

# Why Study Jesus?



**John 1:46**

# Why Study Jesus?

- Why study Jesus of Nazareth?
- Why should it concern me that He walked this earth more than two-thousand years ago?
- Why should I care about His teachings?
- Why should I wonder at His miracles?

# Why Study Jesus?

- Why should I mimic His character and examples?
- Why should I follow Him?
- Why should I trust Him with my soul?
- *Why should* I study Jesus of Nazareth?

# Why Study Jesus?

- We shall take the same approach taken by Nathanael's brother Philip:

*“We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “**Come and see.**”*

~John 1:45-46

# Why Study Jesus?

- This morning we invite you to come and see Jesus of Nazareth.
- The King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.
- To meet Him and see for yourselves why He is worth hearing, believing, and following.

# What Do I Lack?



# Why Study Jesus?

- We are designed with a purpose, we all seek after something greater than ourselves.
- This need to look for our purpose is something uniquely given to us by God so that we may seek Him.
- Many people try to scratch this great itch with money, pleasure, and many other earthly vices.

# Why Study Jesus?

*“The world is crying out for something and it scarce knows what. Wealth has come but the heart is hungry; knowledge has come, but life for many has slipped into a riddle and delusion. The world is filled with inventions of human skill and genius, but there is a vast emptiness which neither science nor art is able to fill.”*

*~ Charles Edward Jefferson (Cambridge, OH – 1907)*



# Why Study Jesus?

- The nature of people throughout the eons has stayed exactly the same!
- Are these observations made over 108 years ago any less true for us living today?
- Not only is this the case but in a hundred years from now it will still be true because God has designed us to seek after Him!

# Why Study Jesus?

- The same was also true 3,000 years ago when Solomon recorded these words:

Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure *(Hebrews 11:24-26)*, For my heart rejoiced in all my labor; And this was my reward from all my labor.

(Continued)

# Why Study Jesus?

Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed *all was vanity and grasping for the wind*. *There was no profit under the sun.*

~ Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

# Why Study Jesus?

- This is why God is still needed, The Word of God is still relevant....
- It also means that what Jesus Christ has to give us makes Him worthy of Study, and of picking up our cross and following Him.

# Why Study Jesus?

Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “*One thing you lack*: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.”

~ **Mark 10:21**

# What He Gives Us

LIGHT OF THE WORLD  
GATE  
good shepherd  
WAY  
TRUTH  
GATE  
of the way  
world  
true  
vine  
light of the world  
gate  
TRUTH  
life  
RESURRECTION  
truth  
good shepherd  
WAY  
life  
TRUE VINE

GATE  
good shepherd  
BREAD  
OF LIFE  
gate  
bread of life  
resurrection  
TRUTH  
light  
of the world  
way  
GATE  
WAY  
bread of life  
TRUE VINE  
RESURRECTION  
good shepherd  
WAY  
LIGHT OF THE WORLD  
truth  
GATE  
life

BREAD  
OF LIFE  
light of the world  
truth  
bread of life  
GATE  
bread of life  
TRUE VINE  
bread of life  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
LIFE  
true  
vine  
TRUTH

bread of life  
GATE  
resurrection  
bread of life  
life  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
light of the world  
RESURRECTION  
true vine  
bread  
of life  
WAY  
bread of life  
RESURRECTION  
true vine  
way  
light of the world  
TRUTH  
bread of life  
GATE

# Why Study Jesus?

- The New Testament opens with the gospel narratives (**Matthew, Mark, Luke, John**) which are saturated with Christ's words and teachings:
- It is here that we find that Christ offers to mankind a complete and total abundance essential things found in Him which are needed for a healthy life:

# Why Study Jesus?

- The Lord implores us:
  1. Come Unto Me and I Will Give You Rest (**Matthew 11:28**)
  2. I Am The Bread of Life (**John 6:35,48**)
  3. I Am The Light of the World (**John 8:12; 9:5**)



# Why Study Jesus?

4. If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink (**John 7:37**)
5. My Peace I Give Unto You (**John 14:27**)
6. You Shall Receive Power (**Acts 1:8**)
7. You Shall Rejoice (**Luke 10:20; Philippians 3:1; 1 Peter 1:8**)

# Why Study Jesus?

- These seven elements: **Food, Water, Light, Rest, Peace, Power, Joy** – Are these not seven elements that help us live a full physical life?
- Christ offers for our souls the same things that fulfill us spiritually.
- These are what people are looking for when they embrace worldliness and try to fill a space that God designed to be occupied by Him!

# Why Study Jesus?

- If He is offering these things to us in a manner that no other religion on earth is able to provide, is He not worth studying to find out if we can obtain this?
- Is He not worth studying to find out how we can obtain these blessings offered with the utmost speed?

# Why Study Jesus?

- As we approach Jesus of Nazareth we hear Him say:
  - Follow Me!
  - Learn of Me!
  - Take Nourishment from Me!
  - Abide in Me!

# Why Study Jesus?

- It would seem that these blessings, these good things are all offered on the condition that we be like Him!
- But what is He like?
- What is His disposition, temper, attitude, nature? Surely if we are discontented with ourselves we will want to be more like Him if He can offer us these blessings as the Son of God!

# What He Gives the World



# Why Study Jesus?

- **For many people the discontent we feel comes from the world in which we live.**
  - Times are perilous and dangerous
  - People do not seem to be strong
  - Governments are corrupt
  - The Church seems weaker everyday
  - The Home is broken and failing
  - Society is tainted by its own superficial living

# Why Study Jesus?

- Many societal seem to be a mere match strike away from burning.
- The Economy is unstable at best.

The whole framework of the world needs to be reconstructed and who living among us today can do that? Our leaders are mighty but they are mere people with flaws and nobody seems to be able to work together, or in which direction they should turn.



# Why Study Jesus?

- Yet, when we open our New Testaments, we find a man looking as us who:
  - Is not a revolutionist, but has been the cause of many personal revolutions (**John 18:33-37**).
  - Although He is not a disturber of the peace, has repeatedly turned the world upside down (**John 6:15**)
  - His views are radical but He is not labeled a radical because His teachings work and are relevant even today (**Hebrews 13:8**)

# Why Study Jesus?

- He dares to reverse human standards of right and wrong (**Matthew 5:38-48; Luke 6:31**).
- He confounds the wise by things which are foolish, and confounds things which are mighty by things which are weak (**1 Corinthians 1:27**).
- He has so much to say about authority and power and He claims that he can make all things new (**John 13:34**).

# Why Study Jesus?

- Historians have marveled that this Jesus paved the way for overturning the Roman Empire.
- They marvel that He has given to Europe and America a civilization unlike the world has ever known.
- Now consider this...

# Why Study Jesus?

- If His ideas have the force of dynamite, His personality can change the policy of Empires and temper the human heart...
- **Is it not the case that Jesus of Nazareth is the very answer that this world is looking for in its quest to be delivered from misery and woe?**
- If one truly desires a better world and life they must come to Jesus for His ability of pulling down strongholds of sin and establishing righteousness and peace.

# Pulling Down Strongholds Link by Link



# Why Study Jesus?

- When we study Christ we can see that He possesses an unparalleled concern for the individual to be righteous in heart and action (**Matthew 6:33**).
- To do this, and build his church, He must first build individuals.
- He draws one person to Him, and then sends that person out to convert and win another, who in time wins a third and then a fourth.

# Why Study Jesus?

- In time these individuals who make up the building blocks of the church form a chain that can drag down Rome itself, not through force but through peace.
- Jesus reforms our world, governments, and societies through the hearts and minds of people.

# Why Study Jesus?

- Change the heart, mind, and character of one person who then changes the hearts and minds of many others and you have reformed society, empires, and civilization.
- This is why Jesus states:



# Why Study Jesus?

*“Behold, I make all things new.”*

~ Revelation 21:5

The change of heart, the building of the church,  
the salvation of the sinful soul.

# Our Mission As His Disciples



# Why Study Jesus?

- When we study Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah, the Lord, the Savior we can quickly conclude that His desire is for all people to have a change of mind and heart and be saved:

*For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

**~ 1 Timothy 2:4**

# Why Study Jesus?

- **We learn that the Lord needs each and every one of us in this task:**

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**~ Matthew 28:19**

# Why Study Jesus?

- Why should we study Jesus? Why should we learn about Him?
- It is because He is the answer to our pining for something greater than what we have in this world.
- It is because He is unmatched in His power and authority.

# Why Study Jesus?

- It is because He is the answer to our own spiritual dissatisfaction.
- It is because He is the answer to the issues facing our world.
- It is because He has built us a spiritual stronghold and refuge in the church, and paid for it with His own blood.

# Why Study Jesus?

- It is because He continually calls men and women every second of every day to come to Him and find nourishment, rest, and refuge.
- It is because He needs us to help save those who are lost and wandering in this world.
- It is because He can save our souls from sin.

**It Is Because We Cannot  
Afford Not To**



# **This Morning Come To Christ**

**Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:  
Fear God and keep His commandments,  
For this is man's all.**

**~ Ecclesiastes 13:14**

**And Be Free!!!**