

Life Of Prophet Mohammed and Life Of Jesus Christ

This is just a brief outline. Scholars have written many books.

The lifestyle of the Prophet Mohammed has been recorded in great detail. How he ate, combed his hair and travelled. Eyewitnesses recorded his public and personal life because the prophet believed that Allah told him to be an example.

But for Christians recording these details about our Lord Jesus Christ are not so important. For us it is more important to concentrate on the message that He taught and what Jesus said about how we should live and be.

In the bible we do not find many details about his lifestyle. So I have tried to compare similar areas that we have recorded about Jesus Christ with the same stage in life of the Prophet Mohammed, for example, their births and deaths.

The Prophet Mohammed. Early life

4 different adults brought up the Prophet Mohammed. He was born in Mecca, on Monday, in the lunar month Rabi-ul-Awwal in the year 570 or 571AD. 55 days after Abraham's invasion on Mecca. He was father less.

There was drought in the whole area. Women from Banu Bakr went to Mecca to look for babies from parents who would pay them to take their babies to a healthy environment and look after them. Everyone refused to take the Prophet Mohammed because He was an orphan. Finally there remained no women without a suckling except Halimah. Halimah talked to her husband and "I hate to go back to my people without a suckling, I really would like to take this orphan." She took the baby and brought him up along side her own son, in the highland region of Ta'if.

When he was 4, he was returned to his mother Aminah in Mecca.

When he was 6, his mother and her maid took him to Medina. On the return journey home, in the desert of Abwa, his mother died, and the maid took him to live with his grandfather Abdul-Muttalib. After 2 years his grandfather died.

His uncle, Abu-Talib then brought the prophet Mohammed up.

In his youth.

He looked after sheep around Mecca and used to travel with his uncle on trade journeys to Syria. He lived a simple life and believed in the oneness of God. He did not drink wine, or gamble and was known as a mediator between conflicting parties in his homeland Mecca.

Marriage

When he was 25 years old, his uncle urged him to work with the caravan, which belonged to a wealthy widow named Khadijah. He accepted and travelled to Syria. He conducted business well and returned with a larger profit than usual. Khadijah proposed to him and they married. They had children. Khadijah was his only wife until she died aged 61.

His ministry started aged 40.

He often went to Hira cave in the mountain of Mecca, later known as Jabel An-nu (The mountain of light) to meditate on the oneness of God. When he was 40 he heard an Angel telling him to read 3 times. He replied, "I cannot read." The angel said read in the name of your God. (*Sura 96:1-5*)

For the next 23 years he received revelations, these were later collected in the form of a book and called the Koran. The prophet through his actions, and words interpreted some of the verses. They were gathered together and became the Sunnah. (Traditions).

Lifestyle

The Prophet Mohamed gathered followers around him but not many would listen to his call at first. Mainly his family and the lower class listen. Eventually a small group of Meccan nobles joined him. Other leaders living around the prophet felt threatened and this resulted in some of the Muslims being tortured, persecuted, and boycotted.

The prophet asked for protection from king Negus of Ethiopia, to allow the Muslims to migrate to his country. Negus welcomed them and protected them.

After the death of his uncle Abu Talib and his wife Khadijah the people of Mecca did what they liked. Once a year, it was the custom of local tribes to bring their gods to the Kabah and worship them there along side the God of Abraham. They had cultural activities too. The prophet used these opportunities to teach about God being one. He won many followers. An influential tribe from Yathrib (later known as Medina al Rasul) invited the Muslims to their town to escape the persecutions of those in Mecca. When Meccan unbelievers heard that the Muslims were leaving they tried to prevent them. The Meccans were afraid that the Muslims would have a new base to spread Islam. However the first lot of Muslims had already left. The Meccans tried to kill the Prophet but 2 months later he escaped to Medina with Abu Bakr, Ali, and a few others. The Muslims fought the Meccans sometimes winning and sometimes losing them. He also fought the Byzantine and Persian powers. He established treaties with the Jews of Medina and surrounding tribes. But the Jews broke the treaties and were expelled from the region. It was in Medina that the Prophet introduced some of the pillars of Islam: - Prayer, Almsgiving, Fasting, and Hajj.

He received envoys from many groups including a Christian group from Najran (South Arabia). He honoured them and some became Muslims.

8 years after he left Mecca, the prophet returned with a fighting force and the city surrendered to him.

His Death

He performed the Hajj only once in his lifetime. Muslims from Medina joined him. This was 81- 82 days before his death; during the Hajj season at Mount Arafat he preached his farewell speech. Seated on a camel he taught the fundamentals of Islam. He returned to Mecca and became ill. He still prayed and directed his followers. At the last moment he asked Abu Bakr to lead prayers and died on Monday 12th in the year 11 AH. (633/644 AD) Aged 63 years. The people thought that the prophet would live forever but Abu Bakr said if they worshipped Mohammed, Mohammed had died, and if they worshipped Allah. He lives forever. Mohammed is just a messenger like others before him.

Jesus Christ The Messiah. Early life

Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem in Judea, in the days of Caesar Augustus.

Augustus ordered a census be made of the entire Roman Empire.

His mother Mary was engaged to Joseph who was from Nazareth in Galilee. Joseph was descended from King David. (*Lk 2 1-6*). Mary was a virgin.

While still in Nazareth, The Angel Gabriel visited Mary, see (*Luke chapter 1*). He told her that she was highly favoured and that the Holy Spirit will come upon her and she would give birth to a child who will be called the son of God. Mary was amazed because she was a virgin. The Angel said that she was highly favoured. The Lord was with her.

Mary's fiancée, Joseph discovered that Mary was pregnant. He planned to divorce her quietly. (*Matthew 1:18-24*). (Actually he was in his right to have her stoned to death). But Joseph was a righteous man so he did not want to expose her to shame.

As he wondered what to do, an Angel of The Lord appeared to Him in a dream and told Joseph that Mary's baby was conceived by The Holy Spirit and not to be afraid. Joseph took Mary to be his wife but did not sleep with her until after she gave birth to Jesus. The angel said he should be called Jesus because he will save his people from their sins, and also be called Emmanuel, which means God with us.

Prior to giving birth (*Lk 2*) she went to visit her cousin Elizabeth who was 6 months pregnant with her son who was to be called John The Baptist. Elizabeth's husband was Zechariah a highly respected priest. While Zechariah was in the temple an Angel had visited him and told him that his old wife would become pregnant. When Mary arrived, immediately her cousin knew that Mary's baby was special. Elizabeth said, "Why am I so blessed that the mother of my Lord come to visit me?"

Joseph and Mary had to travel to Bethlehem on a donkey. Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room in town for them to stay. When he was born, Shepherds saw thousands of Angels singing and announcing his birth. They brought gifts to him. After 8 days Jesus was taken to the temple for his circumcision. They presented him to The Lord God. They offered two doves as a sacrifice. A godly man Simeon praised God and spoke of Jesus being the salvation for Gentiles and a prophetess Anna said that Jesus would redeem Jerusalem.

At that time a new star appeared in the East. Some wise men followed the star to Bethlehem and brought gifts of Gold, Frankincense and myrrh. On their way there, they paid their respects to King Herod. They told him about the new star and that it meant that a new king was born. Herod asked them to tell him when they had found him. He felt threatened by Jesus' birth. Once the wise men had been to see Jesus and worshipped him. They were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and went another way home.

Joseph and Mary were also warned of danger in a dream and fled to Egypt, where for a while Jesus was brought up. Herod in his jealousy, killed all the babies aged 2 or under in Bethlehem.

After Herod died, Archelaus reigned. An angel in a dream told Joseph to return to the land of Israel and to Nazareth in the district of Galilee.

In his youth

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When Jesus was 12, his parents thought he was travelling back with them from the feast but he stayed behind in the temple in Jerusalem. When his parents frantically searched for him they found him in the temple. Every one was amazed at his intelligence as he asked the teachers loads of questions. Jesus grew up obedient to his parents, wise and strong with God's grace in him and in favour with men. (*Luke2: 41-51*). Jesus learnt carpentry from His father Joseph. Jesus never married.

His ministry started aged 30.

When Jesus was about 30 he was baptised in the river Jordan by John the Baptist. (His second Cousin). (*Lk 3:21-23*). As Jesus was baptised and praying, The Holy Spirit descended upon him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven; "You are my son, whom I love and with you I am well pleased".

Jesus full of the Holy Spirit went into the dessert and fasted and prayed for 40 days. He ate nothing during these days and at the end of them he was very hungry. The devil tempted him 3 times. Once the devil tried to get Jesus to worship him. But Jesus replied "It is written Worship the Lord your God and serve him only" (*Lk 4:1-13*). Jesus returned to Galilee and taught in the synagogues and everyone praised him.

Life style

Jesus performed many miracles. He never had an army of fighting men around him. His message was peaceful and not forceful.

Jesus had gathered followers around him too. The first ones he selected himself are known as the 12 apostles or disciples. Jesus message was not always accepted. In his hometown of Nazareth he was not understood. He preached in the synagogues from the prophet Isaiah although all spoke well of him some tried to throw him out of town. Jesus never used violence to convert anyone. People believed in Jesus because of the miracles he did. He healed the sick; the blind could see; the lame could walk. He fed 5000 people with 5 loaves and 2 fish. Once he brought a man back from death.

(Lazarus). Jesus taught a message of peace and reconciliation to God. Poor and rich people came to Jesus. Centurions (*Mat8: -5*) and tax collectors, leaders of the communities and outcasts like the Samaritan women. Jesus never rejected anyone. He accepted all who came to him even little children.

He fasted and prayed and he taught the Sermon on the Mount (*Mat 5*) with all the principles of Christian living in it. He taught the truths by telling parables to help people understand. He lived a simple life. He never settled in a city or town to make it his own. He travelled to many towns bringing the good news to all. Many believed. He brought his message to Jerusalem. There he got angry because people were not worshipping God properly. They were not treating God with respect. They were making a business out of worshipping God. He preached against this and created enemies. (*Jn 2:15*). Many people followed him. Some because of his miracles, some because they thought that he might become a military leader. Jesus never taught violence. In fact at the time of his arrest, crowds came with swords and a servant of the high priests ear got cut off, but Jesus said “no more of this” and touched the man’s ear and healed him. (*Lk 22: 47-53*). He said “Am I leading a rebellion, that you come with swords and clubs, everyday I was with you in the temple courts and you did not lay a hand on me.”

Prophecies about Jesus

There are many

(*Ge 3:15*);(*Ge 2:18*);(*Ge4:10*);(*Dt 18:15*); (*Ps 2*); (*Ps 16:10*); (*Ps 45:2*); (*Ps 68:18*);(*Ps 69:21*); (*Ps 110:1*); (*Ps 118:22*); (*PS 132:11*); (*Isa 2:4*); (*Isa 7:14*); (*Isa 9:6*); (*Isa 11:1*); (*Isa 28:16*); (*Isa 42:1*); (*Isa 53*); (*Isa 59:16*); (*Isa 61:1*); (*Isa 63:1*); (*Jer 23:5*); (*Dan 9:25*);(*Mic 5:2*); (*Hag 2:7*); (*Zec 3:8*); (*Zec 6:12*); (*Zec 9:9*); (*Zech 11:12*); (*Zech 12:10*); (*Zech 13:7*); and (*Mal 3:1*).

His death

Jesus predicted his death. (*Mt 16:21*) Jesus promised a place in heaven for all who believe in Him. (*Jn 1:2-4*) It was always known that a messiah would come and die for his people.

On the Sunday before Jesus died He entered Jerusalem triumphantly. (*Mat 21:1-11*).

On the Monday He cleansed the temple and healed in the temple (*Mat 21*)

On Tuesday and Wednesday he taught many parables and prophesied about coming tragedies (*Mat 24:1-14*; *Mk 13:1-13*); (*Lk 21:5-19*). Jesus’ authority was questioned. (*Lk 20:1-8*)

On Thursday Jesus ate the Passover meal and had the last supper. (*Mat 26*);

(*Mk 14:12*). He promised the Holy Spirit (*Jn 16:7-15*) and he prayed for his disciples. (*Jn 17:1-26*). Jesus was betrayed (*Mt 26:47*) and arrested. (*Lk 22*)

On Good Friday Jesus was taken before the high priest for trial. (*Mt 2:47*) Then before Pontius Pilot, (*Mat27*) Jesus was crucified and died. The veil of the temple was

torn in two. Then Jesus was buried. Guards guarded the tomb. Jesus was about 33 when he died.

On Sunday there was an earthquake, (*Mat 28*) the tomb was empty, Jesus rose from the dead. Later, his disciples, and on another time 500, all saw Jesus. (*1Cor 15:6*).

Jesus ascended into heaven (*Mk 16:19-20*); (*Lk 24:50-53*).

After he went to heaven he appeared to Stephen (*Ac 7:55-56*), Paul (*Ac 26:13-15*) and to John (*Rev 1:12-16*) in different visions.

Jesus now is preparing a home for us (*Jn 14-22*)

He will return to take us to be with him. (*Mat 24; 37-44*) and will judge the world (*Mat 25:31-46*).

Lets do a comparison so far: -

You can do this at home and find out more than I have written here: -

Both had to travel as children. The Prophet **Mohammed**'s birth was not foretold. In the space of 8 years, the prophet Mohammed had a foster mother, then his own mother, then his grandfather, and then his uncle to bring him up. This was a very hard start to life. As a child he travelled a lot to and from Mecca to visit his mother. He never learnt to read or write. He looked after sheep. Later he was a successful trader. He married and had children. He always believed in the oneness of God. He got his first revelation at aged 40. He preached a message of peace. He had many battles with those who opposed him. These battles resulted in followers being killed and much blood shed. He expelled the Jews from the city when they refused to follow Islam. He died and did not rise again from the dead. He has not revealed himself to anyone after his death in dreams or visions. There are no prophesies about him.

Jesus' birth was very special. His mother was chosen by God to carry Jesus. Mary was a virgin. At the time of Jesus birth, Mary was pure and untouched by any man and had no children of her own. God informed shepherds and kings about Jesus' birth. His birth was prophesied many times in the bible before it came into being. The wise men were waiting for his birth. They knew the scriptures and knew that they were being fulfilled. When it was time for his purification, Jesus was taken to the temple and a thank offering of 2 doves given for him. In his early life Jesus had to travel with his parents, from Bethlehem, to Egypt and then to Nazareth. There he was brought up as a carpenter. He travelled each year to the temple. He was intelligent. A godly married couple brought up **Jesus**. He had one earthly set of parents to do this. Jesus never married. His ministry began at about age 30. He never settled in a city and never fought any wars. His message of peace was demonstrated peacefully. He came for the whole world. Jesus said I am the way and the truth and the life. He preached that there is only one God. He came to call all people who do wrong back to God. He died about age 33 and rose from the dead. He is alive in heaven now. He is returning to take all those who believe in Him and repent, to be with him in heaven.

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