**Jesus Our Everything**

**By Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Matthew 16:13-16**

**Sunday Morning**

**December 15, 2024**

13 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" 14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

**Jesus is not only the most important person who ever lived, but He’s also the most controversial.**

Throughout history, people have hated Him, ignored Him, loved Him, and died for His sake. Two thousand years ago Jesus walked out of a carpenter’s shop to begin His ministry, and since then an increasing number of people have followed Him. Who is this man called Jesus?

Saints, Jesus asked that same question of His disciples:

**Matthew 16:13**

“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

Saints, the answers varied, from John the Baptist to one of the Old Testament prophets. But when He asked,

**Matthew 16:15-16**

15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Saints, today, Christians still believe this. We celebrate His birth on Christmas, worship and bow down to Him as our Lord, and pray in His name.

To us, He is the most awesome person who ever walked on earth because He is God’s Son. Scripture refers to Jesus with many titles: Messiah, Son of God, Savior of the world, reigning Lord, ruling Judge, and returning King are just a few of them.

Therefore, if Jesus is who Scripture says He is, we should respond in the following ways: Believe Him, follow Him, serve Him, proclaim Him, know Him through God’s Word, and love Him. When we do this, it will impact every aspect of our lives.

**What are Jesus’ attributes?**

**Creator**

**Colossians 1:15-16**

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

**Omnipresent**

As our Savior, Jesus lives within our hearts and is with us wherever we go.

**Omnipotent**

God the Son has all power to do whatever fits with His character and is in keeping with His Father’s will.

**Omniscient**

There are no secrets because our Lord knows all things with complete accuracy. Before we even utter a prayer, He knows what we will say.

**Merciful**

We may freely call upon Christ to be merciful to us and need never worry that He will mistreat us.

**Eternal**

Jesus was born of a woman, but this is not when He came into existence. He has always existed as eternal Son of God.

**Sinless**

Because of His divine nature, Jesus was completely sinless.

**Human**

Although He never ceased being God, Jesus was also fully human yet without sin. Because He lived as a man, He understands and can help us in our weakness.

**Deity**

Jesus was also wholly divine with all the attributes and perfections of deity.

**Virgin-born**

To become the holy, sinless God-man, Jesus had to be conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of a virgin. This was the only way He could represent mankind and be the sinless Lamb of God who was qualified to pay for our sins with His death on the cross.

**Where is Jesus today?**

Saints, according to Scripture,

**Romans 8:34**

Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Saints, Jesus also abides within our hearts. At the moment of salvation, His Spirit came to indwell and seal us as His. Now we abide in Him and He in us.

**Romans 8:9-11**

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

**What was Jesus’ mission on earth?**

**To Reveal the Father**

**(What was Jesus’ mission on earth?)**

Jesus told His disciples,

**John 14:9**

“He who has seen Me has seen the Father”

Saints, because He was God, everything Jesus did and said revealed the Father’s nature and works.

**To Redeem Mankind**

Jesus came to offer Himself on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins. Now everyone who believes in Him, repents of sin, and confesses Jesus as Lord and Savior will be saved.

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**To Assure us of Life after Death**

When Christ overcame death and rose from the grave, the issue of eternal life was settled once and for all. Without His resurrection, we’d have no hope of life after death and no confidence that all that Jesus said was true.

**2 Corinthians 5:6-8**

6 So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

**(What was Jesus’ mission on earth?)**

**To Promise Us Resurrection**

Because Jesus was raised up, we can be sure that we too will be resurrected when He returns:

**1 Corinthians 15:20**

“But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.”

**1 Corinthians 15:51-58**

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

**To Give us Abundant Life**

**John 10:10**

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

Saints, all that we have in Christ is beyond our understanding. He’s given us His amazing promises and is continually working in and for us.

**Who did Jesus say He was?**

**The Good Shepherd: The Bread of Life: The Vine: The Way, the Truth, and the Life: The Light of the World: The Door**

**What does Scripture say about Jesus’ name?**

**His Name is Above Every Name**

**Philippians 2:9-11**

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Saints, even the world’s tyrants who have rejected Jesus and want to control everything will one day fall to their knees and be forced to admit that He is the Lord.

**His is the Only Name by which we are Saved**

**Acts 4:12**

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

**His Name Indicates His Mission as Deliverer**

An angel gave his name to Joseph:

**Matthew 1:21**

“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

**Jesus is called the only begotten Son of God**

**John 3:16**

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

He came from the heavenly Father and is one with Him.

**There is none like Jesus**

**1. He never wrote a book, but He is the subject of the greatest Book ever written.**

**2. He never wrote a song, yet He is the subject of many.**

**3. He never owned a home, but He has prepared one for us.**

**4. He never traveled more than one hundred miles from home, yet the entire world is in His presence.**

**5. He didn’t have a medical license but is known as the Great Physician.**

**6. He never marshaled an army, but He could bring down every kind of kingdom imaginable.**

**7. Herod could not kill Him.**

**8. Satan could not seduce Him.**

**9. Death couldn’t destroy Him.**

**10. The tomb could not keep Him.**

**In Closing:**

**Jesus’ names in Scripture describe His Attributes and His Mission**

**King of Kings, Son of God, Lamb of God, Rose of Sharon, Lord of Lords, Great High Priest, Morning Star, Prince of Peace, Wonderful, Counselor, Immanuel, Word of God, Prophet, Alpha and Omega**

**1. Why is Jesus worthy of your faith, devotion, and worship?**

**2. How can you focus on Him this Christmas instead of being distracted by all the activities, preparations, and expectations of the season?**

Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

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**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.”**