Transfiguration of Jesus

Week Five

The Later Judean Ministry of Jesus

Jesus on the Road to Jerusalem

Week Six

The Triumphal Entry and Confrontation in the Temple

The Olivet Discourse

The Last Supper and the Upper Room Discourse

Week Seven

The Agony and Arrest of Jesus in Gethsemane

The Illegal Trials of Jesus

The Crucifixion of Jesus

Week Eight

The Bodily Resurrection of Jesus from the Dead

The Resurrection Appearances of Jesus

The Great Commission and The Ascension of Jesus

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SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

These books are not required reading. These books may be used to write your research paper.

Baily, Kenneth. *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels*. Downers Grove, Ill: IVP, 2008.

Beilby, James and Eddy, Paul Rhodes, eds. *The Historical Jesus: Five Views*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2009.

Blomberg, Craig. *Jesus and the Gospels*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1997.

Blomberg, Craig. *The Historical Reliability of John's Gospel*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2001.

Blomberg, Craig. *The Historical Reliability of the Gospels*. Second edition. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2007.

Bock, Darrell and Wallace, Daniel. *Dethroning Jesus*. Thomas Nelson, 2007.

Bock, Darrell. *Jesus According to Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2002.

Bock, Darrell and Herrick, Gregory, eds. *Jesus in Context: Background Readings for Gospel Study*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005.

Bock, Darrell. *Studying the Historical Jesus: A Guide to Sources and Methods*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2002.

Eddy, Paul Rhodes and Gregory Boyd. *The Jesus Legend: A Case for the Historical Reliability of the Synoptic Jesus Tradition*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.

Evans, Craig. *Fabricating Jesus: How Modern Scholars Distort the Gospels*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2006.

Fruchtenbaum, Arnold. *Yeshua: The Life of Messiah from a Messianic Jewish Perspective*. Ariel Ministries, 2018.

- Green, Joel and McKnight, Scott and Marshall, I. Howard, eds. *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 1992.
- Gromacki, Robert. *The Virgin Birth*. Revised and updated. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2002.
- Habermas, Gary. *The Historical Jesus: Ancient Evidence for the Life of Christ*. Joplin, Missouri: College Press, 1996.
- Komoshewski, J. Ed., and Sawyer, M. James, and Wallace, Daniel. *Reinventing Jesus: What the DaVinci Code and Other Novel Speculations Don't Tell You*. Kregel. 2006.
- Kostenberger, Andreas and Justin Taylor. *The Final Days of Jesus*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2014.
- MacArthur, John. *The Jesus You Can't Ignore*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2008.
- McDowell, Josh. *He Walked Among Us: Evidence for the Historical Jesus*. Here's Life, 1988.
- McKnight, Scot. *Interpreting the Synoptic Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988.
- Moore, Mark. *The Chronological Life of Christ*. Joplin, Missouri: College Press, 1996.
- Pentecost, J. Dwight. *The Words and Works of Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981.
- Scroggie, W. Graham. *A Guide to the Gospels*. Tarrytown, New York: Fleming H. Revell.
- Stein, Robert. *Jesus the Messiah: A Survey of the Life of Christ*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1996.
- Stein, Robert. *Studying the Synoptic Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- Strauss, Mark. *Four Portraits, One Jesus: A Survey of Jesus and the Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.
- Strobel, Lee. *The Case for Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
- Strobel, Lee. *The Case for the Real Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.
- Wilkins, Michael and Moreland, J.P., eds. *Jesus Under Fire: Modern Scholarship Reinvents the Historical Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Witherington, Ben. *The Jesus Quest: The Third Search for the Jew of Nazareth*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 1997.
- Witherington, Ben. *What Have They Done With Jesus?* New York: HarperCollins, 2006.