

General Church Education



Easter: Christ the King

Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 19:28-38; John 18:28-40

Lesson 35

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Level 5: The Lord Is Our King

For ages 10-11

Easter: Christ the King

Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 19:28-38; John 18:28-40

Teacher Background

When the Lord was born on earth His mission was to save the human race. This mission is the greatest event in the history of the human race and the heart of the Easter story. As the Lord's time of teaching and healing came to an end His purpose for being born on earth was being realized. His followers welcomed Him as He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey as King. Soon afterwards He was betrayed, captured and tried. The Jewish leaders did not understand that He had not come to challenge their power, but was a Heavenly King. They condemned Him to death. But after His crucifixion, He rose from the sepulcher, showing people that they too would not die, but would live for ever after death.

The magnitude of what happened at Easter is not something children can fully understand. Through the Lord's death and resurrection, He re-established Himself as the King of heaven and earth. With his resurrection, He ordered the hells, established a new heaven and renewed people's freedom to choose good over evil. The Jesus' Human was made fully Divine or glorified. It was not until Easter that anyone knew that Jesus was God on earth.

Focus Points

- The Lord's triumphal entry fulfilled the prophecy that the Lord would come as a King.
- The Jewish leaders were afraid that Jesus would be an earthly king and crucified Him.
- The Lord's glorious resurrection showed that He was not an earthly but a Heavenly King.

Readings from the Writings

“The Lord came into the world in order to save the human race, which otherwise would have perished in eternal death; and He saved it by this: that He subjugated the hells which were infesting every person that came into the world and that went out of the world; and at the same time by this: that He glorified His Human, for in this way He can hold the hells in subjugation to eternity. The subjugation of the hells and the simultaneous glorification of His Human, were effected by means of temptations admitted into His Human, and by continual victories then. His passion on the cross was the last temptation and the full victory.”
Arcana Coelestia 10828

The Lord glorified, that is, made Divine, His entire Human, consequently on the third day He rose again with the Human glorified, that is, made Divine. Unless this had been done, no one could have risen again to life; for a person has resurrection unto life solely from the Lord, and indeed from His having united the Divine with His Human, and from this union or glorification a person has salvation. See *Apocalypse Explained* 659

Teacher Activity Overview

The lesson offers the following choices:

Recitation

Learn the Lord's Word by heart.

“Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” (Luke 19:38)

Projects and Activities (see back of lesson for answers)

Finish the Easter Sentences

Complete each sentence.

The Crucifixion and Resurrection

Make a two-sided picture of the sadness of the crucifixion and the joy of Easter and think about ways in which it is like changes we must make to go to heaven.

Easter Songs

Listen to Easter songs online.

Shout the Glad Tidings

<https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-shout-the-glad-tidings/>

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

<https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-christ-the-lord-is-risen-today/>

Hosanna

<https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-hosanna/>

Additional Project and Activity Choices

Easter Morning Torn Paper Collage

Create a simple torn paper collage of the Easter story. Online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/project-easter-morning-torn-paper-collage-luke-24.pdf>

The Crucifixion at Golgotha

Create a picture of the crosses at Golgotha to remember the Lord's victory over evil. Online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/project-crucifixion-at-golgotha-matt27.pdf>

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Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 19:28-38; John 18:28-40

Vocabulary

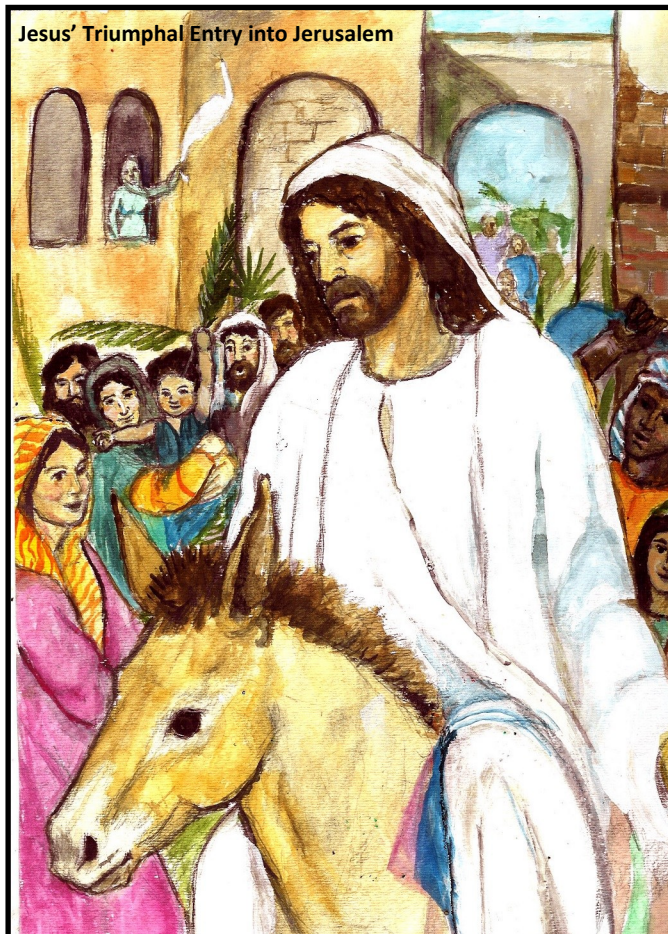
cause—a goal to which someone is committed

mission—goal, aim or undertaking

ridiculed—made fun of

The Lord Came on Earth as a Heavenly King

Throughout the Old Testament the Lord told people that He would be coming to earth. Each message about the coming of the Lord is a prophesy. Some prophesies speak of the Lord coming as a King. The prophet Isaiah tells us that the Lord would sit on the throne of David and bring order to the kingdom. You see, when Jesus was born on earth the Romans ruled the land where the Jewish nation lived. Many people thought that Jesus would become the ruler and restore the Jewish leaders.



Palm Sunday

So as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey colt on Palm Sunday people were overjoyed as Jesus fulfilled a prophesy:

“Tell the Daughter of Zion, Behold your King is coming to you, Lowly and sitting on a donkey, a colt the foal of a donkey.” (Zechariah 9:9)

People welcomed Jesus and treated Him like a King. They threw their coats and palm branches on the road as He entered Jerusalem. They shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest.” (Matthew 21:9)

Jesus Is Betrayed

Following this, the priests, scribes and Pharisees of the Jewish religion tested

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Jesus. They were afraid because so many people were following Him. They asked Him questions. They claimed He did things that were against Jewish law, and they challenged His authority to teach. Each time Jesus spoke out honestly in such a way that the leaders could not find Him guilty of doing anything wrong.

Then Judas Iscariot went to the chief priests and offered to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. You can imagine how excited they were. They would finally capture and get rid of Jesus.

Judas chose to lead many people including the chief priests, scribes and elders to the Mount of Olives. He knew the evening would be a perfect time to seize Jesus. There would be no crowds of followers to protect Him.

When Judas arrived, Jesus had just finished praying. He was speaking with His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane. Judas went up to Jesus and kissed Him. Judas' kiss showed the Jewish leaders that He was the man they were to seize. When one of the disciples jumped up to defend Him Jesus said, "Permit even this." (Luke 22:51)

Jesus would not let his disciples protect Him. He was the Lord on earth. He knew that He must be crucified so that people would know He was not just a great prophet. He was God. The

prophets predicted He would be taken prisoner, mocked and then killed. Now these prophecies were being fulfilled.

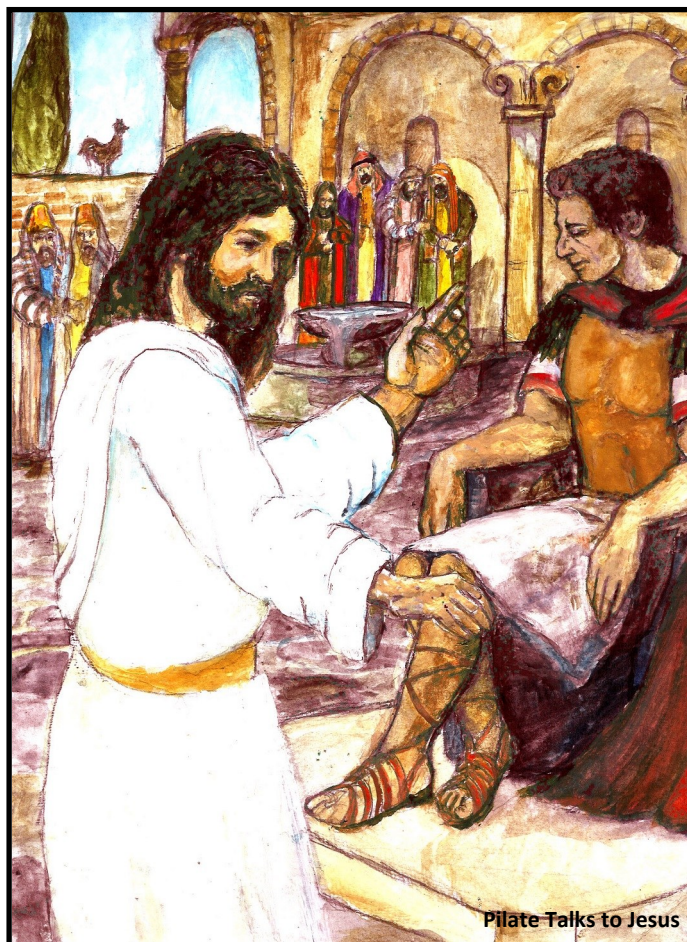
Jesus Is Accused

The people accused Jesus of claiming to be the King of the Jews. During His trial they asked Him if He thought He was King. He explained,

"My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." (John 18:36)

When Pilate asked the question again, Jesus replied,

"You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." (John 18:36, 37)



Jesus said that He was a heavenly King, born to bring people the truth. Pilate could find no fault in Jesus. But this was not what the high priests, scribes and Pharisees wanted Him to say.

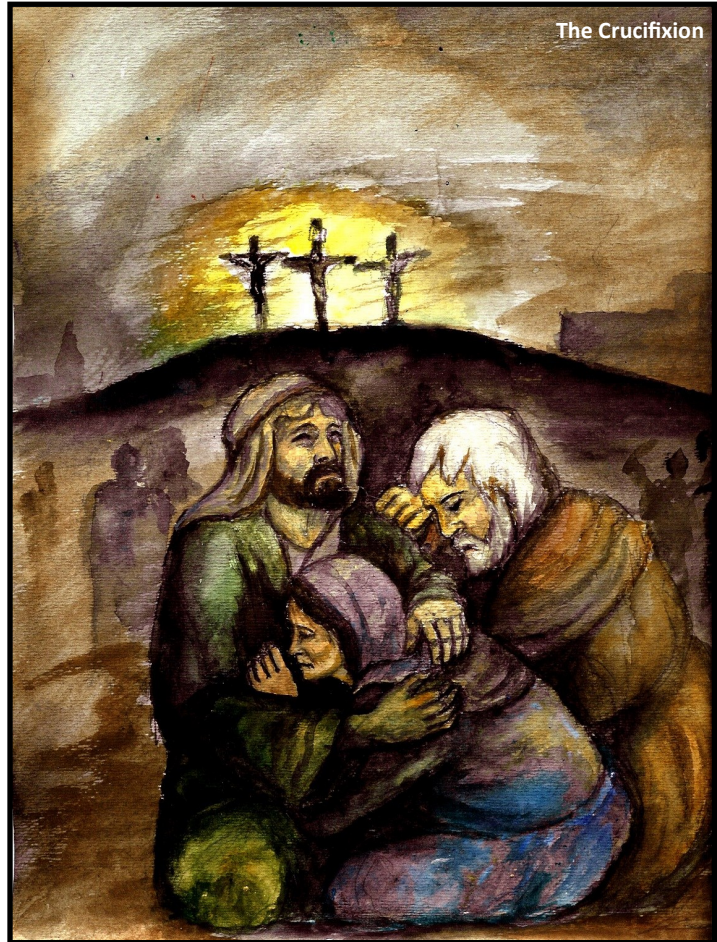
The Jewish leaders controlled the Jewish religion, but Jesus was saying He was King of heaven and He was bringing people the truth. That made Him dangerous because if people recognized Him as their spiritual leader, they would not follow the Jewish leaders.

Jesus Is Crucified

The leaders convinced Pilate that Jesus should die. Pilate would not convict Jesus of anything. He said the Jews were claiming Jesus had broken their laws. He presented Jesus to them and said, “Behold your king!” (John 19:14)

But the people insisted He was not their king and should be crucified. So

Pilate gave Jesus to them and they led Him away. Some people mocked him. Others mourned as He carried His cross. They crucified Jesus and put Hebrew, Greek and Latin words on the cross which said He was the King of the Jews.



Easter

Jesus' followers were devastated. The earth became dark and there was an earthquake. Perhaps the disciples were afraid that His promises would not come true. How amazed and excited they must have been when they heard Jesus had risen! They could hope again. They could believe in the truths Jesus had taught them. Most importantly, they could see that Jesus was God on earth, born to be a heavenly King, a King over all His creation as the Lord God Jesus Christ.

Celebrating Easter

At Easter we can remember all that the Lord was and is willing to do to save people. Even in suffering, He believed in His mission. People who see a purpose for something often suffer for it. Soldiers who protect their country may have to give up their lives. People who believe in the Lord's truths may be ridiculed by people who do not believe. How much more was the Lord willing to suffer for the greatest goal on earth, our freedom to choose between good and evil.

Activity Overview

Recitation

Learn the recitation by heart.

“Blessed is the King who comes
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” (Luke 19:38)

Projects and Activities (answers are at the back of this lesson)

Choose one or two.

Finish the Easter Sentences

Read each phrase and complete the sentence.

The Crucifixion and Resurrection

Make a two-sided picture of the sadness of the crucifixion and the joy of Easter and think about ways in which it is like changes we must make to go to heaven.

Easter Songs

Listen to Easter songs online.

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Finish the Easter Sentences

Isaiah 9:6,7; Luke 19:28-38; John 18:28-40

Complete each sentence. Use what you have learned, or look back at the lesson.

1. Jesus came on earth not to be an earthly king, but a...

2. Jesus fulfilled a prophesy when He entered Jerusalem...

3. At the time when Jesus was on earth, the Jews were ruled by...

4. Jesus was hated by the Jewish rulers, including...

5. Judas betrayed Jesus while He was praying in...

6. Pilate asked Jesus if He was the...

7. The words written over the cross were written in the languages...

8. The Lord was willing to suffer so that...

The Crucifixion and the Resurrection

Matthew 28; John 19-20

The sadness of the Lord's crucifixion is bearable because of the joy of His resurrection. They are both part of the Easter story, opposites in some ways, but they go together. You can't have one without the other. It is like our lives, our selfish feelings and thoughts must die so that we can be reborn and become fit for heaven. It is important to acknowledge the difficult part, because it makes the wonderful part possible.

The two sides of a coin can be considered opposite, but together they make one coin. Follow the directions for the project below to apply this idea to the Easter Story.

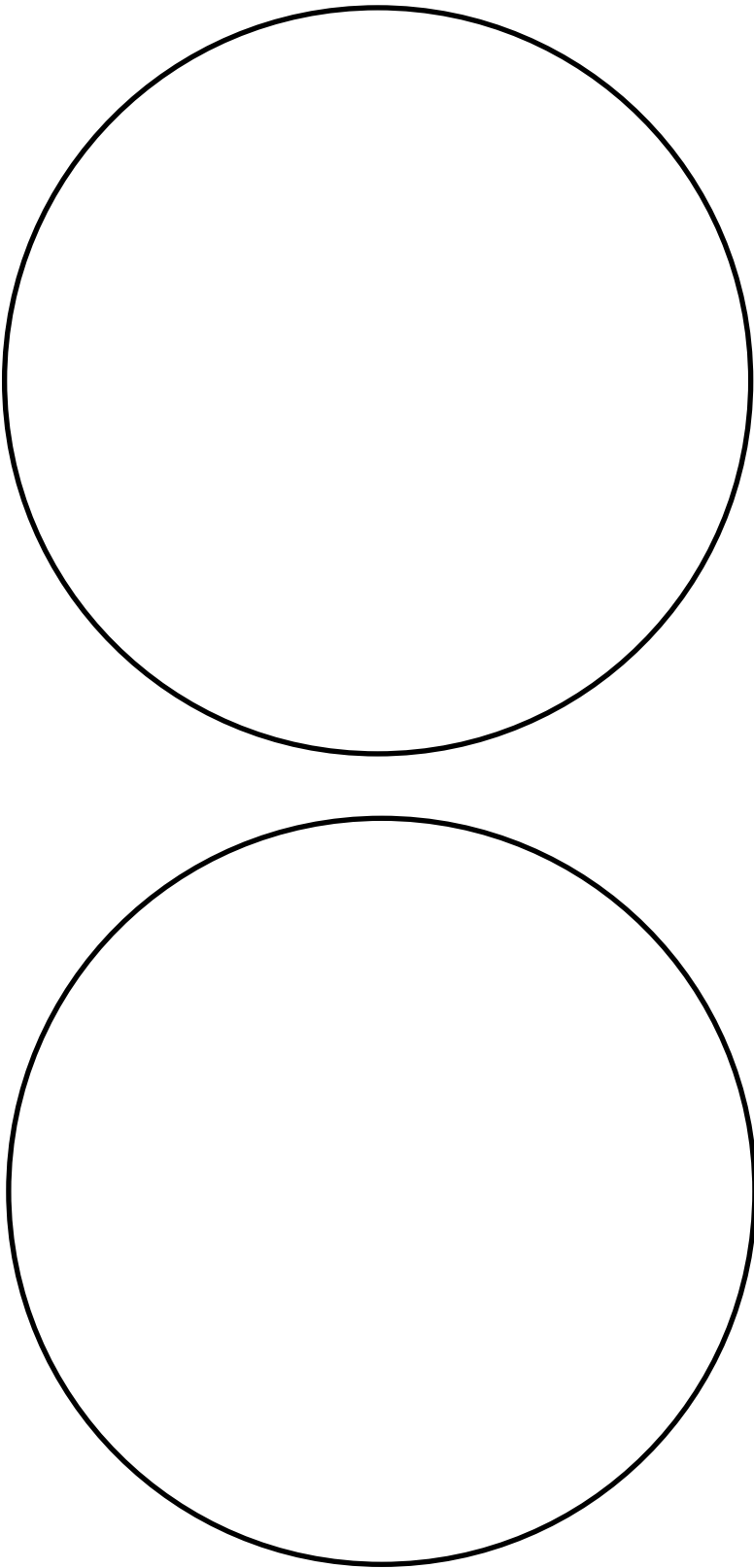
1. Cut out a the circles on the following page. Use one of these circles as a template to cut out a piece of cardboard or thick paper.
2. Draw a picture of a cross on a hilltop on one circle. Use dark colors to color the picture and the background.
3. Draw a picture of Easter morning on the other circle. Include the empty tomb and at least one angel. Use bright and beautiful colors to color the picture and the background.
4. Glue each picture to one side of the cardboard circle.

Think about the following:

1. Which side would you rather have face-up?
2. Which side do you think the angels see?
3. Which side is more important?

He is not here; for He is risen, as He said!

The Crucifixion and the Resurrection Templates



Answers

Lesson 35

Finish the Easter Sentences

1. Heavenly King. 2. riding on a donkey. 3. the Romans. 4. the scribes and the Pharisees.
5. the Garden of Gethsemane. 6. King of the Jews. 7. Hebrew, Greek and Latin. 8. people can go to heaven.