



The Supremacy of Christ

Psalm 46; Jeremiah 43:1-6; Luke 23:33-43; Colossians 1:11-20

GETTING STARTED

Many of us know people who do not believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior. How do they describe Jesus? What do they think of him?

READ AND REFLECT

Read Colossians 1:15-20. What does this passage reveal about who Jesus is?

Read Luke 23:33-43. What does this account from the death of Jesus tell us about his nature? What gives him the authority to forgive the sins of the man on the other cross?

Pastor Meyer points out in this week's sermon that one of the ways that we know the supremacy of Jesus is true is that he fulfills many prophecies. Read Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22. Can you see Jesus in these passages?

Read Luke 4:16-21. What does this passage reveal about who Jesus claimed to be?

Think about the things that you know about Jesus' life. Do his actions align with his claims? Is he a man of integrity?

ENGAGE AND DISCUSS

When you consider all of the evidence for the supremacy of Jesus, how does this make you feel?

Philip Yancey in his book *The Jesus I Never Knew* confesses: "I must admit that Jesus has revised in flesh many of my harsh and unpalatable notions about God. *Why am I a Christian?* I sometimes ask myself, and to be perfectly honest the reasons reduce to two: (1) the lack of good alternatives, and (2) Jesus. Brilliant, untamed, tender, creative, slippery, irreducible, paradoxically humble – Jesus stands up to scrutiny. He is who I want my God to be." Is Jesus who you want your God to be? In what ways?

C.S. Lewis reminds us: "People often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' [But] that is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic -- on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg - or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can 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 Him being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." What do you think about this reminder? How would you respond to someone who says Jesus is a great moral teacher but not God?

NEXT STEPS

- Take some time this week to deeply examine how you think and feel about Jesus. Are you able to embrace fully that Jesus is Lord and Savior? If so, how does that affect your life? If not, what is holding you back?