

“The Big Deal About Jesus”

New Hope Community Church

May 13th, 2018

Colossians 1:15-17

Life Group Meeting

Colossians 1:15-17

QUESTIONS

A. The Nature of the Beloved Son: Consider His Character (15a)

By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, was vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory (1 T 3:16)

1. Wherein man was **made** in God’s image, Jesus is God’s image
2. Jesus is not just God-like, but is **fully** God
 - ‘In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form’ (Co 2:9)
 - ‘He who has seen Me has seen the Father’ (Jn 14:9 / 12:45)
 - ‘He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature’ (Hb 1:3)
3. Jesus is called by exclusive **names** of God
 - ‘Mighty God, Eternal Father’ (Is 9:6)
 - ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I Am’ (Jn 8:58)
 - ‘The Word (Jesus) was with God, and the Word was God’ (Jn 1:1)
 - ‘our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus’ (Ti 2:13)
4. Identical **works** are attributed both to Jesus and to God
 - Creation -
God - ‘from Him & through Him & for Him are all things’ (R 11:36)
Jesus - ‘all things have been created thru Him & for Him’ (C 1:16)
 - Resurrection -
God - ‘God raised Him up on the third day’ (Ac 10:40)
Jesus - ‘Destroy this temple, & in 3 days I will raise it up’ (Jn 2:19)
 - Baptism -
‘in the name of the Father & the Son & the Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19)

B. The Position of the Beloved Son: Consider His Pre-eminence (15b)

1. In the sense of **initiative** (16)
2. In the sense of **authority** (16)
3. In the sense of **purpose** (16d) ‘
4. In the sense of **inheritance** (16d)
5. In the sense of our **dependence** upon Him (17)

Personal Reflection

So what’s the big deal about Jesus?

*There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven, that has been given among men, by which we **MUST** be saved. (Ac 4:12)*

1. Read Colossians 1:15-17
2. Why do you think Paul in 1 Tim 3:16 (read on opposite page) calls the revelation of Jesus Christ a great ‘mystery’?
3. Why do you think the biblical presentation of just Who Jesus really is has been so distorted by many various religions?
4. What did Jesus mean by the statement “He who has seen Me has seen the Father” (Jn 14:9), especially in light of the fact that God is ‘spirit’ and has no form?
5. How is it that the Prophet Isaiah could call Jesus ‘Eternal Father’? (Is 9:6)
6. How would you explain to someone that the resurrection of Jesus is attributed to both the Father raising Him, and Jesus raising Himself from the dead?
7. Have you been confused by the term ‘firstborn’ referring to Jesus, thinking somehow that this implies He was the first in a long line of created human beings?
8. The Greek word for firstborn means ‘pre-eminent’. In what ways do we see His pre-eminence in verses 16 and 17?
9. If all things were created ‘for’ Him (v 16), how should this affect the way we approach life each day?
10. Pray about this for one another.