

Jesus, He's Better Than You Think

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Today is a good day to make a decision about Jesus

If this is your first time here this is for you. If you've been here awhile this is for you too.

So, to start I must ask you the question, Where am you headed? Where is life taking you? When life ends where are you going?

The Bible, which is the Word of God tells us that ALL of US were born into sin.

1

We all have the same starting place!

Bible Passage

Romans 3:23-24 (ESV - English Standard Version)

²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Yes even those beautiful kids...

Ask any parent if they had to teach their kids how to be sinners? NO I didn't have to teach my cute little girls to tell me NO. We are all born to disobey!

Sin has a reward, it has an outcome it has a result and it is death.

Bible Passage

Romans 6:23 (ESV - English Standard Version)

²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2

All of us are headed towards destruction!

But Thank God for Jesus!

Today, we have an opportunity to make a decision to surrender our story for God's Story.

I don't know what your story is, what has happened, or is happening,

but I do know He can change your story!

From the beginning of time God has always intended to rescue humanity. He always desired to interrupt our story with His Story.

He has always desired to redirect us through repentance.

Deuteronomy 30:18-19 CEB

¹⁸ I'm telling you right now that you will definitely die. You will not prolong your life on the fertile land that you are crossing the Jordan River to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth as my witnesses against you right now: I have set life and death, blessing and curse before you. Now choose life—so that you and your descendants will live—

Today is your opportunity to make a decision and step into God's Story!

Can I Exhort you for a moment:

You are not going to stay spiritually dead, you are going to live.

You are not going to live in sin, you are going to walk in righteousness.

You are not going to walk in darkness any longer, you are going to walk in the light

My Sermon is simple today

I want to discuss two aspects of Jesus' nature & look at two character studies.

3

2 Aspects of Jesus' Nature Doctrine of Christology

Volume 1

100% Man 100% God

This is known as the hypostatic union which is a theological word for describing Jesus as the God-Man.

If you are new to Christianity we believe that Jesus Christ is Both God and Man!

Two natures - human and divine, in one person. Inseparably united in such a way that there was no mixture or loss of their separate identity.

1st - Humanity of Christ - Before the exaltation of Jesus there was first Humility.

Humility precedes exaltation.

Philippians 2:1-11 CSB

2 If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, ² make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. ⁴ Everyone should look not to his own interests, but rather to the interests of others

5 Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited.⁷ Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man,⁸ he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross.⁹ For this reason God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow—in heaven and on earth and under the earth—¹¹ and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

1. In the Incarnation Jesus, humbled himself & became fully human in every area except in the commission of sin.

The Creator became the creation.

kenosis describes Jesus Christ's self-emptying or humbling. It comes from the Greek word "ekenosen," which means "made Himself of no reputation."

This is Humility!

2. Jesus grows in wisdom and favor and becomes a man. We see him in his humanity as a man of sorrows. Suffering.

Jesus was capable of the depths of human emotion. As we see in the Gospels, He felt pain, sorrow, joy, and hope. He got hungry, tired, Blood ran through his veins like ours. He Humbled himself.

3. part of God's Story is He suffered on the cross.

He was betrayed, beaten, mocked, lied about, spit on, kicked, whipped.

A wooden cross thrown on his back and he was made to carry it to Golgotha.

He was so weak that they made a man carry his cross up to the hill.

Then when he got there, they nailed him to a cross, raised him up, gambled on his clothes.

mocked his nakedness.

and from that cross He didn't command angels to avenge him, he cried out forgive them for they know not what they do! It is Finished!

At that moment the veil was torn in the temple...we are no longer separated from God but welcomed into the presence of God through Christ Jesus.

Who humbled himself on your behalf.

4.th part of God's story is that Jesus was buried in a borrowed tomb.

Humility precedes exaltation. The king of the universe in a place he didn't own...

Quick jab and the Culture of the World...

"The Christian Gospel is that I am so flawed that Jesus had to die for me, yet I am so loved and valued that Jesus was glad to die for me. This leads to deep humility and deep confidence at the same time. It undermines both swaggering and sniveling. I cannot feel superior to anyone, and yet I have nothing to prove to anyone. I do not think more of myself nor less of myself. Instead, I think of myself less." ~ Timothy Keller

- 1. James 4:10: "Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you."**
- 2. Matthew 23:12: "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."**
- 3. Proverbs 22:4: "The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches, honor, and life."**
- 4. Philippians 2:3: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves."**
- 5. [1 Peter 5:6](#)**

Divine nature

All of this lead to the 2nd volume of God's story...

His Exaltation (His divinity)

1st part is His Resurrection

Which is why we are here today! We believe He is not in the grave...He Rose! That on that Sunday morning 3 days after he was placed in that borrowed tomb, the stone was supernaturally rolled away not too come to us but for us to come to him. You and I GET TO be apart of God's Story!

2nd part is He walked on earth for 40 days and was seen by 500 eye witness.

Jesus in the flesh was omnipresent, meaning He was everywhere present in the universe, yet during His time on earth, He chose to limit himself to the confines of a human body. And at the ascension, these self-limitations were ended!

3rd Part in God's 2nd Volume is Jesus is now Seated in Heaven!

Ephesians 2:6

6 For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

It is finished! His work is complete, His blood is enough! You have the Holy Spirit in your heart!

4th part in God's Story hasn't happened yet and that is that He is Coming Back!

**He is alive! He is coming back for His
bride, His church, For you and you!
exhort!**

You and I plea

**Those that want to be apart of God's
story must follow the same narrow road.**

**Before we are saved we must
acknowledge our sin.**

**We must be honest because we can't do
this on our own.**

**We can't make it on our own, we can't
overcome on our own...**

We need to share in his humility...we need to surrender!

It is humbling to acknowledge that you can't save your soul. It is humbling to give up your life, will, desires, dreams to Jesus.

But you and I both know that if we are left to our own devices we would destroy everything.

But if we turn from our sin, we can be apart of a greater Story! God's Story in our Lives.

If you want to share in his exaltation, you must share in his humility.

Philippians 3:10 "My goal is to know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death."

Look at 2 Character studies.

1st Study is Judas Iscariot

-One that Jesus picked

-managed the money

-betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver

**-identified Jesus to the Romans with a
kiss of betrayal in the Garden**

-Matthew 27:3-5 ³ Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus^[a] was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, ⁴ saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” ⁵ And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.

-Felt guilt and remorse

-hung himself

had he waited just one more day...Sunday was coming!

If you are in Christ you are justified, the Fathers wrath was satisfied in Christ. Jesus took our penalty, death.

Many of us are like Judas. we let shame and guilt lead us to death.

We punish ourselves over all of our mistakes....but there is POWER in the blood and you have been justified. You don't have to let shame and guilt lead to death. Jesus died for you!

2nd Study is Simon Peter

- Jesus chose him

-similar to Judas, teachings, miracles, of Jesus.

-sinned the same way as Judas

Judas' betrayal was motivated by greed.

Peter's betrayal was motivated by fear.

Same Sin. Denied Christ 3 times

two different results.

One hung himself the other became the leader of the church!

Bible Passage

John 21:1-13 (ESV - English Standard Version)

¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way.

²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together.

³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No."

⁶He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish.

⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea.

⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread.

¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught."

¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn.

¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

Peter reflecting

Peter jumped out of the boat and swam to Jesus! God is looking for a generation of people that are willing to look messy, and desperate to get to him!

Before the exaltation there is humility.

Plea

We have a choice to make.

To believe or to deny

to rebel or to repent

to keep running from or to run to

to live or to die

The choice is ours today!

If you don't believe he is who he said he is you are wasting your time.

But if, Jesus is who he says he is, but if he did get out of that grave, but if he did conquer death...

there is nothing more meaningful, more significant that we should be doing with our lives than living for Jesus an being apart of God's Story!