

Jesus - Part 1

Who is Jesus?
What is he like?
What did he do?
Why did He come?

We see a clear anti-Christian movement in our world today and here in the UK. The liberties that Christians had in this nation have been gradually stripped away. The freedom that Christians once enjoyed is also gradually being stripped away and now suddenly there is an anti Christian / anti Jesus atmosphere being created and it is creeping in to churches and Christian circles under the radar - a subtle ploy of Satan.

Somehow the name Jesus seems to evoke a reaction although many use his name as a swear word. Sounds rather strange does it not that people are happy to swear by the name of Jesus and prefix or postfix the name of Jesus in conversations.

We are not ashamed of the name of Jesus nor of the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom 1:16) There is only one gospel or good news that is deeply rooted in love and that is the gospel of Jesus calling sinners to repentance through his blood shed for all on the cross.

Who is Jesus? The Pharisees and teachers of the law and the general public could only see Jesus as Joseph's son when Jesus referred to himself as the Bread of Life who came down from heaven. In John 6:42 the people said is this not Jesus the son of Joseph whose father and mother we know? Then when Phillip who was called by Jesus whilst in Galilee tells Nathanael that they have found the One Moses wrote of in the Law (Deut 18:15/18), the One preached by the prophets. *It's Jesus, Joseph's son, the one from Nazareth!" Nathanael said, "Nazareth? You've got to be kidding."*([John1:45-46](#))

John the Baptist in [John 1: 29](#) referred to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and in Vs 33 he says this is He who baptises with the Holy Spirit and in Vs 34 he declares that he has seen and testified that this is the Son of God. [Ex 12]

We know that Jesus is God and he was there at the beginning of creation. There are many references to this: John 1:1 in the beginning was the Word linking Jesus with the God of Creation. The Word is Jesus Christ the eternal, ultimate expression of God. In Genesis God spoke the world into existence; in the gospel God spoke His final word through the living Word Jesus His Son.

Although Jesus was born in human form he existed at the beginning and He was the Creator of the universe, the living picture of God's holiness and the one by whom all things consist. Paul the writer to the church at Colossae a city in Asia Minor puts it beautifully about Jesus in [Col 1:15 - 18](#) - *We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels—everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment. And when it comes to the church, he organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body.*

Three things we can glean...

1. Jesus is the expressed image of God the Father - When we look at Jesus we see God (John 14:9) Jesus tells Phillip, Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.
2. When we look at Jesus we see God's original purpose in everything created - *Heb 1: 1-2 In the past, God spoke to our people through the prophets. He spoke at many times. He spoke in different ways. 2 But in these last days, he has spoken to us through his Son. He is the one whom God appointed to receive all things. God also made everything through him.*
3. Absolutely everything starts in Jesus and finds its purpose in Jesus and He holds it all together right up to this very moment - Wow! - *Heb 11:3 (NIRV) The Son is the shining brightness of God's glory. He is the exact likeness of God's being. He uses his powerful word to hold all things together.*

What Jesus taught and what he did are tied inseparably to who he is. Jesus was fully God and yet fully human and although he lived as a man he never ceased to be God John 1:2 tells us that Jesus was with God at the beginning. John 1:3 say that All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made.

Remember... We exist only because God made us. We have special gifts only because God gave them.

Here's the personal application of this amazing truth about Jesus the Creator, the Son of God and God Himself who came in human form just for you and me - and because of who he is...

1. You are **valuable and unique** - apart from God you and I are nothing. In *John 15:5 Jesus said this: "I am the vine. You are the branches. If you remain **joined** to me, and I to you, you will bear a lot of fruit. You can't do anything without me. Isaiah 43:1 O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine; Isaiah 49:16 I have written your name on the palms of my hands; Ps 139: 13-14 Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother's womb.*
I thank you, High God—you're breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration—what a creation!
2. You are **His handiwork / his creation** - *Eph 2:10 We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do.*
3. A **new creation** in Christ - *2 Cor 5:17-18 When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here! 18 All this is from God. He brought us back to himself through Christ's death on the cross.*
4. Made **Righteous** [without sense of guilt, inferiority or sin consciousness] (*2Cor 5:21 Christ didn't have any sin. But God made him become sin for us. So we can be made right with God because of what Christ has done for us*), to conform to the revealed will of God in everything. By making us righteous God has acquitted us from sin. **Holy** (*Heb 10:10 We have been made holy by what God wanted. We have been made holy because Jesus Christ offered his body once and for all time*). **Set apart for God** - Our righteousness before God is not something we are or something we have done. Our righteousness is the Lord Jesus Christ. God has put us in Christ and the risen Christ Himself is our righteousness. The Bible says, *1Cor 1:26 -31 msg: Take a good look, friends, at who you were when you got called into this life. I don't see many of "the brightest and the best" among you, not many influential, not many from high-society families. Isn't it obvious that God deliberately*

chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these “nobodies” to expose the hollow pretensions of the “somebodies”? That makes it quite clear that none of you can get by with blowing your own horn before God. Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ. That’s why we have the saying, “If you’re going to blow a horn, blow a trumpet for God.”

5. We have been **redeemed by his blood, forgiven our sin and given eternal life** - *Eph 1:7*
*We have been set free because of what Christ has done. Because he bled and died our sins have been forgiven. We have been set free because God’s grace [**grace** is God blessing us despite the fact that we do not deserve it] is so rich. John 3:16-17 God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. 17 God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world. He sent his Son to save the world through him.*

IT IS ALL ABOUT JESUS : Jesus said : Our job as believers is to know Jesus and make him known
Who is Jesus to you?

Can anyone else compare to Jesus?

Have you considered Jesus or abandoned him? How can anyone abandon such love, such compassion, such provision?

Do you ever feel your life is too complex for God to understand? then remember this Jesus who created everything seen and unseen in the whole universe also created **you**. Today he loves you and is longing for you to come to him. Jesus brings life where there is death. Salvation is God's gift freely given for you. Will you accept this amazing gift?