



Jesus The Man, The Christ of God

Dave Dodge – NT3582

Read 1 John 4:1-6

Jesus The Man, The Christ of God

Last Apostolic word

- John's writings dated 85-100 AD, 20 -30 years after all others
- Peter & Paul were both executed under Nero's reign, 68 AD
- To previously dispersed, and survivors of Jerusalem, 70 AD
- Emperors Titus and his brother Domitian continued persecution
- Life under Roman Rule was brutal

John Endured:

- **Losing his brother James nearly 50 years ago, 44 AD**
- **Seeing his Apostolic brothers all martyred**
- **Boiled, Miraculously delivered, Banished to Patmos**
- **Released and ministered to churches, (Eph & those of Rev)**
- **Died peacefully around 100 AD**

John & other Apostles as followers of Christ:

- **Often brought into situations by Jesus.....what is He doing, He's going to get us killed**
 - **Jn 2 cleansing of the temple**
 - **Jn 4 He's talking to a Samaritan Women**
 - **Jn 5 He heals the lame man at the pool on Sabbath**
 - **Debates w Pharisees, they want to kill him**
 - **Jn 6 Tells a growing crowd of followers (Eat Body,...)**
 - **Jn 7 Sanhedrin, Send temple guard to arrest Him**

As difficult as the persecution was:.....

- U never hear John crying about difficulties he has had to endure
- Nor do any of the NT writers
 - **James 1:2 Read it**
 - **Gal 3:10 Read it**
- Indeed **what I love about John** is his perseverance,....

- His embrace of the testing,
- His maturity because of it

- Persecution drives sincere believers to their knees to seek God's help, as they deal with persecution

2 Tim 3:12 "Everyone who wants to live a Godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

Why bring it up???

- Because in our super blessed country
 - Politically, Morally, Economically, and Educationally
 - Looks like we're circling the bowl
 - I can look at it and declare this is Anti-Christ
 - But Just as Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, and a host of other nations were actually instruments of God to discipline Israel...

John writings aimed at a more serious problem.

2nd time in this letter that John speaks of Antichrist

Look back at, 1 Jn 2:18-19

- Chap.2 speaks of people that went out from the church
- Chap.4 speaks of a spirit of Anti-Christ
 - A teaching, a belief system, a mindset, that we are to be aware of within the church
 -
 - **What is Anti Christ ?**
 - A denial or a misrepresentation of Him
 - It is teaching that either does something to Him
 - Or detracts from Him
 - It is a diminishing of who He is
 - The Spirit of Antichrist attacks the very foundation of Christianity,... Jesus the man, is the Christ of God,
 - **Jesus Christ has come in the flesh**
 - **The good news of Jesus Christ**

That God has come down to us,....

- **With a stunning blend of law and love has made us new creations and adopted us as His own children**
- **His satisfied His moral perfection, by sending the son**
 - **A sinless sacrifice**
 - **Who covered our sin and took our penalty in His finished work on the cross**

So John urges us to test the spirits,...and we can

Rom 8:16

¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

1 Jn 2:20-23 Read These

1 Jn 3:24

Jesus took John and other disciples thru various scenarios

Mk 5. Region of the Garasenes,

- Naked man, with broken chains hanging off him, screams at JC

Mk 9:20 After Transfiguration

- Father w/ Child, Can't talk, foams at mouth, thrown down, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid....
- When the spirit saw Jesus, threw bot on ground, rolled around, and foamed at the mouth
- Jesus asked, how long has he been like this

Jn 13:30 Judas,....nobody knew

- Disciples easily identified the 1st two easy enough
- Jn is warning us of this kind
 - A belief systems that is not from God, not born of God
 - Worse than that it is with us but not of us
 - W the advent of the Gospel , spirit of Anti-Christ is more subtle

We can identify Mormons, JW's, Hindus, Buhdists, Islam, New Age, , and a host of others **because they diminish Jesus**

- However John is speaker of a deeper demon

Mt 13:24, Read it....Parable – Wheat and weeds

No Doubt John is writing about two particular groups

- The Gnostics, and the Nicolaitans
- **Gnostics**
 - a. Human body which is matter is evil vs God, wholly spirit, Good
 - b. Salvation is escape from the body not by faith in Christ
 - i. But by special secret knowledge
 - c. Christ's true humanity was denied
 - d. Since the body was considered evil, but not breaking God's law, God's moral law is of no consequence, so party on
- **Nicolaitans** – All roads lead to God
 - Tradition says that Nikolas, a deacon in Acts 6
 - All roads lead to God
 - Doctrine of theology behind coexist bumper stickers

- Christianity will not Theologically sit on the shelf with all other religions
 - All prophets say come to me and I'll show you
 - Come up to me, I'll show you how to live
- Jesus said I have come down to you that you might have life...

As John has already said in **chap.2:15,16** **Read it,**

- **These are dead giveaways**
 - **The lust of the eyes**
 - **The pride of life**

By the way, of the 7 churches in Rev.

- **False Teaching**
 - **Pergamum**, teaching of Baalim, Nicolaitans (Coexist)
 - **Thyatira**, Prophetess Jezebel (pagan & immoral)
- **Apathy**
 - **Ephesus**, forgot first love
 - **Sardis**, you are dead,...wake up
 - **Laodicea**, lukewarm and rich in own eyes
- **Thumbs Up**
 - **Smyrna**, Affliction, poverty, yet you are rich
 - **Philadelphia**, persecuted, weak, yet faithful to Word

Testing the Spirits and Judging the people are very different

Mt 7:1-5

- **We are not called to be judgmental**
- **Or hypocritical**
- **Or self righteous**

You are from God,.....We are from God

1Jn 5:13

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Jn 20:31

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, The Son of God, and that by believing in Him you may have life in his name

- 1. Listen to John's language in the totality of His letter**
 - a. **Chapter 1:1** **Read it / Fellowship**
 - i. **5-9 / Walk in the light**
 - b. **2:1,2 / Don't sin but if you do we have an advocate**
 - c. **V9 / Can't walk in the light and hate ur brother**
 - d. **Chap. 3:1-3 / He has lavished His great love on us and we are children of God**

- e. **3:16 / This is how we know what love is**
- f. **3:18,19 / Love not with words but w actions & in truth**

Jesus is God in us: Col 1:27

God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Jesus is God w/us: Mt1:22,23

²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”^[g] (which means “God with us”).

Jesus is God For us: 2 Cor 5:21

- **Who Is Jesus**

- **Col.1:15-20** The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.
- **Col 2:9-10** For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.
-
- **Heb 1:3** The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.
- **John 1:1, 14** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **John 20:30, 31** Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe^[b] that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
- **Heb 5:7,8** During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸ Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

- **Rom. 5:17,21** For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- **Is. 9:6**, For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace**