



Week 1: The Days of Jesus

How did a small Jewish Messiah movement become the Gentile-dominated and often anti-Semitic religion of Christianity? We have some explaining to do.

~ Robert Bilmont

The messiah is a fundamental Judaic conception and conflicting opinions about the messiah's appearance, identity, activity and implications caused the historical and religious division between Judaism and Christianity.

~ William Scott Green

Why did Rabbinism and not Christianity triumph with Jewish communities in Palestine? First of all, nationalist sentiments were strong among the Jews of Palestine in the first two centuries of the current era, and Jewish Christianity would have found it hard to cope with any form of intense nationalism.

~ James D. G. Dunn

Christians stressed the spiritual nature of the kingdom and de-emphasized the territorial dimension of Judaism. Such radicalism was out of joint with the spirit of the times.

~ James D. G. Dunn

What happened to Jesus of Nazareth was the very climax of the long story of Israel.

~ N. T. Wright

Jesus was not busy with a religious revival, he was busy with a revolution – a revolution in religion, in politics, and in everything else.

~ Albert Nolan

It is no surprise, in view of his teachings and actions, that Jesus was crucified. What is surprising is that it did not occur sooner.

~ Ben Witherington III

The Pharisees were good, faithful, religious people of their day. And it is good, faithful religious people of every era who find themselves in conflict with Jesus.

~ Beverly Roberts Gaventa

The seers and prophets had foretold it long ago,
That the long-awaited One would make me stumble.
But they were looking for a king to conquer and to kill.
Who'd have ever thought He'd be so meek and humble?

~ Michael Card

My kingdom is not of this world.

~ Jesus