

## THE UNIQUENESS OF JESUS: HIS TEACHING

Nicodemus who was a teacher in Israel respectfully called Jesus a teacher (John 3:1-2). Other teachers of renown fail to compare in ability or doctrine. Eyewitnesses describe Jesus' teaching. At the early age of twelve, He amazed His hearers (Luke 2:47). This admiration was not just for the moment. It was continuous throughout His teaching life (Luke 4:22). Listeners were astonished at His teaching and authority (Luke 4:31-32; Matthew 7:28-29). Even after hearing Him for three years, His words still captured the disciples' hearts (Luke 24:30-32). Albert Barnes says, "This is an expression denoting the deep interest and pleasure which they had felt in his discourse..." If we could have been there, we, too, would admire the Lord.

Centuries later, even antagonists publicly extol the Lord as a great teacher. A Unitarian Universalist clearly acknowledges Jesus as a great teacher, "... Jesus remains a great religious teacher..." From the pen of another antagonist, we have this acknowledgment, "Many Wiccans view Jesus as a great teacher and prophet." The PBS Frontline program said, "[Thomas] Jefferson discovered a Jesus who was a great Teacher of Common Sense." Add to these, the "Confessions of a Deist" in which the writer says, "I think Jesus was a great teacher, a great healer, a great philosopher, a great man." Would your enemies publicly express admiration for your capabilities?

Compare the Lord's teaching with others. Those who heard Him classified the Lord as better than any they had heard. "The officers answered, Never man so spake" (John 7:40-53). Compare the suppressing teaching of Buddha. The Hindu Vedas command the wife to throw

herself alive on the husband's burning funeral pyre. Consider the self-serving teaching of Mohammed. Someone has accurately observed, "When Mohammed wanted another wife, a revelation was forthcoming to sanction it. When he wanted to marry the wife of another, divorce was sanctioned by a revelation." Consider Zoroaster's misconceptions. In his view, material prosperity and godliness went hand in hand. Consider Socrates' uncertainty. Plato tells us that at his death, Socrates said, "Death is one of two things. Either it is annihilation...or, as we are told, it is really a change..." (Plato, Apology, 40c-d). Why say such? Because of his basic teaching that we seek to know, not that we can know. Dear reader, Jesus is certain. We can know. Peter is right. "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we have believed and know that thou art the Holy One of God" (John 6:66-69).

**Ron Cosby** *from West End Watchman*

### CALLING ON THE NAME OF THE LORD

What does it mean to "call on the name of the Lord?" Legion are they who teach that this means to approach Christ in prayer, asking him to forgive one's own sins and come into one's heart for the purpose of being his or her "personal Savior." Usually, Romans 10:13 is quoted as a proof text for this teaching: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." However, this phrase is used in other places in the Bible and to understand its meaning in Romans, the phrase should be studied in the other contexts as well.

In Romans 10, Paul is quoting Joel 2:32 emphasizing the universal nature of the gospel. Another New Testament spokesman who quoted Joel was Peter on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:21). Peter was preaching to those

who were guilty of shedding the innocent blood of Jesus. Upon realizing the severity of their crime, the convicted crowd cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" They knew they were guilty, and they knew they needed forgiveness. In addition, they had heard Peter quote Joel, saying, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." So, what was Peter's response to their question? Did he tell them to pray to Jesus for forgiveness? Did he command them to ask Christ to come into their hearts as their personal Savior? No! He told them to "Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). Here is an inspired commentary on the phrase, "call on the name of the Lord." According to Peter, who was speaking by inspiration, calling on the name of the Lord is obeying the gospel.

What about you? Are you one who calls on the name of the Lord (1 Corinthians 1:2)? That is, are you one who obeys the Christ? If not, why not determine to follow the example of those 3,000 on the day of Pentecost, and call on His name today and continue to do so all the days of your life.

**Preston Silcox** *from West End Watchman*

*Plan to attend each night!*  
**Family Bible Studies**

***"King of Kings"***

**July 24-28, 2006**

**7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Monday - Friday**

**Adult class teacher: Jim O'Connor**

## BIRTHDAY

Jeff Nemechek, 07-09

## ILL

**Sunday:** Melissa Cole. **Wednesday:** Janice Carter. Ron Wood, son-in-law of the Scotts, is taking chemo treatments in Jacksonville, Florida.

**Those battling cancer:** Diane Cannon, Ledgia Campbell and Ron Wood. Please remember these in your prayers, as well as: Janice Carter, Allen Scott, and Ralph and Helen Franklin.

## HOME BOUND

Bob Adams is in Room D-4 of the Johnson County Nursing Center in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

## OUT OF TOWN

Chelsea Nelson was at Little Blue Bible Camp last week. The James' were at Clinton Lake last week. Ted and Julia Thrasher are in Missouri on vacation and visiting relatives.

## SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the Rice and Stone families in the passing of Marion Stone's sister, Ruth Rice, this past week. Memorial services were held July 8 in Topeka and Cottonwood Falls.

## POT LUCK DINNER

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held this Sunday July 9. Come and enjoy the good food and company!

## MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING

Our monthly Men's Business Meeting will be held next Sunday July 16. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

## ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 50; Sunday PM, 41; Wednesday PM, 48.

## Those To Serve

July 9, 2006

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Thomas**

### MORNING WORSHIP

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... George Thomas**  
**SONG LEADER..... Joel Nelson**  
**OPENING PRAYER ..... John Carter**  
**PRESIDE..... Gary Cole**  
**ASSIST.....David Parish**  
**ASSIST.....Allen Scott**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... John Dodson**

### EVENING WORSHIP

**OPENING PRAYER ..... Ken Greer**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... Myron Nebergall**  
**LORD'S SUPPER..... Gary Cole**

**WEDNESDAY July 12th**

**SONG LEADER..... Myron Nebergall**  
**INVITATION ..... John Cody Carter**

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Sunday

Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher**

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