

What can be Accomplished in a
Three-Year Ministry?

From A Non-Religious, Historical Viewpoint, Jesus Was Ordinary

- He was born in lowly circumstances
 - Luke 2:7 - “And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

From A Non-Religious, Historical Viewpoint, Jesus Was Ordinary

- He didn't become wealthy or politically powerful
 - Matt. 8:20 - “And Jesus said to him, Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.”
 - John 18:36 - “Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”

From A Non-Religious, Historical Viewpoint, Jesus Was Ordinary

- He was not unusually attractive and dynamic
 - Isa. 53:2 - “For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.”

From A Non-Religious, Historical Viewpoint, Jesus Was Ordinary

- He made a lot of influential enemies
 - Matt. 22:15-16, 23 - “Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk. 16 And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men... 23 The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him and asked Him...”

From A Non-Religious, Historical Viewpoint, Jesus Was Ordinary

- He lost most of His supporters during His ministry and at his crucifixion
 - John 6:66 - “From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.”
 - Matt. 26:56 - “Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.”

From A Non-Religious, Historical Viewpoint, Jesus Was Ordinary

- His immediate family did not appreciate him
 - John 7:5 - “For even His brothers did not believe in Him.”
- What did He do in three year ministry to make him the greatest being to have ever walked the face of the earth?

Jesus Is The Definitive Sacrifice

- Jesus lived before He came to earth
 - John 8:58 - “Jesus said to them, Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”
 - John 1:1 - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”
- Jesus enjoyed all the splendor of heaven as God
 - Phil. 2:7-8 - “But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”

Jesus Is The Definitive Sacrifice

- Jesus became a sin offering for the sins of all humankind
 - Heb. 10:10, 12, 14 - “By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all... 12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God... 14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.”
 - Matt. 26:28 - “For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”
 - John 1:29 - “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

Jesus Is The Consummate Mediator

- A mediator acts in behalf of two parties, in this case God and man.
 - 1Tim. 2:5 - “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus”
- Jesus is particularly qualified to be mediator, because he is both God and man
 - Heb. 1:8 - “But to the Son He says: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.”
- Jesus is the only one capable of doing this
 - John 14:6 - “Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

Jesus Is The Perfect Example

- Example is from the Greek hupogrammos - “from hupographo; to write under, to trace letters for copying by scholars” (*Vine’s Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*)
- Jesus is the perfect writing that we try to copy
 - 1Peter 2:21 - “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps”

Jesus Is The Perfect Example

- In prayer
 - Luke 6:12 - “Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.”
- In standing for truth
 - Matt. 4: 4, 7, 10 - “It is written...”
- In correcting sinners
 - Matt. 23:14 - “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!”

Jesus Is The Perfect Example

- In service
 - John 13:15 - “For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.”
- In keeping God's commandments
 - John 4:34 - “Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.”

Jesus Is The Greatest Teacher

- Matt. 7:28-29 - “And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, 29 for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”
- To go beyond Jesus' teaching is to forfeit our relationship with God
 - 2John 9 - “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”

Jesus Is The Greatest Teacher

- Jesus' teaching is also complete, so that all other teaching is unnecessary and forbidden
 - 2John 10-11 - “If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; 11 for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.”
 - Gal. 1:6-9 - “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.”

Jesus Is The Greatest Teacher

- He completed His teaching through his apostles
 - 1Cor. 14:37 - “If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.”
 - John 16:13-14 - “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”

Jesus Created Division

- Many do not think of Jesus as One who generated division
 - Matt. 10:34 - “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.”

Jesus Created Division

- Jesus would not compromise doctrinally
 - John 9:16 - “Therefore some of the Pharisees said, This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath. Others said, How can a man who is a sinner do such signs? And there was a division among them.”
 - 1Cor. 11:19 - “For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you.”

Jesus Established His Kingdom

- The Kingdom was prophesied years before Jesus' advent into this world
 - Dan. 2:44 - “And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.”
 - Gal. 4:4 - “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law”

Jesus Established His Kingdom

- Jesus promised to build His church and kept His promise
 - Matt. 16:18 - “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”
 - Col. 1:13 - “He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love”

Jesus Was The Conduit Of God's Grace To Humankind

- Grace came by Jesus
 - John 1:17 - “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”
 - John 10:10 - “...I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

Jesus Was The Conduit Of God's Grace To Humankind

- Eternal life through salvation is not unconditional. If it were, all men would be saved
 - Matt. 7:13-14 - “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

Jesus Was The Conduit Of God's Grace To Humankind

- The conditions of grace and salvation?
 - One MUST believe - John 8:24
 - One MUST turn from his sins - Acts 17:30-31
 - One MUST declare his faith - Rom. 10:9-10
 - One MUST be baptized - Acts 2:38
 - One MUST live faithful to God - Rev. 2:10

What Can Be Accomplished In A Three-Year Ministry?

- Jesus was not just an ordinary man; He was God with us
 - Matt. 1:23 - “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, God with us.”
 - Col. 2:9 - “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily”

What Can Be Accomplished In A Three-Year Ministry?

- Jesus was not just an ordinary man; He was God with us
 - Heb. 1:1-3 - “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,”

What Can Be Accomplished In A Three-Year Ministry?

- In three years, Jesus did more in three years than all of humankind accomplished in all of the years of our existence in this world
- No man in a dozen lifetimes could undertake and complete one of Jesus' accomplishments