

The Wednesday Word, October 15, 2014: Who is this Man Jesus? Part 1

In the upcoming issues of the Wednesday Word, we will try to answer a profound question; “Who is this man Jesus?” In Matthew 16:13-16, our Lord asked His disciples; “Who do men say that I the Son of Man am?” They replied, “Some say that you are John the Baptist and some say that you are Elijah and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” Christ said to them; “But who say ye that I the Son of Man am?” Peter answered and said; “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

So then, who is this man Jesus?

He was born in poverty, in a cave converted as a stable, to an un-wed Jewish teenager. He was then placed in a feeding trough for cattle. There was no room for Him anywhere else.

Who is this man Jesus?

As an infant, he was made a refugee as His parents fled for safety to Egypt. This was necessary to avoid the murderous sword of Herod, which was aimed at the heart of the young child.

Who is this man Jesus?

He was raised in an obscure, unassuming village called Nazareth. His foster father was a carpenter with neither riches nor influence. Being from a poor family, Jesus, himself, was deprived of the privilege of formal training and education at the feet of the sagacious and learned Rabbis of His day.

It has been observed by others that Jesus never travelled above 90 miles from His home. He, at no time, owned a piece of ground or a piece of property. His only possession was the robe on His back.

Who is this man Jesus?

He never held a public office. No one ever voted for him.

Who is this man Jesus?

As He travelled throughout Israel preaching, He was accompanied by, “A band of unschooled ruffians and a few old fishermen.” As far as we can tell, His friends were all poor, anonymous types.

Who is this man Jesus?

Although he went about ‘doing good,’ He was indicted for violating the Law of Moses. Furthermore, because He claimed equality with God, He was accused of blasphemy. False witnesses rose up against Him. Paid liars attacked Him with their tongues. He was then, illegally, sentenced to death and executed.

Who is this man Jesus?

Of His inner circle of friends, one of them sold Him out for a pitifully small amount of money. Another one denied Him three times. Nearly all of them forsook Him and fled.

Meanwhile, Jesus suffered and died in torturous pain, encompassed by a sense of forsakenness. He was

then taken down from the cross and buried in a borrowed tomb.

Who is this man Jesus?

Some have remarked that this man, Jesus of Nazareth, never wrote a book, yet more books have been written about Him and His work than about any other person. Although He sang songs, He never composed one yet He has been the theme of more songs than anyone else in history. He never founded an institute of higher learning, yet a staggering number of colleges and universities have been dedicated to the advance of His cause.

Who is this man Jesus?

In the wilderness, Satan could not seduce Him. As a child, the wisdom of the Jerusalem Rabbis could not answer Him. During His ministry, lawyers and scribes could not entangle Him in their wicked webs of sophistry. The leaders of the nation hated Him. Pilate could find no fault in Him.

Who is this man Jesus?

At the cross, He dealt death a death blow. In His burial, the grave could not contain Him.

Who is this man Jesus?

Even those who don't follow Him admit that His life on this earth was above reproach. His teachings were of not only of the purest quality but also breath-taking. However, since the time He walked on this earth, controversy has continued to rage around Him.

Who is this man Jesus?

We have merely asked the question and scratched the surface of this excellent theme. Next time, God willing, we will explore more about this magnificent subject.

And that's the Gospel Truth!