

HAVE YOU MET MY JESUS? PART III

Text: John 1:1

Key Word: Jesus

Key Thought: Jesus Has Shown Himself in a Variety of Indispensable Characteristics

What Are Some of the Indispensable Characteristics of Jesus?

I. HE UNVEILS THE WORD OF GOD (John 1:1)

II. HE EMBRACES THE WILL OF GOD (Matthew 26:39-44)

III. HE DEMONSTRATES THE WISDOM OF GOD (I Corinthians 1:20-25)

I. HE UNVEILS THE WORD OF GOD (John 1:1)

“The Old Testament is the New Testament **concealed**; the New Testament is the Old Testament **revealed**.”

Unknown

One of the greatest ways that this truth played itself out was in the life of Jesus. Throughout the Old Testament we find hundreds of examples of symbolism that found their fulfilment in and through Jesus Christ. One such example is found in the Tabernacle of Moses (Hebrews 8,9). Each and every measurement, type of metal and colour etc. pointed toward a fulfilment to take place in Christ.

When Jesus walked upon this earth, He became **The Living Revelation** of what had previously been concealed. **The Word of God had been given as a revelation to the Old Testament writers, but many of the words they wrote were still covered with a veil that hid their full meaning.** When Jesus came and walked upon the earth, **He represented the Living Word of God.**

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, **and the Word was God.***

2. He was with God in the beginning.

3. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

*4. In him was life, and **that life was the light of men.***

5. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.”

John 1:1-5

I. HE UNVEILS THE WORD OF GOD (John 1:1) (Contd.)

Jesus came to unveil what was hidden from the eyes of those who lived in the past. Neither the prophets nor even the angels understood these things until Jesus made it clear to them.

“Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, 11. trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ (the Messiah) and the glories that would follow. 12. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.”

I Peter 1:10-12

“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2. but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, . . .”

Hebrews 1:1,2

The word used for **“unveiled”** in the Scriptures takes on several meanings depending upon the language that is used. In the Greek the word used in Mark 1:10 to describe heaven being torn open, (*“schizo”*) meant **“to rend”** or **“split,”** *rent asunder,* In Aramaic the word **“ephphatha”** means **“to open,”** used in the imperative mood, **“be opened,”** Mark 7:34; **using the application in the case of opening both ears and the tongue of those who were deaf and dumb.**

Another common word used to describe this important truth was the word **“reveal.”** This Greek word (*“apokalupto”*) means **“to uncover, unveil”** (apo, *“from,”* kalupto, *“to cover”*)

When Jesus revealed Himself to mankind, He literally tore apart the veil that had hidden the fulfilment of the Word of God from the eyes of the people who had walked in darkness. He brought to light what they previously could not see. But Jesus didn't stop there. He went on to embed this truth into the hearts and minds of those He called to preach the Gospel.

I. HE UNVEILS THE WORD OF GOD (John 1:1) (Contd.)

“Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you,
3. that is, **the mystery made known to me by revelation**, as I have already written briefly.
4. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,
5. **which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets**.
6. **This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus**.
7. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power.
8. Although I am less than the least of all God’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,
9. and **to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.**”

Ephesians 3:2-9

But the wonderful truth of this unveiling doesn’t stop with either Jesus or the apostle Paul. Since God is no respecter of persons, **He has made this wonderful blessing of understanding the Word of God available to everyone who is reborn of the Spirit of God.**

God has given to us an incredible blessing of uncovering the wonderful truths that were once hidden from the hearts and minds of God’s people. We can be trained and used of God to share these wonderful truths with those whom God sets across our pathway. **There is no doubt that this is being done and will continue to flourish until the time of Christ’s return.**

Paul told the church at Corinth that they were called to **reflect the glory of the Lord** instead of hiding it from those who could not understand. **God’s glory is also not fading away as the days go by. We live a life that is from glory to glory.**

I. HE UNVEILS THE WORD OF GOD (John 1:1) (Contd.)

*“We are **not like Moses**, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away.*

*14. But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, **because only in Christ is it taken away.***

15. Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts.

*16. **But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.***

17. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

*18. **And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are **being transformed** into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.**”*

II Corinthians 3:13-18

II. HE EMBRACES THE WILL OF GOD (Matthew 26:39-44)

The second indispensable characteristic of Christ is that He Embraces the Will of God. His will was totally wrapped up in the will of His Father. There never was a time when Jesus rebelled against the will of His Father. Never do we see Him showing even the slightest attitude of rebellion.

*“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21. that all of them may be one, **Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.** May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22. **I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one:** 23. **I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”***

John 17:20-23

II. HE EMBRACES THE WILL OF GOD (Matthew 26:39-44)(Contd.)

Nowhere was this truth evident to the world than when Jesus chose to be crucified for our sins. As He made His way on that fateful Thursday night toward Golgotha, He knew that He would face the most agonizing time in His life. He also knew that He would have to bear the full measure of pain associated with a crucifixion. There was no easy way out even though He was the Son of God. He had to bear the full brunt of the torture inflicted by the Roman soldiers **as well as the weight of sin of all the world.**

“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

*40. Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. **Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?**” he asked Peter.*

***41. Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.**”*

*42. He went away a second time and prayed, **My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.**”*

43. When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.

44. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

Matthew 26:39-44

As I shared earlier, Jesus wanted this same attitude to be in the heart of those who were His disciples. He wanted them to be one with His heavenly Father as well even to the same level that He enjoyed. What would happen in our lives if we totally surrendered our will to that of our heavenly Father’s will?

“God is ready to assume full responsibility for the life wholly yielded to Him.”

[Andrew Murray](#)

Some people won’t surrender to God’s will because they feel that it will be just too difficult to live up to what He places on their shoulder. **In the few years I spent upon this earth I truly believe it is much harder obey the devil and follow his devious schemes than it is to come in line with the pathway of righteousness.** They haven’t yet understood that Jesus has a yoke that is both easy and light to carry **IF** we totally lay aside our desires and will and link up with Him.

II. HE EMBRACES THE WILL OF GOD (Matthew 26:39-44)(Contd.)

*** Bruce Larson tells how he helped people struggling to surrender their lives to Christ: For many years I worked in New York City and counselled at my office any number of people who were wrestling with this yes-or-no decision. Often I would suggest they walk with me from my office down to the RCA Building on Fifth Avenue.

In the entrance of that building is a gigantic statue of Atlas, a beautifully proportioned man who, with all his muscles straining, is holding the world upon his shoulders. There he is, the most powerfully built man in the world, and he can barely stand up under this burden. 'Now that's one way to live,' I would point out to my companion, 'trying to carry the world on your shoulders. But now come across the street with me.'

On the other side of Fifth Avenue is Saint Patrick's Cathedral, and there behind the high altar is a little shrine of the boy **Jesus, perhaps eight or nine years old, and with no effort He is holding the world in one hand.** My point was illustrated graphically.

We have a choice. We can carry the world on our shoulders, or we can say, "I give up, Lord; here's my life. I give you my world, the whole world."

Bruce Larson

"Believe and Belong"

<http://www.christianglobe.com/Illustrations/theDetails.asp?whichOne=s&whichFile=surrender>

III. HE DEMONSTRATES THE WISDOM OF GOD (I Corinthians 1:20-25)

*“. . . to the **only wise God** be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.”*

Romans 16:27

Anyone who had the privilege to gaze upon Christ were able to witness the wisdom of God. **Everywhere Jesus went, wisdom was proclaimed.** He amazed the people not only at the age of 12 (Luke 2:47) but also as He spoke to the crowds that gathered to hear the words that came from His mouth (Matthew 7:28,29). Jesus' wisdom was never marred by making mistakes. **His wisdom came from above where it is pure.**

“Experience comes from what we have done. Wisdom comes from what we have done badly.”

Theodore Levitt

"Harvard Business School"

III. HE DEMONSTRATES THE WISDOM OF GOD (I Corinthians 1:20-25)(Contd.)

Man's wisdom will never be on the same level as that which was demonstrated by Christ. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't strive to gain a measure of the wisdom of God. The important thing is to set our heart upon the wisdom that comes from above and not that which is of this world.

** An angel appears at a faculty meeting and tells the dean that in return for his unselfish and exemplary behaviour, the Lord will reward him with **his choice of infinite wealth, wisdom or beauty.** Without hesitating, the dean selects infinite wisdom.

"Done!" says the angel, and disappears in a cloud of smoke and a bolt of lightning. Now, all heads turn toward the dean, who sits surrounded by a faint halo of light. At length, one of his colleagues whispers, "Say something."

The dean looks at them and says, "**I should have taken the money.**" **

Betsy Devine and Joel E. Cohen
"Absolute Zero Gravity"
Simon & Schuster

*"Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar?
Where is the philosopher of this age? **Has not God
made foolish the wisdom of the world?***

*21. For since in the wisdom of God the world
through its wisdom did not know him, God was
pleased through the foolishness of what was
preached to save those who believe.*

*22. Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look
for wisdom,*

*23. **but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling
block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles.***

*24. but to those whom God has called, both Jews
and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the
wisdom of God.*

*25. For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's
wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than
man's strength.*

I Corinthians 1:20-25

III. HE DEMONSTRATES THE WISDOM OF GOD (I Corinthians 1:20-25) (Contd.)

*“His intent was that now, **through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,**
11. according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Ephesians 3:10.11

*“My goal (purpose) purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, **Christ,**
3. **in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**
4. I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.”*

Colossians 2:2-4

“Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you would have preferred to talk.”

Doug Larson

What Are Some of the Indispensable Characteristics of Jesus That Should Also Be in Us?

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Date: Nov 5\23 (Updated)

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: Jesus Lover of my Soul (It's All about You) - D

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I Peter 1:10-12; Hebrews 1:1,2; Mark 1:10; Mark 7:34; Ephesians 3:2-9; II Corinthians 3:13-18

II. HE EMBRACES THE WILL OF GOD (Matthew 26:39-44) - John 17:20-23

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Romans 16:27; Luke 2:47; Matthew 7:28,29; I Corinthians 1:20-25; Ephesians 3:10.11;
Colossians 2:2-4