#### Title/Date: 3/31/24 "Jesus the Greatest – Ever!" (Rez Sunday 2024)



I. Text: Romans 1:1-4, 3:21-26, 5:8-11,10:9-13, 11:33-36 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. 11 And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. 9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." <sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! 34 For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR? 35 Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN? 36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

What is your favorite passage that explains, summarizes, or contains the Biblical gospel. What is your favorite passage that demonstrates, proves, or expresses the Greatness of Jesus / The deity of Jesus?

#### II. Introduction: Prideful quotes of self-worship, self-aggrandizement, and self-love (idolatry).

(Voltaire, J. Lennon, M. Ali, L. James, D. Trump, J. Biden, Antichrist, Satan)

Read Is. 42.8, Prov. 6:16-19, James 4:4-10, Prov. 3:32-35, and 1 Peter 5:5-7 – What is God's overall position concerning the proud and the humble? Can you think of other good verses about humility and continually humbling ourselves by confessing sin (1 John 1:9), worshipping God humbly in spirit and truth (John 4:24), and being careful we don't seek or take God's glory?

#### III. Starting/summary thought – Jesus is the Greatest Ever because He is God (Jn.1, Col.1, Heb.1, Rom.1)

- 1. Romans 11:33-36 From Jesus, and through Jesus, and TO Jesus are all things and all glory.
- John 1:1-5,14 Jesus is the Logos/Word who was with God, was God, became flesh, and dwelt among us.
- 3. Col. 1:13-20 Jesus is the image of God (God the Son), All things have been created by Jesus and for Jesus (creator), Jesus is before all things (eternal), holds all things together (sustainer), head of the church (chief shepherd), first one to overcome death Himself (conqueror), and worthy to have 1st place (supremacy) in and over EVERYTHING/everyone.
- Heb. 1:1-13 Jesus is Greater than everyone including Moses (the Law), Aaron (the Tabernacle), Great Saints of old (Heb. 11) and even Angels because He is heir of all things, made all things, radiance/exact representation of God, the one who upholds all things, made purification for sins, ascended to the right hand of God, and has the name above every name (authority, power, reputation).
- 5. Romans 1:1-14 Jesus was in the messianic line of David and declared/proven to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead by the Spirit of holiness, so that Jesus is Christ (Messiah) and our Lord (Master/Authority)

There are numerous passages showing or proving the deity of Jesus – think about and discuss your favorite verses proving Jesus is God.

#### IV. Main Points: Jesus is the Greatest – Ever! (5 Aspects of Jesus' Greatness)

1. The Greatness of Jesus' LIFE (Our Righteousness) (Isaiah 53:1-12)

- Sinless/Perfect Life of Jesus: Heb. 1:9, 4:15, 7:26, 9:14, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Peter 1:19, 2:22, 1 Jn. 1:5, 2:1, 3:5, Acts 3:14, Lk. 23:4, 14, 22, 41, Jn. 7:18, 8:46, 18:38, 19:4, 19:6, Is. 53:9

  Our Imputed Righteousness: Rom. 1:17, 5:15-19, 10:3-4, 1 Cor. 1:30, 2 Cor. 5:21, Phil. 3:8-11

2. The Greatness of Jesus' <u>CROSS</u> (Our Forgiveness) (John 15:12-17)
a. Substitutionary Atonement of Jesus: Romans 3:21-16, 5:8-10, 6:10, 1 Cor 1:30-31, 15:3-4, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Eph. 2:13-20, Phil. 2:5-11, Col. 1:14-22, 2:9-15, Hebrews 12:1-3
b. Our Redemption by His Blood: Eph. 1:7, 1 John 1:7, Rev. 1:5, Rom. 5:9, Heb. 9:12
c. Jesus died for our sins: Romans 5:8, 6:10, 1 Cor 15:3, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Ephesians 2:13-20, Phil. 2:5-11, Col. 1:10.23, 2:0.45, Hebrews 12:14.

- Col. 1:19-22, 2:9-15, Hebrews 12:1-3
- Jesus came not to be served but to serve and give His life as a RANSOM (Mt. 20:28, Mk. 10:45)
- The Greatness of Jesus' <u>RESURRECTION</u> (Our Eternal Life) (Romans 1:1-7)

  a. Jesus' resurrection in the 4 gospels (Mt.28, Mk.16, Lk.24, Jn.20)

  b. The Resurrection of Jesus in the book of Acts (2:25-36, 3:13-26, 4:8-12, 5:30-32, 10:38-43, 13:26-41)

  c. Our Eternal Life: John 3:15-16, 3:36, 4:14, 5:24, 6:27-47, 10:28, 12:50, 17:2-3
- The Greatness of Jesus' coming <u>KINGDOM</u> (Our Living Hope) (1 Peter 1:1-9)
  - Coming Earthly Kingdom of Jesus: Daniel 2:24, 7:14, 7:27, Mt. 19:28, Luke 1:33, Rev. 1:6, 5:10, 11:15,
  - Our certain/living hope: 2 Cor. 1:10, 1 Tim. 1:1, 4:10, Heb. 3:6, 10:23, 1 Peter 1:1-9, 1:13, 1:20-21, 3:15-16, 1 Jn. 3:3-10

- 5. The Greatness of Jesus' GOSPEL (Our Great Commission) (Romans 3:21-26)
  - a. Gospel/Good News of Jesus: Mt. 4:17, Mk. 1:15, Lk. 24:47, Jn. 3:16, Acts 20:21, Rom. 10:9-13, Heb. 6:1-2
  - b. Our Great Commission: Mt. 28:18-20, Mk. 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:31, Acts 1:8
  - c. 3 Gifts you can't find or receive from anyone else...only Jesus offers you perfect righteousness, total forgiveness, and eternal life!
    - 1. The **gift** of imputed RIGHTEOUSNESS (right standing with God)
    - 2. The **gift** of total FORGIVENESS (release from the judgment, condemnation, and punishment of God's wrath)
    - 3. The **gift** of <u>eternal LIFE</u> (new life now, Kingdom life soon, Heavenly life forever)

Why is Jesus the Greatest Ever...to you? How have you or can you declare the greatness of Jesus to others? (μεγαλύνω Megaluno: To make or declare the greatness of God)

#### What must I do to be saved? How exactly do I become a Christian and receive these 3 gifts?

a. You must **REPENT** – be willing to turn away from your sin/self-worship

Acts 17:30-31 <sup>30</sup> "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent, <sup>31</sup> because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

b. You must **BELIEVE** by faith – trusting in Jesus alone to save you

Rom. 3:22-24 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

c. You must **CONFESS**/commit to follow, obey, and worship Jesus as your personal LORD and SAVIOR

Rom. 10:9-13 <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.

Do you have assurance of salvation? When in time did you repent, believe/trust Jesus by faith, and ask Jesus to be your personal Lord?

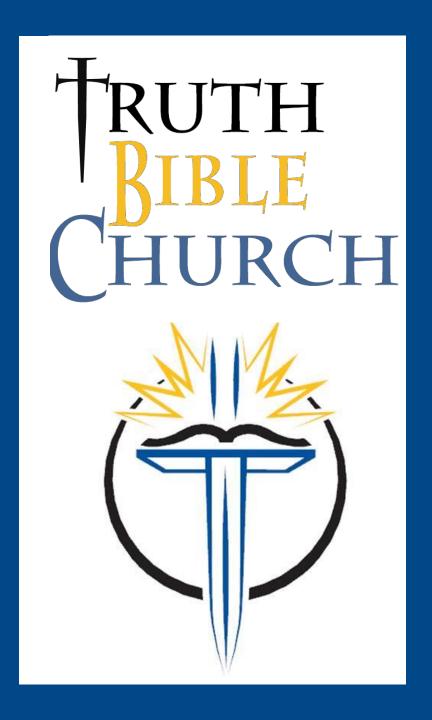
#### V. Conclusion: Jesus is the Greatest Ever!

- Jesus is exclusive the way, the truth, and the life (Jn. 14:6, Acts 4:12, Eph. 4:4-6, 1 Tim. 2:5)
- Jesus is King of kings, and Lord of lords (1 Tim. 6:15, Rev. 17:14, 19:16)
- Jesus is the Judge of the Living and the dead (Acts 10:42, 2 Tim. 4:1, 1 Peter 4:5)
- Jesus will rule and reign in His coming Kingdom forever (Luke 1:33, Rev. 11:15, 20:6, 22:5)
- ▶ Jesus will rapture His true followers/worshippers/the church to escape the coming Tribulation and false kingdom of the Antichrist (John 14:1-3, 1 Thess. 4:14-18, 1 Cor. 15:50-58, Titus 2:13, 1 Cor. 1:7, Phil. 3:20)
- ▶ Jesus will return to the earth with all His angels and all His saints (believers) to save the nation of Israel from annihilation, separate the sheep from the goats (true believers from pseudo/false believers), and reign for 1000 years (Mt. 24-25, Rev. 20, Mark 13, Acts 1:6, 1:11, Dan. 7:13, Mt. 26:64, 27:11, Mk. 14:62, Rev. 1:7, Ps. 2, 110, Heb. 9:28)
- ▶ Jesus will transfer all His saints into a New Heaven, New Earth, and New Jerusalem called the Eternal State/heaven proper where they will enjoy dwelling in the very presence of God forever (Is. 65-66, Rev. 21-22)
- ▶ Jesus is the Greatest Ever! (from Him, through Him, TO Him are all things Rom. 11:33-36)
- ▶ Jesus is LORD! (Romans 10:9, 1 Cor. 12:3)
- ▶ Jesus is God (John 1:1, 1:14, Col. 1:19, 2:9, John 8:58, 10:30, 1 Cor. 8:6, 2 Cor. 5:19, John 10:38, 14:11, 14:20, 17:21, 20:28, Titus 2:13, Acts 20:28, 2 Peter 1:1, Heb. 1:8, Rev. 1:8, 22:13, (Mt. 2:11, 14:33, 28:9, 17, Lk. 24:52, Jn. 9:38, Rev. 19:10)
- So you are not God, Jesus is God, Jesus is my God, Jesus is your God. (Lyrics/idea from Christian band All For The King)

#### VI. Application/Benediction (Pastoral Prayer & Encouragement): Eph. 1:18-23, 1 Thess. 4:14-18, 1 Cor. 15:50-58

#### VII. Assignment: Watch "The Gospel According to John" Movie ( www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOkUh7NkUV0 )

Passion Week of Jesus Christ our Lord											
Nissan 10 Palm Sunday	Nissan 11 Temple Cleansing	Nissan 12 Temple Teaching	Nissan 13 Day of Preparation	Nissan 14 Passover	Nissan 15 Special Sabbath (Feast Unleavened Bread)	Nissan 16 Regular Sabbath	Nissan 17 Resurrection Sunday				
Triumphal Entry     Weeps/Prophecy     over Jerusalem     Temple Inspection     Stays in Bethany	5. Curses Fig Tree 6. Temple Cleansing 7. Healing & Teaching at Temple 8. Stays at Bethany	9. Fig Tree Withered 10. Teaching in Temple 11 Challenges by Chief Priests, Elders, Pharisees, Herodians, & Sadducees 12. Jesus responds with parables, woes, and end times prophecies 13. Stays at Bethany w/ Simon the Leper 14. Judas agrees to betray	Too ching 10	19. Jesus arrested 20. Three night time trials before Annas, Caiaphas, Sanhedrin 21. Three early morning trials before Pilate, Herod, and Pilate again 22. Jesus crucified 23. Burial of Jesus (Day 1, Night 1)	Jesus' Tomb	(Day 3, Night 3) (The women could not buy spices to annoint Jesus' body because two Sabbaths were back to back)	25. Jesus is Raise d from the Dead (Jesus prophecied that He was be raised on the "Third Day" after his death-Matthew 16:21, 17:23, 20:19, 26:61, 27:40, 27:63-64, Mark 8:31, 9:31, 10:34, 14:58, 15:29, Luke 9:22, 13:32, 18:33, 24:7, 24:21, 24:46, John 2:19-20)				



# FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SEEKING TO... LOVE GOD SUPREMELY

Matthew 22:37-38 <sup>37</sup> And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' <sup>38</sup> "This is the great and foremost commandment.

#### SERVE PEOPLE SINCERELY

Matthew 22:39 <sup>39</sup> "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

**John 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup> "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

#### REACH THE LOST URGENTLY

**Matthew 28:19-20** <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Romans 1:1-4 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,



Romans 3:21-26 <sup>21</sup> But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; <sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 5:8-11 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. 11 And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.



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Romans 11:33-36 <sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! <sup>34</sup> For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR? <sup>35</sup> Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN? <sup>36</sup> For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him *be* the glory forever. Amen.





# Matthew 12:40 ...for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

	- Minimal Company	NAME OF BRIDE									
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# A Good Church truly...

- Loves God and people
- Learns the Word of God
- Lives the Word of God

## 5 Prayers for Truth Bible Church: Lord for your greatest glory grant our church regular...

- 1. Confessions (New Converts committing to follow Jesus as their personal Lord)
- 2. Baptisms (New Christians publicly identifying with Christ and other Christians)
- 3. Memberships (Obeying Christ's command to meet regularly with other Christians, grow in practice of the "one another" commands, & rank under a plurality of Elders)
- 4. Discipleship (Mentorship helping Christians grow and mature in the faith)
- 5. Leadership (developing the next generation of Evangelists/Missionaries, Elders/Pastors, and Deacons/Ministry Leaders)



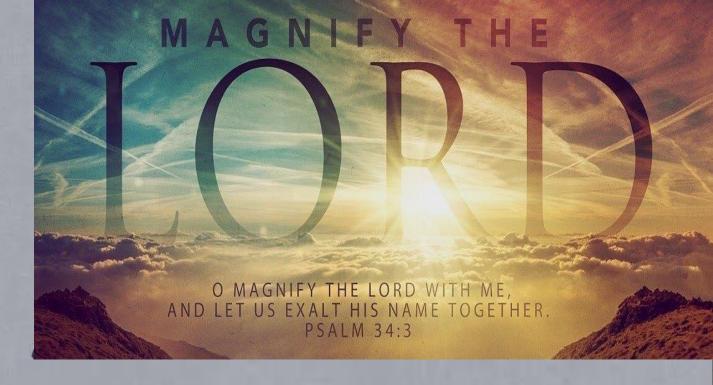




Today's Sermon Title:

# JESUS: THE GREATEST EVER

(John 1.1-5, Colossians 1.9-23, Hebrews 1.1-4...Is. 53.1-12, John 15.12-17, Romans 1.1-7, 1 Peter 1.1-9, Romans 1:1-4, 3.21-26, 5:8-11, 10.9-13, 11:33-36)



## Magnify/Exalt/Worship

μεγαλύνω Megaluno:

To make or declare great

- Proclaiming the Greatness of God
- -The Greatness of Jesus
- -The Greatness of the Resurrection

## Have you ever heard someone say...

- ...My truth
- ...My happiness
- ...My life

OR

- ... Self-help
- ... Self-improvement
- ... Self-love

# Self-Worship Idolatry

Pride



V1: I am my own and answer to what I need and live for
My need is my truth and guideline undoubtedly
Don't dare to question my lifestyle, who do you think you are
So hateful to claim you know the truth

Chorus: I am God

V2: I found my own answers, nobody should tell me what's right, my truth is my truth my guideline undoubtedly

[You want to rule and conqueror your precipitous way is blind Your cries are in a way to know the truth

Chorus: I am God...NO YOUR NOT! Cause He is God, He is my God, He is your God.]



My brother, Bret, the Senior Pastor at Calvary Bible Church in Kalamazoo MI, is working on his next book. It's about how the USA is at the next beyond "post-modern" (where truth is relative evéryone up and lives by their own truth). Now we are living in an "UNPURITAN" society (think Sodom and Gomorrah) where it is not enough for evil/wickedness to be tolerated but now must be accepted and embraced by everyone as the new truth (even by law, punishment, or force). Now the ungodly have redefined truth and are demanding we accept evil as good, good as evil...everything is redefined upside down in what and opposite of the original Puritans who where key to founding this country and who often forced everyone in their towns to live by Biblical truth and standards/laws/rules. Today, the UNPURITANS are starting to force everyone to live, think, accept evil standards/laws/rules because tólerance or silence about théir sin is no longer enough - everyone must accept and agree with their "new truth" or else.





- Every sensible man, every honorable man, must hold the Christian sect in horror."
- "Christianity is the most ridiculous, the most absurd and bloody religion that has ever infected the world."
- "Nothing can be more contrary to religion and the clergy than reason and common sense."
- "If we believe absurdities, we shall commit atrocities." If you want to abolish Christianity, you must abolish Sunday"
- "A hundred years from my death the Bible will be a museum piece."
- A: French Philosopher Voltaire (1694 1778)
- Btw...A hundred years after his death the French Bible Society set up its headquarters in Voltaire's old home in Paris.

"Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue about that; I'm right and I'll be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now."

A: John Lennon (March 1966) (died Dec. 8, 1980)

- "I am the Greatest."
- A: Cassius Clay / Mohammad Ali (February 1964)
- (died June 3, 2016)
- He also wrote in April, 2009 after declining health, 4 marriages, and multiple infidelities, "I have always believed in myself... I never even thought of losing... In high school I boasted weekly—if not daily—that one day I was going to be the heavyweight champion of the world... In 1984, I was conclusively diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Since that diagnosis, my symptoms have increased and my ability to speak in audible tones has diminished. If there was anything that would strike at the core of my confidence in myself, it would be this insidious disease. But my confidence and will to continue to live life as I choose won't be compromised... Nothing in life has defeated me. I am still "The Greatest." This I believe.

That one right there made me the greatest player of all time ... I was super, super ecstatic to win one for Cleveland because of the 52-year drought... I was like -- that one right there made you the greatest player of all time."

A: Lebron James (whom fans call "King James")

- "I am the chosen one." (August 21, 2019)
- "\_\_\_\_\_ is the greatest president since Ronald Reagan...in the history of our country nobody has has done more than I have...I am the most presidential person ever...I don't believe there has been a president that has done more...He's got me down as the greatest president ever including George Washington and Abraham Lincoln...I alone can fix the system...I am the only one that can save this nation...I know more about that than anybody...my call was perfect...(Various times from 2016-2020)
- A: President Donald Trump
- Reposts on Jan. 5, 2024 on Truth Social the blasphemous 2 min 45 sec video called "God Made Trump" which used AI of Paul Harvey's voice to narrate: "And on June 14, 1946,, God looked down on His planned paradise and said, I need a caretaker, so God gave us Trump... "I will need someone who will be strong and courageous. Who will not be afraid or terrified of the wolves when they attack. A man who cares for the flock. A shepherd to mankind who won't ever leave or forsake them. I need the most diligent worker to follow the path and remain strong in faith. And know the belief in God and country."

"We created more new jobs in two years than any president did in their entire term." (February 3, 2023) "NOW, THEREFORE, I, \_\_\_\_\_, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2024, as Transgender Day of Visibility," President \_\_\_\_\_ wrote in a Friday statement. "I call upon all Americans to join us in lifting up the lives and voices of transgender people throughout our Nation and to work toward eliminating violence and discrimination based on gender identity.'

## A: President Joseph Biden

Who will ...

Oppose and exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. (2 Thess. 2:4)

A: The Antichrist (Read Revelation 13)

#### Who...

Showed Jesus all the Kingdoms of the world and their glory and said, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."

A: Satan (Matthew 4:9)

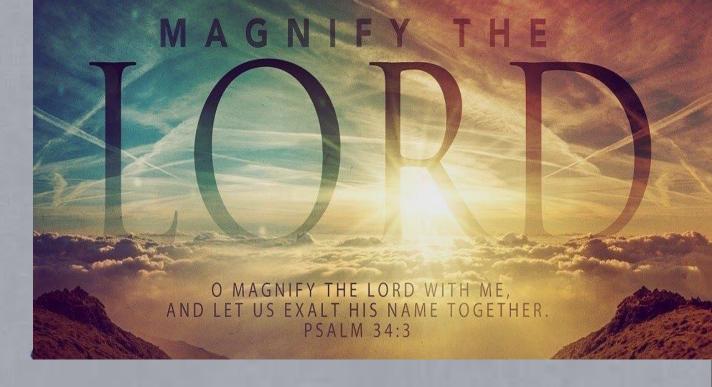
Why Jesus responds by quoting Deuteronomy 6:13 in Matt. 4:10 <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY."

- ▶ Isaiah 42:8 8 "I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.
- Prov. 6:16-19 <sup>16</sup> There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: <sup>17</sup> Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And [violent] hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup> A [evil] heart that devises wicked plans, [dirty] Feet that run rapidly to evil, <sup>19</sup> A false witness who utters lies, And [divisive] one who spreads strife among brothers.
- Jas. 4:1-10 What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? <sup>2</sup> You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. <sup>4</sup> You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup> But He gives a greater grace. Therefore *it* says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." <sup>7</sup> Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you doubleminded. <sup>9</sup> Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.
- 1 Pet. 5:5-11 <sup>5</sup> You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and <u>all of you, clothe yourselves with humility</u> toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. <sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, <sup>7</sup> casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you. <sup>11</sup> To Him *be* dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- Prov. 3:32-35 <sup>32</sup> For the crooked *man* is an abomination to the LORD; But He is intimate with the upright. <sup>33</sup> The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, But He blesses the dwelling of the righteous. <sup>34</sup> Though He scoffs at the scoffers, Yet He gives grace to the afflicted. <sup>35</sup> The wise will inherit honor, But fools display dishonor.

Today's Sermon Title:

# JESUS: THE GREATEST EVER

(John 1.1-5, Colossians 1.9-23, Hebrews 1.1-4...ls. 53.1-12, John 15.12-17, Romans 1.1-7, 1 Peter 1.1-9, Romans 1:1-4, 3.21-26, 5:8-11, 10.9-13, 11:33-36)



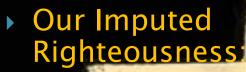
## Magnify/Exalt/Worship

μεγαλύνω Megaluno:

To make or declare great

- Proclaiming the Greatness of God
- -The Greatness of Jesus
- -The Greatness of the Resurrection

Sinless/Perfect Life of Jesus: Heb. 1:9, 4:15, 7:26, 9:14, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Peter 1:19, 2:22, 1 Jn. 1:5, 2:1, 3:5, Acts 3:14, Lk. 23:4, 14, 22, 41, Jn. 7:18, 8:46, 18:38, 19:4, 19:6, Is. 53:9



Rom. 1:17, 5:15-19, 10:3-4, 1 Cor. 1:30, 2 Cor. 5:21, Phil. 3:8-11



(Our Righteousness)

SubstitutionaryAtonement of Jesus:

Romans 3:21–16, 5:8–10, 6:10, 1 Cor 1:30–31, 15:3–4, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Eph. 2:13–20, Phil. 2:5–11, Col. 1:14–22, 2:9–15, Hebrews 12:1–3

# THE GREATNESS OF HIS

Cross

Our Redemption by His Blood:

Eph. 1:7, 1 John 1:7, ReOur Forgiveness)
1:5, Rom. 5:9, Heb. 9:12

#### Resurrection of Jesus:

Acts 2:25–36, 3:13–26, 4:8–12, 5:30–32, 10:38–43, 13:26–41



#### Our Eternal Life: John

3:15-16, 3:36, 4:14, 5:24, 6:27-47, 10:28, 12:50, 17:2-3

# Resurrection

(Our Eternal Life)

Coming Earthly Kingdom of Jesus:

Daniel 2:24, 7:14, 7:27, Mt. 19:28, Luke 1:33, Rev. 1:6, 5:10, 11:15, 12:10, 20:4-6



Our certain/living hope: 2 Cor. 1:10, 1 Tim. 1:1, 4:10, Heb. 3:6, 10:23, 1 Peter 1:1-9, 1:13, 1:20-21, 3:15-16, 1 Jn. 3:3-10

# Kingdom (Our hope)

▶ Gospel/Good News of Jesus: Mt. 4:17, Mark 1:15, Luke 24:47, John 3:16, Acts 20:21, Romans 10:9–13, Hebrews 6:1–2



Our Great Commission: Mt. 28:18–20, Mk. 16:15, Luke 24:47, John 20:31, Acts 1:8 Gospel

(Our Great Commission)

### Starting and Summary Verse about the Greatness of Jesus

Rom. 11:33-36 33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! 34 For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR? 35 Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN? 36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

# Overall, consider the Greatness of <u>Jesus' Deity</u> (John 1, Colossians 1, Hebrews 1)

Jn. 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

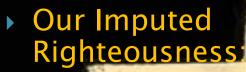
# Overall, consider the Greatness of Jesus' Deity (John 1, Colossians 1, Hebrews 1)

Col. 1:13-20 13 For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. 15 And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created by Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. 18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything. 19 For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fulness to dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

# Overall, consider the Greatness of Jesus' Deity (John 1, Colossians 1, Hebrews 1)

Heb. 1:1-13 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. 3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they. 5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"? And again, "I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"? 6 And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, "AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM." 7 And of the angels He says, "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE." 8 But of the Son He says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THÉ SCEPTER OF HÍS KINGDOM. 9 "YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS." 10 And, "YOU, LORD, IN THE BEGINNING LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS; 11 THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; AND THEY ALL WILL BECOME OLD LIKE A GARMENT, 12 AND LIKE A MANTLE YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP; LIKE A GARMENT THEY WILL ALSO BÉ CHANGED. BUT YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL NOT COME TO AN END." 13 But to which of the angels has He ever said, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET "?

Sinless/Perfect Life of Jesus: Heb. 1:9, 4:15, 7:26, 9:14, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Peter 1:19, 2:22, 1 Jn. 1:5, 2:1, 3:5, Acts 3:14, Lk. 23:4, 14, 22, 41, Jn. 7:18, 8:46, 18:38, 19:4, 19:6, Is. 53:9



Rom. 1:17, 5:15-19, 10:3-4, 1 Cor. 1:30, 2 Cor. 5:21, Phil. 3:8-11



(Our Righteousness)

### The Greatest LIFE (The perfect, sinless life of Jesus)

Isaiah 53:1-12 Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground; He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. <sup>3</sup> He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. 4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him. <sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth. <sup>8</sup> By oppression and judgment He was taken away; And as for His generation, who considered That He was cut off out of the land of the living For the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke *was due*? <sup>9</sup> His grave was assigned with wicked men, Yet He was with a rich man in His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His mouth. 10 But the LORD was pleased To crush Him, putting Him to grief; If He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand. <sup>11</sup> As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors.

SubstitutionaryAtonement of Jesus:

Romans 3:21–16, 5:8–10, 6:10, 1 Cor 1:30–31, 15:3–4, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Eph. 2:13–20, Phil. 2:5–11, Col. 1:14–22, 2:9–15, Hebrews 12:1–3

# THE GREATNESS OF HIS

Cross

Our Redemption by His Blood:

Eph. 1:7, 1 John 1:7, ReOur Forgiveness)
1:5, Rom. 5:9, Heb. 9:12

### The Greatest LOVE (The Cross/blood of Jesus)

▶ John 15:12-17 12 "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. 13 "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14 "You are My friends if you do what I command you. 15 "No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. 16 "You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you. 17 "This I command you, that you love one another.

Resurrection of Jesus:

Acts 2:25-36, 3:13-26, 4:8-12, 5:30-32, 10:38-43, 13:26-41



Our Eternal Life: John 3:15–16, 3:36, 4:14, 5:24, 6:27–47, 10:28, 12:50, 17:2–3

# Resurrection (Our Eternal Life)

#### The Greatest POWER (the Resurrection of Jesus)

Romans 1:1-7 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup> through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake, <sup>6</sup> among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; <sup>7</sup> to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Coming Earthly Kingdom of Jesus:

Daniel 2:24, 7:14, 7:27, Mt. 19:28, Luke 1:33, Rev. 1:6, 5:10, 11:15, 12:10, 20:4-6



Our certain/living hope: 2 Cor. 1:10, 1 Tim. 1:1, 4:10, Heb. 3:6, 10:23, 1 Peter 1:1-9, 1:13, 1:20-21, 3:15-16, 1 Jn. 3:3-10

# Kingdom (Our hope)

### The Greatest HOPE (the rapture, return, earthly Kingdom, and Heaven/Eternal State of Jesus)

▶ 1 Peter 1:1-9 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen <sup>2</sup> according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure. <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, 7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

• Gospel/Good News of Jesus: Mt. 4:17, Mark 1:15, Luke 24:47, John 3:16, Acts 20:21, Romans 10:9–13, Hebrews 6:1–2



Our Great Commission:
 Mt. 28:18–20, Mk.
 16:15, Luke 24:47,

John 20:31, Acts 1:8

# Gospel

(Our Great Commission)

### The Greatest Message (the gospel/good news of Jesus)

▶ Romans 3:21-26 <sup>21</sup> But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; <sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

# 3 Gifts you can't find or receive from anyone else... only Jesus offers you perfect righteousness, total forgiveness, and eternal life?

- 1. The gift of imputed RIGHTEOUSNESS (right standing with God)
- 2. The gift of total FORGIVENESS (release from the judgment, condemnation, and punishment of God's wrath)
- 3. The gift of <u>eternal LIFE</u> (new life now, Kingdom life soon, Heavenly life forever)

## What must I do to be saved? How exactly do I become a Christian and receive these 3 gifts?

You must <u>REPENT</u> - be willing to turn away from your sin/self-worship

Acts 17:30-31 <sup>30</sup> "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent, <sup>31</sup> because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

You must BELIEVE by faith - trusting in Jesus alone to save you

Rom. 3:22-24 *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

- You must <u>CONFESS/commit</u> to follow, obey, and worship Jesus as your personal LORD and SAVIOR
- Rom. 10:9-13 <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

### Conclusion: Jesus is the Greatest Ever!

- Jesus is exclusive the way, the truth, and the life (Jn. 14:6, Acts 4:12, Eph. 4:4-6, 1 Tim. 2:5)
- Jesus is King of kings, and Lord of lords (1 Tim. 6:15, Rev. 17:14, 19:16)
- Jesus is the Judge of the Living and the dead (Acts 10:42, 2 Tim. 4:1, 1 Peter 4:5)
- Jesus will rule and reign in His coming Kingdom forever (Luke 1:33, Rev. 11:15, 20:6, 22:5)
- Jesus will rapture His true followers/worshippers/the church to escape the coming Tribulation and false kingdom of the Antichrist (John 14:1-3, 1 Thess. 4:14-18, 1 Cor. 15:50-58, Titus 2:13, 1 Cor. 1:7, Phil. 3:20)
- Jesus will return to the earth with all His angels and all His saints (believers) to save the nation of Israel from annihilation, separate the sheep from the goats (true believers from pseudo/false believers), and reign for 1000 years (Mt. 24-25, Rev. 20, Mark 13, Acts 1:6, 1:11, Dan. 7:13, Mt. 26:64, 27:11, Mk. 14:62, Rev. 1:7, Ps. 2, 110, Heb. 9:28)
- Jesus will transfer all His saints into a New Heaven, New Earth, and New Jerusalem called the Eternal State/heaven proper where they will enjoy dwelling in the very presence of God forever (ls. 65-66, Rev. 21-22)
- Jesus is the Greatest (from Him, through Him, TO Him are all things Rom. 11:33-36)
- Jesus is LORD! (Romans 10:9, 1 Cor. 12:3)
- Jesus is God (John 1:1, 1:14, Col. 1:19, 2:9, John 8:58, 10:30, 1 Cor. 8:6, 2 Cor. 5:19, John 10:38, 14:11, 14:20, 17:21, 20:28, Titus 2:13, Acts 20:28, 2 Peter 1:1, Heb. 1:8, Rev. 1:8, 22:13, (Mt. 2:11, 14:33, 28:9, 17, Lk. 24:52, Jn. 9:38, Rev. 19:10)
- So you are not God, Jesus is God, Jesus is my God, Jesus is your God.

# SOWHAT? Application



Ephesians 1:18-23 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the **surpassing greatness** of <u>His power</u> toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might 20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.





1 Thess. 4:14-18 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.



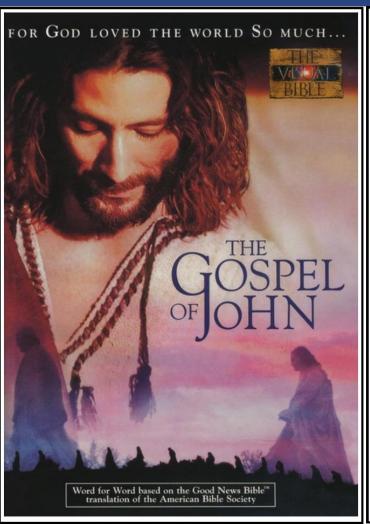


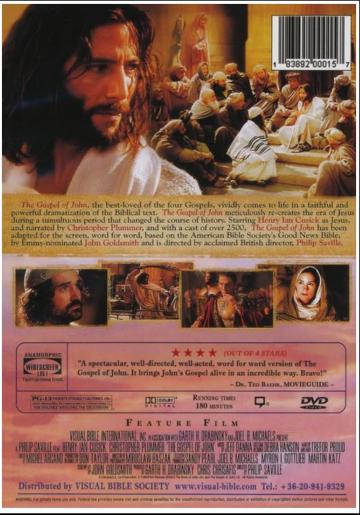
1 Cor. 15:50-58 50 Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; 57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

### VISION



### VIDEO





#### Search:

The Gospel According to John the movie <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOkUh7NkUV0">www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOkUh7NkUV0</a>

Rom. 10:13-17 <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." <sup>14</sup> How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" <sup>16</sup> However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" <sup>17</sup> So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.



### Invitation to Follow Jesus/Closing Song

"Only by Grace" (songwriter: Graham Kendrick)

 Only by grace can we enter Only by grace can we stand Not by our human endeavours But by the blood of the Lamb Into Your presence You call us You call us to come Into Your presence You draw us And now by Your grace we come, we come Now by Your grace we come

Oh, Lord if You mark our transgressions
 Who would stand?
 But Thanks to Your grace
 we are cleansed
 By the blood of the Lamb

Only by grace can we enter
 And Now by Your grace we come,
 we come
 Now by Your grace we come