

The Wednesday Word, May 23, 2018: Jesus Himself

The Bible is a book about Jesus.
He is everywhere in the Scriptures

He is:

The Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:8)
The Anointed One (Psalm 2:2)
The Lord of Lords (Revelation 19:16)
The Author of Life (Acts 3:15)
The Mighty God (Isaiah 9:6)
The Branch (Zechariah 6:12)
The Bright and Morning Star (Revelation 22:16)
The Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)
The Christ (Matthew 1:16)
The Teacher (John 1:38)
Everlasting Father (Isaiah 9:6)
The Door (John 10:9)
The Good Shepherd (John 10:14)
Holy and Righteous One (Acts 3:14)
The I Am (John 8:58)
The True Vine (John 15:1)
Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14)
The King of Kings (Revelation 19:16)
The Eternal Word (John 1:1)
The Word of God (Revelation 19:13)
The Lamb of God (John 1:29)

Jesus by Himself created everything. We read, “For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist” (Colossians 1:16).

Not only did He create everything, Jesus by Himself upholds everything by the Word of His power” (Hebrews 1:3). Sometimes, I confess, I find it hard to stomach the ignorance of some of the God haters I’ve talked to. They arrogantly deny Christ and disparage His work. Pompous to the last, little do they realize they are dependant upon the Christ they hate for their every breath. But, thankfully, He is God and I’m not. He is much, much more gracious and merciful than am I.

Not only did Jesus create all and also sustains all, Jesus Himself is our salvation. Again, we read, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

The Gospel begins and ends with Christ Jesus. It is a declaration of who He is and His saving work for us. The Gospel itself is not an offer or even a free offer nor indeed a well-meant offer.

The Gospel itself is not any kind of offer. It is instead a declaration of who Christ is and of what He has done, in history, in His accomplished redemption for us. His work is Finished!

Through the Gospel, we discover that Christ has already obtained redemption, (Hebrews 9:12) and that He has already put away our sin (Hebrews 1:3). The Gospel brings glad tidings of great joy telling us that Christ was born, Christ lived, and Christ was crucified, Christ was buried and that Christ rose again and has accomplished redemption.

In the light of the Finished Work, therefore, it is stunning to discover just how many people have claimed or are claiming to be Jesus. There's A.J. Miller, for example, a former Jehovah's Witness elder and current leader of the Australia-based Divine Truth movement. Miller claims to be Jesus Christ reincarnated

There's David Shaylor (1965–) a former MI5 agent and whistleblower who, in the summer of 2007, proclaimed himself to be the Messiah.

There's Apollo Quiboly, the founder and leader of a Philippines-based Restorationist church, the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, The Name Above Every Name, Inc. He has made claims that he is the "Appointed Son of God"

We, however, must ask these self-appointed deities, if they are in fact Christ Jesus, can they do what He did?"

Can they create universes?

Can they sustain all things by the word of their power?

Can they forgive sins?

Can they walk on water?

Can they raise the dead?

Can they raise themselves from the dead?

Can they grant eternal life?

Can they give life to whom they will?

Absolutely not! They are fakes, frauds and fruitcakes!

And that's the Gospel Truth!