



DISCIPLESHIP MATERIAL

Lesson Number: Nine

Theme: Jesus The Son of God (Pt. 3)

Date: March 2022

Introduction

We begin our third part of our series on Jesus the Son of God. We already established the importance of this study and the fact that it encapsulates quite a number of things we need to know about Jesus. For this part of the series we take a look again at Jesus and examine **His earthly ministry, His miracles, His salvation mission** and **His offices**, all of which give clues on the personality of His being the Son of God.

A. His earthly ministry and miracles

While the primary purpose of Jesus' earthly ministry (see the Life of Christ chart at Matthew 26, NIV Study Bible) was to carry out God's plan of redemption, His earthly ministry included a number of significant activities:

1. preaching the Gospel and the need for repentance. Mk. 1:14-15
2. teaching God's principles for living life well. Mt. 5:1-11
3. healing disease and sickness. Mt. 4:23
4. casting out demons. Mk. 1:21-28
5. confronting the false teaching of His day. Mt. 5:17-20, 27-28 (See chart on the main teachings of the Jewish Sects at Matthew 23, NIV Study Bible)
6. training His disciples. Mk. 4:33-34; Mk. 6:7-12; Lk. 4:25-35 (See chart on the Parables at Luke 15, NIV Study Bible)
7. meeting the physical needs of people. Mk. 6:30-44
8. correcting the false practice of religion. Mk. 7:5-13
9. demonstrating servant leadership. Jn. 13:1-17
10. previewing the reality of heaven and hell. Lk. 16:19-31; Mt. 25:40-46

11. predicting the future, including His second coming. Mt. 24-25
12. proving that He was indeed the Son of God, the promised Old Testament Messiah.
 - i by His words. Lk. 4:14-21
 - ii by His works. Mt. 9:1-8
13. fulfilling Old Testament prophecy. Mt. 8:16-17
14. causing men to place their faith in Him. Jn. 2:11; Jn. 20:30-31
15. glorifying the Father. Jn. 8:50; Jn. 17:4

For additional help on the life of Christ see the following maos in the NIV Study Bible: Mt. 2; Mk. 8; Mt. 3; Lk. 3; Mk. 4; Jn. 4; Mk. 5; Jn. 6

Question for Discussion

1. What are the implications if Jesus were not a real man?

B. The miracles of Christ

There were four great periods of miracles in the Bible:

1. the time of the Exodus (Moses)
2. the of the prophets Elijah and Elisha (1 and 2 Kings).
3. the time of Christ.
4. the time of Acts and the Apostles (Peter and Paul).

In each of these time periods the miracles served basically to

1. make God known to men and glorify Him.
2. to demonstrate the supremacy of God's power.
3. to authenticate God's word.
4. to confirm God's messenger.

Specifically the miracles of Jesus

1. authenticated Jesus as Messiah. Jn. 20:30-31
2. glorified God and made Him known. Jn. 11:38-44
3. proved that Jesus was God. Jn. 9:30-33
4. caused men to believe in Christ. Jn. 11:45

But even the earthly ministry of Jesus was related to His eternal redemption mission from the Father.

Question for Discussion

1. Was the focus of Jesus' earthly ministry the meeting of physical needs? Why or why not?

C. His Salvation Mission

Jesus came to earth as a man for one purpose – to die on the cross as the substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of all men. That was the divine purpose for Christ's earthly mission. Mt 20:17-19; Mk 10:45; Lk 9:20-22; Jn 3:16-18; Acts 2:22 – 24; Rev 13:8

And Jesus accomplished that mission as His bodily resurrection so clearly affirmed. Rom 1:1-4, Rom 6:4, 1 Cor 15:12 – 22

Question for Discussion

1. What motivated Christ to come to earth to die since He did not have to?

D. His offices

In His first and second coming, Christ has or will carry out the functions of several God-given offices:

1. Prophet – The biblical function of the prophet was to speak to men on behalf of God; to speak forth God's truth and to foretell truth about the future. Christ perfectly fulfilled His office of God's prophet. Dt, 18:14 – 22; Mt 21:11; Jn 6:14; Jn 7:37 – 44; Jn 8:31 – 38; Jn 8:45 – 47; Lk. 17:20 – 37; Heb.1:1 – 2;

Christ fulfilled the office of Prophet in His first coming.

2. Priest – The biblical function of the Priest was to represent men before God with regards to sin. Christ made the perfect, substitutionary sacrifice as the ultimate high priest since He had to make no sacrifice for Himself. Lev. 16:20 – 22; Jn. 1:29; Jn. 10:17-18; Rom. 3:21 – 25; Heb. 2:17; Heb. 7:22 – 28; Heb 9:24 – 28.

Christ fulfilled His priestly office in His first coming, although He still intercedes on behalf of saints with respect to their forgiven condition. 1 Jn 2:1 – 2;

3. Judge – The biblical function of a judge was to evaluate the evidence, render a verdict for wrongdoing or sin, and to execute that judgement. Christ came as the judge of all men with regard to sin. Jn 3:16 – 21; Jn. 5:22 – 30; Jn 9:39; Acts 10:36 – 43. In His first coming Christ demonstrated the righteous basis for God's judgments. In His second coming, Christ will judge the world because of sin and execute the wrath of God against sin (Rev 19:11-21). Christ will also judge all unbelievers at the Great White Throne judgment (Rev. 20:11-15).

All believers will be judged (evaluated, not condemned) by Christ at the Bema Seat. Rom. 8:1; 2 Cor 5:8-10; Rom. 14:9-12; 1 Cor 4:1-5; 1 Cor 3:5-15.

4. King – The biblical function of King was to rule over people as God's anointed representative. Christ is God's anointed King. Ps 2:4-12; Lk 1:30-33.

In His first coming;

- Christ presented Himself as King; Mt 2:2; Mt 21:1-10
- Christ was reject as King and was crucified; Lk 19:11- 14; Jn 19:14 – 16; Mt. 27:37. Christ was rejected because He was not the political/civil Messiah the Jews were looking for, and He was a real threat to their religious system. Jn 11:45-57.
- His Kingdom on earth has been postponed until His second coming, Mt. 21:38-43. Beginning with His second coming, Christ will rule and reign as King of Kings forever. Zec 14:1-9; Php 2:5-11; Rev 11:15; Rev 15:2-4; Rev 17:12-14; Rev 19:16; Rev 22:1-5;

In summary;

1. As Prophet – Jesus is the absolute truth;
2. As Priest – Jesus is the perfect sacrifice;
3. As Judge – Jesus is the righteous standard;
4. As King – Jesus is the Lord of Lords;