John 12:23-36

JESUS, THE SON

"JESUS: SON OF MAN"

"The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." - Luke 19:10

Jesus called Himself the "Son of Man" 80 times. This phrase speaks both of Jesus' Divinity and His Humanity.

THE "SON OF MAN" IS DIVINE = SALVATION

"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into His presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will never be destroyed." - Daniel 7:13,14

THE "SON OF MAN" IS HUMAN = IDENTIFICATION

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin." - Hebrews 4:15

BECAUSE OF THESE TWO FACTS ABOVE, THE "SON OF MAN" IS THEREFORE BOTH:

1. Pauper and Provider.

"Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head." - Matthew 8:20 "In my Father's house are many mansions... I go to prepare a place for you."

- John 14:2 (KJV)

2. Seeker and Saviour.

"The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." - Luke 19:10 "When the Pharisees saw this, they asked His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" - Matthew 9:11

3. Victim and Victor.

"The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again." - Luke 24:7

"For the Son of Man is going to come in His Father's glory with His angels, and then He will reward each person according to what they have done." - Matthew 16:27

IN DESCRIBING HOW HE WAS TO BE GLORIFIED, JESUS GIVES US THREE TRUTHS AT THE CENTRE OF CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIFE:

1. Only by death comes life.

"Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." - John 12:24

2. Only by giving do we live.

"Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life." - John 12:25

3. Only by serving do we become great.

"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me." - John 12:26

** When death stung Jesus Christ, it stung itself to death! **

HOW DOES JESUS, GOD'S "SON OF MAN", WANT US TO RESPOND?:

1. Know that Jesus understands us completely.

"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name?" - John 12:27,28

2. Know that He came for our benefit - our salvation.

"Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." ³⁰ Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine." - John 12:28,30

3. Act now on this truth.

"Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you." - John 12:35

4. Experience the joy of salvation.

"Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." - John 12:36

Week 3

John 12:23-36

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