

Jesus: Taste & See that the Lord is Good

Jesus is the Incarnate God

Colossians 1:15-20

We are in a series that is all about Jesus, designed to show you Jesus for who he really is, and, by seeing him clearly, you can truly worship, enjoy, and follow him faithfully.

“This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.” Matthew 13:13

“Everyone can read the stories of Jesus and ‘see’ the portraits painted by the words of those who knew him. But not everyone sees truth and beauty and infinite value. Some only see myth. Some see foolishness. Some see offense...Savoring Jesus Christ is the response...when you see something as true and beautiful and valuable, you savor it. That is, you treasure it. You cherish and admire and prize it...if you don’t savor Christ, you haven’t seen Christ for who he is. If you don’t prize him above all things, you haven’t apprehended his true worth.”

John Piper

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

Colossians 1:15-20

Main Idea: As the Incarnate God, Jesus Is Our Only Creator, Sustainer, and Savior

Three Realities Stemming from Jesus’ Incarnation

I. We Are Created by Jesus – Colossians 1:15-16

“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.’ Genesis 1:26a

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. Colossians 1:15

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:1, 14

Hypostatic Union: Jesus Christ, one Person, fully God and fully man.

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

Philippians 2:5-8

“For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.” Colossians 2:9

“Remember, Christ was not a deified man, neither was he a humanized God. He was perfectly God, and at the same time perfectly man.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“...all things were created through him and for him.” Colossians 1:16b

II. We Are Sustained by Jesus – Colossians 1:17-18

“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.” Hebrews 1:1-3

Some ways that we are sustained by Jesus, the Incarnate God:

- **Common Grace** – God’s Goodness to Everyone, Regardless of Belief.
- **Special Grace** – God’s Goodness in Saving those who Repent & Believe
- **Communal Grace** – God’s Goodness Experienced in a Church Family

III. We Are Saved by Jesus – Colossians 1:19-20

“For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

Colossians 1:19-20

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” Luke 19:10

“Our classiest mansion would be a tree trunk to him. Earth’s finest cuisine would be walnuts on heaven’s table. And the idea of becoming a squirrel with claws and tiny teeth and a furry tail? It’s nothing compared to God’s becoming an embryo and entering the womb of Mary.”

Max Lucado

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

Galatians 4:4-5

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Sources and Reading Opportunities

- *Jesus the King* – Timothy Keller (2016)
- *Knowing God* – J.I. Packer (1973)
- *Seeing & Savoring Jesus Christ* – John Piper (2004)
- *It’s all about Jesus* – Randy Alcorn (2020)
- *Complete Word Study Dictionary* – Spiros Zodhiates (2000)
- *Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary* – Laney & Hughes (2001)
- *Wiersbe Expository Outlines* – Warren Wiersbe (1992)
- *Jesus* – Max Lucado (2020)

