

Why Consider Jesus Seriously? *A Guide for the Honest Seeker*

Test the Claims of Jesus Christ

If you're exploring the deeper questions of life—about truth, meaning, God, and the state of the world—you owe it to yourself to examine the claims of Jesus Christ. Not casually, not merely emotionally or religiously, but *critically, philosophically, historically, and existentially*.

What stands out about Jesus is that His claims don't ask you to suspend your reason.

They demand you *apply* it—deeper, more honestly than you ever have.

What should you investigate?

- **Fulfilled Prophecies**
 - e.g., Isaiah 53, written centuries before Jesus' birth, describes His life and death in remarkable detail.
- **Gospel Consistency**
 - Four distinct accounts, written by different individuals, yet harmonizing on the essential character, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
- **Moral & Spiritual Teachings**
 - Teachings like the Sermon on the Mount reveal unmatched ethical clarity and spiritual depth.

- **Transformational Impact**
 - Billions of lives transformed over centuries—across cultures, languages, and generations.
- **Scriptural Integrity**
 - The Bible's survival, unity, and influence are unparalleled in human history.

These aren't shallow religious slogans.

They withstand scrutiny.

In fact—they invite it.

Understand Why We Often Resist Truth

Many people *don't* reject Jesus due to evidence.

They resist Him because of something deeper—**inherited blindness** or **environmental conditioning**.

What gets in the way?

- Pride
- Fear
- Shame
- Preconceptions
- Spiritual fatigue or trauma

The resistance may not be *intellectual*, but *spiritual*—rooted in identity, wounds, or a fear of what surrender really means.

Ask the Deeper Question

“Why do I think the way I think?”

This simple, brave question can open the door to genuine self-discovery.

Trace the sources of your beliefs:

- Genetic or emotional dispositions
- Family beliefs, culture, trauma, or education
- Personal experiences and subconscious biases

You may find that much of what you call your “truth” is inherited or reactive—not chosen.

The Message of Jesus

Jesus didn’t come to enforce blind obedience.

He came to offer **life**—not just existence, but awakened, restored, eternal life.

He spoke to the enslaved mind, the broken heart, the weary soul—those bound by fear, pride, shame, and illusion.

Jesus is not hiding.

He’s revealing the parts of you that are.

And when the weight of pride, pain, or self-preservation becomes unbearable, many discover something radical:

Jesus isn't just a concept to believe in.

He's the *door*.

"I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved..."

— John 10:9

He's the way *out* of death—and *into* what is truly alive.

The Radical Claim

Jesus is not just a religious figure.

He is the **Logos**—the logic, the meaning, the pattern behind all existence.

He is the Word of God made flesh—the truth, made personal.

"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 1:14 (NIV)

Aspect	Other "gods" / Leaders	Jesus Christ (Yeshua)	Why Jesus Is the Only Truth
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Why Consider Jesus Seriously?

Names	<i>Buddha (Siddhartha), Muhammad, Krishna, Vishnu, Shiva, Zeus, Thor, Confucius, Ra, Odin, Zoroaster, Guru Nanak, etc.</i>	Jesus Christ , Son of God, Son of Man, Word made flesh, Messiah, Lamb of God	All others are created beings or teachers ; Jesus is eternal God in flesh
Origin	Born of human parents, mythological origins, or unknown	Eternally existing (John 1:1); born of a virgin, conceived by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35)	Only Jesus has both divine pre-existence and human birth
Nature	Finite, mortal, or symbolic deities; limited in power or subject to karma or fate	Fully God and fully man (Colossians 2:9; John 1:14)	Jesus is perfect union of deity and humanity
Claimed Identity	Prophet, enlightened teacher, avatar, god among many, or moral guide	"I and the Father are one" (John 10:30); "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6)	Jesus uniquely claimed to be God Himself and exclusive Truth
Resurrection	No verified resurrection: Buddha died c. 400 BC; Muhammad in AD 632; others mythologically ascended or reincarnated	Rose on the third day, appeared to 500+ eyewitnesses (1 Cor. 15:4–6)	Only Jesus has historical resurrection evidence

Why Consider Jesus Seriously?

Power over Sin & Death	Teach self-effort, karma, or moral reform; no actual power to remove sin	Took sin upon Himself; offers total forgiveness and eternal life (1 Peter 2:24; Rom. 6:23)	Only Jesus breaks sin's power and offers grace
Moral Character	Mixed portrayals; some violent, sensual, or contradictory; limited by cultural values	Sinless, loving, just, and compassionate (Heb. 4:15; John 8:46)	Jesus alone is morally flawless and universally just
Fulfilled Prophecies	None; no verified ancient texts predicting life or mission	300+ fulfilled OT prophecies (Isaiah 53, Micah 5:2, Daniel 9:26, Psalm 22)	Only Jesus was foretold in detail centuries in advance
Relation to God	Seen as messengers or gods among many, or separate from the Creator	One with the Father; the visible image of the invisible God (John 14:9; Colossians 1:15)	Only Jesus is God revealing Himself personally to mankind
Scriptural Integrity	Later writings with contradictions, revisions, or philosophical speculation	Bible written across 1,500 years by 40+ authors in unity; tested and preserved	Jesus is central to Scripture's coherence and authority

Truth Claim	“Many paths,” “find your own way,” or “work your way up”	“No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6)	Only Jesus offers certainty , not speculation
Effect on Followers	Ethical teaching, ritual religion, or mystical practice; salvation uncertain	New heart, transformed life, personal relationship with God (2 Cor. 5:17; John 3:3)	Only Jesus regenerates the soul from within

✓ Why Jesus Is the Most High

- He **pre-exists all creation** as the Logos (John 1:1–3)
- He **fulfills all righteous prophecy**
- He **alone rose from the dead**
- He **offers grace**, not just effort
- He is **God in person**, not a messenger alone

“At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth...”

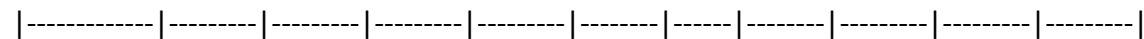
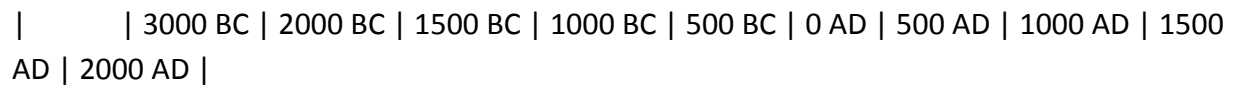
— *Philippians 2:10–11*

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

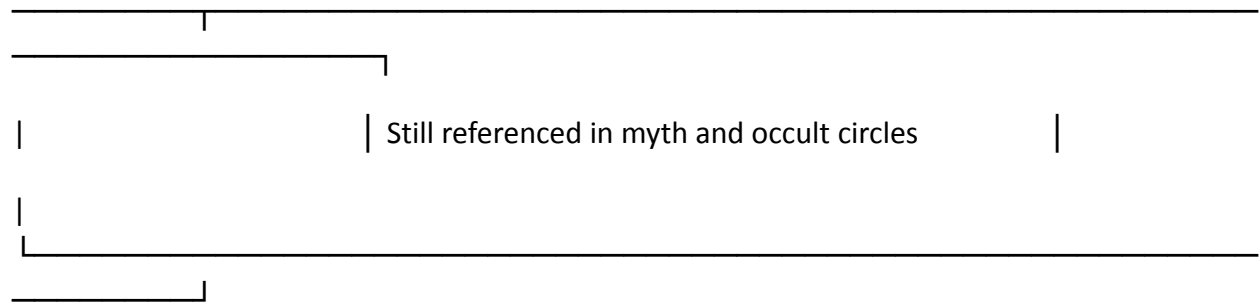
— *Acts 4:12*

TIMELINE OF GODS & RELIGIOUS FIGURES — FROM MYTH TO MESSIAH

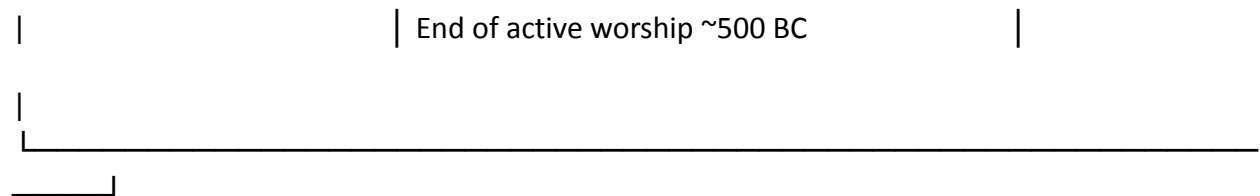
(Approximate emergence dates in human history)



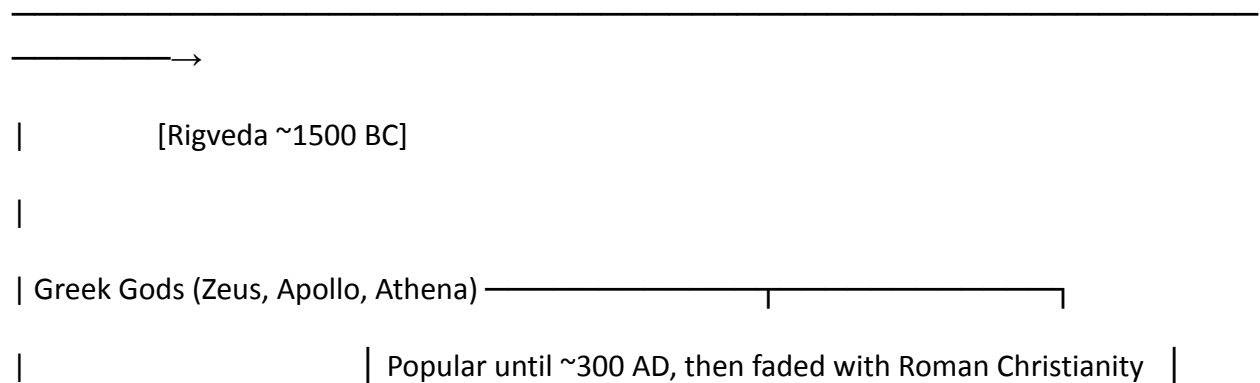
| Egyptian Gods (Ra, Osiris, Isis)



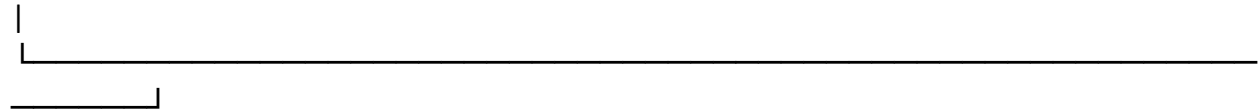
Mesopotamian Gods (Marduk, Ishtar)	
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| Hindu Gods (Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva, Krishna)

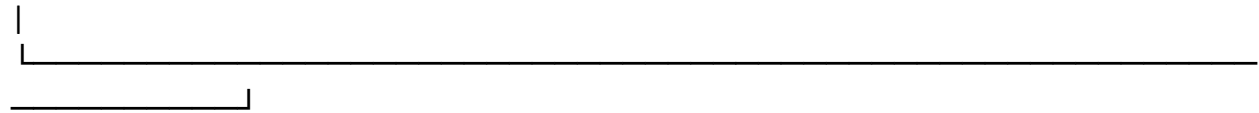


Why Consider Jesus Seriously?



| Zoroaster (Zarathustra)

| Prophet in Persia ~1000–600 BC



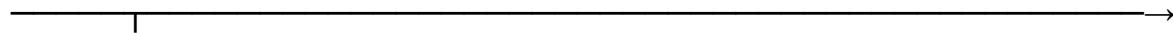
| Buddha (Siddhartha Gautama)



| [Born ~563 BC]




| Confucius



| [Born ~551 BC]



| Jesus Christ 

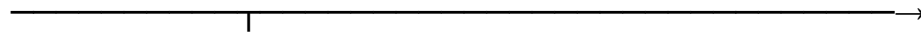


| [~4 BC – 30/33 AD]

| † Claimed to be Logos, God in flesh, risen Savior



| Muhammad (Islam)



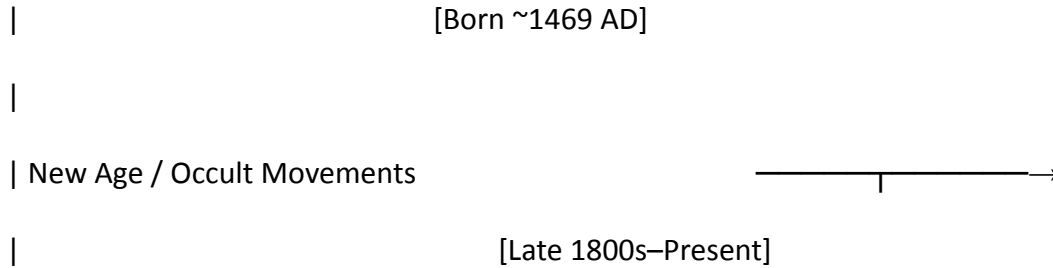
| [Born ~570 AD]



| Guru Nanak (Sikhism)



Why Consider Jesus Seriously?



Why Did Jesus Show Up Then?

Throughout history, countless gods and teachers have come and gone—each reflecting humanity’s search for meaning, truth, and salvation. But none claimed what Jesus claimed: to be the eternal Word of God, stepping into human history to bridge the gap between a holy God and broken humanity.

Jesus appeared at the precise moment when prophecy pointed, when the world was ready for hope beyond myth and philosophy—when hearts were longing for not just wisdom, but a Savior.

He didn’t just teach truth. He **embodied** truth. He didn’t merely offer a way. He **was the Way**.

The timing of His arrival was no accident—it was the fulfillment of thousands of years of divine preparation.

The question remains:

Are you ready to meet Him where history, prophecy, and your soul converge?

Jesus as Logos & Rhema: A Timeline with the Holy Spirit's Role

Period	Jesus as Logos (<i>Eternal Word</i>)	Jesus as Rhema (<i>Incarnate Word</i>)	The Holy Spirit (<i>Active Presence of God</i>) 
Eternity Past	Coexistent with God, the divine Logos (John 1:1)	Not yet incarnate	Present with the Father and Son; divine communion (Gen. 1:2)
Creation (c. unknown)	All things made through Him (John 1:3; Col. 1:16)	Not yet revealed in flesh	Hovering over the waters (Gen. 1:2); breathing life into man (Gen. 2:7)
Old Testament Era (c. 2000–400 BC)	Prefigured in prophecies, the Wisdom of God (Prov. 8; Isa. 53)	Foreshadowed through types and promises	Inspires prophets, empowers judges and kings (Num. 11:25; 1 Sam. 16:13)
Incarnation (c. 4–6 BC)	Still Logos—now entering time	Word becomes flesh (John 1:14)	Overshadowed Mary (Luke 1:35); announces the birth (Luke 1:41)
Public Ministry (c. AD 26–30)	Revealing divine logic and purpose through teaching and miracles	Speaks as Rhema—living words (John 6:63)	Descends at baptism (Luke 3:22); empowers His ministry (Luke 4:1,18)
Crucifixion & Resurrection (c. AD 30)	Executes the eternal plan of salvation	Suffers, dies, rises in fulfillment of Scripture	Raises Jesus from the dead (Rom. 8:11)
Ascension (c. AD 30)	Returns to divine glory (John 17:5)	Physically ascends, remains present through His Spirit	Sent by Jesus to dwell in believers (John 14:16–17; Acts 2:1–4)
Church Age (AD 30–Present)	Reigning at the right hand of God	Revealed through Scripture and proclaimed in the Gospel	Indwells believers, empowers witness, convicts the world (Acts 1:8; John 16:8)
Second Coming (Future)	Returns in power and glory (Rev. 19:13—"Name: Word of God")	Fully revealed as King and Judge (Matt. 24:30–31)	Prepares the Bride (Church), final outpouring (Rev. 22:17)
Eternity Future	All things united in Him (Eph. 1:10); eternal Logos reigning	Dwelling with redeemed humanity (Rev. 21:3)	Continues eternal union with God and His people (Rev. 22:1–5)

Key Terms

- **Logos** – The preexistent, eternal Word of God; divine logic and reason.
- **Rhema** – The spoken, timely Word of God; revelation that is personal and present.
- **Holy Spirit** – The Breath of God; empowers, reveals, convicts, transforms.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

— **Hebrews 13:8**

"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth..."

— **John 16:13**

FLOWCHART: *The Way Back to God Through Jesus*

Why This Flowchart Matters

This flowchart is included to give you a clear, step-by-step picture of what the Bible teaches about salvation. It's not just theology—it's your story.




It shows how we were created for God, how we got lost, who's working against us, who's helping us, and how we can return to the life we were made for—through Jesus Christ.

Whether you're exploring, doubting, or ready to respond, this is the journey every soul is invited to take.

Now is the time to see it clearly.

1. Original Design: Created for Union with God

→ *Genesis 1–2*

-  **Human identity:** Made in God's image
-  **Purpose:** Relationship with God, stewardship of creation
-  **Condition:** Innocent, spiritually alive, in communion with God



2. The Fall: Separation Enters the World

→ *Genesis 3*

 **The Enemy Appears:**

- **Satan** (The deceiver – John 8:44)
- **Sin** (Disobedience – Romans 3:23)
- **Death** (Spiritual & physical – Romans 6:23)

 **Human Condition:**

Why Consider Jesus Seriously?

- Separated from God
- Spiritually dead
- Bound by fear, pride, shame, and lies



3. Human Struggle: False Paths Back to God

→ *Proverbs 14:12*

⚠️ Failed attempts:

- Religion without relationship
- Good works without grace
- Self-improvement
- Philosophy without truth
- Denial or distraction

Result: Still lost, still enslaved.



4. Divine Intervention: God Sends Help

→ *John 3:16, Romans 5:8*

✍️ The Helpers:

- **Jesus Christ** (The Son – John 14:6)

- **The Holy Spirit** (The Comforter – John 16:13)
- **The Scriptures** (Truth – 2 Tim. 3:16)
- **The Church** (Witnesses – Acts 1:8)
- **God's Grace** (Unmerited favor – Ephesians 2:8–9)



5. The Turning Point: The Gospel Invitation

→ *Romans 10:9, John 1:12*



Your Response:

- Hear the truth (Romans 10:17)
- Believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior
- Repent (turn from sin to God)
- Receive forgiveness and new life



6. Salvation: Reunited with God Through Jesus

→ *2 Corinthians 5:17, John 3:3*



New Identity:

- Born again
- Child of God

Why Consider Jesus Seriously?

- Indwelt by the Holy Spirit
- Justified, redeemed, and free



7. Sanctification: Walking in New Life

→ *Galatians 5:16–25, Romans 12:2*



Transformation by Helpers:

- The Holy Spirit empowers obedience and growth
- The Word renews the mind
- The Church provides support and correction



8. Glorification: Eternal Union with God

→ *Revelation 21:1–5*



Final State:

- No more sin, sorrow, death
- Perfect communion with God
- Restored to the fullness of what we were created for



Enemies Along the Way

Why Consider Jesus Seriously?

- Satan (Accuser & deceiver)
 - The flesh (Old sinful nature)
 - The world (System opposed to God)
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Helpers in the Journey

- Jesus: The Door, the Shepherd, the Way (John 10:9; 14:6)
 - Holy Spirit: Teacher, Convicter, Empowerer (John 16:8–13)
 - God's Word: Sword of truth (Hebrews 4:12)
 - God's People: Encouragement and correction (Hebrews 10:24–25)
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Summary Flow

1. **Created by God**
2. **Separated by Sin**
3. **Rescued by Jesus**
4. **Transformed by the Spirit**
5. **Returned to God**

What Should You Do Now?

- **Pick up a Bible**—Start with the Gospel of John.
Recommended translations: **NIV** or **ESV** for clarity and faithfulness.
- **Read with someone**—Invite a thoughtful friend, a professor, a rabbi, or a mentor.
Someone you trust to ask the hard questions with you.
- **Read not to affirm or reject—but to *seek*.**

Because if Jesus *is* who He claims to be,
then the questions you ask of Him...
...are actually the questions you've always been asking of *yourself*.

And this time—there's an answer.

Don't Wait—Start Now

If something in this guide has stirred your thoughts or challenged your assumptions—don't ignore it.

Truth invites response.

Pick up a Bible. Ask your hardest questions. Pray—even if you're unsure who's listening.

Because the search for truth isn't just an intellectual journey. It's personal. It's urgent.

And Jesus is not far from those who seek with an honest heart.

 **Want More? You're Not Alone.**

Why Consider Jesus Seriously?

This journey isn't meant to be walked alone.

For more guides, resources, and encouragement as you explore life's deepest questions through faith and reason, visit:

👉 <https://storysharing.life>

You'll find:

- Free downloads
- Thoughtful articles and reflections
- Tools to help you seek truth and grow in clarity and conviction

Start today.

Because the truth isn't just something to believe—

It's someone to know.

And He's already calling you by name.