This SAME Jesus (Thought borrowed from Randy Keyes)

1 Corinthians 2:1-5
1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.
2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.
4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Hebrews 13:8
8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

The writer of Hebrews boldly proclaims that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

- I want you stop and dwell on that for a moment.
  - Jesus is the same as he always was.
  - He has not changed.
- Jesus is just as real tonight as he ever was.
  - He is just as powerful tonight as he ever was.
  - He can do anything tonight that he ever could do.
- There is nothing that is impossible with him.
  - He’s still just as able
    - to meet your every need
  - as he ever was.
- He’s still just as ready
  - to heal your body,
  - mend your broken heart,
  - bring peace to your stormy seas
    - as he ever was.
- He’s still the same!
  - I’ve come tonight
    - with the simplest thought
      - I think ever preached:
    - I just want to preach This SAME Jesus!

In Acts 1:11, when the disciples were standing there gazing into the heavens,
- after Jesus was taken away from them,
  - they heard two angels speak to them and say,
    - this same Jesus
    - that was just caught up into the heavens,
      - he will come again in like manner.
• This same Jesus.
  o A lot of things have changed between then and now.
    ▪ Thousands of years have passed by.
    ▪ Kingdoms have changed.
    ▪ Times have changed.
    ▪ Societies have changed.
    ▪ Governments have changed.
      • But Jesus has not changed!
• He’s still the same!
  o Somebody in this place tonight, you need to believe it!

Jesus is the God of the Old Testament.
• He is the God
  o who spoke everything that is into existence
    ▪ by the power of his word alone.
• His word was all it took
  o to form galaxies,
  o to birth universes,
  o to array the heavens in their splendor
  o and adorn the earth with her wonders.
    ▪ He spoke the word and it was done.
• He has not changed!
  o He’s still the same.
    ▪ Everything that was made
      • was made by him
      • and in him we live,
      • and move,
      • and have our very being.
  o He has all power in heaven and in earth.

By the power of his word,
• He determined to take a simple
  o humble nomad from a place called Ur
    ▪ and make this man who had no children
      • become the father of a multitude.
• He is the God of the impossible.
  o He opened Sarah’s barren womb
    ▪ and brought life out of death.
  o He is the God who produced hope
    ▪ where there was only despair.
  o He is the God that turned weeping into rejoicing.
• He has not changed!
  o By the power of his promise
    ▪ he multiplied his people
• during 400 years of oppression
  ▪ and, though they marched into Egypt,
  ▪ seventy some odd souls,
  ▪ they marched out of Egypt
    ▪ a mighty nation numbering in the millions.
  ○ He turned their hardships into blessings.
    ▪ He turned their trials into testimonies
      ▪ and I want someone in this house to know,
        ○ HE HAS NOT CHANGED.
• This SAME Jesus is in the house tonight!

He’s the God that spoke from the burning bush,
• who called Moses from the backside of the desert.
  ○ And when Moses questioned him
    ▪ and said wait a minute God,
      ▪ you’ve got the wrong Guy,
  ○ He is the God who simply asked Moses,
    ▪ What do you have in your hand.
  ○ Moses said, its just my rod.
    ▪ That’s all I’ve got.
      ○ Its an old, weatherd beaten stick..
        ○ Its not worth anything, really.
  ○ God said throw it down.
    ▪ The same Jesus that is in this house tonight,
      ▪ he turned that stick into a serpent
        ○ before Moses very eyes!
• What was he saying to Moses?
  ○ I’m not so concerned about what you can and cannot do.
    ▪ I’m not so concerned about your talents
      ▪ or lack thereof.
  ○ I just want to know
    ▪ if you will give me what you have.
  ○ Because if you are willing
    ▪ to let go of your crutch,
      ▪ if you are willing to surrender your staff to me,
        ○ I can work miracles,
        ○ I can do anything.
  ○ When he was done the staff,
    ▪ he struck Moses hand with leprosy,
      ▪ then healed it.
  ○ Then he promised, if that’s not enough,
    ▪ I’ll do whatever it takes
      ▪ because I am God.
• I want you to know that same Jesus is in this house tonight.
If you will surrender your crutch,
  ▪ if you will get past all of your excuses,
    • if you will throw down
      o all the reasons why God can’t use you...
  ▪ He will take your very crutch
    • and turn it into a miracle.

If you took the voice of Moses
  ▪ and made him the demanding mouthpiece
    • of almighty God.
    o And that same Jesus is here tonight!

He’s the one who sent plagues on Egypt,
  o who humbled the mightiest nation in the world
    • on behalf of his people.
  o He’s the one who caused a nation of slaves
    ▪ to plunder the wealthiest nation on this planet
      • as they waltzed from captivity to liberty.
  o He’s the one who parted the Red Sea,
    ▪ and who buried pharaoh
      • and all of his armies
      ▪ underneath those massive walls of water.
  o He’s the one who turned the bitter springs sweet,
    ▪ caused manna fall from heaven
      • and made water flow from a rock

That same Jesus is in this house tonight!
  o He’s the one who tore down the walls of Jericho
    ▪ and who made the sun and moon stand still
      • long enough for his people
        o to win the victory.

I could go on and on
  o but what I want you to understand tonight
    ▪ is the he has not changed.
  o Jesus Christ is the same
    ▪ yesterday, today, and forever!
  o This same Jesus is here tonight!

He is the God of both Testaments.
  • The ancient of days
    o was wrapped in swaddling clothes
      ▪ and laid in manger at Bethlehem.
    o Angels sang,
      ▪ shepherds rejoiced,
        • and wise men journeyed from afar to see him.
      o That same Jesus is in this house tonight!
    • He astounded the doctors and the lawyers at the temple,
This Same Jesus

- when he was only 12 years old.
  - He turned the water into wine
    - at the wedding feast in Canna.
  - He is the one who opened the blinded eyes,
    - who unstopped the deaf ears,
      - and caused the lame to leap.
    - He is the one who stopped a funeral procession
      - and caused the dead to live again.
  - He is the same today as he ever was.
    - This same Jesus is in this house tonight.

I don't know what you need.
- I don't know what you are facing.
  - I don't know what your struggle is.
    - But I do know who your God is.
- This same Jesus
  - that caused Peter to walk on the water,
- this same Jesus
  - that fed the five thousand,
- this same Jesus
  - that spoke to the storm and said Peace be still.
    - This same Jesus is here tonight.

We need a revival.
- We need a refreshing.
  - We need an anointed visitation
    - of the almighty God in this place.
- There's too many people
  - who are dying and going to hell around us
    - for the church to be having business as normal.
  - There are too many lost,
  - too many bound,
  - too many hurting,
  - too many desperate souls
    - at your job,
    - on your block,
    - in your family....
- This world desperately needs
  - the delivering power of God.
    - This world desperately needs
      - an answer,
      - they need a source of hope,
      - they need a safe haven,
      - a shelter from the storm.
o We are the church,
  ▪ we are that rock in the middle
    • of the stormy sea of life,
  ▪ that ark of safety in the middle
    • of troubled times,
  ▪ that one sure thing,
    • that nail in sure place,
  ▪ that folks can hang onto
    • when everything else is falling apart.

o We are the church of the living God,
  ▪ the body of Jesus Christ on this earth.

Let me tell you what we need.
• We need more of Jesus.
  o We need to get our focus onto him.
    ▪ We need to make room for him to work.

• He is the answer.
  o He has not changed.
    ▪ He is the same, yesterday today and forever.
  o We need his power,
    ▪ his anointing,
    ▪ his presence,
      • to flow through this place,
      • to energize this church,
    ▪ to absolutely take over everything
      • from our worship service
        o to our altar service.
          ▪ We need Jesus!

• Because he has not changed.
  o The same Jesus who took a few men and women
    ▪ and turned the world upside down,
  o the same Jesus who brought
    ▪ the might of the roman empire to her knees,
  o the same Jesus who emboldened his anointed
    ▪ to stand before rulers and principalities
      • without fear or trembling.
  o He has not changed!
    ▪ He is still the same.

• We need to get rid of our carnality
  o and get a little more Jesus.
• We need to get rid of our ego
  o and get a little more Jesus.
• We need to get rid of our self-righteousness
• and get a little more Jesus.

• We need to shut out all of the worldly distractions
  o that rob us of our time and energy
    ▪ long enough to have a genuine encounter with Jesus!

• He is more than enough
  o to meet every need.

• He is more than enough
  o to overcome every obstacle.

• He is more than enough
  o to move in every circumstance.

• Jesus has never met a city
  o that he can’t have revival in.

• He’s never encountered a culture
  o that he couldn’t transform
    ▪ by the power of his word.

• He’s never found a single sinner
  o that he couldn’t redeem
    ▪ by the power of his blood.
      • He’s big enough.
      • He’s powerful enough.
      • He’s wise enough.
      • He’s God enough!
  o We need a little more Jesus!

This same Jesus

• that can raise up a church
  o out of the city of Jerusalem.

• My goodness!
  o If they can have revival in Jerusalem,
    ▪ you can have revival anywhere.

• If there was ever a burnt over field,
  o it was Jerusalem.

• If there was ever a people
  o that were hard hearted,
  o that were skeptical,
  o that were certain
    ▪ they already had the answer,
  o that had abandoned
    ▪ every pretense of serving God,
      • it was Jerusalem.

• If they had revival there,
  o we can have revival anywhere.
    ▪ All we need is a little more Jesus!
Come on somebody!

- We need the working of his power.
  - We need the manifestation of his spirit.
    - We need Jesus to do
      - what only Jesus can do!

We live in an age of immorality and ungodliness.

- If we aren’t careful
  - we will look at the society around us
    - and become convinced that it is impossible
      - to have revival in this kind of atmosphere.
- Nothing could be further from the truth!
  - We don’t need a better environment,
    - we don’t need a more open door,
      - what we need is a little more Jesus!
- What we need is for the Jesus
  - who is the same, yesterday to day and forever,
    - to fill this house with his glory,
    - to move in this church in his power.
  - We only need for Jesus
    - to do what only Jesus can do.

When Paul went to Corinth

- it was celebrated as being the seat of immorality.
  - It was a city of drunkenness,
    - lewdness
      - and every kind of carnal vice imaginable.
- It was so bad
  - that, in the Greek language,
    - to call someone a “Corinthian”
  - was to insinuate
    - that they were a depraved, drunken, hedonist.
- The name of that city
  - was used as byword to describe
    - debauchery and godlessness.
- But Paul went there and built a church.
  - Paul had revival in that burnt over field named Corinth.
    - A mighty New Testament church was established
      - in that decadent city.
        - How did he do it?

Paul wrote to the Corinthians in our text and said:

- When I came to you,
  - I did not come with superior words or wisdom.
I just came with the testimony of God.
I just came with the knowledge of who Jesus is!

- He said I determined
  - not to know anything among you
    - except Jesus Christ
      - and Him crucified.
  - He said I don’t know how you build a church
    - at the very gates of hell.
      - I don’t know how you have revival
        - in this kind of culture.
- But one thing I do know
  - is that Jesus has not changed.
    - And if Jesus can establish a church in Jerusalem,
      - Jesus can build a church in Corinth.
  - So I don’t need to know anything else,
    - I just need a little more Jesus!
- The key to revival isn’t going to be found
  - in some program somewhere,
    - the key to revival won’t come
      - from some new way of doing things,
    - the key to revival
      - is the presence of Jesus.
  - If we make up our minds
    - that we want to have a move of God in Lake City
      - then all we need is a little more Jesus!

- Paul just needed Jesus.
  - The miracle worker
    - The deliverer
    - The Way maker
    - The Problem solver
    - The Answer to every situation
    - The One who can do anything that needs to be done
  - Jesus Christ, the savior
    - that’s what our world needs!
      - Jesus Christ and him crucified
- Paul was well educated
  - Probably Spoke 7 different languages
    - Probably one of the most educated men of his era
  - A scholar of the highest order
    - He could argue with the best
  - He knew what to say and when.
    - He was trained at the feet of the very finest.
  - He was a master of the scriptures,
    - an unmatched wordsmith
• and an extremely skilled debater.

• But he said when I came to Corinth,
  o when I got ready to have revival
    ▪ in a culture where everyone said
      • revival was impossible,
  o when they said the days
    ▪ of big revivals were over,
  o when they said that people don’t want
    ▪ what the church has any more.
• He said I didn’t preach
  o with enticing words of man’s wisdom,
    ▪ I didn’t try to win the philosophical debate,
    • I just preached in the demonstration
      o of the Spirit and power!
• That’s what we need!
  o The same Jesus that turned Corinth upside down
    ▪ can turn Lake City upside down.
  o The same Jesus that delivered
    ▪ the bound and oppressed in Corinth
      • can deliver the bound and oppressed here.
  o The same Jesus that healed the wounded spirit
    ▪ that mended the broken heart
      • the same Jesus that set the captive free...
  o He is in this place,
    ▪ and he can do here
      • what he did there!

Jesus is the same yesterday today and forever.
• He is Jehovah God of the Old Testament.
  o He is the sacrificial lamb of the New Testament
    ▪ and He is the comforter,
      • the Holy Ghost,
      • that is poured out upon the church.
  o The same Jesus that Paul had,
    ▪ that’s the same Jesus that we have!

This is a Spirit filled church!
• The fuel the church runs on is the Holy Ghost
  o You can’t fill it up with intellect and it run right
    ▪ You can’t fill it up with talent and it run right.
    ▪ You can’t fill it up with men’s ideas and it run right
    ▪ You can’t fill it up with philosophies and pop psychology and it run right.
    ▪ You can’t fill it up with carnal abilities and it run right.
    ▪ Its not about the style of music.
Its not about the service format.
Its not about the energy of the worship leader.
Its not even about how good the preacher preaches.

- Its all about Jesus.
  - Its all about the power of the Holy Ghost.
- If this church is going to do what it is supposed to do,
  - it has to be full of the power of the Holy Ghost!
- If this church is going to have an impact on this city
  - then each and every person in this church
    - has to be Spirit filled and spirit led.
- God wants to give us a harvest of souls
  - but we've got get ourselves out of the way first.
    - We need a little more Jesus
      - and a whole lot less of us!

The church is spiritual entity.
- It is the body of Christ in this world.
  - It is the physical extension of Jesus Christ in this present hour.
    - And we can’t be what we are supposed to be
      - when our lives are full of everything but Jesus!
  - We can’t do what we have been called to do
    - when our lives are wrapped up
      - in every other pursuit
        - and distraction in this life
    - until there’s little or no room left for Jesus.
- A Jesus filled church is an unstoppable church.
  - But a carnal church is twice dead
    - and plucked up by its roots!
  - This isn’t just a religious club.
    - This isn’t just a social entity.
      - This is a spirit filled body.
    - This is the church
      - and what we need,
        - more than we need anything else,
        - a whole lot more Jesus
          - and a whole lot less
            - of our carnal way of seeing things!

When the remnant of Israel returned from Babylon
- and found their temple in ruins
  - and their holy city destroyed.
- God laid the task of rebuilding the temple
  - on shoulders of a leader named Zerubbabel.
- But, as he began to try to accomplish the task
that God had asked of him,
▪ he got more than a little overwhelmed.

▪ There weren’t enough men to do the job,
  ▪ there wasn’t enough finances to get it done,
    ▪ there weren’t resources among
      ▪ the humble remnant of Israel.

▪ To Zerubbabel, it seemed as if
  ▪ God had laid on him an impossible task.

▪ But God sent an angel
  ▪ to encourage Zerubbabel,
    ▪ telling him that,
      ▪ even though
        ▪ the task seemed impossible,
      ▪ even though
        ▪ it looked like it could never be finished,
    ▪ God was going to make a way
      ▪ where there seemed to be no way.

▪ These are the words of that angel
  ▪ as recorded in Zechariah 4:6:

Zechariah 4:6
6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto
Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of
hosts.

  ▪ Its going to happen,
    ▪ it will get done,
      ▪ but not by human power.
        ▪ Not by worldly wisdom.
        ▪ Not by carnal ability.
          ▪ But by my Spirit, saith the Lord.

▪ It was true then
  ▪ and it is true now.

▪ If the work of God will be done
  ▪ it will not be done by might,
    ▪ nor by power
      ▪ but by the Spirit of the Lord!

▪ We need a little more Jesus!
  ▪ We need to stop and realize
    ▪ the power that is in this house.

▪ This same Jesus is here.
  ▪ This same Jesus is working in this place.
    ▪ This same Jesus can and will
Notes by Pastor Tony McCall

The Pentecostals of Lake City

• work through us
  • if we will let him!

CLOSE

Luke’s gospel is the story of Jesus

• In its pages he records the birth,
  • life,
  • ministry,
  • death,
  • resurrection,
  • and ascension of Jesus.

• It is the testimony of Jesus Christ
  • and when Luke wrote it,
    ▪ he addressed it to a man named Theophilus.

• When Luke wrote his second volume,
  • the book of Acts,
    ▪ he also addressed it to Theophilus
  • and began the book of Acts with these words:
    ▪ The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus
      began both to do and teach...

• With those words Luke declared
  • that the record of the gospel of Luke
    ▪ was just the beginning
      • of the ministry of Jesus Christ.

• What he began in his earthly ministry
  • continued in the book of Acts.
    ▪ When the final page
      • of the book of Luke is finished
        ▪ and the cover slams shut,
      • the ministry of Jesus
        ▪ was just beginning.

• The book of Acts
  • was the continuation of the ministry of Jesus!

• Jesus is just as real,
  • just as powerful
  • and just as prominent
    ▪ in the book of Acts
      • as he was in the gospel of Luke.

• You can’t always see him,
  • you can’t reach out and touch him,
    ▪ but he is just as real in Acts
      • as he was in Luke.

• All through that testimony of the church,
Jesus was working.
  - He was healing the sick.
  - He was setting the captive free.
  - He was making the deaf to hear,
  - the lame to leap
  - and the mute to rejoice
    - at the presence of God.
- Jesus Christ is the comforter
  - that came to the church,
    - he is the Spirit of God that was poured out
      - in his name.
- He is still present,
  - still on the scene,
    - still working through his church
- Here's the point, and I'm closing with this,
  - the book of Acts has no Amen at the end.
    - It is the history of the church
      - and it is the only book of the bible
        - with no conclusion.
- Jesus is still working.
  - He is still moving.
    - He is still ministering through his church.
      - This same Jesus!
  - Jesus wasn’t finished then
    - and he’s still not finished now.
  - He’s not here in the flesh
    - but He’s here in the spirit.

**It's time to see what Jesus wants to do tonight!**
  - He is the same!
    - He has not changed!
  - He is still working!

Let faith rise up in your heart – Jesus can.
- He still does!
  - He will tonight!

It's not complicated to have revival
- Just got to get everything
  - that is in the way of Jesus
    - out of the way
      - and let Jesus do his thing.
- Things don’t have to be perfect.
- The music doesn’t have to be on key
  - The sound system doesn’t have to work perfectly
- We just need Jesus!
  - If we have Jesus,
    - we can have revival.
- Not by might,
  - nor by power,
    - but by my spirit saith the Lord!
  - We need a demonstration of the Spirit in our lives.
- I’m calling this church to this altar.
  - I believe God wants to move in this house.
  - I believe the same Jesus that opens blind eyes is here tonight.
  - I believe he wants to show himself mighty and powerful in his house.
- But the first thing that needs to happen is we need to empty ourselves of all the stuff that stands between us and Jesus.
  - We need a little more Jesus flowing in this place.
  - We need a little more Jesus working in our lives.