



LESSON 2.1.6 | WATCH | Crash Course World History #11 Christianity from Judaism to Constantine

PURPOSE

In Crash Course World History #11, you will examine the Christian faith, beginning with Judaism, through the birth of Jesus of Nazareth in the Roman Empire and his comparisons to Emperor Augustus, to the spread of the faith following his death. We're examining this through the lense of history, not theology, so by no means are we discussing Jesus' divinity. We're instead using this time to examine what was happening in the world during this era and why were conditions right for the son of a Jewish carpenter to develop such a loyal following and become one of the most influential people on Earth.

Crash Course videos should be used as an introduction to new ideas and concepts, an instruction to core ideas of the unit, and should serve as a reinforcement of previously learned events.

LINK

- [Crash Course World History #11 – Christianity from Judaism to Constantine](#)

Watch the video on your own time, either at home, on your phone, or in the library.

PREVIEW

In which John Green teaches you the history of Christianity, from the beginnings of Judaism and the development of monotheism, right up to Paul and how Christianity stormed the Roman Empire in just a few hundred years. Along the way, John will cover Abram/Abraham, the Covenant, the Roman Occupation of Judea, and the birth, life, death and legacy of Jesus of Nazareth.

PROCESS

As with all of the videos in the course, watch the video before class. The first time through, just try to capture the gist of the video. The next time, try to determine important facts and information. Remember that John speaks quickly and you may benefit from having the captions turned on. If you missed something, have your teacher pause or rewind the video. As you watch the video, consider why did a small group of people believe Jesus as the Messiah? Why and how did that belief become so widespread? And what conditions were present for Christianity to take off where other prophets of the time might have failed?



LESSON 2.1.6 | WATCH | Key Ideas – Factual

Think about the following questions as you watch the video.

1. Who did the Hebrews initially worship and how did they show their faith?
2. What is monotheism?
3. Who are the “chosen people” and what’s the origin of this name?
4. What are some of the characteristics of the Hebrew god?
5. At the time that Jesus was born, some 2000 years ago, who controlled the region of Judea?



TIME _____

6. Jesus' message of peace, love, and social justice was particularly resonant with what groups?

7. How was the message of Jesus and his followers received by the Romans?

8. Why would people of the era believe that Jesus was the Messiah?

9. What similarities do Jesus and Roman Emperor Augustus share?

10. What attribute of Paul (Saul of Tarsus) made it possible to spread the message of Christianity?

11. What other reasons might be responsible for the spread of Christianity during this era?