



Lesson 4 – The Man, Christ Jesus

God’s Redemption through Jesus

God created image bearers and left them in charge, but everything went horribly wrong when man rebelled against God, damaging that image and creating problems for our dominion. Yet God initiated a plan to fix what man broke through a man, the man Christ Jesus.

Jesus and the Image of God

Mankind was designed to reflect the image of God but the fall damaged that image. When Jesus came, part of His mission was to show us what it would look like to have a person truly reflects God.

Seeing _____ Is _____ the Father (John 14:7-9)

We may not have the privilege of walking and talking with Jesus in person today, but through the record of Him in His Word and through the witness of the Spirit we can come to know Jesus. As we see Jesus in Scripture, we are getting a picture of the Father as well as the Son.

Jesus Is the _____ of the Invisible God

The word “image” is used at least twice to refer to Jesus as the image of God (2 Corinthians 4:4; Colossians 1:15). If you’ve ever wondered what God would look like with flesh on, the answer is Jesus. Man’s original purpose was to show what God was like. While we’ve done that very imperfectly, Jesus has done it flawlessly. As Hebrews put it, Jesus is “the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person” (Hebrews 1:3). As Jesus said, seeing Him is seeing the Father.



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Jesus and the Dominion Mandate

Daniel 7 shows us most clearly the dominion that Christ will one day have. Several beasts emerge representing mighty kingdoms throughout history (7:1-8). Eventually, these nations are brought to an end, and instead we see the Ancient of Days (God the Father) give a kingdom to one called “the Son of Man.” (7:9-14). In Revelation 19-20 we read of Jesus returning to earth and establishing just such a kingdom, and then in Revelation 21-22 we are told of the final kingdom to be established, a kingdom that will never end.

Jesus and the Fall

Through the gospel, Jesus is bringing redemption, not just to believers, but to all of creation. His salvation not only saves us *from* God’s wrath; but also saves us *to* a future of ruling together with Him and reflecting perfectly the image of God.

Jesus Shows Us How We Are to _____ God

The Bible teaches us we are supposed to reflect God (Genesis 1:26-28; Ephesians 5:1), but because of our sin, we fall short of that lofty goal. If Jesus perfectly reflects God, as we have seen, then if we want to reflect God we should try to live like Christ. Not surprisingly, the Bible tells us that God’s plan is that we be “conformed to the image of God’s son” (Romans 8:28-30).

Jesus Will Enable Us to _____ with Him Forever

Earlier we looked at Daniel 7, but there is a surprising detail near the end of this passage: Jesus receives a kingdom, but that kingdom is shared with His followers (Daniel 7:27). The disciples believed they would rule under Christ in His kingdom (Mark 10:35-40), and they were off on the timing but right in their expectation (Acts 1:6-8). In Revelation, Jesus holds forth as a reward for the churches the promise of reigning with Him (Revelation 2:26; 3:21). The story of the Bible concludes in Revelation 22:5 with the saints reigning forever and ever.

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