

What's So Special About Jesus?

SUSAN was frantically cleaning the house, afraid that her sister Joan might arrive anytime. Her daughter watched with disapproval.

“You don’t even know when she’s actually coming,” the girl complained. “And yet you’re going mad getting ready for her. I’m sure she won’t notice a bit of dust here or there! Is she a perfectionist or something? What’s so special about Auntie Joan?”

There are certain visitors for whom we always make a special effort. We would be embarrassed if they found our houses untidy or unclean.

Jesus has told us that he is coming back to earth and that we should be ready and waiting for him.

In thinking about whether and how we should prepare for this we could all ask, “What’s so special about Jesus?” Here is a set of Bible verses which shows us just that.

More than Just a Good Man

There are many things that made Jesus more than *just* a good man:

◆ He spoke with great authority and understanding even when he was a boy. (Matthew 7:28–29, 13:54; Luke 2:41–50; John 7:46)



- ◆ He was kind and compassionate. (Matthew 9:35–38, 14:13–14; Mark 1:40–45; Luke 19:41–44)
- ◆ He was able to heal sick people. (Matthew 4:23–24; Mark 1:32–34; Acts 10:38)
- ◆ He could raise the dead. (Luke 7:11–17, 8:40–56; John 11:38–44)
- ◆ He knew what people were thinking. (Luke 5:18–25, 6:7–8, 9:46–48; John 2:24–25)
- ◆ He could control the wind and the sea, and walk on water. (Mark 4:35–41, 6:45–52)
- ◆ Much of the Old Testament spoke about him. (Luke 24:25–27; John 5:36–43; Acts 17:2–3)

History itself shows that through Christianity, Jesus has had a phenomenal influence on our world.

Unique in Many Ways

There are other things that make Jesus unique:

- ◆ His mother Mary was a virgin. (Matthew 1:18–25; Luke 1:26–35)
- ◆ God said that Jesus was His Son. (Matthew 3:13–17, 17:1–5; Luke 1:32)
- ◆ He could forgive sins. (Matthew 9:1–8; Luke 7:36–50)
- ◆ Although he could have sinned, Jesus never did. (2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:14–16, 7:26)
- ◆ He only did and said what God wanted. (Luke 22:42; John 8:21–30, 12:42–50)
- ◆ He is the first to rise to immortal life. (Romans 6:9; 1 Corinthians 15:17–23; Hebrews 7:16; Revelation 1:5, 18)
- ◆ He is the only human being to have gone to heaven. (John 3:13; Hebrews 4:14, 8:1, 4)
- ◆ He will be the perfect king over God's Kingdom on earth. (Isaiah 11:1–9 with Luke 1:32–33; 1 Corinthians 15:22–28)
- ◆ He shows us the only way by which we can be saved from eternal death. (John 14:6; Acts 4:10–12; Romans 5:6; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 1 Timothy 2:5–6)

The Most Special Visitor

Susan was preparing for a visit from Auntie Joan, an apparent perfectionist whose standards may not even have been fair. Susan was not sure when or if this visit

would happen, but it was unlikely to have far-reaching or lasting effects. We do not know when Jesus will come, but we have been promised that he most certainly will.

Unlike Auntie Joan, Jesus really is perfect. God has decided that Jesus will judge men and women, and we can be confident that his judgement will be completely fair.

For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom he will. The Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son (John 5:21–22).

Jesus will make his presence felt: in fact he will transform the whole world for ever.

One of his parables was about a housekeeper looking after his master's house while he was away. Jesus said that this housekeeper (and we too) should be waiting ready for him, and obedient to him:

Blessed is that servant whom his master when he comes will find so doing (Matthew 24:46).



Jesus is very special – we do well to prepare ourselves for his coming; to be obedient and watching for him. He will come, but what will he find us doing?

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