

WHO IS JESUS?

7/4 & 7/5

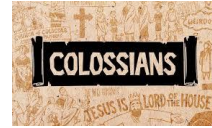
[Colossians 1:15-19](#) – Paul, at one point in his life, was a Pharisee. This meant he studied under the great rabbis of his day to learn all he could about God through the Law and the Prophets. He was one of the rising stars until he encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus. He changed. He began to put his knowledge and intellect to understanding and knowing Jesus. This would help him write down, in his own words, who Jesus is. In this letter to the church in Colossae, he returns to the creation narrative and shows that Jesus was there with the Father and the Spirit. Jesus is the one who holds creation together and gives us meaning through his death and resurrection. Jesus restores us to the place we once had in creation, enabling us to see our Creator face to face.

Who is Jesus according to Paul in Colossians 1:15-19?

Why is this important to see and believe?

How does this impact your life and the living out of your faith?

Sermon Notes



Our Journey for June 29 – July 5, 2026

Who is Jesus? It may seem obvious to us, but how would you describe Jesus to other people? How do you describe him as the Son of God? What other church words do you use? Try this experiment: write down who Jesus is and read it aloud. What did you hear? Does it make sense? In each of the letters Paul writes, he takes the time to describe Jesus in his own words that make sense to the people who are receiving the letter. The letter to the Colossae church is no different. This week, we will go through the Bible and examine various passages that describe Jesus. We might be tempted to say that he is not in the Old Testament, but we would be wrong. The prophets point to what he will do in the future. The psalmist describes what he will go through. Jesus is the same yesterday, as he is today, as he will be tomorrow. ~ Pastor Seth

RETURN TO THE LORD

Mon. 6/29

[Psalm 22](#) – The psalms reveal the thoughts and feelings of the psalmist. We can think of the psalms like poetry. What happens when one of the psalms doesn't mimic the psalmist's feelings and thoughts, but those of other people? We can see ourselves partly in Psalm 22, but Jesus quotes it deliberately as he hangs on the cross. He lives out the painful words, so the hopeful words that come at the end of the psalm will be reality. We can use the words of Psalm 22 to describe Jesus. He was the one who hung on the cross as the soldiers gambled for his clothes and the crowds mocked him. He was the one who died, but at the same time God was with him and would resurrect him, in doing so, opened the door for us to be with him for eternity.

How would you describe Jesus from Psalm 22?

What does Psalm 22 tell you about Jesus?

IN HIM ALL THINGS ARE MADE

Tue. 6/30

[John 1:1-18](#) – The Gospel of John does not include a birth narrative like the other three Gospels. John starts Jesus' story further back, like what we read in Genesis 1. John lets us know that Jesus was part of creation. He was there with God, forming the earth. In the beginning, the Word was with God and was God. John continues with the truth that through him all things were made, and without him nothing was made. This is a bold statement by John. He adds to the creation narrative that puts Jesus at the beginning of time. John also emphasizes that Jesus is the one who brought light into the world and allows us to live life differently. John gives us his understanding of who Jesus is and challenges our perception of Jesus.

Who is Jesus according to John?

How does John's perspective of Jesus influence your perspective?

GOD WAS THERE

Wed. 7/1

[Genesis 1:1-2:3](#) – There are some really good questions surrounding the creation narrative, but this is not our focus for today. We are going to look at the first part of Genesis 1, then at the end of Genesis 1. Genesis 1 starts with God hovering over the surface of the deep. There is a sense of mass chaos on this formless, empty earth. As God speaks, He brings order and creation to this chaos. As humanity is formed, God says they should be made in his image, meaning they would bear the image of God (Father, Spirit, and Son). If we connect Genesis with John, then we have a better way to describe Jesus. Jesus was there at the beginning of life and was part of the model for humanity's formation.

Why should John 1 and Genesis 1 be connected?

Why is it important to see Jesus at the beginning of time?

Took Our Pain

Thur. 7/2

[Isaiah 52:13-53:12](#) – Isaiah wrote the words we read under the direction of the Holy Spirit. He is painting a picture of what the future Messiah would do. The people of God would hold onto this image because it showed them the Messiah, the one who would restore Israel. Their hopes for the future rested on the truth that the Messiah is coming. They could see the signs of what the Messiah would do, but they didn't know the time or place. The people of God would refer to this passage when their hope waned because God would deliver on His promises, because He always did. The problem is that it took a long time for God to deliver on his promise, and the people forgot what the promise was. When Jesus shows up, they want to keep everything the same.

In what way does Jesus reflect Isaiah 52:13-53:12?

How long should people wait for God to deliver on His promise?

A HUMBLE SPIRIT

Fri. 7/3

[Philippians 2:1-11](#) – What does humility look like? Is Jesus humble? Why? Paul gave the church in Philippi a picture of Jesus that they could not forget. It was the Son of God, with all the power of God, who gave them the perfect example of humility. Paul starts this chapter by telling them how to love others without any conceit, and to do nothing that builds up their own interests, but to look to the interests of others. They could only do this if they followed Jesus' example of laying everything down, like Jesus did when he left heaven to become human. Jesus did not consider equality with God something to grasp and became a servant. When we serve others, what is our motive: to be like Jesus or not?

What can you do to humble yourself?

How does your humility compare to Jesus'?