



Just as God promised,  
Jesus Christ is born  
and offers salvation to man  
from his sins  
and  
life eternal with God.

Mediterraean Sea

Jerusalem

Egypt

This is available online at [www.gostonebridge.com/familydevo](http://www.gostonebridge.com/familydevo)

## 4 Major Divisions of the Gospel Era Trivia Challenge

1. The first division is the birth of the Promised Messiah. Who was he, who were his earthly parents? What was unusual about his mother? Where was he born? Where did he grow up?
2. In His Early Ministry, Jesus has grown up and begins to reveal that he is the Messiah. Three distinct things occur during this time. Name the first thing that happens that involves John the Baptist? Name the second thing that involves Satan? The third thing is not one single event, but involves Jesus and the people, how is he received during this time and why?
3. During His Later Ministry, these people are very jealous of Jesus. Who are they and why are they jealous? Does Jesus try to teach them?
4. The final division involves Jesus Death and Resurrection. Who succeeds in turning the people against Jesus? What do these people do? What happens to Jesus? Is this the end of Jesus?

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## Victory in the Midst of Defeat

Brad walked up to his last event. He tried to forget the events that had just happened and ignore the pain in his foot. It was his for the taking if he could just suffer through. As he started at the P-Bars, his hard work over the last several years was about to pay off, if he could just muster through. As he waited for the judges raised hand to signal to begin, he tried to keep his mind off the routine that had just taken place on minutes before. He had been at the vault. It had always been one of his very best events in gymnastics. He had been having the best day of his gymnastics career and it could not have happened on a more important day, than at the state championships. With each routine, from his beginning on the floor, to the rings, to the high bar and pommel horse, he had hit every single routine. He was flawless. He was riding at the top of the leader board despite stellar performances from some of the top competitors in the state. As he had finished one event at a time, the crowd had taken more and more notice of him, and the cheers had grown as he rotated from one event to the next. Then at the vault, something happened. This was the event he had waited for. This event should have been his best. It was the beloved vault. He loved the fast run down to the spring board. He loved seeing how hard he could catapult himself off of it and into the air. He loved the feel of floating up and around and he used his momentum to shoot even higher into the air using the power of his arms as he hit the vault. From there he would twist and fly seemingly suspended in time. This time would be different. This time things would change. This time he ran towards the spring board, anxious, excited, focused. As he ran hard he hit the familiar spring board. Quickly his arms found the familiar vault, twisting and spinning in the air, he came towards the mat covered floor. Then it happened, as he hit, he felt it, he knew immediately what had happened. In the place he loved the most, he had been injured, and rejected by the one he loved. His knee had bent back instead of out, and although he stuck his landing, all was not well. The onlookers had scene it too. Down he went afterwards in pain, surely that would be the end of his day. Everyone thought it was over, and everyone thought what a shame, after all he had such a bright future. It had looked as though he would win. And with that horrific turn of events, everyone had written him off. But that was not to be the end.

As he stood next to the P-Bars, he put it out of his mind. This was his last routine, he would not stop now, even though everyone else thought he was over, done with. He knew his mission was not finished yet. He had not come this far to quit without taking home the prize. Well some would say, you will still get recognition, you were a good competitor. But he knew he was not through. He had not finished what he had come for. He put the past behind, and focused on the judge. The judges hand went up, and Brad sprung into action. As he lifted himself onto the Bars, he swung effortlessly through his routine. Then the moment of truth came, his dismount. Even though his lead was solid, a fall now would cost him the prize. Off the bars he flew as he circled the air, down he came on his tender knee. He made sure it had some bend in it as he felt the floor with his feet, and even though he felt the pain, he held his ground. Arching up and raising his hands above his head, he signaled his finish. The crowd erupted, they could not believe he had sustained himself, he had persevered, he had finished the race. The prize now awaited him.

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*When Jesus therefore had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit. John 19:30*

*It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost [of all.] 1 Timothy 1:15*

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