

TELL ME THE STORY OF JESUS

Int.

1. Aim: To tell the story of the life of Christ.
2. All people need to know the story of who Jesus is, what He did, and what He teaches.
 - a. 1 Cor. 15:1-5 says these truths are the foundation of the gospel.
 - b. Jesus is the central theme of the Bible.
 - c. People who are not God's children need to hear the story of Jesus.
3. The song we just sang says: "Tell me the story of Jesus, Write on my heart every word; Tell me the story most precious, Sweetest that ever was heard."
 - a. People who are God's children also need to be reminded of the story of Jesus.
 - b. We need to know the full will of Jesus for our lives, but we also need to be reminded of the life and character of Jesus.
 - c. Another song says: "I love to tell the story, For those who know it best, seem hungering and thirsting, to hear it like the rest."
4. Now let's consider the story of Jesus.

Discussion

I. JESUS' BIRTH

A. Eternal Creator

1. Jesus birth did not begin His existence.
2. He existed from eternity with God the Father and the Holy Spirit.
3. From scripture we see **His eternal nature**.
 - a. Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."

b. John 1:1,2 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

4. We also learn of **His work in Creation.**

a. Jn. 1:3 "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

b. Col. 1:16 "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:"

c. Heb. 1:1,2 "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;"

5. If Jesus made all created things, then it must be that He Himself is uncreated.

6. He is eternal -- the eternal Cause of all that exists.

B. But Jesus Left Heaven To Come To Earth. - Philippians 2:5-8

1. Jesus had the glory and privileges of being honored as Deity in Heaven.

2. But He gave up that honor and that abode to come to earth to live as a man on earth.

3. Deity took the place of man -- God in the flesh. We will see why as we proceed.

C. Born of a Virgin

1. Jesus' earthly life began as a miracle.
2. From the very outset of His life here, God indicated by supernatural means that He was no ordinary man. Matthew 1:18-25.
 - a. This miracle serves to symbolize Jesus' dual nature:
 - (1) His conception and birth by a woman shows His human nature;
 - (2) His conception by the Holy Spirit (Deity), without a human father, shows He is Divine and not just human.
 - b. The natures of both man and God were united in Jesus.

D. Born to Humble Circumstances - Luke 2:7-12

1. Jesus was born in the most humble circumstances imaginable.
2. He was not living in wealth and riches while on this earth. Born in a stable where animals are kept. He was laid in a manger.
3. But God repeatedly testified to His true origin and character by miraculous revelations and events.
4. Matt.8:20 "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head."

II. JESUS' LIFE

A. His/tory = history is His Story

1. Hours could be spent discussing Jesus' life and the teachings He revealed.
2. We will notice a few events that demonstrate His character and His purpose for coming.

B. His Baptism -

1. Matthew 3:13-17
2. His baptism shows the importance of obedience and the importance of baptism.
3. Jesus did not need forgiveness, but obedience to God still required His being baptized.
4. Jesus learned the meaning of obedience from personal experience.
 - a. People tend to think others don't understand them -- kids think parents don't understand, etc..
 - b. It helps to show we have experienced what they are experiencing.
 - c. Jesus' experience assures us God does understand and cares.

C. Jesus' Temptation

1. Jesus fasted in the wilderness 40 days and nights, then Satan came to tempt Him - Matthew 4:3-11.
2. Jesus did not sin in this case, nor in any other case -
 - a. 1 Peter 2:21,22 "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth";"
 - (1) Deceit - translated guile in KJV
 - (2) From a word that means "decoy", "A trick", "Bait"
 - (3) Jesus never used His words to hurt other people
 - b. Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."

- c. If Jesus had not suffered as we do we might think God doesn't understand, and He demands too much.
- d. Jesus' life proves God does know, He is able to sympathize, but there is still no excuse for sin.
- e. Later we will see that Jesus' sinless life was necessary for Him to be a perfect sacrifice for our sins.

D. Jesus' Purpose in Coming.

- 1. Jesus had a clear understanding of why He came to earth -
 - a. Matthew 1:21 "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.""
 - b. Luke 5:32 "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."
 - c. Luke 19:10 "for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
- 2. All are guilty of sin - Rom. 3:23 " for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"
 - a. The consequence of sin is eternal death - Rom. 6:23a "For the wages of sin is death"
 - b. We all need to be told to repent, change our lives, and be forgiven of our sins.
 - c. Jesus came to preach about this need, and also to provide the way to forgiveness.

E. The Nature of Jesus' Teaching

1. Jesus' teachings reveal God's will to man.
 - a. Acts 3:22,23 "For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. 'And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.'"
 - b. Matthew 28:18-20 - great Commission
2. Jesus' teachings are essential to our salvation
 - a. John 6:68 "But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."
 - b. John 12:48 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day."
3. The Teachings of Jesus were different
 - a. John 7:46 "The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!""
 - b. Matt. 7:28-29 "And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes."
4. To benefit from Jesus' teaching, we must believe & obey them
 - a. John 8:24,31,32
 - b. Hebrews 5:9. "He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,"

III. JESUS' DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION & ASCENSION

A. The Betrayal and Arrest

1. Jewish leaders determined to kill Jesus (because He rebuked them for sin and caused people to see their sins). Judas, one of Jesus' disciples but a thief, agreed to betray Jesus to His enemies for 30 pieces of silver.
Matthew 26: 1-4, 14-16.
2. After Jesus had told the 12 how to partake of the Lord's Supper in memory of His death, Jesus went to Gethsemane and prayed for His Father to find a way to avoid the need for the cross.
 - a. But He was willing even yet to be obedient to the Father's will.
 - b. The Father did not will to avoid the problem, but an angel did strengthen Jesus.
 - c. Matthew 26:36-41
 - d. Luke 22:43
3. Judas came and betrayed Jesus, bringing soldiers to capture Him, indicating by a kiss who He was.
4. All the disciples forsook Him and fled. Matthew 26:47-56.

B. The Trials & Crucifixion

1. Jesus was innocent and not worthy of death.
2. The Innocence of Jesus is revealed in
 - a. Matthew 26:59-60
 - b. Matt. 27:3-5
 - c. Luke 23:4.

3. Pilate offered to release Jesus or Barabbas.
 - a. He then received a message from his wife saying she had dreams showing Jesus was righteous.
 - b. Pilate again affirmed Jesus was innocent, and washed his hands to try to avoid responsibility for Jesus' death.
 - c. The Jews said they and their children would bear responsibility.
 - d. So Pilate released Barabbas and called for Jesus to be crucified. Matthew 27:15-26
4. Matthew tells about the Crucifixion - chapter 27:27-31,33-35 & 50-54.

C. The Burial

1. Jesus' disciples prepared the body for burial and placed it in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea.
2. The Jews remembered Jesus had promised to rise from the dead, so with Pilate's permission, they sealed the stone over the entrance and placed guards outside, so the disciples could not take the body and claim He had been raised. Matthew 27:57- 60,62-66,

D. The Reason for Jesus' Death

1. Many great people in history have died.
 - a. To many, Jesus' death may not seem extraordinary, except perhaps that he died as a criminal, though He was not guilty.
 - b. But actually, this death was the most important death ever to occur.

c. In fact, it is essential to our salvation

(1) Hebrews 2:9 "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone."

(2) 1 Pet. 2:24

2. The amazing thing about Jesus' coming to earth is the fact He did it knowing He would have to die for the sins of others.

a. The Creator took of the form of that which He had created, in order to suffer in the place of the creature.

b. If Jesus had not died, none of us could be forgiven of sins.

c. We can be saved only because Jesus died in our place.

E. Jesus' Resurrection

1. But if Jesus had not risen from the dead, we would all still be in sin.

a. If Jesus had simply died, and that ended His earthly life permanently, Satan would have been the victor.

b. In order to defeat Satan, and thereby justify us, Jesus had to be raised again from the dead.

c. Rom. 4:25. "who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification."

2. God proved Jesus to be His Son by raising Him from the dead. -
 - a. Rom. 1:4 "and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."
 - b. This is the most basic and fundamental of all Jesus' miracles.
 - c. The only way you can be saved from sin is to believe this to be true.
 Rom. 10:9,10 "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Conclusion:

1. When Jesus ascended, the angels said He would return.
 - a. When He does, He will not begin to rule as King - that began when He ascended and will continue till He comes again - 1 Cor. 15:21- 26
 - b. When He returns it will be to judge us for how well we have served Him.
2. The story of Jesus is the greatest story ever told. How you react to that story will determine your eternal destiny.
 - a. The lesson to be learned from the story is that Jesus is your Creator, your Savior, and your Master.
 - b. You must serve Him now so you can be saved.
 - c. Or you can refuse to serve Him now, and then admit at the Judgment that He is Lord and you should have served Him.
3. Which will it be for you -- will you serve Jesus now and receive eternal life at the Judgment, or will you refuse to serve Him and receive eternal punishment?

4. The story of Jesus is a beautiful story, but only if you are obedient -
5. What is your choice?

Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Morning April 12, 2009
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TELL ME THE STORY OF JESUS

Tell me the story of Jesus,
Write on my heart every word;
Tell me the story most precious,
Sweetest that ever was heard.
Tell how the angels in chorus,
Sang as they welcomed His birth,
"Glory to God in the highest!
Peace and good tidings to earth."

Refrain:

Tell me the story of Jesus,
Write on my heart every word;
Tell me the story most precious,
Sweetest that ever was heard.

Fasting alone in the desert,
Tell of the days that are past,
How for our sins He was tempted,
Yet was triumphant at last.
Tell of the years of His labor,
Tell of the sorrow He bore;
He was despised and afflicted,
Homeless, rejected and poor.

Tell of the cross where they nailed Him,
Writhing in anguish and pain;
Tell of the grave where they laid Him,
Tell how He liveth again.
Love in that story so tender,
Clearer than ever I see;
Stay, let me weep while you whisper,
"Love paid the ransom for me."

I Love To Tell The Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden
dreams.
I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more
wonderfully sweet.

I love to tell the story, for some have never
heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy
Word.

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in
glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it
best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the
rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new,
new song,
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so
long.

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in
glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.