

## Original Sin

The Story of Original Sin

Original sin is considered to be the result of the story of Adam and Eve in The Bible. In that story, they broke God's one and only command, which was not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The snake (representing the Devil) persuaded Eve to eat the fruit because it would make her and Adam like God. Once they broke God's solitary command, they were removed from the Garden of Eden. Christians today traditionally believe that no human is without sin because of the actions of Adam and Eve.



## Stories of Jesus' Birth

Luke's Account

The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her that she will have a son and will name him Jesus. Joseph, Mary's husband, had to return to his hometown of Bethlehem. Whilst they were there, a son was born. Mary laid him down in a manger because there was no room to sleep at the inn. Meanwhile, shepherds were living in the fields and watching over their sheep at night. An angel appeared to them and told them about the birth of Jesus and where to find the baby. When the shepherds returned to their home, they thanked God for Jesus.

Matthew's Account

Mary was married to Joseph, but was not made pregnant by him. An angel appeared to Joseph in his dream and said "do not be afraid...for the child was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus". Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Meanwhile in Jerusalem, some wise men had been asking about the newborn. They saw his star and were guided to Bethlehem. They entered the house and saw the baby Jesus with his mother, and they bowed down to worship him. They opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

## Key Terms

Incarnation	God in flesh (as Jesus).
Carne	Latin word meaning 'flesh'.
Hypostatic Union	The belief that Jesus is both 100% God and 100% human.
Sin	A wrongdoing against God.
Free Will	The freedom God gave to humans to make their own choices.
Covenant	A special promise God made with humans.
Salvation	Being saved from the consequences of sin (going to hell).
Characteristic	A feature or quality belonging typically to a person.
Miracle	An event which is unexplained and goes against the laws of nature.
Disciple	A follower of Jesus.
Judas	The disciple that betrayed Jesus for money.
Atonement	Restoring the relationship between God and humanity.
Blasphemy	To disrespect God or religion. This is a crime in certain countries.

## Jesus' Last Days

### The Last Supper

**Last Supper—The last meal Jesus had with his disciples before he announced that someone would betray him.**

During the last supper, Jesus and his disciples celebrated the Jewish festival of Passover. Jesus gave the disciples bread and told them that it would represent his flesh. He also gave them wine and told them that it would represent his blood. To this day, Christians still take the bread and wine to remember the sacrifice Jesus made.

### Betrayal, Arrest & Trial

Jesus was betrayed by one of his disciples, Judas, for money. Jesus was arrested for the crime of blasphemy for allegedly claiming that he was the 'Son of God'. Jesus was found not guilty by the leader Pontius Pilate, however, due to the peer pressure from the crowds Pontius sentenced Jesus to death.

### Crucifixion

**Crucifixion—Being nailed to a cross and left to die.**

Jesus was sentenced to death by crucifixion. He carried his cross to the top of a hill called the Skull and was nailed to his cross in between two criminals. Eventually, Jesus passed away. Only when Jesus passed away did one of the guards finally realise that Jesus was telling the truth, that he really was the Son of God.

### Resurrection

**Crucifixion—Rising back to life from the dead.**

After his death, Jesus was placed in a tomb. After three days, Mary Magdalene came to visit Jesus' tomb but found it empty. Jesus had risen from the dead—a miracle! By Jesus dying, he took the sins for all of humanity and allowed humans to be forgiven for their sins. This meant that they would not go to hell, but be reunited with God in Heaven. This is known as salvation.

### Ascension

**Ascension—Going up to heaven**

Jesus taught his disciples for 40 days before returning to heaven to sit on the right hand side of God.

## How is God portrayed in the New Testament – The Big Picture

This unit will focus on the importance of Jesus in Christianity and how this depiction of God is in stark contrast to the God of the Old Testament.

You will explore key teachings and messages, exploring how although God and Jesus are one, they convey such differing messages. This will firstly

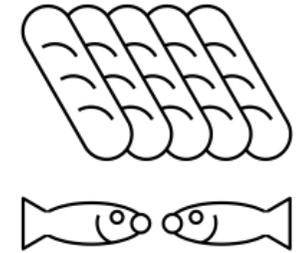
begin by looking at how God and Jesus are one, in other words, the key term 'incarnation' and the implications this has. You will also look at evidence for the incarnation in the form of the birth narratives of Luke and Matthew.



the world through Adam & Eve. You will then go on a journey through time, seeing how God tried to fix the divide between humanity and Himself. Finally, you will look how this divide is eventually closed through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

After understanding how Jesus came to earth, you will then explore why Jesus came to earth. Predating Jesus' existence, you will explore how, according to Christians, sin entered

By this point in the unit, you now understand how and why Jesus came to earth. You now need to explore what he actually did on earth. Although there are hundreds of stories about Jesus, both positive and negative, you will focus on stories demonstrating Jesus as a miracle maker and Jesus as a teacher, arguably his most famous two attributes. You will explore this through a range of media including literature, films and in ages.



You have explored Jesus as a teacher and Jesus as a miracle maker, and so now you will evaluate which of these two characteristics of Jesus are more important through a GCSE exam style question. You will firstly verbally debate this, and then apply this to a question in which you will have to answer both for and against the statement. This allows you to explain different Christian and atheist points of view, as well as using biblical evidence to support your point of view.

Although you now understand why Jesus had to die, you will now understand the stages of his last days – from the Last Supper to his Ascension. This includes learning a range of new key terms including their origin and key spellings. Now comfortable with why Jesus died and knowledge of his miracles, you will evaluate why Jesus did not just perform a miracle and save himself when he was fixed upon the cross.

