Autumn Series

Team Jesus

Bible Characters

Windsor 20th June 2021

Welcome to Church

John 3:2

[&]quot;The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him."

When we see You

1 John 3:2

Mark Peterson

Jesus you are Lord of all creation
 Jesus you are seated on the throne
 Jesus you were raised to life forever
 Promised us this new life by your Spirit.

When we see you, our eyes will open And we'll be like you, be like you When we meet you, our hearts will gladden And we'll sing with joy, sing with joy to you.

2. Jesus you're the king we long to live with Jesus you are hidden from our sight Jesus you ascended to the heavens Promised you'd return to take us home.

When we see you, our eyes will open And we'll be like you, be like you When we meet you, our hearts will gladden And we'll sing with joy, sing with joy...

Jesus we'll see you as you are
We'll be like you eternally Repeat

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed Be Your Name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name

PRE-CHORUS

Every blessing You pour out, I'll Turn back to praise When the darkness closes in, Lord Still I will say

CHORUS

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's 'all as it should be' Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

PRE-CHORUS

CHORUS

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name

CHORUS

Forever

The moon and stars they wept
The morning sun was dead
The Savior of the world was fallen
His body on the cross
His blood poured out for us
The weight of every curse upon him

One final breath He gave
As Heaven looked away
The Son of God was laid in darkness
A battle in the grave
The war on death was waged
The power of hell forever broken

PRE-CHORUS

The ground began to shake
The stone was rolled away
His perfect love could not be overcome
Now death where is your sting
Our resurrected King has rendered you defeated

CHORUS

Forever, He is glorified Forever, He is lifted high Forever, He is risen He is alive He is alive

PRE CHORUS - CHORUS

BRIDGE

We sing Hallelujah
We sing Hallelujah
We sing Hallelujah
The Lamb has overcome
(Repeat)

CHORUS

Have Faith in God

Oh Lord, you lead me
By the still waters,
Quietly restoring my soul.
You speak words of wisdom,
The promise of glory,
The power of the presence of God.

Have Faith in God,
Let your hope rest on the
faith he has placed in your heart.
Never give up,
Never let go of the
faith he has placed in your heart.

Oh Lord, you guide me
Through all the darkness,
Turning my night into day.
You'll never leave me,
Never forsake me,
The power of the presence of God.

Have Faith in God,
Let your hope rest on the
faith he has placed in your heart.
Never give up,
Never let go of the
faith he has placed in your heart

Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

Give us day by day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Luke 11: 2-4

TEAM JESUS

259. Who were the Disciples?

They were those who believed in Jesus, and were taught by Him - Luke 9:1; Matthew 10:1; Acts 6:2.

260. Who were the Apostles?

They were the twelve of the Disciples chosen by Jesus and sent forth to preach - Matthew 10:2; Luke 6:13; Acts 1:26.

261. Who was Nicodemus?

He was a ruler of the Jews, and came by night to talk with Jesus - John 3:1,4,9; 7:50; 19:39.

262. Who were the Scribes?

The Scribes were the writers and teachers of the Law.

263. Who were the Pharisees?

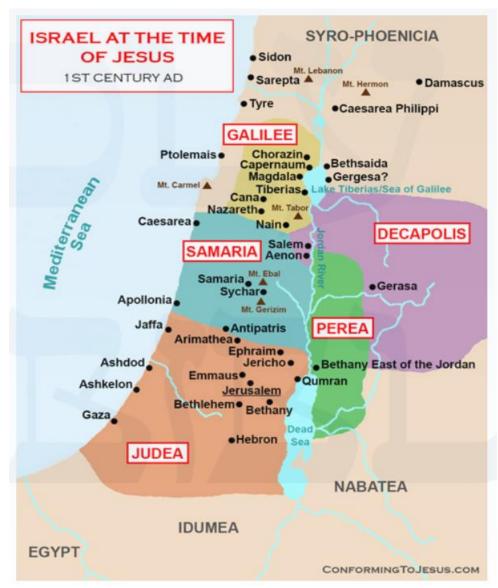
They were a sect of the Jews who professed to be very strict, and to know better and do better than any other people - Acts 23:6-9; 26:5.

264. Who were the Sadducees?

They were a sect of the Jews who denied the resurrection - Acts 23:8.

Heroes - Jesus, the Apostles, the Disciples and Nicodemus

Villains – Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees



At the time of Jesus' birth Herod the Great (37-4BC) ruled the whole coloured area as a puppet king under the Romans. Upon his death the kingdom was divided to be ruled by his 3 sons.

By the time of Jesus' ministry Rome had taken over the rule of Samaria and Judea under Pontius Pilate (26-36AD). (Archelaus had been removed for being incompetent and cruel.) Herod Antipas who beheaded John the Baptist ruled Galilee. Philip ruled Perea and Decapolis.

Galilee and Judea although they both had Jewish inhabitants and communities were quite different and were separated by the largely non-Jewish Samaria.

The Galileans were often richer than the Judeans but were regarded as poorly spoken and lax in their following of the law.

Nazareth was a conservatively Jewish town close by the cosmopolitan/pagan cities of Tiberias and Sepphoris.

https://www.conformingtojesus.com/charts-maps/en/map_of_israel_at_the_time_of_jesus.htm

So our story plays out over several jurisdictions with a background of racial prejudice, and adversarial political and religious parties. Not unlike today is it?

In Jewish Palestine, for example, there were three small but important religious parties that differed from each other in several ways: the

Pharisees (numbering about 6,000 at the time of Herod), Essenes (about 4,000), and Saducees ("a few men," according to Flavius Josephus, in *The Antiquities of the Jews* 18.17). https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jesus/The-Jewish-religion-in-the-1st-century

Scribes:

Scribes in ancient Israel were learned men whose business was to study the Law, transcribe it, and write commentaries on it. They were also hired on occasions when the need for a written document arose or when an interpretation of a legal point was needed. Ezra, "a teacher well versed in the Law of Moses," was a scribe Ezra 7:6

The scribes took their job of preserving Scripture very seriously; they would copy and recopy the Bible meticulously, even counting letters and spaces to ensure each copy was correct. We can thank the Jewish scribes for preserving the Old Testament portion of our Bibles. https://www.gotquestions.org/scribes-Jesus.html

Many Scribes were Pharisees.

Pharisees:

A largely lay group that had the reputation of being the most-precise interpreters of the law, the Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the dead. They also relied on the nonbiblical "traditions of the fathers," some of which made the law stricter while others relaxed it. https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jesus/The-Jewish-religion-in-the-1st-century

Saducees:

Many aristocratic priests, as well as some prominent laymen, were Sadducees. They rejected the Pharisaic "traditions of the fathers" and maintained some old-fashioned theological opinions. Most famously, they denied resurrection, which had recently entered Jewish thought from Persia and which was accepted by most Jews in the 1st century. https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jesus/The-Jewish-religion-in-the-1st-century

Caiphas and his associates were thought to be Saducees.

Revolutionaries:

Groups of melitia who were willing to take on the armed might of Rome to deliver God's people from bondage.

Essenes:

In the first century of our era there were many sects and schools in Jewish society. We hear about the Essenes, of course, the Jews of Qumran, the Dead Sea Scrolls, who separated themselves from the community at large and clearly constituted a sect, a group which thought it alone possessed the truth.

https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/religion/portrait/judaism.html

The People:

"And of course, the most important group of all are not the Pharisees, not the Sadducees, not the Essenes, not the revolutionaries, but the plain Jews. Plain simple folk who presumably live their Jewish lives by following the ways that they'd always done, whatever mother or father had taught them, that's what they do themselves. We may call [this] perhaps "simple piety." The Jews who observe the Sabbath, who observe the holidays, the festivals, who go with the pilgrimage to temple, who observe the Jewish food laws, the Jewish rituals, believe in the Jewish God, follow the ways by which to make the life holy, follow the dictates of the Torah in a kind of simple plain way, these are the plain folk and these are the folk who are not Pharisees, not Sadducees, but simply plain Jews. And we get a glimpse of some of them in the pages of the New Testament. But these are probably the most numerous of all and the most important of all."

https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/religion/portrait/judaism.html

It is from these people that Jesus drew his disciples.

Nicodemus:

"He was a Jew, a Pharisee, a member of the Sanhedrin (the highest legal, legislative, and judicial body of the Jews), and a highly respected teacher of the Old Testament Scriptures Nicodemus is a Pharisee at the top of his field..... Not only is he a member of the Sanhedrin, he is the most renowned Bible teacher of his day..... Yet when he hears Jesus teach, he hears the answers to questions that have bothered him for years. He watches the crowds as they listen to Jesus, and he knows he has never held the attention of an audience like Jesus does. Jesus speaks in simple terms, but His message has great power. Nicodemus observes the miracles Jesus performs, knowing he has never performed even one miracle." https://www.ocfusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/john03_01-21.pdf

Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:16-19	Luke 6:13-16	Acts 1:13	
Simon (Peter)	Simon (Peter)	Simon (Peter)	Peter	Peter, James and John are generally acknowledged as leaders among the apostles. Judas Iscariot is placed at the bottom because he betrayed Jesus to the Priests. He was replaced by Matthias in the list from Acts.
Andrew (Peter's brother)	James son of Zebedee	Andrew (Peter's brother)	John	
James son of Zebedee	John (James' brother)	James son of Zebedee	James	
John (James' brother)	Andrew	John	Andrew	
Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip	
Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Thomas	
Thomas	Matthew	Matthew	Bartholomew	
Matthew the tax collector	Thomas	Thomas	Matthew	Thaddeus and Judas of James are seen to be the same person. Sometimes his nickname is used to prevent confusion with Judas Iscariot.
	James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus	
James son of Alphaeus	Thaddeus	Simon the Zealot	Simon the Zealot	
Thaddeus	Simon the Zealot	Judas of James	Judas of James	
Simon the Zealot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	[Matthias]	
Judas Iscariot				

Matthew 12:1-37

- **12** At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn and to eat.
- ² But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day.
- ³ But he said unto them, Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him;
- ⁴ How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?
- ⁵ Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?
- ⁶ But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple.

- ⁷But if ye had known what this meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.
- ⁸ For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.
- ⁹ And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue:
- ¹⁰ And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him.
- ¹¹ And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out?
- ¹² How much then is a man better than a sheep?
 Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.
- ¹³ Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.
- ¹⁴Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

- ¹⁵ But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;
- ¹⁶ And charged them that they should not make him known:
- ¹⁷ That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,
- ¹⁸ Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.
- ¹⁹ He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets.
- ²⁰ A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory.
- ²¹ And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.
- ²² Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

- ²³ And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?
- ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.
- ²⁵ And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:
- ²⁶ And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?
- ²⁷ And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges.
- ²⁸ But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.
- ²⁹ Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.
- ³⁰ He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

- ³¹ Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.
- ³² And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.
- ³³ Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit.
- ³⁴ O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.
- ³⁵ A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.
- ³⁶ But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

³⁷ For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.



92.-L. M. (Exod. 14/15-18; Matt. 11/29, 30)

FORTH in Thy name, O Lord, I go, My daily labour to pursue; Thee, only Thee resolved to know, In all I think, or speak, or do.

The task Thy wisdom hath assign'd,
O let me cheerfully fulfil!
In all my works Thy Presence find,
And prove Thy acceptable will.

Thee may I set at my right hand,
Whose eyes my inmost substance see;
And labour on at Thy command,
And offer all my works to Thee.

Give me to bear Thy easy yoke,
And every moment watch and pray;
And still to things Eternal look,
And hasten to Thy glorious day.

John 3:1-21

3 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

²The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

³ Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

⁴Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

⁵Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

⁷ Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

⁸ The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

⁹ Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

¹⁰ Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

¹¹ Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

¹² If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

¹³ And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

¹⁵ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

¹⁸ He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

²⁰ For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

²¹ But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Message

"The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him."

John 3:2

34.-C. M. (Isa, 65/24; Jer. 31/22; John 8/47)

GIVE ears to Isr'el's seed they pray,
To hear Thy lovely voice;
Incline their hearts the same t' obey,
And make Thy love their choice.

Them by Thy Spirit all anoint,
And make them Thy true sheep,
And in them, Lord, in ev'ry point,
Thy law and gospel keep.

As he who was the woman's seed Did all Thy laws obey, And after that was glorified, E'en so, O Lord, may they.