

Religious Education Knowledge Organiser UC Incarnation – Was Jesus the Messiah?



Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
incarnation	God in human form
Messiah	A Saviour. One who frees oppressed people
Saviour	One who delivers from danger. A rescuer
prophecy	The prediction of future events.
Christmas	Celebrated annually by Christians as the birth of Jesus. Date chosen by the churches, rather than a known date.
Gospel	The record of Jesus' life and teachings told in the first four books of the New Testament.

What we have already learnt

- Christians believe Jesus is one of the three persons of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Christians believe God the Father sends the Son who saves His people.

Key Learning

History: Old Testament

- The people of Israel had lost their land. The Romans were in power from 63 BCE. The Jewish people hoped for a saviour, a messiah, who would vanquish their enemies and restore them to their homeland to live in peace under their own laws.
- The early Christians believed Jesus was their Saviour, the Messiah
- They believed he was God in the flesh: **incarnate**

Gospel and Prophecy

- The Old Testament talks about a 'rescuer' or 'anointed one' — a messiah.
- Some texts talk about what this 'messiah' would be like.
- Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled these expectations, and that he is the Messiah. (Jewish people do not think Jesus is the Messiah.)

Christian beliefs about Jesus

- Christians believe Jesus is God in the flesh and see him as their Saviour.
- They believe that his birth, life, death and resurrection were part of a longer plan by God to restore the relationship between humans and God.
- For Christians, the fact that God, as Jesus, walked the earth and lived with humans, offers an incredible vision of Salvation. To Christians it means that there is a chance of a relationship with God.

Key Bible texts

- Matthew 1:18-24 and 2:1-12 (Evidence that Jesus was the Messiah)
- Matthew 21:1-9 (Jesus' entry into Jerusalem)
- Matthew 17:1-13 or Luke 9:28-36 (The Transfiguration)

