

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it.

**Pages 85–87 Introduction: In the “Fullness of Time”: God Enters History in the Person of Jesus Christ**

1. What great mystery prompted people to misunderstand how Jesus Christ is both true God and true man?
2. True or False? It would be an exaggeration to label the Incarnation as the greatest event in history.

**Pages 88–91 Section 1: Events of Jesus’ Life**

3. Explain the foremost way the Church knows about the life of Jesus.
4. True or False? The final experience of the Crucifixion of Jesus transformed the Apostles from frightened cowards into bold proclaimers of the Gospel.
5. True or False? The testimony of the Apostles is preserved in the four Gospels and the Epistles of the New Testament.
6. True or False? There is historical evidence primarily taken from the Gospels that a real man named Jesus did exist.
7. The Jewish name “\_\_\_\_\_” was given to Mary by the Angel at the \_\_\_\_\_, a name conferred on the eighth day on the day of his \_\_\_\_\_. He was born under the Roman \_\_\_\_\_ Augustus, when King Herod the Great ruled \_\_\_\_\_. While his birth took place in Bethlehem, \_\_\_\_\_ was Jesus’ hometown in \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Jesus began his public \_\_\_\_\_ after being baptized by the prophet \_\_\_\_\_. According to the Gospel of John, his ministry lasted a total duration of \_\_\_\_\_ years, and according to the first chapter of the Gospel of \_\_\_\_\_, his message was: “This is the time of \_\_\_\_\_. The kingdom of \_\_\_\_\_ is at hand. Repent, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Gospel.”
9. While some thought of Jesus as a great prophet, what did his critics believe about him?
10. What was the accusation against Jesus in religious court? Of what was he found guilty?

11. Explain why Jesus was crucified as “King of the Jews.”

12. True or False? Due to a miscalculation, Jesus was probably born between 4 and 6 AD, rather than in AD 1.

**Pages 93–99 Section 2: More Evidence of the Historical Life of Jesus**

13. What words did Jesus speak to Thomas after proving that he indeed rose from the dead?

14. True or False? There is no reason for even nonbelievers to doubt that Jesus of Nazareth existed.

15. True or False? There are no non-Christian references to Jesus and early Christianity.

16. Writing of the Great Fire that broke out in \_\_\_\_\_ in AD 64, the Roman senator and historian named \_\_\_\_\_ recounts how Nero blamed the \_\_\_\_\_ as an excuse to persecute them. Further, he mentions that \_\_\_\_\_ had been executed by Pontius Pilate during the reign of \_\_\_\_\_, thus verifying that the public \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus took place during the reign of this emperor.

17. True or False? Tacitus is the only historian to mention Pontius Pilate.

18. How does Tacitus describe Christianity?

19. What does Tacitus never deny?

20. What does Suetonius verify about Christians in Rome?

21. What error did Suetonius make in his account of the Christians? What is more likely?

22. True or False? The Emperor Claudius believed that Christians and Jews were members of the same religious sect.

23. What advice did Pliny the Younger seek from Emperor Trajan? What impression of Christians does Pliny give?
24. True or False? Pliny was concerned about what he called a “superstition” because it challenged the Roman practice of worshipping YHWH, the one true God.
25. True or False? Pliny’s letter describes how Christians met together to worship, to sing hymns to Christ, to recite a creed, to promise to live morally, and to worship Christ as God.
26. Although \_\_\_\_\_ was a commander of the Jewish forces in \_\_\_\_\_ during the First Jewish Revolt, he became a confidant and friend of \_\_\_\_\_ who became emperor in AD 68. In his writings Josephus wrote of \_\_\_\_\_ and noted that \_\_\_\_\_ the Just was put to death by Annas the Younger, the son of the Jewish \_\_\_\_\_.
27. What is clear about the evidence for Christ’s existence provided by the Jewish historian, Josephus?
28. The \_\_\_\_\_ historian, Thallus, wrote of the \_\_\_\_\_ and darkness that descended on the land when Jesus \_\_\_\_\_. In an attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ it, he attributes the phenomena to a natural \_\_\_\_\_ of the sun. It’s notable that Thallus wrote about this incident at least \_\_\_\_\_ years before the \_\_\_\_\_ were recorded.
29. True or False? Tacitus is the first known ancient writer to record elements surrounding Christ and Christianity.
30. What is the historical significance of Mara bar Serapion’s letter to his son? What connection does Serapion draw between Christ’s death and the Jewish nation?
31. True or False? Mara bar Serapion mentioned that the teachings of Christ lived on through the teachings he left his followers.
32. What historical evidence for the Christ and the Christian faith does Lucian of Samosata provide?
33. The Greek philosopher, \_\_\_\_\_, wrote a vicious attack on Christianity around AD \_\_\_\_\_. Among his false charges, he claimed that Jesus was an \_\_\_\_\_ son of Panthera, a Roman \_\_\_\_\_ and claimed that Jesus learned sorcery in \_\_\_\_\_. While he clearly \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ and Christianity, he never denied the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.
34. What do we learn about Jesus from the Babylonian Talmud?

35. True or False? The most important thing the non-Christians sources reveal is that Jesus really did exist, because it would be highly improbable that a movement would carry the name of a man who never existed.
36. What is difficult to explain about the convictions of the Apostles' claims of the Risen Christ?

**Pages 100–105 Section 3: *What the Gospels Reveal about the Life of Jesus***

37. In what sense are the four Gospels like, and unlike, modern biographies?
38. True or False? Most ancient biographers were much more interested in telling about the childhood or appearance of a person instead of the key events in a person's life.
39. What are four reasons why the Gospels are the most important part of the New Testament canon?
40. All four \_\_\_\_\_ are divinely inspired truth written for a different \_\_\_\_\_. Their \_\_\_\_\_ were different because they were composed by different people writing in different \_\_\_\_\_ and for people who lived in different \_\_\_\_\_. Each was tailored to meet the needs of the local church \_\_\_\_\_.
41. True or False? Abba is the Hebrew word for "Father" or the more familiar, "Dad."
42. Explain how Jesus used the word amen differently from others.
43. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a story that uses easily understood \_\_\_\_\_ and life occurrences and ends with a \_\_\_\_\_ lesson. Jesus' parables were memorable and \_\_\_\_\_, and they contained important points about the \_\_\_\_\_. He used parables to teach with an \_\_\_\_\_ twist.
44. True or False? Some of the Jewish scribes accused Jesus of committing blasphemy because they knew that they alone could forgive sins.
45. Summarize the three stages in the development of the Gospels.
- First stage:

- Second stage:
  
  - Third stage:
46. The \_\_\_\_\_ were not immediately written down because the early \_\_\_\_\_ believed the world would \_\_\_\_\_ and Jesus would return before they died. In an effort to preserve the \_\_\_\_\_ testimony in writing, in addition to combating \_\_\_\_\_ to the oral tradition, it was important to keep an \_\_\_\_\_ record of who Jesus was and of the \_\_\_\_\_ he preached.
47. What does St. Justin Martyr reveal about the use of the Gospels during the liturgy?
48. What are three important criteria for reading Scripture in accordance with the Spirit, laid down in *Dei Verbum*?
49. True or False? Sacred Scripture can be read in two senses: the literalistic and spiritual.
50. True or False? The spiritual sense of Scripture is how the words were understood at the time, and how things actually happened.
51. True or False? The literal sense of Scripture refers not only to the text of Scripture but also to the way realities and events about which it speaks can be signs.
52. Identify which of the three spiritual senses of Scripture is being described below:
- Refers to the message Scripture has for our place in eternity: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Refers to events that remind us to behave justly or rightly: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Refers to the understanding of how events of Scripture relate to Jesus Christ: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pages 106–109 Section 4: *The Witness of Early Martyrs to the Life of Jesus***

53. What words to Peter clearly bind the Church to Christ?
54. True or False? In addition to Peter, Paul, and Stephen, a multitude of Christians of the Church's first century gave up their lives for Jesus.

55. Explain why people freely gave up their lives for Jesus, both in the first century as well as today.
56. True or False? The author of the Acts parallels Stephen's martyrdom with Jesus Christ.
57. What did St. Justin Martyr try to explain to the Jews in his *Dialogue with Trypho*?
58. True or False? Although they were offered thirty days to reconsider their decision, all twelve Scillitan Martyrs refused to recant the accusation of failing to worship the emperor.
59. How did the early Christian martyrs understand their executions?