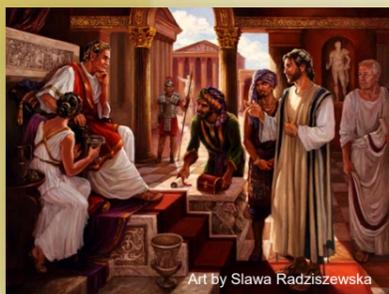


While at Rome, GANID had regular hours for study and for visiting places of interest about the city. His father, GONOD had much business to transact.



- Jesus was frequently to be found in the forum, the center of political, legal, and business life.
- Jesus often went up to the Capitolium and pondered the bondage of ignorance in which these Romans were held as he beheld this magnificent temple dedicated to Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva.
- Jesus also spent much time on Palatine hill, where were located the emperor's residence, the temple of Apollo, and the Greek and Latin libraries.

Jesus had made the acquaintance of 30 of the worth-while leaders of the Cynics, the Stoics, and the mystery cults, in particular the Mithraic group.

- He spent much of his spare time for almost six months in intimate association with these religious teachers.
- **Never once did he attack their errors or even mention the flaws in their teachings.**
- In each case he would select the truth in what they taught and then proceed so to **embellish and illuminate this truth** in their minds that in a very short time this enhancement of the truth effectively crowded out the associated error.

There was three factors of paramount value in the early setting of the stage for the rapid spread of Christianity throughout Europe, and they are:

- The choosing and holding of SIMON PETER as an apostle.
- The talk in Jerusalem with STEPHEN, whose death led to the winning of Saul of Tarsus.
- The preliminary preparation of these 30 ROMANS for the subsequent leadership of the new religion in Rome and throughout the empire.

### PERSONAL MINISTRY

Jesus spent much time gaining an intimate knowledge of all races and classes of men who lived Rome. In each of these numerous human contacts Jesus had a double purpose:

1. He desired to learn their reactions to the life they were living in the flesh
2. He was also minded to say or do something to make that life richer and more worth while.

Always his message was:

1. the fact of the heavenly Father's love
2. the truth of his mercy, coupled with the good news that man is a faith-son of this same God of love.

- Jesus' usual technique of social contact was to draw people out and into talking with him by asking them questions.
- Those who derived most benefit from his personal ministry were overburdened, anxious, and dejected mortals who gained much relief because of the opportunity to unburden their souls to a sympathetic and understanding listener.
- He tell these distressed mortals about the love of God and impart the information, that they were the children of this loving Father in heaven.

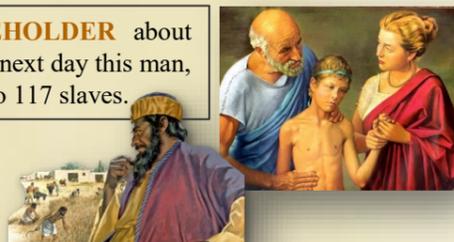
Jesus talked with:



a **ROMAN SENATOR** on politics and statesmanship.

a **GREEK PHYSICIAN** and told him his patients had minds and souls as well as bodies.

a **WEALTHY SLAVEHOLDER** about man as a son of God, the next day this man, Claudius, gave freedom to 117 slaves.

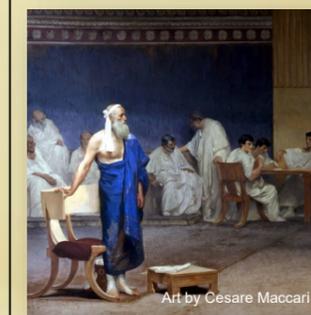


a **ROMAN SOLDIER**, he said: "Be brave of heart as well as of hand. Dare to do justice and be big enough to show mercy. Compel your lower nature to obey your higher nature as you obey your superiors. Revere goodness and exalt truth. Choose the beautiful in place of the ugly. Love your fellows and reach out for God with a whole heart, for God is your Father in heaven."



the **SPEAKER** at the forum he said: "Your eloquence is pleasing, your logic is admirable, your voice is pleasant, but your teaching is hardly true. If you could only enjoy the inspiring satisfaction of knowing God as your spiritual Father, then you might employ your powers of speech to liberate your fellows from the bondage of darkness and from the slavery of ignorance."

a **POOR MAN** who had been falsely accused, Jesus went with him before the magistrate and said: "Justice makes a nation great, and the greater a nation the more solicitous will it be to see that injustice shall not befall even its most humble citizen. Woe upon any nation when only those who possess money and influence can secure ready justice before its courts! It is the sacred duty of a magistrate to acquit the innocent as well as to punish the guilty. Civil government is founded on justice, even as true religion is founded on mercy."



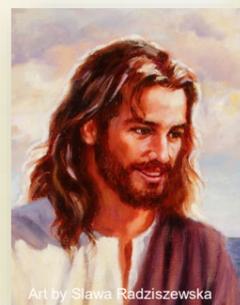
# THE SOJOURN AT ROME



Jesus learned much about men while in Rome, but the most valuable of all the manifold experiences of his six months' sojourn in that city was his contact with, and influence upon, the religious leaders of the empire's capital.



Through all their experiences, neither Stephen nor the 30 chosen ever realized that they had once talked with the man whose name became the subject of their religious teaching.



**MARDUS** was the leader of the Cynics of Rome, and he became a great friend of Jesus, and night upon night he listened to his supernal teaching.

"My brother, good and evil are merely words symbolizing relative levels of human comprehension of the observable universe. If you are ethically lazy and socially indifferent, you can take as your standard of good the current social usages."

"This indwelling spirit is the standard of personality survival. Goodness, like truth, is always relative and unfailingly evil-contrasted. It is the perception of these qualities of goodness and truth that enables the evolving souls of men to make those personal decisions of choice which are essential to eternal survival."



"Goodness is always growing toward new levels of the increasing liberty of moral self-realization and spiritual personality attainment—the discovery of, and identification with, the indwelling Adjuster."

### TRUTH AND FAITH

**NABON**, a Greek Jew and foremost among the leaders of the **MITHRAIC**, thought to make a convert of Jesus and Jesus' teaching was:

"Knowledge originates in science; wisdom, in true philosophy; truth, in the religious experience of spiritual living. Knowledge deals with facts; wisdom, with relationships; truth, with reality values."

"Knowledge pertains to things observed, but truth transcends such purely material levels in that it consorts with wisdom and embraces such imponderables as human experience, even spiritual and living realities."

"But truth can never become man's possession without the exercise of faith."

"Truth cannot be defined with words, only by living. Truth is always more than knowledge."

"The presence of the Paradise spirit in the mind of man constitutes the revelation promise and the faith pledge of an eternal existence of divine progression for every soul seeking to achieve identity with this immortal and indwelling spirit fragment of the Universal Father."

"Faith is the inspiration of the spiritized creative imagination."

"Human life continues—survives—because it has a universe function, the task of finding God."



### GOOD AND EVIL

"The soul that survives time and emerges into eternity must make a living and personal choice between good and evil as they are determined by the true values of the spiritual standards established by the divine spirit which the Father in heaven has sent to dwell within the heart of man."

"An experience is good when it heightens the appreciation of beauty, augments the moral will, enhances the discernment of truth, enlarges the capacity to love and serve one's fellows, exalts the spiritual ideals, and unifies the supreme human motives of time with the eternal plans of the indwelling Adjuster."

"Actual evil is not necessary as a personal experience. Potential evil acts equally well as a decision stimulus in the realms of moral progress on the lower levels of spiritual development. Evil becomes a reality of personal experience only when a moral mind makes evil its choice."

"The possibility of evil is necessary to moral choosing, but not the actuality thereof. A shadow is only relatively real."



## COUNSELING THE RICH MAN

A **CERTAIN RICH MAN**, a Roman citizen and a Stoic, became greatly interested in Jesus' teaching. After many intimate conferences this wealthy citizen asked Jesus what he would do with wealth if he had it, and Jesus answered him:

*“When in honest doubt about the equity and justice of material situations, let your decisions favor those who are in need, favor those who suffer the misfortune of undeserved hardships.”*

- **Inherited wealth**—riches derived from parents and other ancestors.
- **Discovered wealth**—riches derived from the uncultivated resources of mother earth.
- **Trade wealth**—riches obtained as a fair profit in the exchange and barter of material goods.
- **Unfair wealth**—riches derived from the unfair exploitation or the enslavement of one's fellows.
- **Interest wealth**—income derived from the fair and just earning possibilities of invested capital.
- **Genius wealth**—riches accruing from the rewards of the creative and inventive endowments of the human mind.
- **Accidental wealth**—riches derived from the generosity of one's fellows or taking origin in the circumstances of life.
- **Stolen wealth**—riches secured by unfairness, dishonesty, theft, or fraud.
- **Trust funds**—wealth lodged in your hands by your fellows for some specific use, now or in the future.
- **Earned wealth**—riches derived directly from your own personal labor, the fair and just reward of your own daily efforts of mind and body.



# THE SOJOURN AT ROME

It was on the visit to **SWITZERLAND**, up in the mountains, that Jesus had an all-day talk with both father and son about Buddhism. Said Gonod: *“I would really like to know what you think of Buddha.”* And Jesus answered:

*“Your Buddha was much better than your Buddhism. Buddha was a great man, even a prophet to his people, but he was an orphan prophet; by that I mean that he early lost sight of his spiritual Father, the Father in heaven. His experience was tragic.”*

*“I would bestow material wealth for the enhancement of material life, even as I would minister knowledge, wisdom, and spiritual service for the enrichment of the intellectual life, the ennoblement of the social life, and the advancement of the spiritual life. I would administer material wealth as a wise and effective trustee of the resources of one generation for the benefit and ennoblement of the next and succeeding generations.”*

*“He tried to live and teach as a messenger of God, but without God. Buddha guided his ship of salvation right up to the safe harbor, right up to the entrance to the haven of mortal salvation, and there, because of faulty charts of navigation, the good ship ran aground. There it has rested these many generations, motionless and almost hopelessly stranded.”*

*“And thereon have many of your people remained all these years. They live within hailing distance of the safe waters of rest, but they refuse to enter because the noble craft of the good Buddha met the misfortune of grounding just outside the harbor.”*

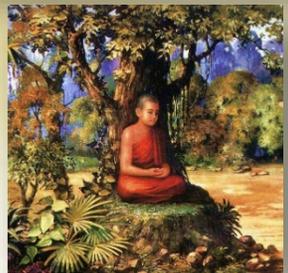
*“The Buddhist peoples never will enter this harbor unless they abandon the philosophic craft of their prophet and seize upon his noble spirit.”*

*“Buddha knew God in spirit but failed clearly to discover him in mind; the Jews discovered God in mind but largely failed to know him in spirit. Today, the Buddhists flounder about in a philosophy without God, while my people are piteously enslaved to the fear of a God without a saving philosophy of life and liberty.”*



*“You have a philosophy without a God; the Jews have a God but are largely without a philosophy of living as related thereto. Buddha, failing to envision God as a spirit and as a Father, failed to provide in his teaching the moral energy and the spiritual driving power which a religion must possess if it is to change a race and exalt a nation.”*

Religions are not made. The religions of men grow up over long periods of time, while the revelations of God flash upon earth in the lives of the men who reveal God to their fellows.



## SOCIAL MINISTRY

Jesus and Ganid spent several hours restoring a lost child to his anxious mother.

*“Most human beings are like the lost child. They spend much of their time crying in fear and suffering in sorrow when, in very truth, they are but a short distance from safety and security, even as this child was only a little way from home.”*

*“And all those who know the way of truth and enjoy the assurance of knowing God should esteem it a privilege, not a duty, to offer guidance to their fellows in their efforts to find the satisfactions of living. Did we not supremely enjoy this ministry of restoring the child to his mother? So do those who lead men to God experience the supreme satisfaction of human service.”*



## TIMELINE - 23 A.D.

Over 6 months -

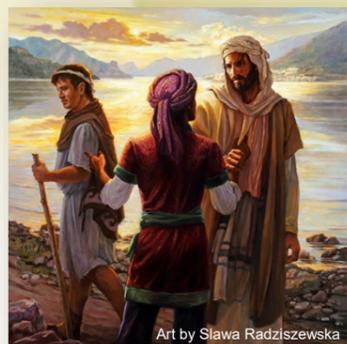
- Jesus speaks with **ANGAMON**, the leader of the Stoics, on **TRUE VALUES**.
- Jesus speaks with **MARDUS**, the leader of the Cynics of Rome about **GOOD and EVIL**.
- Jesus speaks with **NABON** a Greek Jew, the leader of the Mithraic about **TRUTH and FAITH**.
- Jesus speaks with
  - a Roman Senator, **CLAUDIUS**,
  - a **WEALTHY SLAVEHOLDER**,
  - a **GREEK PHYSICIAN**,
  - a **ROMAN SOLDIER**,
  - the Speaker of the Forum, **MARCUS**.
  - a **POOR MAN**.
- Jesus counsels a **CERTAIN RICH FRIEND** of Angamon about 10 ways of amassing wealth.
- Jesus restores a **LOST CHILD** to his mother and helps a widow with 5 children.
- Jesus speaks about those **HUNGERING FOR TRUTH** and about **BUDDHA** with Ganid.



**From this day, for the remainder of his natural life, Ganid continued to evolve a religion of his own. He was mightily moved in his own mind by Jesus' broadmindedness, fairness, and tolerance. In all their discussions of philosophy and religion this youth never experienced feelings of resentment or reactions of antagonism.**

When man goes in partnership with God, great things may, and do, happen.

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## TRIPS ABOUT ROME

On their visit to the northern Italian lakes Jesus had the long talk with Ganid concerning the impossibility of teaching a man about God if the man does not desire to know God. They had casually met a thoughtless pagan. Jesus said:

*“The man was not hungry for truth. He was not dissatisfied with himself. He was not ready to ask for help, and the eyes of his mind were not open to receive light for the soul. That man was not ripe for the harvest of salvation; he must be allowed more time for the trials and difficulties of life to prepare him for the reception of wisdom and higher learning..”*

*“You cannot reveal God to those who do not seek for him; you cannot lead unwilling souls into the joys of salvation. Man must become hungry for truth as a result of the experiences of living, or he must desire to know God as the result of contact with the lives of those who are acquainted with the divine Father before another human being can act as the means of leading such a fellow mortal to the Father in heaven.”*