

# JESUS

## 3. THE FOUR PORTRAITS OF CHRIST

### STUDY AHEAD

#### JESUS in MATTHEW

*The 1<sup>st</sup> Portrait of Jesus* shows the fulfillment of the O.T: The long-awaited King of the Jews, the New Moses, God's Chosen Servant, the Suffering Messiah and God with us. Written by a Jew, to the Jews.

#### 1. King of the Jews

- Persian Magi (Mt 2:2-6)
- Son of *King* David (Mt 12:23; 20:30; 21:9; 22:41,42)
- He will reign on David's throne (Is 9:7)
- Kingdom of heaven (Mt 3:2; Mt 21:43,44 & Daniel 2:44)
- Before Pilate (Mt 27:11)
- On the cross (Mt 27:37)

#### 2. The New Moses

- Jesus/Egypt (Mt 2:14-16); Moses/Egypt (Ex 4:22,23)
- Jesus/River Jordan (Mt 3:16,17); Moses/Red Sea (Ex 14:21,22)
- Jesus/wilderness (Mt 4:1); Moses/wilderness (Ex 15:22)
- Jesus teaches a 'new' and 'higher' Law "*You have heard it was said*" (Moses-10 Commandments: Ex 20:1-17), "*but I say*" (Mt 5)
- Eg: Murder (5:21,22); Adultery (5:27,28); Divorce (5:31,32); Revenge: (5:38,39); Love your neighbor/enemies: (5:43,44)
- **Key verse:** "*I have not come to abolish but to fulfill*" (Mt 5:17).

#### 3. God's Chosen Servant

- Mt 12:18-21/Isaiah 42:1-4 "*Whom He loves; upon whom He puts His Spirit; Who proclaims justice to the nations; Who has a gentle voice; Who won't break a bruised reed, or snuff out a smoldering candle... In His name the nations will put their hope.*"

#### 4. Suffering Messiah

- His blood be on us (Mt 27:25)
- Despised/mockered (Mt 27:29/Isaiah 53:3)
- Strike the Shepherd/sheep scattered (Mt 26:31/Zechariah 13:7)
- He took our sins, infirmities, diseases (Mt 8:17/Isaiah 53:4)
- Led to be crucified (Mt 27:31/Isaiah 53:7)
- Buried with the rich (Mt 27:57-60/Isaiah 53:9)

#### 5. Immanuel-God with Us

- He WAS the Son of God! (Mt 27:54)
- A Son is given, Mighty God (Is 9:6)
- All authority given to Jesus, He will be 'with us' (Mt 28:18-20)
- Salvation to the ends of the earth (Is 49:6)

## JESUS in MARK

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> Portrait of Jesus* was penned by Mark who recorded Peter's preaching in ROME. We see Jesus speaking and acting with authority, proving His deity to disciples, leaders and crowds. He was powerful, yet a servant, who sacrificed His life for sinners; a Savior worth radically following. *"The gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (1:1). "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (10:45).*

### 1. Jesus' Authority

- Calling Simon Peter & others to follow Him (1:16-20)
- His teaching (1:22, 27)
- Over demons (1:23-34) Gerasene demoniac (5:1-20)
- Boy with deaf and mute evil spirit (9:20-27)
- Healing leprosy (1:40-42); Paralyzed (2:4,10-11) Bleeding (5:28,29)
- To Forgive sins- the paralytic (2:5-11)
- Over nature (4:35-41); walking on water (6:47-50)
- Multiplying the loaves and fish: feeding 5,000 men (6:39-44)  
feeding 4,000 men (8:8,9)

### 2. Jesus' Compassion

- Feeding the multitudes (6:34; 8:1-3)
- Moved to heal (1:40-42)
- For little children (10:13-16)
- The rich young man (10:21)

### 3. Jesus' Discipleship

- His challenge (1:17, 20; 2:14; 3:13-14)
- Training through serving (6:36-43; 8:1-7)
- Modeling & teaching servanthood (10:42-45)
- Training through awareness (widow's 2 coins 12:41-44)
- Training their faith: calming the storm (4:35-41); straining against the waves (6:45-52); lack of power over demons (9:28-29); death (5:36-37); importance of prayer (1:35-38; 9:30-31; 14:32,38)
- His true family are disciples (3:31-35; 10:28-30)
- Sending them out without Him (6:7-13)
- Teaching them privately explaining parables (4:10)
- Be teachable! (4:24-25)
- Be radical like Mary (14:3-9)
- WHO AM I? (8:27-30)

### 4. Jesus' Opposition - Religious Leaders

- For forgiving sins (2:5-11)
- Breaking the Sabbath (2:23-24,27-28; 3:1-5)
- Pharisees and Herodians plot to kill Jesus (3:6)

## JESUS in LUKE

***The 3<sup>rd</sup> portrait of Jesus*** was penned by Luke, a Greek, the Apostle Paul's travelling companion: a researcher, historian, litterateur, evangelist and pastor. Luke highlights Jesus' humanity through Mary and His dependence on the Father through prayer and the Holy Spirit. We learn of Jesus' love and grace throughout the gospel for women, outcasts, enemies and those who are 'lost' and humble. ***'For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost' (19:10).***

### **1. A Virgin's Birth, yet the Deity of Christ**

- Mary, a virgin and willing servant (1:27, 34, 38)
- Highly favored by God to carry the Savior (1:28, 30)
- Son of the Most High, reigning forever (1:32,33)
- Mary's humanity overshadowed by the Holy Spirit (1:35)
- Identifying with His Heavenly Father at 12 yrs old (2:42, 48-49)

### **2. Jesus' dependence/teaching on the Holy Spirit (H.S.)**

- H.S. descended as a dove at baptism (3:22)
- Full of the H.S. and led by the H.S. into wilderness (4:1)
- Full of the H.S. as He spoke in Nazareth (4:14, 18)
- Your Heavenly Father will give you the H.S. (11:13)
- The H.S. will teach you what to say (12:12)
- Wait in Jerusalem until you are clothed with power (24:49)

### **3. Jesus and Prayer- His Example and Teaching**

- He often withdrew (5:16); prayed all night (6:12); took His 3 disciples to pray (9:28); prayed for Peter (22:31-32)
- Gethsemane (22:40-46)
- Lord, teach us to pray- Lord's prayer (11:1-4)
- Earnest prayer like a plea of a friend (11:5-8) Ask! (11:9-13)
- Pray and don't give up (18:1-7; 21:36)
- Pray with humility not pride (18:10-14)

### **4. Jesus' care for the lost and outcast (see all of Lk.15)**

- The sinful woman loves more (7:36-50)
- Zacchaeus a chief tax-collector (19:1-9)
- Lazarus and the rich man (16:19-31)
- The 'Good Samaritan' (10:30-37)
- Samaritan leper gives thanks (17:11-19)
- Crippled woman healed (13:10-13)

### **5. Jesus teaches disciples, crowds, religious leaders**

- On the plain (6:17-49); the sower (8:5-15); fear and worry, be watchful, a wise steward...(Ch.12)
- Cost of being His disciple (9:57-62 and 14:25-35)
- Sin, faith, duty, the kingdom of God (Ch.17)

## JESUS in JOHN

***The 4<sup>th</sup> portrait of Jesus*** was penned by ‘the beloved disciple’ who was one of Jesus’ 3 closest disciples and lived the longest. His portrait has the most original material and has the most beautiful depictions of Jesus. He stated his gospel’s intent at the end of his account. ***“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name” (20:30,31)***

### **1. Jesus the Eternal Word**

- He was ‘the WORD’, He was ‘with GOD’ and ‘was GOD’ (1:1)
- The Word was made FLESH, dwelt AMONG US, full of GRACE and TRUTH (1:14)
- *In Creation* (1:1-5) all things created through Him, who is life, light.
- *In History* (1:6-13) He was not recognized or received by ‘His own’ Jews. But anyone who believed in Him and received Him had the ‘right’ to become His child.
- *In the Incarnation* (1:14-18) John and other witnesses beheld His glory as the Only begotten One, full of grace and truth. No one has seen the Father. Jesus Christ only has made Him known.

### **2. Jesus portrayed in many ways to help us ‘believe’ (98 times)**

- Lamb of God (1:29); Creator of water to wine (2:8,11)
- Zeal for His Father’s house (2:13-17); God so loved the world, He sent His Son to die so whoever believes will not perish (3:14-18)
- True water of Eternal Life (4:10,14); Messiah (4:25-26); Savior of the world (4:42); The Judge (5:22,30); The bread of life (6:35,41,51)
- Sent from Heaven by the Father (6:38; 7:29); Living Water (7:37,38)
- Light of the World (8:12); I know the Father (8:54-55)
- The gate (10:7,9); The good shepherd (10:11)
- The resurrection and life (11:25)
- The Father glorifies the Son (12:27-28)
- He washed His disciples’ feet (13:4-5); He comforts (14:1)
- The way, truth, life (14:6); The vine (15:5)
- The high priest who intercedes (17:1-19)
- Betrayed (18:2-6); crucified (19:18)
- Cared for His mother (19:25-27); Risen, He cared for Mary Magdalene (20:10-18)
- Recommissioned disciples, then Peter to follow Him (20:21; 21:15-22)

**How has this precious Son of God, through these four portraits, encouraged you to believe and follow?**