

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

a conversation during Lent

Today's Scripture Reading:

MATTHEW 25:31-46

MATTHEW 25:31-46

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.

³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

Lent

MATTHEW 25:31-46

³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

Lent

MATTHEW 25:31-46

⁴¹ "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?'

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

Lent

MATTHEW 25:31-46

⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

Lent

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

a conversation during Lent

*A parable is defined as a simple story
that teaches a lesson
using an allegory as its theme basis*

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

Lent

CONTEXT - MATTHEW 24:3

- Jesus gives detailed event information followed by a number of parables
- This parable is a combination of information & parable

JESUS USES “SON OF MAN”

- Favorite self-description
- Points to humility, servant
- Relationship to humanity - Hebrews 2:17-18

¹⁷ Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

TITLES ATTRIBUTED TO JESUS

JUDGE

An official appointed to decide cases in court.

JOHN 5:22: *For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son*

- Comparison: Earthly judge vs. Eternal judge
- At best calculated guessing vs 100% accuracy
- The works/lack of works in and of themselves are NOT the sole determining factor executed by Jesus in His decision making process here.

TITLES ATTRIBUTED TO JESUS

REWARDER

- 1 Corinthians 3:14 - foundational works
- Hebrews 11:6 - without faith it is impossible
- Romans 2:6-7
- Matthew 6:4, 6, 18 - right hand, pray in secret, fast in secret

TITLES ATTRIBUTED TO JESUS

WHAT WAS JESUS' PURPOSE ON EARTH?

- To glorify the Father
- How did He do that? - *2 fold answer*
 - Personally honoring and glorifying Father
 - Instruction to humanity on how to accomplish that

COMPASSIONATE FORE-WARNER

****Reminder - the context of the disciples asking
of the 2nd coming***

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

Lent

PAUL REVERE

*The seriousness of the situation warranted
the means of delivery*

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

Lent

THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION WARRANTED THE MEANS OF DELIVERY

- ***Tone and content***
- O unbelieving and perverse generations...how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Luke 9:41
- Who is my mother and brother? Matthew 12:48
- Can you drink the cup? Matthew 20:22
- Get behind me Satan? Matthew 16:23
- Pluck out eye, cut off hand. Matthew 5:30

THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION WARRANTED THE MEANS OF DELIVERY

- **Pharisees** - based on His character and desire for “all to be saved” (2 Peter 3:9) as well as His desire for the Sheep to have a Righteous Shepherd (Mt 9:36) His “harshness” is intended to bring repentance. Romans 2:4 says it's His GOODNESS that leads to repentance, which leads us to a heart driven towards obedience, which leads to eternal life.

APPLICATION

1. As you read the Scriptures, especially the hard sayings of Christ, remember they are given out of a heart of compassion which is for our own protection.

APPLICATION

2. As we live in this Mack Ave community, the same is true when push back is given. Our hope is that the giver of pushback is doing so solely out of love and care for the receiver of the correction. And if the push back giver's delivery is poor or harsh or awkward, can you chalk it up as an opportunity of your own humility and discernment?

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

a conversation during Lent