

The Blessing of Jesus

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Our culture is fascinated with magic and the supernatural in entertainment. There is something in the human imagination that recognizes a reality beyond what we see around us.

Questions: When was the first time you became aware of this “reality beyond”? How did it happen or was it always there?

“The real difficulty, the supreme mystery with which the gospel confronts is, lies not in the Good Friday message of atonement, not in the Easter message of resurrection, but in the Christmas message of incarnation... This is the real stumbling block of Christianity.” J. I. Packer

Questions: Have you ever “stumbled” over the truth of the incarnation? Have you ever been in discussion with someone who has?

The first words God speaks to humans is blessing.
Genesis 1:27-29

Questions: How have you experienced the reality of blessing? Cursing?

“Satan’s plan from the beginning was to seek blessing apart from God.” Jon Tyson

Question: Are there areas in your life where you’ve tried to seek a blessing apart from God?

To live under God and His rule is to live under blessing.
To live under evil and its rule is to live under a curse.

Question: How does this view of life help you in your understanding of the world?

Secular culture tries to pass death off as an unfortunate but natural part of human life, but followers of Jesus see death differently. Death is unnatural and an enemy.

Romans 5:12

Question: How does seeing death as a result of the curse affect your view of it?

The reality of death and brokenness is what makes Christmas so merry because of the coming of a Savior.

Luke 2:11: Matthew 1:20-21

“No more let sin and sorrows grow

Nor thorns infest the ground.

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found.” Vs. 3 Joy to the World

This is what the angels sang: Luke 2:14

Questions: Will you choose to live your life in the blessing of God? What does this look like for you?

Jesus’ last words were blessing. Luke 24:50-52

God has blessings stored up for you. Ephesians 1:3

Jesus came to reclaim blessing for all of humanity.



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