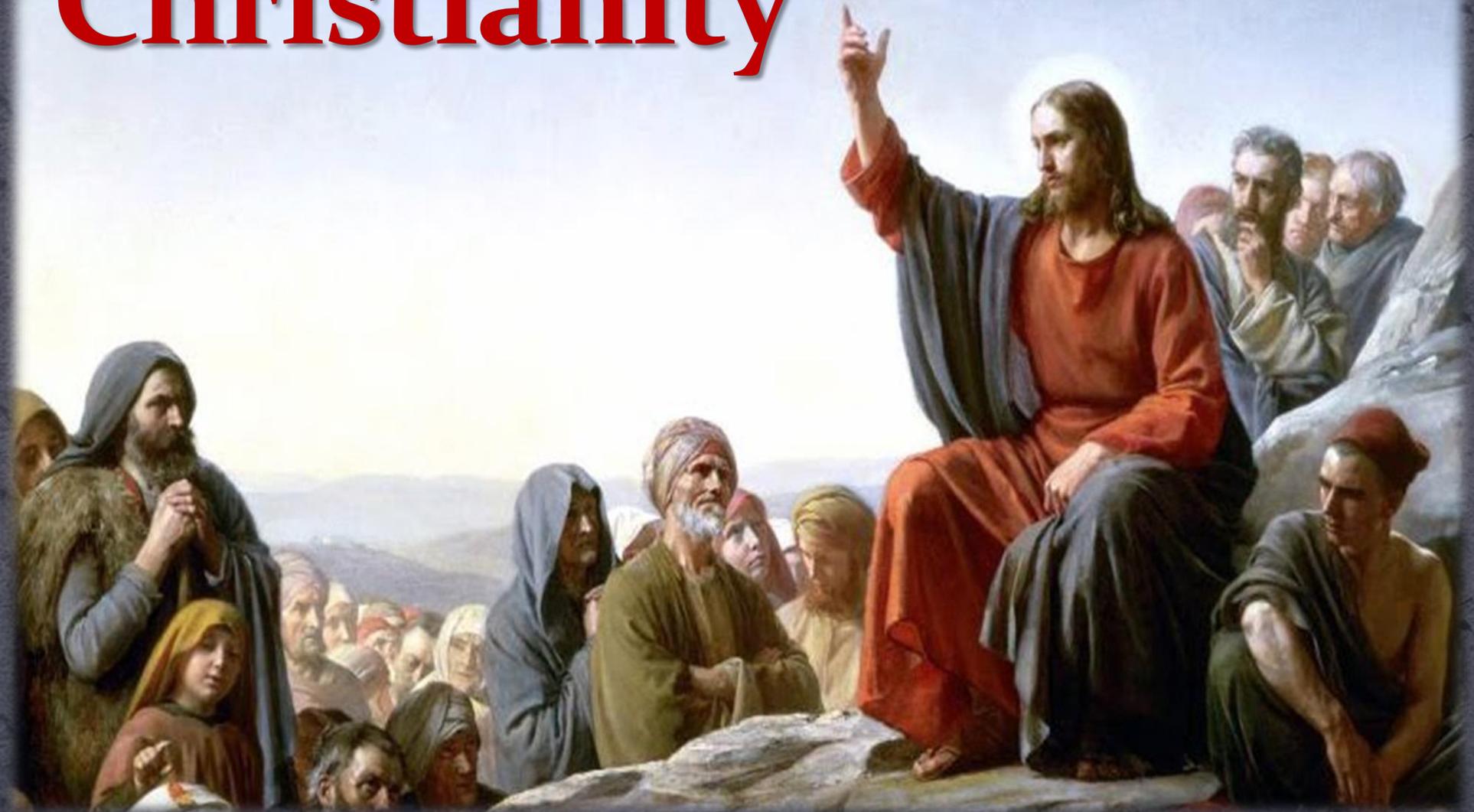


Beginnings of Christianity



Essential Question:

How did Christianity begin?



(1)

What is the story of the birth of Jesus?

- For many centuries, the Roman religion had been the **DOMINANT** religion in Rome
- The **JEWISH** faith was also fairly common in the area
- The Jews believed that a **MESSIAH**, or chosen one would come to Earth to free them from Roman oppression
- Many believed that Jesus was this promised Messiah



(2)

- The four main sources we have on the life of Jesus come from four books included in the **NEW TESTAMENT**, part of the Christian Bible
- These books are Mathew, Mark, Luke, and **JOHN**



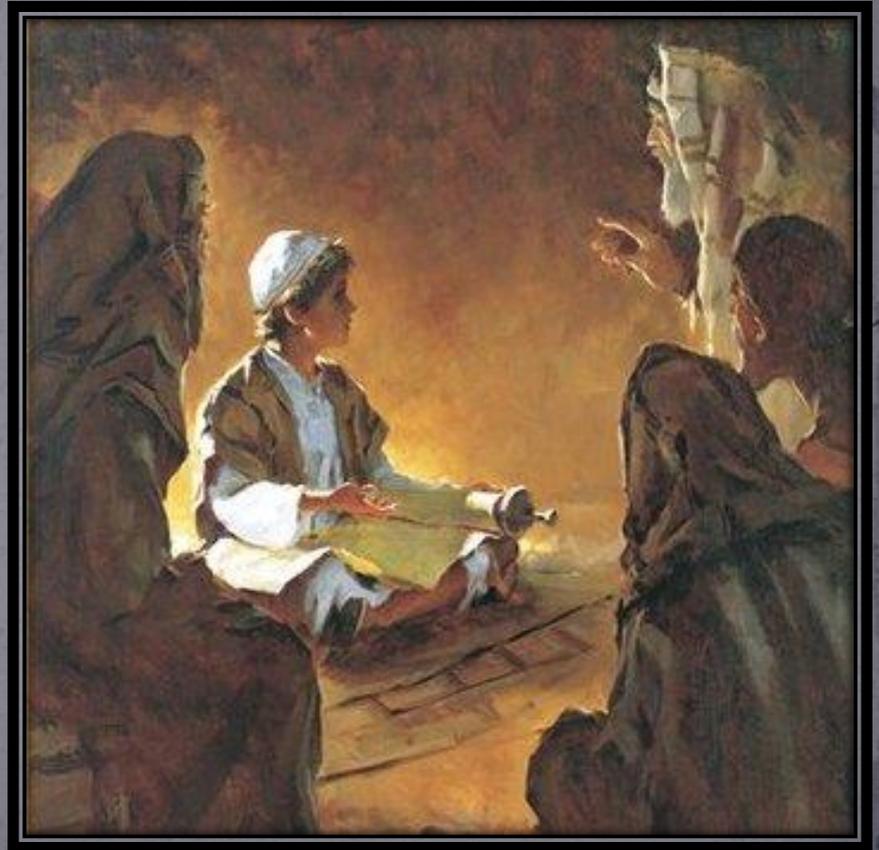
(3)

- Jesus was born in a town called **BETHLEHEM** when Herod the Great was ruler of Judea
- Some people thought that Jesus would grow up to become the new **KING**, Herod did not want this to happen, he tried to **KILL** the newborn baby and his parents, Mary and Joseph



(4)

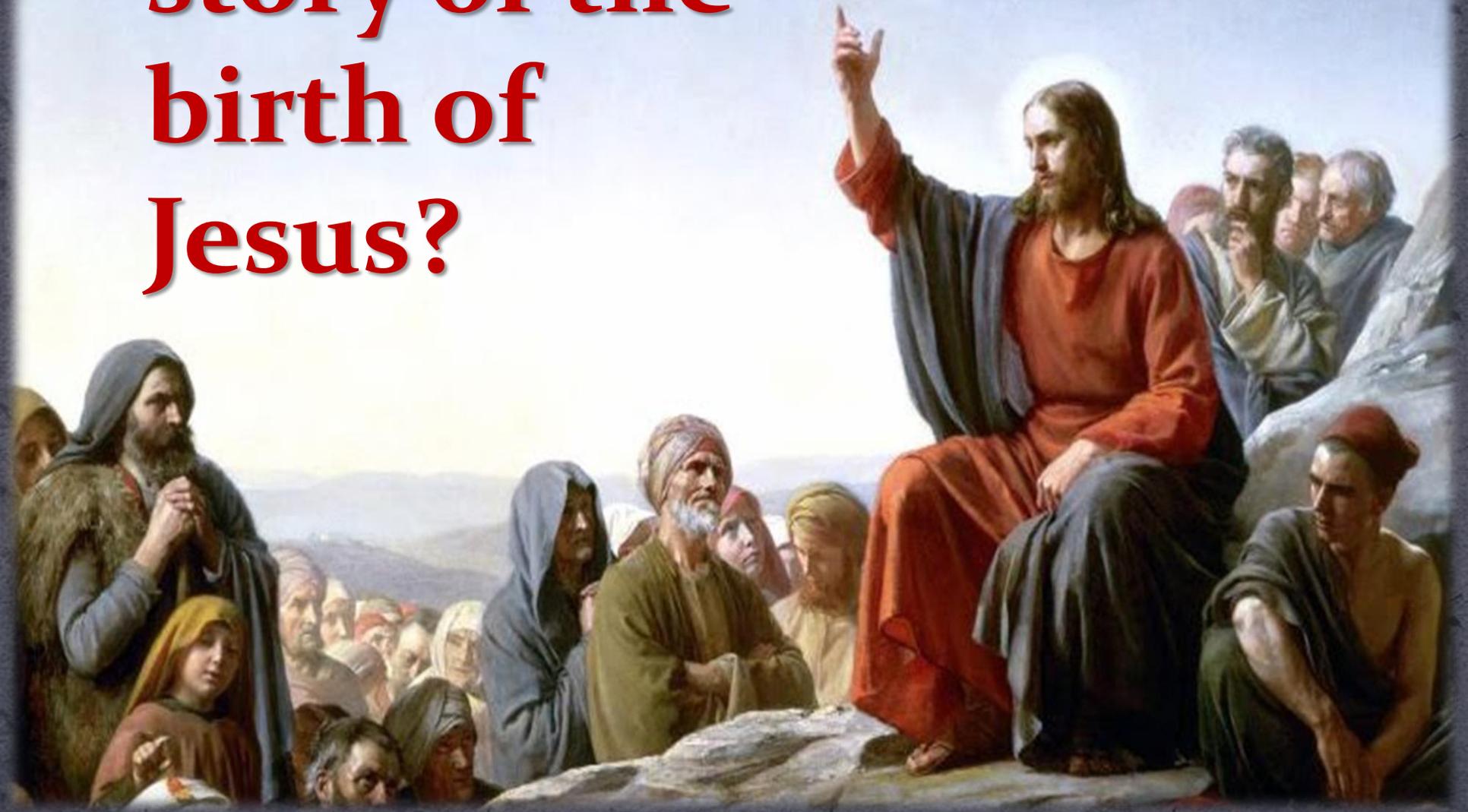
- To save themselves from being killed, the family moved to **EGYPT** until Herod died, then they returned to live in a town called **NAZARETH**
- Jesus was raised in the Jewish religion, he learned fast and amazed everyone with his **KNOWLEDGE**





Jesus is born 2 min

What was the story of the birth of Jesus?



(5) **What basic beliefs did Jesus teach?**

- When Jesus was grown, he began to teach people in the Jewish **SYNAGOGUES**
- He reminded people about the ten **COMMANDMENTS** and living a good life
- He taught there was only one **GOD**.
- Many people came to hear Jesus teach, both Jew and non-Jew
- Jesus gathered a group of twelve followers, they traveled and taught with him



The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and
shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven.

Matthew 5:3-12, The Holy Bible

I
THOU SHALT HAVE
NO OTHER GODS
BEFORE ME

II
THOU SHALT NOT
MAKE UNTO THEE
ANY GRAVEN IMAGE

III
THOU SHALT NOT
TAKE THE NAME OF
THE LORD THY GOD
IN VAIN

IV
REMEMBER THE
SABBATH DAY TO
KEEP IT HOLY

V
HONOR THY FATHER
AND THY MOTHER

VI
THOU SHALT
NOT KILL

VII
THOU SHALT NOT
COMMIT ADULTERY

VIII
THOU SHALT
NOT STEAL

IX
THOU SHALT NOT
BEAR FALSE
WITNESS AGAINST
THY NEIGHBOR

X
THOU SHALT
NOT COVET

(6)

- Many people believed that this Jesus was the **MESSIAH** that they had been waiting for, but many others did not
- The Romans were worried that Jesus and his followers might **OVERTHROW** their government
- Jesus taught his followers not to **REBEL**, but to pay their taxes and honor the law
- The Romans still saw him as a **THREAT**

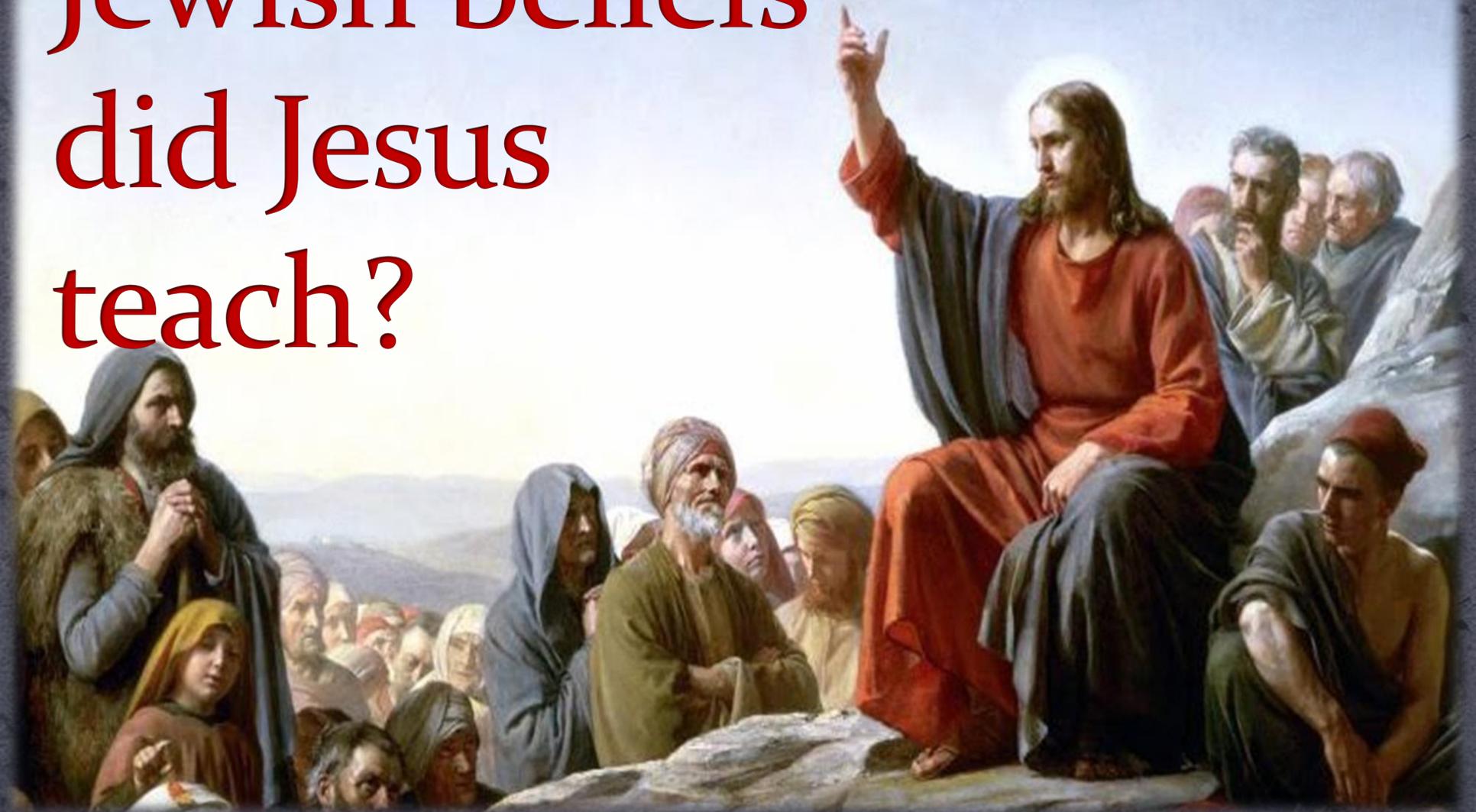


(7)



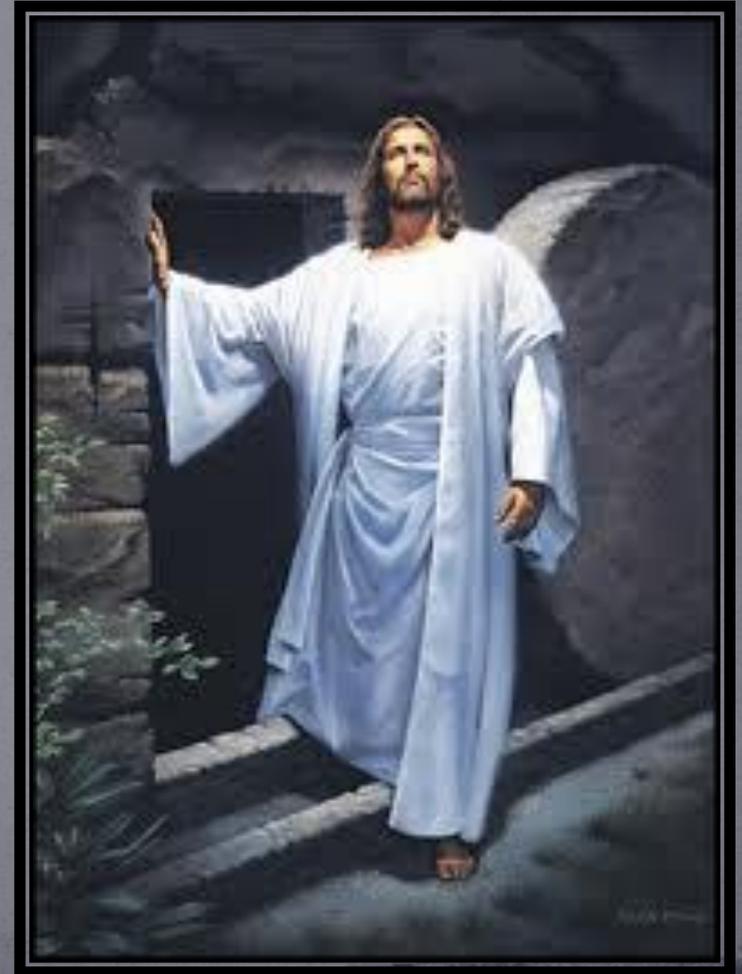
- In A.D. 30, the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, ordered that Jesus be put to death by **CRUCIFIXION**
- When someone was crucified, they were nailed or tied to a large cross suspended over the ground, they would eventually die of suffocation or **STARVATION**
- With Jesus dead, the Roman government thought the **CONFLICT** was over, but then something amazing happened....

What basic
Jewish beliefs
did Jesus
teach?



(8) Why did Rome see Christianity as a form of rebellion?

- According to some of Jesus' followers, he had risen from the **DEAD**
- The story of his resurrection spread and his twelve followers, now called the **APOSTLES**, began to spread the word all over the country that Jesus was the Messiah



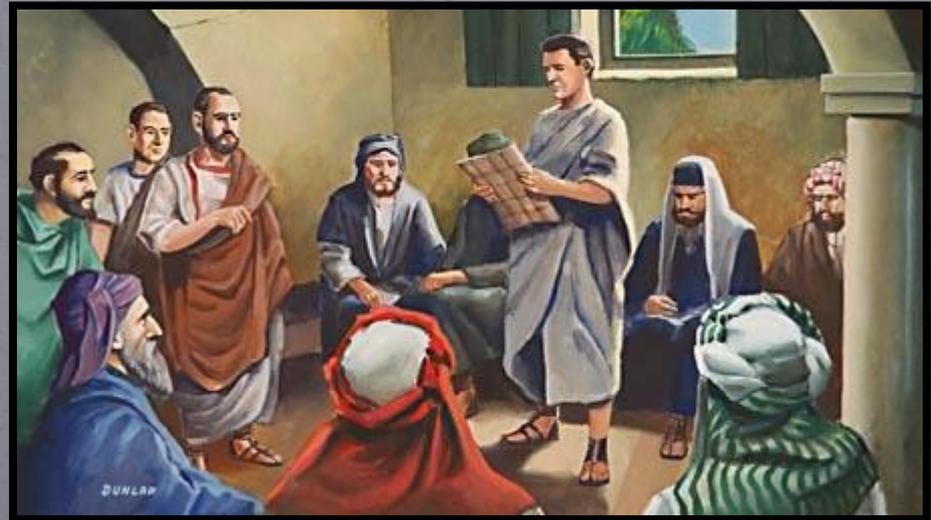
(9)

- One man who had **NOT** been a follower of Jesus, but tried to stop him, said he had seen a vision in which Jesus came to him, afterwards he changed his mind about the new faith
- This man was named **SAUL**, he changed his name to **PAUL** and started spreading the new religion



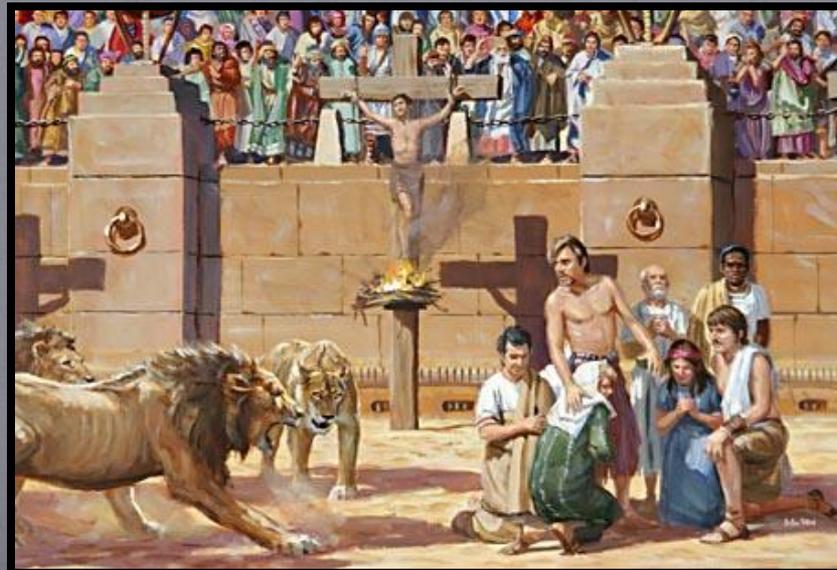
(10)

- The followers of Jesus were called **CHRISTIANS**, *Christos* is the Greek word for Messiah, so Jesus was known as Jesus Christ, and the new religion was called Christianity
- As the religion grew, so did the **PERSECUTION** from the Romans
- One reason was that the Christians refused to worship the roman gods



(11)

- They also urged others to give up the Roman religion and **CONVERT** to theirs
- Over the years, thousands of Christians would be put to death because of their beliefs
- People who would choose to die rather than give up their religion are known as **MARTYRS**
- Many of the early Christians were killed in **TERRIBLE** ways.





Christianity in the Roman Empire 3 min

Why did the Romans see Christianity as a form of rebellion against Rome?



Essential Question:

How did Christianity begin?



The End



• Power Point created by James Reese, 2013

• Primary source Harcourt Social Studies Ancient Civilizations, Volume Two

• Copyright by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company 2010 Edition