

THE MYSTERY OF JESUS CHRIST, part 2

1/7/12

We have already seen (part 1), the great confusion that surrounded the life and purpose of Jesus Christ... even by his closest friends and disciples. Ignorance of God's truths often lead people to reject the word of the Lord, just as Adam and Eve rejected good advice in the beginning. The gospel is a mystery to many, because they fail to grasp all the implications of Christ's sacrifice and the essential need to be anointed by the ensuing Holy Spirit. The following notes reveal the very real ignorance towards Christ, despite many positive proofs and scriptural facts offered by God.

John confirms the truth about who Jesus was and what Christ would bring to God's true believers.

JOH 1:32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water (God), the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. *This never happened till he was resurrected and began at Pentecost in Acts 2.*

34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God. *John was not sure of who he was looking for, but he knew the signs that would follow when Jesus was baptised... none of the others he baptised, had the spirit come upon them as yet... only Jesus. John reveals the true purpose of Jesus' ministry, life and sacrifice.* **JOH 1:29** The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which **taketh away** the sin of the world. *However, the full scriptural method of redemption is still a great mystery. Perhaps, never more so, than our current age.*

Jesus reflected the will of God... his father. This clearly reveals God's attitude towards us.

JOH 4:34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to **do the will** of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

Jesus demonstrated that he had power and authority over natural forces... for the benefit of those who follow him.

MAR 4:39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. **40** And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him? *They saw the signs that only God could do, but didn't understand their significance at this stage.*

He also revealed the power he had over sin, which offered an eternal benefit for the souls of men.

LUK 5:23 Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk?

24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. *Jesus cared for people, so he healed the sick... this also reflected God's attitude to us and reveals the potential benefit that the indwelling Holy Spirit would bring.*

HEB 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. *This attitude also remained after Christ had returned back to be with God. This was written because people failed to understand the true nature and power of God.*

Consider his friends/disciples and why they remained faithful to him... even though they understood so little.

JOH 6:67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?

68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God. *They knew who he was and the also knew that they had no options... but they still failed to comprehend the full extent of the coming anointing of the Spirit. As a clear example, Peter denied Christ when he was arrested and they all failed in their faith when he was dead and buried... and even doubted after he was resurrected.*

Jesus still offers God's Holy Spirit and acts as high priest [guardian and purifier], for all true Christians.

MAT 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. *Unless you are yoked (locked together with Christ) you cannot properly learn, nor find true and lasting peace.* **JOH 15:14** Ye are my friends, if ye do **whatsoever** (all) I command you. *You need the Holy Spirit!*

Miracles were used to prove and support the word of God... not the other way round.

MAR 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and **confirming the word with signs following**. Amen. *This is what happens when the true gospel is preached and obeyed.*

John was confused... But Jesus gave evidence and assurance of who he was and what his real purposes were.

MAT 11:2 Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, **3** And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? **4** Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: **5** The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. *Demonstration of God's will for mankind.* **6** And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be **offended in me**. *Despite the signs and miracles, there was a large number of religious people who tried to silence Christ's words: just as he prophesied... still the same today!!*