

Here is an event recorded by Luke the historian, who claimed to have spoken to eyewitnesses, and investigated the life of Jesus thoroughly<sup>3</sup> before writing his account to Theophilus in A.D. 60:

"A funeral procession was coming out as he approached the village gate. The boy who had died was the only son of a widow, and many mourners from the village were with her. When the Lord saw her, his heart overflowed with compassion. "Don't cry!" he said. Then he walked over to the coffin and touched it, and the bearers stopped. "Young man," he said, "Get up." Then the dead boy sat up and began to talk to those around him! And Jesus gave him back to his mother." Great fear swept the crowd, and they praised God, saying, "A mighty prophet has risen among us," and "We have seen the hand of God at work today."<sup>4</sup>

Saul of Tarsus, another man who lived during those events wrote, "Messiah died for our sins...he was buried, ...three days afterwards



he arose from the grave just as the prophets foretold. He was seen by Peter and later by the rest of "the Twelve." After that he was seen by more than five hundred Christian brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now. Then James saw him...last of all I saw him too."<sup>5</sup>

HAS  
GOD  
EVER  
BEEN HERE?

## HERE'S A FEW THINGS GOD SAID:

Here are a few of the most famous teachings of Jesus. As you read them, ask yourself, Is this the voice of God?"

"Look at the lilies and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for the flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you?"<sup>6</sup>

"There is a saying, "Love your *friends* and hate your *enemies*." But I say: Love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In that way you will be acting as true sons of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust too. If you love only those who love you, what good is that? Even scoundrels do that much... But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect."<sup>7</sup>

"Do for others what you want them to do for you. This is the teaching of the laws of Moses in a nutshell."<sup>8</sup>

"Ask, and you will be given what you ask for. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks, receives. Anyone who seeks, finds. If only you will knock, the door will open."<sup>9</sup>

"Not all who sound religious are really godly people. They may refer to me as "Lord," but still won't get to heaven. For the decisive question is whether they obey my Father in heaven."<sup>10</sup>

"Heaven can be entered only through the narrow gate! The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide enough for all the multitudes who choose its easy way. But the Gateway to Life is small, and the road is narrow, and only a few ever find it."<sup>11</sup>

"For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts of lust, theft, murder, adultery, wanting what belongs to others, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, pride, and all other folly. All these vile things come from within; they are what pollute you and make you unfit for God."<sup>12</sup>

"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free<sup>13</sup>... I assure you that everyone who sins is a slave of sin. A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is

part of the family forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will indeed be free."<sup>14</sup>

"For only I, the Son of Man, have come to earth and will return to heaven again. And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so I, the Son of Man, must be lifted up on a pole, so that everyone who **believes in me** will have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who **believes in him** will not perish but have eternal life. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it."<sup>15</sup>

And the Father leaves all judgment of sin to his Son, so that everyone will honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. But if you refuse to honor God's Son, whom he sent to you, then you are certainly not honoring the Father."<sup>16</sup>

"The father and I are one."<sup>17</sup>

"I am the one who raises the dead and gives them life again. Anyone who **believes in me**, even though he dies like anyone else, shall live again."<sup>18</sup>

"I am the Bread of Life. No one **coming to me** will ever be hungry again. Those **believing in me** will never thirst. ... For I have come here from heaven to do the will of God who sent me."<sup>19</sup>... "This is the will of God, that you **believe** in the one he has sent."<sup>20</sup>

"**Come to me**, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light."<sup>21</sup>

"If anyone is thirsty, let him **come to me** and drink. For the scriptures declare that rivers of living water shall flow from the inmost being of anyone who **believes in me**"<sup>22</sup>

"My sheep recognize my voice, I know them and they **follow me**. I give them eternal life and they shall never perish."<sup>23</sup>

"I am the light of the world. So if you **follow me**, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, for living light will flood your path."<sup>24</sup>

"You must put aside your selfish ambition, shoulder your cross, and **follow me**... how do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul in the process?"<sup>25</sup>

"...yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah must suffer and die and rise again from the dead on the third day; and that this message of salvation should be taken from Jerusalem to all the nations: *There is forgiveness of sins for all who turn to me.*"<sup>26</sup>