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Jesus

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Have you ever looked around yourself and wondered why there are many chaoses in the world we are living? The chaoses have occurred among humanity since prehistory until the present day and the main reason is that there are many kinds of people living together in the same place. Some are good, some are bad but they all have to live together. Since there are many problems in their lives, therefore they have been trying to find spiritual anchor. Religion is one of the spiritual anchors which controlling and gathering different kinds of people to live happily together in the society. There are several religions in the world, it came from different places but it has the same main teaching which is to make human to be a good person. Christianity is one of religions in the world. Christianity has already been known for two-thousand and thirteen years. It was developed from Judaism by Jesus. He had intentionally propagated many religious doctrines throughout his life in order to release people from sin, after his death Christianity has still been extended by his disciples till now. Since it has been almost two thousand years since Jesus' death, therefore present-Christianity is not as pure as the original, it was split into three major denominations which are Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Protestantism .

Jesus or Jesus of Nazareth was born on 25th December 1 A.D. at Bethlehem, Palestine (Israel in nowadays)¹. His mother's name was Mariah and his father's name

¹ Wikipedia contributors. "Jesus" *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 7 Feb. 2013. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus>>

was Joseph. Christians believe that God preserved the Virgin Mary from any stain of original sin from the moment she was conceived. In his childhood, he had grown up in Nazareth². Not only he was smart and observant and interested in Hebrew Bible but also he had special power to rescue people from illness. He could talk many languages such as Arabic, Egyptian, especially Greek. When he was 30 years old, he met John the Baptist and got baptized. After baptism, he went to the forest alone to meditate and fast himself for 40 days. Afterward, he started teaching people to get free from sin and find the real happiness. He had gotten 12 apostles (since Jewish has 12 different tribes). As word of his teaching and healing illness spread, more people began to follow him. At the Sermon on the Mount, he showed religious discourses known as the Beatitudes, which encapsulate many of the spiritual teachings of love, humility and compassion³. These religious discourses made some group of people think that his teaching was different from the old teaching of Judaism. As he continued talking about Kingdom of God, some Jewish hermits were offended. They claimed his teachings, which taught people to forgive and be generous to their enemies, were wrong and used this excuse to blame Jesus as a rebel of Roman. The final part of his life, he continued teaching people to love and help each other. Even though it had been only 3 years of teaching, his teaching was so much successful. Unfortunately, his life came to the end because one of his disciples betrayed. After his death 3 days, his resurrection had occurred. He emphasized all his teachings in the Bible to the apostles. The apostles helped each other to propagate his teachings, more people came to follow. Meanwhile, it was hard to propagate the teachings because Jewish really went against them at that time. Among Jesus' disciples, Saint Peter was

² Wikipedia contributors. "Jesus" *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 7 Feb. 2013. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus>>

³ Contributor from biography "Jesus Christ biography" *Bio.true story*. 7 Feb. 2013 <<http://www.biography.com/people/jesus-christ-9354382?page=1>>

appointed by Jesus as a leader of Christianity. He spread it to Rome and chose Rome to be the center of the Christian church. Since then, Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. The civilization of Christianity had been so long until Colonial era, Christianity was introduced into many countries. Therefore, number of Christians had been increased in Africa, America, Asia, and Australia.

In the early Christianity, there were no denominations and all the Christians had the same doctrines, practices and respected the archbishop. Doctrines and practices directly came from Jesus and no one had changed it until the time of Constantine the Great. At that time, he established East Roman to be the center of Byzantine kingdom. As time went by, East Roman became stronger, and then they separated from West Roman where Rome was the center. When East Roman was independent from Rome, they refused to obey archbishop. As a result there was a division of Christianity; new denominations were established. The three major denominations of Christianity are Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestantism. The first one, Catholic, means universal. Catholics don't consider themselves as one of the denominations but the original one, and believe that they honestly preserve the teachings and also maintain the religion prospered. History of Roman Catholic has started since Saint Petro who was appointed to be the first leader by Jesus. He was the first archbishop that Catholics must respect, obey and believe and this belief has implanted generation to generation. In consequence, Roman Catholics are headed by archbishop as its highest authority in matters of faith, morality and Church governance.⁴ Roman Catholic is engrossed in making Catholics to have a faith and follow the church because the church is the part of the kingdom of heaven. The second one, Orthodox, has been occurred since the first century of Christianity in Russia. It was the first denomination

⁴ Shirley Jackson Case. *Jesus: A New Biography*.2006. page 44.

that absolutely separated from Vatican, Rome since they denied archbishop's power and they were far away from West Roman therefore it was easy to declare the independence. Orthodox has their own rituals plus Christian rituals, so Orthodox is quite different from Roman Catholic and Protestantism. The third one, Protestantism, came from the conflicts about believes and Christians' lives. They called those, who were not Catholics or Orthodox, Protestants. Protestants came from protest. There are many sub-denominations of Protestantism.

Obviously, there are differences in structure of each denomination since time goes by and many situations such as conflicts between Christians occur. There might have small differences in teachings comparing to the original because it has to apply to the environment. However, Jesus' core teachings are still the main teachings for each denomination. More importantly, every denomination believes in the same Bible and Jesus. Jesus sacrificed himself for the humanity. Although it has been almost two-thousand years, his teachings still remain and teach us to love, forgive and be good people and because of this it will make him live forever.