

# A HARMONISTIC LIFE OF JESUS

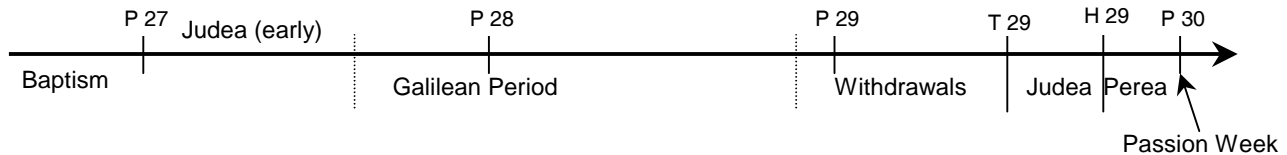
## I. A CHRONOLOGY OF JESUS' LIFE

### A. The Date of His Birth

1. While Herod the Great (40-4 BC) Still Lived (Mt 2:1)
2. Up to 2 Years Before Herod's Death (Mt 2:16); therefore: 6-4 BC

### B. His Ministry

1. Began When Jesus Was "About" 30 Years Old (Lk 3:23); ⇒ "about" AD 25-27
2. John the Baptist Began in the 15th Year of Tiberius (Lk 3:1-2); ⇒ AD 26-29
3. The Temple was 46 Years into Rebuilding (Began 20/19 BC) during a Passover at the Beginning of Jesus' Ministry (Jn 2:20); ⇒ AD 26/27
4. The Length of Jesus' Ministry can be Determined by the **Passovers**
  - a. The Synoptics Only Clearly Mention 1 Passover
  - b. John Mentions 3 or 4 Passovers (Jn 5:1); therefore, 3-3 1/2 years
5. Divisions of Jesus' ministry according to a harmonistic reconstruction of his life:



## II. JESUS' EARLY LIFE

### A. The Genealogies (Mt 1:1-17; Lk 3:23-38)

1. Matthew's List Traced Descent through Joseph; Legal Line
2. Lk's List Apparently Traced through Mary; Real Line

### B. Jesus' Birth

1. Annunciations to Zechariah, Mary, & Joseph (Lk 1; Mt 1:18-25)
2. Jesus was Born in **Bethlehem**: The Home of David (Lk 2:1-38; Mt 2:1-18)

### C. Jesus Grew up in **Nazareth** (Mt 2:19-23; Lk 2:39-52)

## III. JESUS' BAPTISM AND THE BEGINNING OF HIS MINISTRY

### A. John the Baptiser (Mk 1:1-8; Mt 3:1-12; Lk 3:3-18)

1. A Prophet (voice in wilderness; Isa 40:3); Elijah (2 Kings 1:8)
2. Preached a Baptism of Repentance; Kingdom of God at Hand

### B. Baptism (Mk 1:1-9; Mt 3:13; Lk 3:21-23) Marks the Beginning of Jesus' Public Ministry

1. Spirit Came upon Him "Like a Dove," that is, Peacefully
2. The Voice from Heaven:
  - a. "This is My beloved son" = Psalm 2:7; a Messianic Passage
  - b. "In whom I am well pleased" = Isaiah 42:1; About God's Servant (Not Messianic)

### C. The Temptations of Jesus (Mk 1:12-13; Mt 4:1-11; Lk 4:1-13)

1. Generic of all Temptations . . .
  - a. Turn Stones into Bread = Physical Desires
  - b. Get Kingdoms of the World = Power
  - c. Demonstrate Position = Glory/Fame
2. But, Aspects of one Specific Temptation: Be the Kind of Messiah the People Wanted

### D. The First Disciples: Had been Disciples of John the Baptist (Jn 1:35-51)

#### IV. THE EARLY JUDEAN MINISTRY

- A. The First Miracle at Cana; Cleansing of the Temple (Jn 2)
- B. Discourse with Nicodemus = Pharisee & a “Ruler” (Sanhedrin Member) (Jn 3:1-21)
  - 1. “Born Again”: One Enters the Kingdom of God by Transformation
    - a. Kingdom of God is Spiritual (3-12)
    - b. Entrance to it is through Jesus, the Son of God (13-15)
  - 2. John 3:16 = “the Gospel in Miniature”
- C. On the Way to Galilee: Jesus Speaks to the Samaritan Woman at the Well (Jn 4)
  - 1. Social Barriers Broken: a) Ethnic; b) Gender
  - 2. “In Spirit and Truth”: Place of Worship is a Superficial Issue

#### V. THE GREAT GALILEAN MINISTRY

- A. Jesus Made His Headquarters at **Capernaum**
  - 1. Rejected at the Nazareth Synagogue (Lk 4:16-31)
    - a. Implicit claim to be the Servant of the Lord
    - b. Stopped short of “day of vengeance” ref. (Is 61:2)
    - c. Hint that ministry would include Gentiles
  - 2. Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee (Mt 4:13-16)
- B. Jesus’ Disciples
  - 1. Disciple: a follower of the teachings of a particular person or movement
  - 2. Jesus had many disciples; 12 were of special import
    - a. Fishers of Men: Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John
    - b. **The Twelve** (Mk 3:13-19; Lk 6:12-16): Simon Peter, James (son of Zebedee), John (son of Zebedee), Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew (Levi), Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon the Zealot, Thaddaeus (Judas of James), Judas Iscariot
- C. Healings and a Tour of Galilee (Mk 1:21-2:22; Mt 4:23-25; 8:14-9:17; Lk 4:31-5:39)
- D. Sabbath Controversies
  - 1. Healing on the Sabbath in Jerusalem (Jn 5)
    - a. At the Pool of Bethesda
    - b. Jesus asserted His Sonship
  - 2. Plucking Grain on Sabbath (Mk 2:23-28; Mt 12:1-8; Lk 6:1-5)
    - a. Not a question of breaking God’s Law
    - b. Oral Law: Harvesting and Threshing not allowed
  - 3. Healing in Capernaum (Mk 3:1-6; Mt 12:9-14; Lk 6:6-11)
    - a. Pharisees Looking for an Accusation
    - b. Pharisees and Herodians plot together (Mk 3:6)
  - 4. Principles of Sabbath:
    - a. The Sabbath is Made for Man, Not Man for the Sabbath i.e.: For Man’s Benefit, Not His Testing
    - b. Serving God = More Important than Legal Technicalities
    - c. Human Need = More Important than Legal Technicalities
- E. The **Sermon on the Mount** (Mt 5-7; Lk 6:17-49)
  - 1. Theme: Jesus Interprets Unchanging Principles of the Law; Emphasizes **Attitude**
  - 2. The **Beatitudes** (Mt 5:1-20; Lk 6:17-26)
    - a. Introduction for the Whole Sermon
    - b. Blessings on Persons with Certain **Attitudes**
  - 3. **True Righteousness** (Mt 5:21-48; Lk 6:27-36)
    - a. Not Found in Technical Keeping of Commandments
    - b. Revealed by One’s **Attitude**

4. **True Worship** (Mt 6:1-18): Secret and Sincere
  5. **Materialism and Anxiety** (Mt 6:19-34): against an Attitude of Materialism
  6. **Judgment** (Mt 7): Judge Not, that You Be Not Judged
- F. Jesus Gains Fame for His Miracles; Emphasizes Repentance (Mt 8:5-13; 11; Lk 7:1-8:3)
1. His Actions were not Quite Those Expected of the Messiah
  2. John the Baptist's (Doubt and) Question (Mt 11:2-19; Lk 7:18-35)
- G. A Busy Day Around the Sea of Galilee
1. Dispute over Source of Jesus' Power (Mk 3:19-30; Mt 12:22-37)
  2. The **Sign of Jonah** (Mt 12:38-45)
    - a. Pharisees Ask for a Sign
    - b. Only Sign Would Be the **Sign of Jonah**: His Resurrection
  3. Jesus' True Family (Mk 3:31-35; Mt 12:46-50; Lk 8:19-21)
  4. Teaching by Parables: the Kingdom of God (Mt 13, etc.)
  5. Crossing the Lake, Jesus Stills the Storm (Mk 4:35-41, etc.)
  6. The Gerasene (or Gadarene) Démoniac (Mt 8:28-34, etc.)
  7. Jairus' Daughter and the Hemorrhaging Woman (Mt 9:18-26)
- H. The Close of Jesus' Public Galilean Ministry (Mk 6:1-29; Mt 13:54-14:12; Lk 9:1-9)
1. Rejection in Nazareth
  2. The 12 Sent Out
  3. John the Baptist's Death
    - a. John Preached Against Herod Antipas Having Brother's Wife
    - b. John Imprisoned by Herod Antipas
    - c. Herodias' Daughter Salome Danced for Herod
    - d. Salome Requested John's Head at Herodias' Instigation
    - e. Herod Antipas Had John Beheaded
    - f. Hearing About Jesus and Rumors that He was the Baptist; Herod Desired to 'See' Jesus

## VI. THE MINISTRY OF WITHDRAWALS

- A. Reasons for Jesus' Withdrawals:
1. Crowds Followed for Superficial Reasons
  2. Opposition of Jewish Leaders
  3. Threat of Action by Herod Antipas (ruled Galilee)
  4. Time for Intense Teaching of the Disciples
- B. **Feeding of the Five Thousand** (Mk 6:30-7:23; Mt 14:13-15; Lk 9:10-17; Jn 6)
1. Jesus and Disciples Cross the Lake to Get Away from the Crowds
  2. Crowds Followed; Jesus Taught them until Late; they were Hungry
  3. The Miracle: Climax of Jesus Relationship with the Crowds
    - a. Fulfilled Messianic Expectations: Like Moses; Passover Season
    - b. The People Wanted Jesus as a Politico-military Messiah
    - c. Jesus Sent Crowds Away; Disciples into Boat; He Prays on Mountain
  4. Jesus Walks on Water (Mk 6:45-52; Mt 14:22-33; Jn 6:14-21): A Sign for Disciples
  5. Jesus = The Bread of Life (Jn 6:22-71): temporal vs. spiritual desires
- C. Private Teaching of the Disciples in the Tetrarchy of Herod Philip
1. **Peter's Confession** (Mk 8:27-30; Mt 16:13-20; Lk 9:18-21)
    - a. Near Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asks "Who do Men/You Say that I Am?"
    - b. Peter: "You are **the Christ, Son of the Living God**" (Mt 16:16): **Messiah** and **Divine**
    - c. Jesus: "You are Peter, and Upon this Rock I Will Build ..."
      - 1) Peter = *Petros* ("rock, stone"); Rock = *Petra* ("rock")
      - 2) What is Meant by "Rock": a) Peter; b) the disciples; ; c) Peter's Confession; d) Jesus

2. Jesus Predicts His Death (Mk 8:31-37; Mt 16:21-26; Lk 9:22-25)
    - a. Peter's Misunderstanding and Objection
    - b. **"Take up the Cross and Follow Me"**
      - 1) Cross meant only Crucifixion (Death by Rome) to the Disciples & The Thing They Most Wanted to be Free From
      - 2) Jesus Required **Total Commitment**, a willingness to do/give up anything
  3. The Transfiguration (Mk 9:1-13; Mt 17:1-13; Lk 9:28-36)
    - a. Showed God's Glory
    - b. Recalled Moses' experience on Mt. Sinai
    - c. Moses & Elijah represent the Law & Prophets
  4. The Demoniac Boy (Mk 9:14-32; Mt 17:14-23; Lk 9:37-45)
- D. Closing Days in Galilee (Mk 9:33-50; Mt 18:1-55; Lk 9:46-62)
1. The Temple Tax
  2. True Discipleship
    - a. Who is greatest
    - b. "Follow me"
  3. Reconciliation and Forgiveness
  4. Departure for Feast of Tabernacles Jerusalem

## VI. THE LATER JUDEAN MINISTRY

- A. Debates at the Festival of Tabernacles (Jn 7:11-52)
1. The Woman Taken in Adultery (Jn 7:53-8:11): Not in Best MSS
  2. Teachings Concerning Himself (Jn 8:21-59)
    - a. "I AM The Light of the World"
    - b. Abrahamic and Spiritual Descent
      - 1) "The Truth shall Make You Free"
      - 2) "Before Abraham was, **I AM**": an apparent claim to Divinity
- B. **The Good Samaritan** (Lk 10:25-37)
1. Jesus used the story to answer the question "who is my neighbor?"
  2. A Pharisee would expect the Priest and Levite *not* to help
  3. The Samaritan was an enemy to the Jew; the *least likely* to help
- C. Jesus' Claim to Deity At the Feast of Dedication (Jn 10:22-39)

## VII. THE PEREAN MINISTRY

- A. Teaching in Perea (Jn 10:40-42)
1. Remarks about the Threat of Herod Antipas, "That Fox [vixen]" (Lk 13:31-35)
  2. Parables on Seeking the Lost (Lk 15)
    - a. The Lost Sheep/Coin
    - b. **The Prodigal Son** (Parable of the Loving Father): God Loves and Seeks the Lost
  3. The Rich Man and Lazarus (Lk 16)
- B. **The Raising of Lazarus from the Dead** (Jn 11:1-54)
1. Lazarus: Dead for 4 Days = Really Dead
  2. The Sanhedrin Plots against Jesus
- C. **Jesus On Divorce** (Mt 19:1-12; Mk 10:1-12)
1. Asked to Take Sides in a Rabbinical Debate about Points in Jewish Law
    - a. Moses Allowed Divorce; What were Grounds for it?
    - b. Schools of Hillel and Shammai Held Different Views
  2. Jesus Stresses Attitude, Ideal; But Takes Conservative View in Jewish Debate

- D. The **Rich Young Ruler** (Mt 19:16-30; Mk 10:17-31; Lk 18:18-30)
1. Jesus Required Total Commitment; Riches = the Most Important Thing to the Man
  2. Conversation with the Disciples
    - a. Hard for the Rich to Enter the Kingdom of God = Surprising to Disciples
    - b. Rich were Thought to be Favored by God
    - c. A Camel Through the Eye of a Needle = Impossible (not a reference to a gate!)
    - d. Money was Not the Issue/Problem
    - e. Point: It is Impossible to be Saved Because of Earthly Standing/Effort

E. Jesus Turns Toward Jerusalem

VIII. **PASSION WEEK**

- A. (Palm) Sunday: **Triumphal Entry** (Mk 11:1-11; Mt 21:1-11, 14-17; Lk 19:28-44; Jn 12:12-19)
1. Messianic reception; fulfilled Messianic passages (Zech 9:9; 14:1)
  2. Jesus weeps over Jerusalem, returns to Bethany

- B. Tuesday: Disputes with Jewish Leaders (Mk 11:27-12:37; Mt 21:23-23:39; Lk 20)
1. Sanhedrin: dispute on Authority (Mk 11:27-12:12; Mt 21:23-22:14; Lk 20:1-19)
    - a. Parable of the 2 sons
    - b. Parable of the vineyard
    - c. Parable of the Great Supper (Mt 22:1-14; [Lk 14:15-24])
  2. Herodians and Pharisees: Question concerning Taxes to Caesar
  3. Sadducees: Theoretical Question about Resurrection
  4. Pharisees: The Greatest Commandment of the Law
    - a. Love God (Deut 6:5)
    - b. Love Your Neighbor (Lev 19:18)
    - c. All of the Law and Prophets Depend on These Two
  5. Jesus' Question about the Divine, Davidic Messiah
  6. Denunciation of the Scribes and Pharisees
  7. The Poor Widow's Gift (Mk 12:41; Lk 21:1-4)
  8. The Olivet Discourse (Mk 13; Mt 24, 25; Lk 21:5-36)

- C. A Feast (on Tuesday Evening?)
1. His Anointing by Mary (Jn 12:2-11; Mk 14:3-9; Mt 26:6-13)
  2. Judas Bargains to Betray Jesus (Mk 14:10-11; Mt 26:14-16; Lk 22:3-6)

- D. **The Last Supper** (Thursday Evening = Beginning of Friday = **Passover**); Gethsemane
1. Preparation for Passover (Mk 14:12-16; Mt 26:17-19; Lk 22:7-13)
  2. Who is Greatest/Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (Lk 22:14-16; 24-30; Jn 13:1-20)
  3. Judas' Departure; Loyalty (Mk 14:27-31; Mt 26:31-35; Lk 22:31-38; Jn 13:31-38)
  4. Lord's Supper Instituted (Mk 14:22-25; Mt 26:26-29; Lk 22:17-20)
    - a. They were Celebrating a Passover Meal as they Always Did
    - b. Foods in the Passover Meal Have Symbolic Meaning—Telling the Exodus Story
    - c. Jesus Gave the Foods New Symbolism

Passover	Lord's Supper
Remembers Exodus	Remembers Jesus' Crucifixion
God Saves Nation from Bondage to Egypt	Jesus Saves Individual from Bondage to Sin
Birth of Nation Israel	Re-birth of Christian Believer
Foods Tell the Story of What God Did	Foods Symbolize What Jesus Did
Roast Lamb (main course) is Sacrificial Substitute	Jesus Becomes THE Passover Lamb

5. Jesus' Farewell Discourse and Prayer (Jn 14-17)
6. Gethsemane: Jesus Prays (Mk 14:26; Mt 26:30, 36-46; Lk 22:39-46; Jn 18:1)

- E. Gethsemane (Pre-Dawn Friday) (Mk 14:43-52; Mt 26:47-56; Lk 22:47-53; Jn 18:2-12)
1. Judas' Betrayal; Peter's Resistance
  2. The Disciples are Scattered

## IX. JESUS' ARREST, TRIAL, CRUCIFIXION, AND BURIAL

### A. Jesus' Trial

1. Jewish Trial (Mk 14:53-15:1; Mt 26:57-27:2; Lk 22:54-71; Jn 18:12-27)
  - a. Before the Sanhedrin (At the Home of Caiaphus, the High Priest)
  - b. Jesus Found Guilty of Blasphemy (Specifically, Claiming to Be God)
  - c. Peter Denies Jesus Three Times
2. The Roman Trial (Friday AM; Mk 15:1-15; Mt 27:11-26; Lk 23:1-25; Jn 18:28-19:16)
  - a. First Appearance before Pontius Pilate, the Roman Procurator of Judea/Samaria
  - b. Before Herod Antipas, Tetrarch of Galilee/Perea
  - c. Second Appearance Before Pilate
  - d. Jesus Accused of Rebellion/Treason

### B. The Crucifixion (Mk 15:16-37; Mt 27:27-50; Lk 23:26-56; Jn 19:16-42)

1. Roman Crucifixion Killed by Suffocation; Victim Suspended by Outstretched Arms
2. At Golgotha ("Place of the Skull") = Calvary
  - a. With Criminals (Mk 15:27; Mt 27:38)
  - b. The Superscription (Jn 19:19-22, etc.): "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews"
3. The Seven Last Words of Christ

### C. The Burial (Mk 15:42-47; Mt 27:57-66; Lk 23:50-56; Jn 19:31-42): In Unused Tomb

## X. THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION

### A. The Resurrection

1. Women and Disciples at the Tomb (Mk 16:1-8; Mt 28:1-8; Lk 24:1-12; Jn 20:2-10)
2. Appearances of the Risen Jesus
  - a. To Mary Magdalene (Mk 16:9-11 [Mt 28:9-10]; Jn 20:11-18)
  - b. To two on the way to Emmaus (Mk 16:12-13; Lk 24:13-35)
  - c. To the Disciples: Thomas absent (Mk 16:14; Lk 24:36-43; Jn 20:26-31)
  - d. To the Disciples a Week Later (Jn 20:26-31)

### B. The Close of John: Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples at the Sea of Galilee (Jn 21)

1. Jesus Appears on the Shore after the Disciples have been Fishing
2. After Breakfast, Jesus Appeals to Peter 3 Times; Peter is 'Grieved' the Third Time
  - a. Peter Denied Jesus 3 Times, PLUS . . .
  - b. 2 Words for Love: *phileo* (brotherly love) and *agapao* (commitment love)
3. "Follow Me;" The Fate of Peter and John

### C. The Great Commission and Ascension (Mt 28:16-20; Lk 24:44-53; Acts 1:3-12)