

SERMON: "WHO IS JESUS?"
SCRIPTURE: OLD TESTAMENT ISAIAH 50:4-9a
NEW TESTAMENT MATTHEW 21:1-11

The sermon title says "It Is a Given." It is a given, a given that the sermon will change over time away from the title you once thought worked well. It is also a given, in this case, that the sermon itself is taken from other sources. I did not write it, you did!

Let me explain. Matthew tells the story of Jesus entry into Jerusalem on the day that we would call Palm Sunday because of the spontaneous parade that broke out that day. And then he summarizes the crowd's response this way, in chapter twenty, verse ten ...

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

I can see how they would ask that question from what they had heard about his man by word of mouth. That got me to thinking about that question, "Who is Jesus?" and how it would be answered today with the benefit of more information – the Church, the printing press, the internet. So I asked a few friends to pose that question in cyber space.

This sermon is a summary of those answers (with very little editing) along with what I found by way of Google and You Tube. A list of these answers and the links for the video clips are provided in the narthex and on our webpage, if you are interested

http://youtu.be/u_OxcUiEeUg

Jesus Images

Music – "Simple Gifts"

<http://youtu.be/3p4QGJ-w15Y>

Jesus of Nazareth

Music – "I Can Only Imagine"

Who is Jesus?

The light, the Light of the world

Lord and Savior

Redeemer

The one who loves me

The one who wants us no matter how poorly we treat him

God's only son

Essential member of the trinity

Grace and mercy personified

Who is Jesus?

My personal forgiving savior

I think about Him everyday and pray to him everyday, but rarely do I stop to put who He is to me in words. In a short phrase, Jesus is my life guide. Here's why: He guides me always in the right direction and through the path he wants me to take. As my guide, I look to Him to be sure I take the right path and do not steer away from His mission for me; and to walk in his footsteps, always striving to be more like Him. When I'm lost, I look to Him to get me back on track and in the right direction.

The risen Son of God., Savior

"He could calm a storm and heal the blind. And I bet He'd understand a heart like mine."

Jesus is real love and there at all times. He listens and always wants us to grow. My father-in-law had a near death experience and when he returned his fear of death was gone. He kept talking about how Jesus was a real man meaning manly. He was in total awe of Jesus.

Like the spiritual says, "Jesus Is the Center of My Joy"

Jesus is my friend, my teacher, my conscience, and, because I believe, Christ is the key to glory.

One, Light of the World, Unconditional love, Forgiveness, The Way

At this point in my life, I believe that Jesus is an historical figure that had a lot of good ideas about how we should behave and treat each other. I follow much of the advice and teachings attributed to him, although I no longer associate myself with any religion. Most of the "Christians" I have been exposed to don't come anywhere close to following his teachings. If it works for people to believe he is the only true way to god, and the only pathway to eternal life, I say go for it. Whatever works to help people live better, more fulfilling lives. For me, that requires staying as far away from churches as possible.

Who is Jesus?

What an awesome follow-up question to the message my pastor taught this past weekend. Such a great question that rouses emotion and remembrances of experiences with Jesus. If I could have had a camera of the many facial expressions – from anger and frustration to deep appreciation, joy, and love. Here are a few more answers from folks of various ethnic backgrounds, ages, and spiritual/religious experiences: Savior, Love, An enlightened being, Awesome, Safety – my peace, Lord, Son of God, Magnificent and Holy.

There is no short complete answer to this question.

Jesus is the physical manifestation of God delivering Christ, the Word, to humankind. He demonstrates that we are the children of God who were made by God in his image and likeness, a divine Truth lost to us because of "original sin" and only restored to us by his infinite Grace.

Jesus is the HOPE in this cruel and crazy mixed=up world.

The Christ (Messiah), the only sure source of salvation; Emmanuel.

Jesus is the one who showed us the meaning and wisdom of God's word. In fact, he was the word incarnate

Who is Jesus?

Jesus is the best in all of us and he guides us to be better than and to forgive the worst in each of us.

Jesus is personal hope.

"Because He lives, I can face tomorrow."

The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

"Living, he loved me. Dying, he saved me. Buried, He carried my sins far away. Rising, He justified freely forever. One day He's coming...Oh, Glorious Day!"

He is the Answer, He is my Savior.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. There's just something about that name. Master, Savior, Jesus, like the fragrance after the rain. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, let all heaven and earth proclaim: kings and kingdoms shall all pass away, but there's something about that name...

The light of my salvation!

My best friend! Forever!

"When Jesus steps out on a cloud to call his children, the dead in Christ shall rise to meet Him in the air."
from "The Midnight Cry"

Understanding, guidance, and wisdom.

I always think of Jesus as my Comforter. Whether I am feeling lonely, sad, frightened or even terrified, Jesus will comfort me.

Jesus, Savior, Redeemer, Grace and Mercy personified.

Jesus is the one who loves me.

Can I Be Your Lord?

By Scott Green

Can I be your Lord?

There are so many reasons why I never should.

You never take time to talk to me

You keep me in the back seat.

You stubbornly refuse to seek me out,

And don't set time each day to meet.

Even so,

My Grace is freely given,

My Love will forever last.

It is there for all to have,

All you need to do is ask.

Can I be your Lord?

There are so many reasons why I never should.

You continue to doubt and betray me,

And think you can do it alone.

And refuse to acknowledge that when you needed help,

It is at those times that we were one.

Even so,

My Grace is freely given,

My Love will forever last.

It is there for all to have,
All you need to do is ask.

Can I be your Lord?
For no other reason that I know.
Except I want you so.