

There is a wonderful tension in knowing Jesus as the most gentle, tender hearted person who has ever existed, the one with love in His eyes and purity flowing from His voice, experiencing Him as the lamb of God , beautifully broken for humanity as the sin offering, This truth touches us deeply and significantly this makes Jesus approachable, we know Him as friend, lover, seeker.

We also must know Him as God almighty, the One who is worthy of both worship, fear and honor. The One that is worthy, entirely good, yet a king you do not want to oppose. Jesus is God and that revelation must be understood, this truth is crucial to our faith and it will affect the way we approach Him, follow His leadership and live in His victory with faith for the future of His coming kingdom.

You want to introduce the wounded lamb to the weary and broken, to bringing compassion, healing, tender mercies yet when approaching the enemy, difficulty even impossibilities you want to know the Lion of the tribe of Judah who has conquered sin and death and will boldly conquer all who come against His children, His bride.

We need to know Him in His humanity. He referenced Himself as the Son of Man (85 Times in scripture) fully God, Fully man-Son of Man referencing the fact that He became like us! (So that we could become like Him) *He willingly took on the limitations of man while He walked this earth. What He did in His body while on earth He did not do in His eternal glorified body but in the flesh of man! He had access to all power but took on physical limitations.*

His body when in the flesh had all of our limitations including (Hunger, thirst, weariness, tempted in every way, He had flesh, felt pain, had desires etc) but was without sin. The all knowing, all powerful, all present God put on skin and was fully dependent on His Father and Holy Spirit.

The Gospels give us 4 wonderful eyewitness accounts of His life, death and resurrection and we get to discover God in all of His glory, in humility putting on flesh.

Jesus stated that He is the great I Am that was there before Abraham, (John 8:58) that He is the Alpha and the Omega (Rev 1:8), the beginning and the end. The Apostle **John wrote Empowered by Holy Spirit**

John 1:1-4-In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

- *He has always been. Like the Father, there has never been a time He has not been.*
- *He was not only with God, He is God*
- *All things were through Him and without Him nothing was made*
- *In Him was life*

Genesis 1:26a-Then God said, “Let Us make man in **Our** image, according to Our likeness;

In perfect fellowship God created! We are made in the image of the eternal, Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit! The Spirit hovered over the chaos waiting upon the Word to speak the will of the heart of the Father. Jesus is eternal, He has always been, is and will always be.

The same Word that spoke all creation into existence and came in the flesh is the Word that currently holds everything that is seen and unseen together.

Colossians 1:15-19 *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. ¹⁹ For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,*

Jesus is God's supreme revelation

Hebrews 1:1-4 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed **heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;** ³ who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and **upholding all things by the word of His power**, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become so **much better than the angels**, as He has by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name than they**.

Jesus give 7 I AM statements in John

1. I Am the Bread of Life
2. I Am the Light of the world
3. I Am the Door of the sheep
4. I Am the Good Shepherd
5. I Am the Resurrection and the Life
6. I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life
7. I am the Vine

Jesus still asks who do you say that I AM! (Matthew 16:15) *Is He your everything. Is He your God, is He your life, Is He your daily Bread, Is he the Light in which you see all things, Is HE the only door you go to, Is He the only Shepherd who leads you, Is He your resurrection, Is He your only way, your only truth and your only life, Is Jesus the only vine/source of life that you are attached to?*

Some religion teach that Jesus was just a prophet, a healer, a philosopher, a moral teacher, a revolutionary, activist etc.

Philippians 2:9-11 (NKJV) *9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and [that] every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ [is] Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

We want to pay close attention to what the Scripture describes to us about Jesus. We need the Holy Spirit's help in rightly seeing and responding to Jesus. One of the Spirit's function is to reveal the deep things of God. (1 Corinthians 2:9-10)

God's Spirit reveals the depth of God to our hearts so that we are enabled to love Him, being fascinated by Him and living in power. When we see Jesus rightly we are able to overcome sin, live in righteousness and keep an eternal perspective that keeps propelling us forward. We are to familiarize ourselves with the revelation of who Jesus really is so we live fascinated by gazing upon the Son of man. Jesus reveals His majesty to John in Revelation as the Son of Man who is Prophet, Priest and King forever.

Revelation 1:12-18- *¹² Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. ¹⁴ His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; ¹⁵ His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; ¹⁶ He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. ¹⁷ And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying ^[i] to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of ^[i] Hades and of Death.*

- **This vision given to John shows that Jesus is to be greatly feared and honored.** *In the Presence of Jesus Christ, His best friend on earth saw Him for who is really is and fell at His feet as a dead man! This was a side of Jesus, he had never seen.*
- **Jesus didn't look like the lowly and rejected Christ who hung upon the cross.** *He was full of all power and all glory!*
- **The Lamb of God was being worshipped in heaven, instead of the way many hated Him upon the earth.**

- **His hair wasn't yanked out and matted with blood, it was as white as wool. indicating the Father's glory. God's white garments and hair speak of His eternal existence, purity, and wisdom**
- **His eyes were not swollen shut from being beaten, they were blazing with fire. His eyes see everything, to feel love for us, to impart love to us, and to destroy all that hinders love.**
- **He wasn't lying naked and in shame, He was clothed with heavens glory. clothed in priestly robes. Jesus, the glorious Son of Man, is also a sympathetic, tender high priest who understands us**
- **His sash wasn't made of cloth but pure gold**
- **His feet no longer wore the sandals of a carpenter but were like bronze glowing in a furnace. Jesus tramples all His enemies under His feet. He will remove everyone and everything that resists His leadership.**
- **His voice wasn't gasping for air, short winded as He was dying on the cross but was like the sound of many waters**
- **His face wasn't covered with the spit of man but shined like the sun in all of it's brilliance. Jesus' countenance: Jesus' glorious radiance exhilarates the saints and destroys His enemies.**
- **Jesus possesses full authority over life and death.**

Home groups

1. Why is it essential we know Jesus both in His humanity and as God? Discuss your own growth in this process of knowing Him more fully
2. Why is it that. Any religions will accept Jesus as a prophet, healer, teacher etc.but will deny that He is God?
3. When you picture Jesus do you lean into His humanity or His deity or both. Discuss why it looks like to set your heart on beholding all that He is.
4. Discuss the vision given to John in Revelation 1 and the comparisons in His crucifixion and in His glory.