

What's the Big Deal About Jesus?

Part 2

John 1:1-13

Pastor Jeff Burkholder

September 23, 2007

I. Who is Jesus?

- A. Jesus is the divine Word to mankind. (verse 1)

“Jesus is the sum total of all God wants to say to us. He is the ‘flesh and bones’ message of God-in short, God’s *Word* to the world.”

- From *The Journey Bible*, p. 1382

- B. Jesus had face-to-face fellowship with God the Father. (verse 1)

- C. Jesus is God. (verse 1)

- D. Jesus created everything and is the source of life. (verses 3 and 4)

- E. Jesus brings light to mankind. (verses 4 and 5)

“The divine *life* embodied in Christ brought unique *light* to people – revealing divine truth and exposing their sin. Everywhere Christ went, he brought light...*Light* means understanding and moral insight, spiritual vision.”

–From *Life Application Bible Commentary: John*, p. 5

II. How does mankind respond to Jesus?

- A. Many do not recognize Him or receive Him. (verses 10 and 11)

- B. Some receive Him and become children of God. (verse 12).

“Though we’re all God’s creatures, we don’t become his children until we receive the forgiveness and leadership of Christ. This new beginning is described here as being “born of God” (in contrast to being born naturally from human parents). Jesus expands on this concept in his conversation with a man named Nicodemus in Chapter 3.”

– From *The Journey Bible*, p. 1383



Discussion Questions to go Deeper

Take some time this week to discuss these questions with family or friends:

1. Pastor Jeff mentioned the controversy that surrounds Jesus. He gave examples of global and national controversy. Can you think of a time or times when you have seen this controversy played out locally or even in a personal situation you've been in? Why do you think there is so much controversy over Jesus?
2. How might you answer someone who says, "If God is real, why doesn't He reveal Himself to me?" In what ways *has* God revealed Himself to us and what Scriptures might we use to support that?
3. Do you believe and receive who Jesus is, or are you unable to recognize Him as God? Look at John 1:12-13 and Galatians 13:26. How does our relationship to God change based on whether or not we receive Jesus? Read Romans 8:1-17 to see further what we have in Christ.