**Jesus Our King of Kings**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Matthew 1:18-21**

**Sunday Morning**

**December 19, 2021**

**Matthew 1:18-22**

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

**Who is Jesus?**

Our understanding depends upon what kind of relationship we have with Him and how much we know about Him. Some people know very little yet have an instant dislike of Jesus that originates deep within their souls.

Many others claim Him as their Savior and Lord but can’t really give an explanation for why they believe in Him. Since there is so much confusion and ignorance regarding Christ’s identity, we as His followers have a responsibility to accurately understand who He is so we can help others know Him too.

**Jesus lived before He was even conceived in His mother’s womb**

Christ didn’t come into existence when He was born as a baby. He preexisted in eternity past, but at the appointed time, He came to earth in human form while still retaining His deity.

At creation God said:

**Genesis 1:28**

“Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.”

Saints, the plurality of the personal pronouns reveals that all three of the Godhead were together at the time of creation.

**Colossians 2:8-10**

8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. 9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Saints, when Jesus spoke to the Jewish leaders, He claimed to have been alive before Abraham

**John 8:58**

“Before Abraham was born, I am.”

In His prayer, Christ affirms His Father’s love for Him before creation.

**John 17:24**

“You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”

**Jesus created all things**

Saints, the constellations above and the earth below were created and placed in perfect order by the triune God. The following verses testify to Christ’s role in creation:

**John 1:3**

“Apart from Him nothing came into being.”

**Colossians 1:16**

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.

**Hebrews 1:2**

“In these last days (God) has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.”

**Jesus was born of an earthly mother and a heavenly Father**

Saints, without the virgin birth, there would be no salvation for mankind.

**Luke 1:34-35**

34 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" 35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

To pay for man’s sin, God required a perfect sacrifice, but every person since Adam has been born with a sin nature. However, since Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of a virgin, He didn’t inherit a sin nature.

He was the only person who ever lived a perfect life, and therefore, was the only one qualified to die for the sins of the world.

**Jesus was both God and the Son of God**

Throughout His ministry, Christ equated Himself with His Father.

**John 10:30**

“I and the Father are one.”

**John 12:44**

“He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me.”

**John 12:45**

“He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me.”

**John 14:7**

“If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.”

Saints, one of the purposes for Christ’s first coming was to give mankind greater understanding of God. He came to earth as a visible man displaying

**Colossians 1:15**

“the image of the invisible God”

**Jesus’ Teaching was often Perplexing**

Many of His statements didn’t make sense, and we still struggle to accept and believe them. However, if we obey his teachings, we’ll become living testimonies of Jesus to all who see us.

**Matthew 5:11-12**

“Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great.”

**Matthew 5:44**

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

**Matthew 20:27**

“Whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave.”

**Mark 8:34**

“If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.”

**Mark 8:35**

“For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.”

**Matthew 5:5**

“Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.”

**Matthew 10:34**

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.”

Saints, sometimes following Jesus results in severed relationships with those who will no longer accept us because of our commitment to Him.

All these commands and blessings require a humble heart willing to surrender to Christ so He can use us in whatever way He desires. When we display these qualities, we are exemplifying the character of Christ.

**Jesus’ Name is like no Other**

**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."

Saints, although many take Christ’s name in vain, God’s Word attributes power and honor to His 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, believers recognize this, acknowledging Him as Lord; but at the great judgment, even those who rejected Him will bow and confess that He is Lord.

**Luke 24:47-49**

“and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem”

Jesus told His disciples,

**John 14:13**

“Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do.”

Jesus also promised that:

**Matthew 18:20**

“where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”

Saints, when Peter healed a lame man, he said,

**Acts 3:6**

“In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene—walk!”

Saints, Jesus will return to earth as the reigning King and Judge of all mankind. It’s when Christ comes to:

**Matthew 25:31-34**

31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

33 And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

**Matthew 25:41-46**

41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink;

43 I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' 44 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'

45 "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' 46 "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

**In Closing:**

**1. When you hear the name of Jesus, what thoughts and perceptions come to mind?**

**2. What emotions do you feel?**

**3. Have you tried to explain who Jesus is to someone who is ignorant or antagonistic toward Him?**

**4. What happened?**

**5. Did you feel adequately equipped to give an answer?**

**6. What new truths have you learned that provide a greater understanding of the Lord Jesus?**

Saints, 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.

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."

**Short Movie Slide>**

**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."

**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.” In Jesus Name!**