

The Liberator

Part 1.

By
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Smashwords Edition

How much do you really know about Jesus Christ?



Sure, you're sick of religion, and you figure if God's so loving, why does he let earthquakes happen and why doesn't he heal my acne when I ask him politely. But what about Jesus? Have you ever sat down and read right through his life and teachings for yourself?

Here is your chance to at least be an *informed* unbeliever.

As you read, ask yourself if this is the kind of bloke you would like to have for a friend. And while you're at it, ask yourself if you'd be interested in getting to know his Father better as well.



At the bottom of each page is the text from the original King James Version of the Bible which corresponds with the material on that page, so that you can read along and make comparisons as you go.

Where words are left out to shorten the text so that it can fit in the space, three full stops appear in the text.

It is our aim to bring these passages to life and to make them relevant to people today. We hope that this comic will inspire you to read the rest of the teachings of Christ, found in the first four books of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John.

THE LIBERATOR



LUKE'S INTRODUCTION

MANY PEOPLE HAVE TRIED TO WRITE ABOUT THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED AMONGST US. I HAVE STUDIED IT ALL FROM THE BEGINNING, AND I THINK IT WOULD BE GOOD TO PUT IT INTO ONE BOOK, SO PEOPLE IN THE FUTURE WILL KNOW THE FULL TRUTH ABOUT WHAT WE BELIEVE, AND ABOUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED!

BACK THEN A MAN CALLED ZACHARIAS WAS DOING SOME WORK AROUND THE TEMPLE ONE DAY...

IT'S A SHAME THAT AT MY AGE I DON'T HAVE ANY CHILDREN!



...WHEN HE WAS STARTLED BY AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR!

YIKES!

WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

RELAX ZACH! GOD HAS HEARD YOUR PRAYER AND YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE A SON! YOU SHOULD NAME HIM JOHN!

HE WILL HAVE GOD'S SPIRIT AND THE SPIRIT OF ELIJAH* TO TURN PEOPLE BACK TO GOD!



*A FAMOUS JEWISH PROPHET

Miracle Babies

LUKE
1:1-2:52

HOW CAN I KNOW IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE? MY WIFE, ELIZABETH IS TOO OLD TO HAVE A BABY NOW!



WHAT?! GOD SENT ME TO ANSWER YOUR PRAYERS, AND NOW YOU HAVE TREATED MY GOOD NEWS LIKE IT WAS BAD NEWS!?



YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO SPEAK UNTIL THE WORDS I HAVE SPOKEN COME TRUE!



King James Version

Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, even as they delivered them unto us which from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order...

There was... a certain priest named Zacharias... and his wife... was Elisabeth... They had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years...

While he executed the priest's office before God... there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. When Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon

him. But the angel said unto him, 'Fear not, Zacharias, for thy prayer is heard, and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son; and thou shalt call his name John... Many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias.'

And Zacharias said unto the angel, 'Whereby shall I know this? For I am an old man and my wife

well stricken in years.'

And the angel answering said unto him, 'I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God, and am sent to speak unto thee and to shew thee these glad tidings. And behold, thou shalt be dumb and not able to speak until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words which shall be fulfilled in their season.' (Luke 1:1-20)



In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God... to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph... and the virgin's name was Mary.

And the angel came in unto her and said, "Hail! Thou art highly favoured... Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found favour with God, and behold thou

shalt conceive in thy womb and bring forth a son and shalt call his name Jesus..."

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee. Therefore

also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age..."

And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it unto me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her,

And Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country... and entered into the house of Zacharias and saluted Elisabeth. And it came to pass that when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost. (Luke 1:26-41)



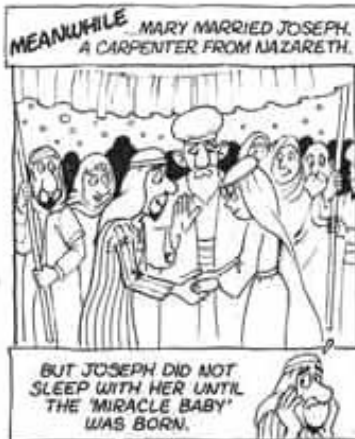
And she spake out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy..."

And Mary said... "My spirit

hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden... He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things and the rich he hath sent empty away..."

Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins... rejoiced with her... and they called him Zacharias after the name of his father. And his mother... said, "Not so; but he shall be called John." And they said unto her, "There is none of thy kindred

that is called by this name." And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. And he asked for a writing table and wrote, saying, "His name is John." And they marvelled all. And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake and praised God...



Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel... that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all that hate us... And thou, child, shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways... through the ten-

der mercy of our God... to give light to them that sit in darkness!" (Luke 1:42-79)

And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed... and all went to be taxed, every one into his own

city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was that, while

they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn. (Luke 2:1-7)



There were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not. For behold,

I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord!

"And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was

with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men!"

And it came to pass as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethle-

hem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."

And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. (Luke 2:8-17)

Ready...Set...Go!

LUKE 2:42
TO 4:30

WHEN JESUS WAS 12 YEARS OLD, MARY AND JOSEPH TOOK HIM TO THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM, ALONG WITH A BIG GROUP OF FRIENDS AND RELATIVES. ON THE WAY HOME...



JOSEPH! I CAN'T FIND JESUS ANYWHERE!

HE MUST NOT HAVE JOINED THE GROUP WHEN WE LEFT THE CITY!

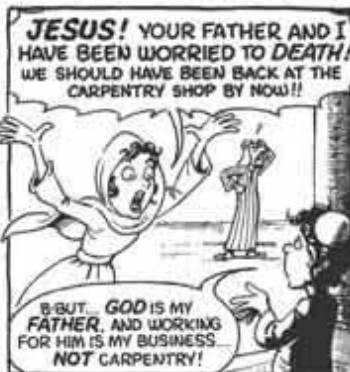
WE MUST RETURN TO JERUSALEM IMMEDIATELY!

THEY SEARCHED FOR THREE DAYS...



THERE HE IS!! WITH THOSE RELIGIOUS LEADERS!

WHICH DO YOU THINK IS MORE IMPORTANT TO GOD? RELIGIOUS RITUALS, OR LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOUR?



JESUS! YOUR FATHER AND I HAVE BEEN WORRIED TO DEATH! WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BACK AT THE CARPENTRY SHOP BY NOW!!

BUT... GOD IS MY FATHER, AND WORKING FOR HIM IS MY BUSINESS NOT CARPENTRY!

NEVERTHELESS, JESUS RETURNED TO NAZARETH WITH THEM. NO RECORD EXISTS OF ANYTHING THAT HE DID FOR THE NEXT 18 YEARS.

THEN, WHEN JESUS WAS 30 YEARS OLD, AND JOHN WAS 31...



PREPARE TO MEET GOD!

HIS NAME IS JOHN, AND HE HAS THE PEOPLE SO SCARED THAT THEY'LL DO WHATEVER HE TELLS THEM!



GOD IS GOING TO TAKE FROM THE RICH...

SNAP!



...AND GIVE TO THE POOR!

When he was 12 years old they went up to Jerusalem... As they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem, and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him... After 3 days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. And when they saw him...

his mother said unto him, "Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? Behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing." And he said unto them, "How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" ... And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them.

In the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar... came John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness. And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, as it is written, "...every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be brought low." (Luke 2:42-3:5)



Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptised of him, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, 'We have Abraham to our father,' For I say unto you that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham."

"And now also, the axe is laid unto the root of the trees. Every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire."

And the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?"

He answereth and saith unto them, "He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise."

Then came also publicans to be baptised, and said unto him, "Master, what shall we do?"

And he said unto them, "Exact no more than that which is appointed you."

(Luke 3:7-13)



And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, "And what shall we do?"

And he said unto them, "Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; And be content with your wages."

And as all the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ

or not, John answered, saying unto them all, "I indeed baptise you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose. He shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost and with fire."

It came to pass that Jesus also being baptised and praying, the heaven was opened

and the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "Thou art my beloved Son, in thee I am well pleased."

Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost, returned from Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being 40 days tempted of the devil. And in

those days he did eat nothing. And when they were ended, he afterward hungered.

And the devil said unto him, "If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread."

Jesus answered him, "It is written that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." (Luke 3:14-4:4)



The devil... shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world... and said unto him, 'All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them. For... to whomsoever I will, I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.'

And Jesus answered and said unto him, 'Get thee behind me, Satan! For it is written, 'Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God,

and him only shalt thou serve.'

And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple and said unto him, 'If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence. For it is written, 'He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee... lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.'

And Jesus answering said unto

him, 'It is said, 'Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.'

And the devil departed from him for a season.

And Jesus... came to Nazareth where he had been brought up, and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet

Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind...' (Luke 4:5-18)



He closed the book and he gave it again to the minister and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

And he began to say unto them, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." ...

And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

And he said unto them, "Ye will surely say unto me... 'Whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in thy country'."

And he said, "Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the day of Elias...when great

famine was throughout all the land; but unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow. *And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet, and none of them was cleansed saving Naaman the Syrian."

And all they in the syna-

gogue when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.

But he, passing through the midst of them, went his way. (Luke 4:21-30)

AS JESUS TAUGHT FROM TOWN TO TOWN, PEOPLE WERE AMAZED BY HIS AUTHORITY, AND FLOCKED TO HEAR HIM.

LUKE 4:31 TO LUKE 6:16

Choosing His Team



YEAH! HE PRACTICES WHAT HE PREACHES!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SLAVES FOR MONEY!

MASTER! THE CROWD IS GETTING OUT OF CONTROL. MANY IN THE BACK CANNOT HEAR!

HEY! STOP PUSHING!

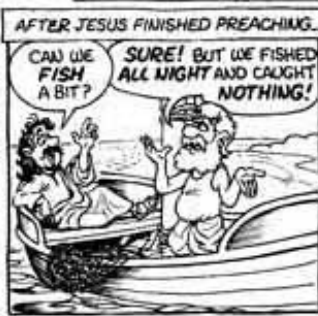
HE "SHAVES WITH HONEY"?

HEY PETER! CAN WE USE YOUR BOAT FOR A WHILE?

SURE!



NOW THEY CAN ALL HEAR!



AFTER JESUS FINISHED PREACHING... CAN WE FISH A BIT? SURE! BUT WE FISHED ALL NIGHT AND CAUGHT NOTHING!



JAMES, ANDREW, JOHN! HELP! THE BOAT IS SINKING FROM SO MANY FISH!

NOTE: ACCORDING TO ANOTHER RECORD, JESUS HAD EARLIER CALLED ALL FOUR OF THESE MEN TO FOLLOW HIM. APPARENTLY THEY HAD RETURNED TO THEIR JOBS, THINKING THAT THEY NEEDED TO FEED THEMSELVES.

(He) came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days. And they were astonished at his doctrine, for his word was with power...

It came to pass that as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Genesareth, and saw two ships

standing by the lake. But the fishermen were gone out of them and were washing their nets.

And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people out of the ship.

Now when he had left

speaking, he said unto Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a draught."

And Simon answering said unto him, "Master, we have toiled all the night and have taken nothing. Nevertheless, at thy word I will let down the net."

And when they had this

done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes, and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came and filled both the ships so that they began to sink. (Luke 4:31-32; 5:1-7)



When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken. And so was also James and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon.

And Jesus said unto Simon, "Fear not. From henceforth thou shalt catch men." And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all and followed him... (Luke 5:8-11)

And after these things (Jesus) went forth and saw a publican named Levi sitting

at the receipt of custom. And he said unto him, "Follow me." And he left all, rose up, and followed him. And Levi made him a great feast in his own house; and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them. But their scribes and Phari-

sees murmured against his disciples, saying, "Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?" And Jesus answering said unto them, "They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (Luke 5:27-32)



All they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. And devils also came out of many, crying out and saying, "Thou art Christ, the Son of God!" And he rebuking them, suffered them not to speak; for they knew that he was Christ. (Lk 4:40-41)

(People brought) a man which

was taken with a palsy, and they sought means to bring him in and to lay him before him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude they went upon the housetop and let him down through the tiling, with his couch, into the midst before Jesus.

And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, "Man, thy sins are

forgiven thee."

And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason saying, "Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, "What reason ye in your hearts? Whether is easier to say, 'Thy sins be forgiven thee' or to

say, 'Rise up and walk'? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins... I say unto thee, Arise and take up thy couch and go into thine house."

And immediately he rose up before them and took up that whereon he lay and departed to his own house, glorifying God. (Luke 5:18-25)



They said unto him, "Why do the disciples of John fast often and make prayers, and likewise the disciples of the Pharisees; but thine eat and drink?"

And he said unto them, "Can ye make the children of the bridechamber fast while the

bridegroom is with them?

"But the days will come when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days."

And he spake also a parable unto them: "No man putteth a piece of a new gar-

ment upon an old; if otherwise, then both the new maketh a rent, and the piece that was taken out of the new agreeth not with the old.

"And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles and be spilled, and the

bottles shall perish.

"But new wine must be put into new bottles, and both are preserved.

"No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new. For he saith, 'The old is better.'" (Luke 5:33-39)



(One sabbath Jesus) went through the corn fields, and his disciples plucked the ears of corn and did eat, rubbing them in their hands. And certain of the Pharisees said unto them, "Why do ye that which is not lawful to do on the sabbath days?"...He said unto them that the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath...

On another sabbath he entered into the synagogue and taught; and there was a man whose right hand was withered. And the scribes and Pharisees watched him, whether he would heal on the sabbath day, that they might find an accusation against him.

But he... said... "Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or

to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it?"...He said unto the man, "Stretch forth thy hand." And he did so and his hand was restored whole as the other. And they were filled with madness...

In those days... he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples,

and of them he chose 12 whom also he named apostles: Simon (whom he also named Peter) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot which also was the traitor. (Luke 6:1-16)

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