

JS2 CRS NOTES FOR 3RD TERM

SCHEME OF WORK FOR JS 2 ON CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Week 1. The passion of Christ

- The triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.
- The last supper/ Significance of the last supper. Matthew 26:57-68.

Week 2. The passion of Christ

- The betrayal and arrest. Mark 14:43-65, Matt. 26:47-56.
- The trial of Jesus and Peter's denial. Matt. 26:47-68, 69-75.

Week 3. The passion of Christ

- The trial of Jesus before Pilate. Matthew 27:1-2; 11-26
- Instance a Christian denying Christ and his/her neighbor

Week 4. The death and burial of Jesus Christ continues

The Crucifixion. Matt 27:32-44.

Week 5. The death and burial of Jesus Christ continues:

The death – Matt. 27:45-56

Seven words of Jesus on the cross.'

Jesus before Pilate. Matthew 27:1-2; 11-26

WEEK 6. The death and burial of Jesus Christ continues:

The Burial – Matt. 27:57-61

The Significance of the crucifixion, death and burial of Jesus.

Week 7. The resurrection and appearance of Jesus:

The Resurrection. Matt. 28:1-10, Mark: 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12.

Appearances Matt 28:16-20, Mark 16:9-18; John 21:1-end, Luke 24:13-49

Week 8. The Ascension of Christ.

Week 9. The Great Commission

Jesus Ascends to heaven.

Week 10. Revision/ Examination.

Week 11. End of Third Term Examination

TOPIC:

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE TRIUMPHANT ENTRY OF JESUS INTO JERUSALEM

Matt. 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44.

THE MEANING OF PASSION OF CHRIST

Passion of Christ could be defined as the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. This took place between seven to eight days.



REASON FOR JESUS' GOING INTO JERUSALEM AND THE INSTRUCTION OF GETTING THE COLT

When Jesus had finished His ministry in Galilee, He and his disciples went to Jerusalem to preach the gospel. When they came to Bethpage, a village near Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of His disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, '*The Lord has need of them,*' and he will send them immediately."

THE FULFILMENT PROPHECY IN THE TRIUMPHANT ENTRY

- According to Matthew, Jesus' riding on the colt of an ass into Jerusalem fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah in Zech. 9:9 – Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on an ass, on a colt the foal of an ass. This is where the word 'Triumphant Entry' comes from.

HOW JESUS WAS RECEIVED IN JERUSALEM

Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

The crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, "*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!*" the word Hosanna means 'Praise to God'

And when he entered Jerusalem, the entire city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee."

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRIUMPHANT ENTRY OF JESUS INTO JERUSALEM.

1. By entering Jerusalem, Jesus was announcing that He was the expected Messiah prophesied by Isaiah and Zechariah (Zech. 9:9).

2. By riding on an ass not a horse, Jesus was showing humility, and His coming in peace not war. This is to encourage Christians to live peaceful lives, and to promote peace in the world.
3. By addressing Christ, “Hosanna to the Son of David”, the people recognized Him as King.
4. Christians everywhere celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as PALM SUNDAY.
5. ASSIGNMENT:

Mention the materials that were used in celebrating the Passover.

TOPIC:

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE LAST SUPPER

Matthew 26:17-30

WHAT IS PASSOVER?

Passover is a feast of the Jews, instituted to remember the divine escape of the Israelites in Egypt when God smote the first-born of the Egyptians and passed over the houses of the Israelites, which were marked with the blood of the paschal lamb.

It is ‘pass’ and ‘over’. Passover feast lasts for about seven to eight days every year.

PREPARATION FOR CELEBRATION

According to Matthew 26:17-19, Jesus celebrated the Passover with His disciples in Jerusalem. It was the last supper He had with them before His crucifixion on the cross.

When the time came, his disciples asked him of the place where they would celebrate it. He directed them to a certain house to inform the landlord that He would celebrate the Passover in his house. And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared for the Passover.

MATERIALS USED TO CELEBRATE THE PASSOVER

1. Unleavened bread (that is, bread without yeast).
2. A year-old lamb without blemish(defect).
3. Bitter herbs.
4. Wine.
5. Tables and chairs well arranged in the room for feast.

EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE DURING THE LAST SUPPER –

MATT. 26:20-30

Jesus sat at table with His disciples and as they were eating, he said, one of them will betray Him. And they asked Him to tell them the name of the betrayer He answered, *“He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me, will betray me.”*

He said that *“the Son of man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”*

Judas, who was to betray him, said, *“Is it I, Master?”* He said to him, *“You have said so.”*

As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body. "And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sin. He told them "I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LAST SUPPER

1. The Passover now signifies the spiritual liberation from sin for all who believe.
2. The last supper represents the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross which save us from sin.
3. Christians all over the world celebrate the Last Supper on Sundays and on special occasions as the HOLY COMMUNION or the EUCCHARIST.
4. God wants us to have true fellowship with other fellow Christians through the Holy Communion.

TOPIC

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

SUBTOPIC: THE BETRAYAL OF JESUS CHRIST

MATT. 26:31-46; MARK 14:27-42.

JESUS FORETELLS THAT HIS DISCIPLES WILL FALL AWAY

Jesus told His disciples that they will all fall away; for it is written, *“I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.”*

Peter said to him, *“Even though they all fall away, I will not.”*

Jesus made it known to Peter that, that very night, before the cock crows twice, he will deny him (Christ) three times.”

THE EVENT AT THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

After the last supper, Jesus left Jerusalem for the Mount of Olives to a place called GETHSEMANE to pray.

He took with Him Peter, James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled.

When they got to the garden, Jesus went forward alone to pray, leaving the three disciples to watch and pray that they may not enter into temptation.

When He came back, He found them sleeping. He did that three times according to the gospel of Mark. It was after the third time of His prayer, the betrayer came.

THE BETRAYAL

While Jesus was still speaking with His disciples Judas came, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people.

Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, *“The one I shall kiss is the man; seize him.”*

Jesus was betrayed by a kiss by Judas Iscariot.

THE ARREST

When the disciples saw what was happening, they tried to protect Jesus. One of them cut off the ear of one the slaves of the high priest with the sword. But Jesus did not support it.

When the disciples saw that Jesus was not going to fight or save Himself, and for the fear of being arrested, all the disciples forsook him and fled, leaving Jesus alone to be taken away.

MORAL LESSONS

1. Peter boasted that he could never deny Christ but later fled when others fled. We should not be too confident in ourselves but be confident in God.
2. The disciples failed to pray at the crucial hour, we should always watch and pray at all times, through the help of the Holy Spirit.
3. Jesus trusted Judas Iscariot; yet he betrayed Him (Jesus) with a kiss. We must ask for the help of the Holy Spirit to help us not to betray the trust God have in us, as well as others.

TOPIC:

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE TRIAL OF JESUS AND PETER’S DENIAL

Mark 14:53-15:1-15; Matthew 26:57-75

THE MEANING OF TRIAL

Trial means examination by a test or questioning.

In law, trial is the examination of a cause in controversy between parties, before a proper tribunal. Trials can be civil or criminal.

Trial in civil cases, may be by record or inspection; it may be by witnesses and jury, or by the court.

THE TRIAL OF JESUS BEFORE CAIAPHAS

Jesus was taken to the high priest's palace and put on trial before the Sanhedrin chaired by Caiaphas.

It was abnormal to hold a trial at night, but Jesus' enemies were determined to get rid of Him before 6.00pm.

The chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward. But in all these Jesus did not say anything to defend Himself.

THE JUDGMENT OF CAIAPHAS

Finally, Caiaphas, the high priest, asked Jesus if He was the Messiah, and when Jesus said that He was, Caiaphas said that was blasphemy; and they all said that Jesus deserved death. They spat in His face, struck Him and slapped Him.

PETER DENIES JESUS

The denial of Peter took place that night when he followed Jesus to where he was being tried. As he (Peter) was standing, a slave girl accused him that he was a follower of Jesus but he denied it. After a while, another slave girl accused him of being with Jesus but denied with an oath. Thirdly, the people standing around when they saw him said he was certainly with Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane but he denied it calling curses upon himself and immediately, the cockcrow three times and then he remembered what Jesus said. Peter went out and wept for what he had done by denying his master, Jesus.

TOPIC:

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE TRIAL OF JESUS BEFORE PILATE

Matt. 27:1-9, 11-26

JESUS BEFORE PILATE

Matt. 27:1-2, 11-26

The early morning of the of the night that follows Jesus' trial before Caiaphas, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; so they bound him and led him away and delivered him to Pilate the governor.

Only the military governor could order people to be crucified. Crucifixion was Romans' punishment for armed robbery, rioting or plot against the government.

When Jesus stood before the governor; Jesus was asked by Pilate, "*Are you the King of the Jews?*" Jesus said, "*You have said so.*" Jesus gave him no answer, not even to a single charge.

BARABBAS REPLACES JESUS

MATT. 27:15-26

Pilate did not want to condemn Jesus to death, because he saw that Jesus was innocent of the Jews accused Him of.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. The people told Pilate to release the notorious criminal called Barabbas in place of Jesus to be crucified, having scourged Him

JUDAS ISCARIOT HUNG HIMSELF

Matt. 27:3-9

When Judas Iscariot, the betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, they rejected the money. So, he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself.

The chief priests, did not put the money into the treasury, since they are blood money." So they bought the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore, that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.

TOPIC:

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

INSTANCES OF CHRISTIANS DENYING CHRIST AND NEIGHBOURS

THE STAGES IN PETER'S DENIAL

There were three stages in Peter's denial according to Matt. 26:69-75, namely:

- 1) *First:* he pretended to be confused and tried to change the subject.
- 2) *Second:* he used an oath to deny that he knew Jesus.
- 3) *Third:* he swore that he did not know Jesus.

CONDITIONS/INSTANCES THAT COULD MAKE A CHRISTIAN DENY CHRIST AND NEIGHBOURS.

These include:

1. Fear of punishment.
2. Swearing in the name of God in telling lies.
3. Telling lies to get some favours.
4. Cheating during tests and examinations.
5. Failure to defend Christianity when attacked by non-Christians.
6. Refusal to stand up for Jesus by doing what is evil (failing in temptation)
7. Fear of being persecuted for the sake of righteousness.

SOME MORAL LESSONS

1. Peter disappointed Jesus by denying Him. We also disappoint Jesus whenever we do what is wrong and evil.
2. We must learn not to disappoint Jesus; it is necessary for us to always do the right thing.
3. We can only defend Jesus by asking God to give spiritual boldness and courage.

TOPIC:

THE CRUCIFIXION, DEATH AND BURIAL OF JESUS CHRIST.

SUBTOPIC:

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS CHRIST

MATT. 27:27-31; 32-49

THE EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE AFTER JESUS WAS TRIED BEFORE PILATE

MATT. 27:27-31

These events is highlighted thus:

- 1) The soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him.
- 2) They stripped Jesus and put a scarlet robe upon him,
- 3) They put crown of thorns on his head and put a reed in his right hand.
- 4) They mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"
- 5) They spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head.
- 6) They stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him.
- 7) They led him away to be crucified.

ON THE WAY TO GOLGOTHA

MATT. 27:32-49

It was a tradition during Jesus' time that anyone that was to be crucified was made to carry the cross. Therefore, Jesus was made to carry His cross, but along the way a man named Simon of Cyrene was forced to help Jesus with His cross.

AT GOLGOTHA

Matt. 27:34-44

Jesus was crucified at about 9.00am on Friday Morning at a place called Golgotha (which means the place of skull), with other two robbers. There they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

The soldiers crucified Jesus by laying Him on the cross and hammered nails into His hands and feet. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. On the cross was an inscription: *"This is Jesus the King of Jews"*. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. The people and Jewish leaders mocked Jesus on the cross.

One of the robbers also mocked Jesus while the other one received forgiveness because of the words of his mouth. Jesus said to him today you will be with me in Paradise.

ASSIGNMENT

Write the seven sentences of Jesus on the cross as contained in Matthew, Luke and John.

QUIZ

1. Mention the three stages in Peter's denial
2. Mention four ways we deny Jesus

TOPIC

THE CRUCIFIXION, DEATH AND BURIAL OF JESUS CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 27:45-56

1. There was darkness all over the land from the Sixth (12 noon) to the ninth hour (3pm)
2. Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sabach-thani?" that is, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
3. Some of the people thought He was calling on Elijah to save Him. So one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink.
4. Jesus cried again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

THINGS THAT HAPPENED IMMEDIATELY JESUS YIELDED UP HIS SPIRIT. MATT. 27:51-56

1. The curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.
2. The earth shook.
3. The rocks split.
4. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.
5. The centurion and those who were with him said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"
6. Many women from Galilee were there, looking on from afar.

THE SEVEN SENTENCES OF JESUS ON THE CROSS

These sentences uttered in the following order and in the following gospels:

1. Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing – Luke 23:34.
2. "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." – Luke 23:43.
3. "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani, my God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" – Matt. 27:46.
4. Woman, behold your son", and the disciple, "behold your mother." – John 19:26-27.
5. "I am thirsty." – John 19:28.
6. "It is finished." – John 19:30.
7. "Father into your hands, I commit my spirit." – Luke 23:46.
8. TOPIC:

THE CRUCIFIXION, DEATH AND BURIAL OF JESUS CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE BURIAL OF JESUS CHRIST

Matt. 27:57-61

THE BURIAL OF JESUS CHRIST

Matt. 27:57-61

There was a rich man called Joseph of Arimathea (He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, he was also a disciple) went to Pilate at night to ask for the body of Jesus in order to bury it, Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.

Joseph the Arimathea took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new sepulchre (A Sepulchre is a tomb cut in the rock), and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb, and departed. The women disciples (Mary Magdalene and the other Mary) were there to see where Jesus was buried.

WHY THE TOMB OF JESUS WAS GUARDED

Matt. 27:62-66

The Next day after Jesus' burial, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and told him that they remembered how that Jesus said He will rise again after three days. So, they made a request

that the sepulchre be made secured until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away, and tell the people, that "He has risen from the dead".

Pilate gave them permission to use a guard of soldier to make it as secured as they could. So they went and made the sepulchre secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH OF JESUS

1. The significant events that happened during his death confirmed that he is really the son of God.
2. By the death of Jesus, we are washed with his blood and save us from terrible consequences of sin.
3. Through his death he has won victory over death. Sin and death no longer has dominion over the children of God. (Rom. 6:9; 8:2)
4. God used the blood of Jesus to establish the New Covenant for us.

TOPIC:

THE CRUCIFIXION, DEATH AND BURIAL OF JESUS CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BURIAL OF JESUS CHRIST

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH OF JESUS

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4. God used the blood of Jesus to establish the New Covenant for us.
5. It also shows or demonstrated God's love for Mankind.
6. His death is celebrated on Good Friday.

MORAL LESSONS FROM THE CRUCIFIXION, DEATH AND BURIAL OF JESUS

1. Jesus was sentenced to death by the reason of people who bore false witness against Him. We should always tell the truth.
2. As Jesus was courageous and truthful even to death, so should we never show fearfulness in standing for the truth.
3. We must learn to forgive those who offend us as did Jesus on the cross.
4. Just as Joseph of Arimathea used his tomb for Jesus so are we to use whatever we have to assist others.

TOPIC: THE RESURRECTION AND APPEARANCES OF JESUS

SUBTOPIC:

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

MATT. 28:1-10, MARK: 16:1-8, LUKE 24:1-12

WHAT IS RESURRECTION?

To resurrect means to come back to life from the dead. This was seen in the life of Lazarus a friend of Jesus, the Widow's son at Nain and Jesus Christ.

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24: 1-12

Early On the first day of the week which is after the Sabbath day, Mary Magdalene, Mary the Mother of James and Salome went to the tomb of Jesus so as to anoint his body to prevent it from smelling. While on their way, they were pondering in their heart on how to get the stone at the entrance of the tomb rolled away. But amazingly when they got there, they discovered that the stone had been rolled away for it happened that before they got there, there was a great earthquake and in it an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and rolled back the stone.

When they got into the tomb, they discovered that Jesus' body was no longer there and as they stood there confused, and angel of the Lord whose appearance was as lightning and garment as white as snow appeared and this made the guards tremble and fell to the ground but for the women, the angel told them not to be afraid but go tell the disciples of the good news and how they are to meet Jesus at Galilee.

When they share d this good news with the disciples, they did not believe and this made Peter and John to run to the tomb but met an empty tomb and found only the linen cloth with which Jesus was wrapped in.

THE SIGNIFICIANCE OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

1. It shows Jesus' victory over death as he conquered Satan, evil, sin and hatred.
2. The resurrection is Christian's hope of eternal life.
3. It also shows or signifies Christians hope of resurrection.
4. The resurrection of Jesus brought about the religion CHRISTIANITY.
5. It marked the completion of Jesus' mission of saving mankind.

ROLE OF THE WOMEN IN THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Their role is described thus:

1. They were the first to get to Jesus tomb after his burial.
2. They were the first to see Jesus' empty tomb and knew about his resurrection.
3. The first to see Jesus after his resurrection.
4. They also announced the resurrection of Jesus to the disciples.

THE APPEARANCES OF JESUS

MATT 28:16-20, MARK 16:9-18; JOHN 21:1-END, LUKE 24:13-49.

THE VARIOUS APPEARANCES OF JESUS

These appearances include the following:

- ▶ APPEARANCES OF JESUS IN MATTHEW'S GOSPEL MATTHEW 28:16-20
- ▶ Jesus appeared to his eleven disciples when they got to Galilee and as they saw him, they worshipped him. He said unto them all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, son and Holy Spirit. In addition, they are to teach people all his commandments and that he would be with them always.

APPEARANCES OF JESUS IN MARK'S GOSPEL – MARK 16:9-18

Here, he appeared to Mary Magdalene. Then latter in another form, he appeared to two of the disciples and also appeared to the eleven. He told them that the following signs will follow them:

1. Cast out demons in His name.
2. Speak in new tongues
3. Pick up serpents
4. Lay hands on the sick to deliver them
5. Not be hurt by any deadly drink.

Appearances in Luke's gospel:

1. The Disciples on the way to Emmaus- Luke 24:13-35
2. The Eleven disciples – Luke 24:36-49

Appearances in John's Gospel:

1. Appearance to Thomas – John 20:24-29
2. Jesus by the Sea of Tiberias – John 21:1-14

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS' RESURRECTION

1. It helps to strengthen the Christian faith.
2. It encouraged the worship and adoration of Christ by the disciples.
3. It shows that God's word will surely come to pass.
4. In regards to Thomas, his appearance banished doubts and deepened his faith in Christ.

MORAL LESSONS FROM THE APPEARANCES OF JESUS CHRIST

Among such include:

1. We must place our hope of eternal life in Christ who rose for our salvation.
2. We must not be like Thomas who doubted but trust God to always fulfill His Word.
3. Since Jesus is alive, we must then be strengthened to face the challenges of life and the future.

TOPIC:

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST

SUBTOPIC:

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Matt. 28:18-20; Mark: 16:15-20

THE GREAT COMMISSION

The Great Commission is the assignment Christ gave His disciples before He ascended to heaven, which is also applicable to all of us Christians today. This assignment is basically to announce him(Jesus) and his messages to others.

The spread of Jesus' message to all parts of the world is called the "Great Commission".

Jesus Christ gave the Great Commission before He finally ascended to heaven. This commission is not only for the disciples for the Christians of these generation to tell others about Jesus Christ

There are two accounts of the Great Commission in the gospels. That is, the Matthew and Mark accounts.

The Story/Account of the Great Commission in Matthew's Gospel - Matt. 28:18-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them immediately after His resurrection. When they saw Christ they worshiped him; but some doubted.

Jesus said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Him." He gave them the following instructions:

1. go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
2. baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
3. Teach them to observe all that I have commanded you.

Lastly, Jesus assured them of His presence.

The Story/Account of the Great Commission in Mark's Gospel (Mark 16:15-20)

Firstly, Christ affirmed the Great Commission – “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation ...”

Secondly, Jesus then mentioned to them the signs that will accompany those who believe:

1. in Christ's name they will cast out demons;
2. they will speak in new tongues;
3. they will pick up serpents;
4. if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them;
5. They will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

1. The demands of the Great Commission still include Christians today.
2. As Christians, we are to see ourselves as disciples of Jesus fulfilling the Great Commission.
3. All Christians are to become evangelists by preaching the gospel of salvation to mankind.
4. Our lives are the first tool of the great Commission. We must live a correct and holy life for us to be able to win souls to Christ.
5. The signs mentioned in Mark 16:15-20 will only follow those who obey the Great Commission.

JESUS ASCENDS TO HEAVEN

MARK 16:19-20; LUKE 24:50-53

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST

REVELATION 7:16-17; JOHN 14:1-3; ACTS 1:9-11

1. It marks the last appearance of Christ on earth.
2. It shows that the end of our journey on earth as Christians is heaven (Rev. 7:16-17)
3. It confirms that Christ has finished His work on earth.
4. It strengthens our hope as Christians that Christ has gone to prepare a place for us in heaven (John 14:1-3)
5. It confirms that Jesus is coming back the second time to judge the world, so we must prepare for His coming by the way we live (Acts 1:9-11)