

## SEPTEMBER 05- **WHO IS JESUS AND WHY SHOULD I CARE**

Colossians 1:15-23

TODAY we are starting our teaching series on **BACK TO THE BASICS**

Opportunity for you to bring a friend or neighbor

and review our basic faith of what we believe and why we believe it.

Today were asking the question:

**“Who is Jesus and Why should I care?”**

A minister used a visual demonstration to add emphasis to his Sunday sermon.

Four worms were placed into four separate jars.

The first worm was put into a container of **alcohol**.

The second worm was put into a container of **cigarette smoke**.

The third worm was put into a container of **chocolate syrup**.

The fourth worm was put into a container of **good clean soil**.

At the conclusion of the sermon,

The first worm in alcohol was dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke was dead.

Third worm in chocolate syrup was dead.

Fourth worm in good clean soil was Alive.

So the Minister asked: What do we learn from this demonstration?

A little old woman in the back said:

"As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!"

In every discussion there are two ways to look at things

Sometimes three.

And that is also true when it comes to Christianity.

That is especially true when it comes to Jesus.

C.S.Lewis said: “You must make your choice.

Either this man was and is the Son of God,

or else he is a madman or something worse.

You can shut him up for a fool, spit at him and kill him as a demon,

or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God.

But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense  
about his being a great human teacher.

He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.” (Mere Christianity)

### **WHO IS JESUS AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?**

Paul writes:

**Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before God made anything at all and is supreme over all creation. Christ is the one through whom God created everything in heaven and earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—kings, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities. Everything has been created through him and for him. He existed before everything else began and he holds all creation together. Colossians 1:15-17**

The first thing the Apostle Paul was saying is that

**I. JESUS IS A VISIBLE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD.**

**HE IS A DIVINE BEING**

He is the third person of the trinity

Holy God, as Holy God.

not just a good man.

He was—and is—the God-man.

Even the secular world affirms Jesus Divinity in its cursing.

They never Damn Buddha or Mohammad

They never say Well Joseph Smith.

They say Jesus Christ.

He is the Son of God.

He is the truth

He is the author of eternal life

The old communist Russian dictionary used to describe Jesus as

“A mythical figure who never existed..

The Apostle John wrote his Gospel just 80 some year after Jesus and said:

**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. John 20:31**

Before you can believe in Jesus,

You have to get to know who Jesus is.

That is exactly what happens at Jacobs well in Samaria.

Jesus stopped in the middle of the day.

A Samaritan woman forced to gather water at this time was also there.

She had been ostracized from the community for her actions.

So in the heat of the day.

No friends.

No close associates.

Isolated, alone, and ignoring Jesus.

She gathered water.

She ignored Jesus

Because he was a man

Because he was a Rabbi and a hated Jew

And Jesus knew if he was going to reach her

He would need to cross every one of these three barriers.

1. He crossed the gender barrier

He talked with her.

More than that he asked her for water.

And since he had nothing to drink from  
 he suggested drinking from her jar.  
 The mere contact would have made him unclean for 7 days as a Jew

2. He crossed the prejudice barrier

**vs. 9 Jews do not associate with Samaritans.**

In fact Pharisees prayed that no Samaritan would be raised in the resurrection.  
 When they wanted to insult Jesus they called him a Samaritan John 8:48  
 Half breeds who have intermarried with gentiles.

3. He crossed the religious barrier.

He didn't get caught up in the argument over which place of worship  
 was more important-- Samaria or Jerusalem.

He talked about her relationship with God rather than her religion.

He customized his approach.

He spoke to Nicodemus about new birth

He spoke to the Samaritan woman about living water.

Jesus said: **I am greater than both.—Samaria or Jerusalem If you knew who I was  
 you would ask me for living water.**

**She said: I know that Messiah called Christ is coming. When he comes, he will  
 explain everything to us.**

**Jesus said: "I who speak to you am he." John 4:26**

**I am the messiah.**

### **WHO IS JESUS AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?**

**Jesus was saying that to drink of this material water (Or anything the world has to  
 offer will thirst again.) But whoever takes one drink of the water I give will never  
 thirst again. John 4:13-14**

If you don't believe that Jesus is the Christ.

You will never turn to him for your salvation.

If you don't believe that Jesus is divine,

You will never believe in him for your forgiveness of sin.

If you don't believe that Jesus is living water.

You will never follow him in your resurrection from the dead

**"If you want to have a relationship with God you need to come to me.**

**John 14:6**

Who is Jesus and why should I care.

### **I. JESUS IS DIVINE FOR OUR SALVATION**

1. Because there is no salvation under any other name.

Secondly.

### **II. JESUS IS HUMAN FOR OUR SACRIFICE.**

2. Because there is no sacrifice worthy under any other name.

Paul goes on

**For God is all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and by him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of his blood on the cross.**

The Samaritan woman discovered that Jesus could  
Reconcile her to the living God.  
And he could reinstate her in the Samaritan community.  
Because he is the one who can forgive her sins.

Have you ever wondered how Jesus knows our sin?  
He could have just looked into the Samaritan woman's life and saw her adultery.  
Her seven husbands and the man she is now living with in immorality.  
But Jesus knew her sins before she sinned them.  
Ephesians says he **"saw them before the foundation of the world.**  
**While we were dead in our trespasses Ephesians 1-2**  
And then when he was on the cross.  
he took all our sins upon himself.

He gathered them as a farmer gathered his eggs-- from 1964  
As a gardener digs for his carrots--from 2005  
As a shepherd counts his sheep. 2010  
Jesus gathered your sins.  
Named them one by one.  
Took them upon himself in AD 33.  
And died for them.  
Even before we sinned them.

No wonder the Samaritan woman ran to the townfolk and said:  
**Vs. 29 Come see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?**  
They knew some of what she had done and who she was-- by living with her.  
But this stranger she said **told me everything I ever did**

After meeting Jesus C.S. Lewis said:  
"For the first time I examined myself with a seriously practical purpose.  
And there I found what appalled me;  
a zoo of lusts, a bedlam of ambitions,  
a nursery of fears, a harem of fondled hatreds.  
My name was Legion.

The Samaritan woman found out:  
Jesus is the one who can make your life different  
Who knows who you really are  
And He alone can forgive your sins.  
She said: **Come see a man who told me all that I ever did!!!!!!**  
The Bible says:

**They came out of the town and made their way toward him. John 4:30**

Because half of what she had done included many of them.  
And the men came running.

Who is Jesus and Why should I care?

**the Apostle Paul says:**

**You were once so far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now he has brought you back as his friends. GOD HAS FOUND AND REDEEM US.**

**And he did it through his human body on the cross.**

**He has done this through his death on the cross in his own human body. As a result, he has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. Colossians 1:19-22**

I'll tell you why you should care.

Because Jesus knows all about you and your secret sins.

Your lust and thoughts

And he alone can forgive and restore you to the heavenly father  
and to your earthly family.

**Jesus was divine for our salvation.**

**Jesus was human for our sacrifice.**

### **III. JESUS WAS RAISED FOR OUR SANCTIFICATION**

His resurrection from the dead is the cornerstone of Christianity.

He rose from the dead

**Christ is the head of the church, which is his body. He is the first of all who will rise from the dead, so he is first in everything. Colossians 1:18**

**One lady said, "Sometimes you get tired of fighting and decide to let nature take its course.**

For instance, about ten years ago I stopped coloring my hair,  
and I enjoy having it silver-white.

My hairdresser was dismayed, no doubt due to a loss of revenue.

He never stops trying to persuade me to change my mind.

I argue: "I think I look distinguished,"

He always sighs and says: "No my dear, you merely look extinguished."

Friend you and I may look distinguished today,

But we will all be extinguished some day.

And my only hope from the grave is

That Jesus rose from the dead.

**And because I believe in him I too shall live again.**

I know where my grandmother is?

I know where my mother is?

I know where my father is?

Yes I know.

**Because I know and am persuaded that Jesus is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. II Timothy 1:12**

**Because I know and am persuaded that Jesus is able to keep me from falling and to present me faultless before the throne of grace. Jude 24**

**Acts 4:21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.**

When Jesus said he was living water.  
He was offering a supply that never ran dry.  
A security that never ended.  
A protection and home that was secure.

When you believe in Jesus.  
You drink from the fountain that never runs dry.  
You drink in eternal life.

Notice the woman said:  
How can you get this water since you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep.  
She was more concerned about how Jesus could get this water,  
Then asking him to give her a drink of it.  
But once we drink.  
We discover a wellspring that never runs dry.

The Samaritan came out.  
They were so excited about Jesus that they begged Him to stay with them;  
And he stayed for two days.  
And his word produced fruit in their lives.

They began their journey trusting in what the woman said:  
And then trusting in what Jesus said;  
They believed and were saved

**Now we know” Vs. 42 We no longer believe just because of what you said: now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world. John 4:42**

**WHO IS JESUS:** He is fully divine and fully human.

He is the living water.

For my salvation.

**WHY SHOULD I CARE.** Because he is the answer to the worlds thirst.

And to my thirst. He is living water!

And that is what we are about.

Will you take and tell of the water of life that

Never runs dry, never lets us down, and never leave us thirsty?