

Who Will You Choose?

Ever since His birth in the stable in Bethlehem, Jesus has forced people to make a choice- to follow Him or to follow their own ways. He doesn't force Himself on anyone- He just makes us choose.

To those who make Jesus the Lord of their lives, He offers forgiveness from sins, a new way to live and eternal life. To those who refuse to follow Him, He offers guilt, punishment and Hell. In John 3:18 we read: "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."

If you have never asked Jesus to come into your life and forgive you of your sins, you need to do that.

Acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God
Believe that He died to set you free from sin
Confess your sins to God
Dedicate your life to obeying Jesus

If you follow those four steps you will be on your way to eternal life with Jesus

Conclusion

Who is Jesus? He is the most important person who ever lived! He is God in the flesh, and He died to open the way into heaven for all of us.



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP WHAT WE BELIEVE # 3

Who Is Jesus?

Introduction

As Christians, Jesus is at the centre of our faith. He is the Beginning and End of all that we believe; He is the One we follow, the one we give our allegiance to. Still, many Christians, and non-Christians for that matter are unsure about who Jesus is. So, who is He?

Jesus Is God

In the New Testament there are many references to the fact that Jesus is "The Son of God." This phrase occurs in many places from the baptism of Jesus where God says "This is my own dear Son", right through to the moment of His death on the cross where a Roman centurion exclaims "Truly He is the Son of God." (Matt. 27:54).

We need to understand that in the Bible the phrase "Son of God" does not mean "a different God". I have sons and although they are related to me and share my physical and emotional nature, they are quite different. In the Bible to be someone's son means that you are exactly like them. To say Jesus is the Son of God is to say that although He is clearly a human being, He is most definitely God. He is God in a form that we can see, touch, relate to and understand.

John described Him as the Word become flesh (John 1:1-14). He created the world and carried the true glory of God in a human form, even though many people rejected Him.

Jesus Is Man

The Bible also asserts that Jesus is fully human. He often referred to himself as "Son of Man" a phrase which could be translated as "the truly human one." In Romans 5:14, Paul draws a comparison between Adam and Jesus. Both were prototypes of the human race, but Adam chose to reject God's will while Jesus embraced God's will.

Jesus was a human being, subject to all of the same limitations as us. He was born as a baby and had to learn to walk, talk, read. He knew hunger and thirst, tiredness, joy and sadness.

Jesus was also subject to temptation- the desire to do His own thing rather than obey God. He defeated satan in the wilderness where the greatest prizes were dangled before his eyes after a 40 day fast. (See Matt. 4:1-11). On the night before he died, He was tempted in the Garden of Gethsemane to back out of the suffering on the cross (Luke 22:39-44).

The writer of Hebrews says that Jesus was tempted in every way that we are, yet remained without sin (Heb. 4:15)

Jesus knows our weaknesses, our problems and our hurts because He has been there.

Jesus Is Our Redeemer

Why did Jesus come into the world? To set us free from sin!

When Jesus hung on the cross He took upon Himself the burden of every sin that has ever been committed by any human being from Adam to you. In Ephesians, Paul says that we were once far away from God, but on the cross Christ reconciled us to Him. (Eph. 2:14-16). In Colossians we read: "For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 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. 1:19,20)

Jesus' death paid the price for our sins. One person dying that many could be restored to eternal life.

The mystery of the cross is too much to explain in this small space, and the New Testament uses many analogies to help us to understand it. In some places it is called an atonement where an animal is sacrificed to take away sins; in other places the idea of a ransom is used; yet other writes talk about a substitution where a person might serve a sentence on behalf of another.

But however you think of it here is the Good News: Jesus died for your sins and now you are forgiven!

Jesus Is The King

The Bible tells us that at some stage in the future Jesus will return and set up His Kingdom in a way we can understand. He will come again to judge everyone who has ever lived and to reign over humanity.

Revelation speaks of Jesus riding on a white horse and wearing a robe with His name: King of kings and Lord of Lords. (19:11-16). Presidents, kings, prime ministers will be forced to acknowledge that Jesus is Lord, and they will stand aside and let Him rule the earth.

Jesus will come to establish his reign at a time when we will not expect. Nobody knows the hour or the year when this will happen, but we must be ready.

When Jesus comes all sin will end. There will be no more crime, no more natural disasters, no more war. Sin will have been banished for ever and those who have chosen to follow Jesus will live with Him for ever.