

“But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ” – Philippians 3:7-8

I. The apostle Paul tell us, “...I count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...”

a. One of our greatest needs as believers is to grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

- i. In **2 Peter 3:18**, the apostle Peter tells us, “***But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...***”
- ii. If there is one thing the Apostles and Great Saints had in common, it was this, they had such a great hunger and passion to know Jesus...
- iii. They didn’t just want to read about Him, they didn’t just want to hear about Him, but they wanted to know Him, personally and intimately
- iv. They wanted to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ...

b. And as believers, this must be our greatest desire and passion, to get to know Jesus – intimately, personally, and profoundly cf. Psalm 40:1-2

- i. The Christian walk is all about getting to know Jesus...
- ii. Therefore, for our study this morning, we are going to simply study the Person of Jesus and grow in our knowledge of Him
- iii. I want us to continue last week’s theme and try to answer the question, “***Who is Jesus? Who is Jesus?***”
- iv. And to do this, we are going to examine a passage in the book of Revelation where we find an amazing description of ***who Jesus is...***

c. Therefore, turn with me to Revelation Chapter 1 and let’s begin in verse 5 – the apostle John is going to tell us **eight things about the Lord Jesus...**

II. Description #1 – “He is the *Reliable Witness*” (Vs. 5a)

a. In verse 5a, the apostle John declares, “And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness...”

- i. The Lord Jesus is the *reliable, faithful, and dependable* witness who reveals to us the Father...
- ii. **John 1:18** declares, “***No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.***”
- iii. The Son of God came into the world, dwelt among us, and faithfully revealed to us the Father in every single way
- iv. He faithfully revealed the Father’s character, the Father’s love, the Father’s will, the Father’s plans and purposes for our lives
- v. Everything we needed to know about the Father was revealed in the Person of Jesus Christ because He is the *faithful and reliable* Witness

- b. Now, because Jesus is the faithful, reliable Witness, we must pay close attention to the witness He is giving (*listen to His words and testimony*)
 - i. In **Mathew 17:5**, we read of God the Father declaring these words concerning His Son, “***This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!***”
 - ii. God the Father exhorts us to listen and pay close attention to the testimony of His Son – “***This is My beloved Son – listen to Him!***”
 - iii. He will never misdirect you, misguide you, or steer you in the wrong direction; you can trust Him, therefore, make sure your listening to Him
- c. Now, just as the Son is the faithful, reliable witness of who the Father is, we must be faithful, reliable witnesses of who the Son is...
 - i. Just as Jesus Christ revealed the Father to the world, in the same way, we must reveal the Son to the world
 - ii. We must faithfully reveal the Son’s character, love, compassion, will, purposes and plans to a dark, dying world – “***Ambassadors of Christ***”

III. Description #2 – “He is the Resurrected Christ” (Vs. 5b)

- a. In verse 5b, the apostle John continues by declaring, “...the firstborn from the dead...”
 - i. The Lord Jesus is the *resurrected* Christ, the first born from the dead, the first person to ever rise from the dead to never die again
 - ii. **Colossians 1:18** declares concerning Christ, “***And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have preeminence.***”
 - iii. After His crucifixion, Jesus of Nazareth was placed in a tomb that belonged to a man by the name of Joseph of Arimathea
 - iv. However, Jesus didn’t stay in that tomb for very long, for the Bible tells us that three days later, He rose from the dead...
- b. And thus, Jesus did what no man had ever done before Him or what no man will ever do after Him without Him – “He rose from the Dead”
 - i. Muhammad is dead, Buddha is dead, Gandhi is dead, Plato is dead, Socrates is dead, Nietzsche is dead, Alexander the Great is dead, Napoleon is dead, Hitler is dead, however, Jesus is Alive...
- c. And because He rose from the dead, we can have all the assurance that one-day He will raise up our bodies from the dead – ‘He is the Resurrected Christ’

IV. Description #3 – “He is the Reigning King” (Vs. 5c)

- a. In verse 5c, the apostle John continues by declaring, “...and the ruler over the kings of the earth...”
 - i. The Lord Jesus is the *reigning* King and supreme Ruler over all the kings, presidents, prime-ministers, kingdoms/governments of the world

- ii. In **Revelation 17:14** and **19:16**, the apostle John tells us that Jesus Christ is the “*King of Kings and Lord of Lords*”
- iii. In **1 Timothy 6:15**, the apostle Paul tells us that Jesus Christ is the “*only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords*”
- iv. There is only one true King, Ruler, President, Prime Minister, Governor in this world and His name is King Jesus...
- b. Now, in the same way that Jesus is Ruler over all the kings of the earth, He wants to be Ruler over our hearts and lives...
 - i. The Lord Jesus wants to have complete control over every aspect of your life; He wants to rule and reign upon the throne of your heart
 - ii. He desires to be Ruler over all of your life, your mind, your will, your strengths, your talents, your ambitions, and your goals
 - iii. And all that He is asking of you is that you would allow Him to Reign – all that He is asking of you is that you would Surrender everything...
- c. You see, it is only when we surrender everything to the Lordship of Jesus Christ that we truly begin to experience victory in life
 - i. Therefore, beloved, I would simply encourage you to surrender everything to Jesus – allow Him to rule and reign over your life...

V. Description #4 – “He is the Redeeming Savior” (Vs. 5d)

- a. In verse 5d, the apostle John continues by declaring, “...to Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood...”
 - i. The Lord Jesus is the *redeeming* Savior, and by His precious blood, we are able to be cleansed and washed from all our sins
 - ii. The blood of Jesus washes us and cleanses us from all our sins...
 - iii. **Ephesians 1:7 & Colossians 1:14** tell us, “*In Christ, we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins*”
 - iv. **1 John 1:7b** declares, “...*the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin*”
- b. The blood of Jesus flowed from seven places...He has us completely covered
 - i. The blood that flowed from His head covers us and cleanses us from the impure thoughts which have entered our minds
 - ii. The blood that flowed from His back covers us and cleanses us from the times we have turned our back on the Lord and failed Him
 - iii. The blood that flowed from His hands covers us and cleanses us from the times we have touched things we were not suppose to touch
 - iv. The blood that flowed from His feet covers us and cleanse us from the times we have walked into places that we should not have walked into
 - v. The blood that flowed from His side covers us and cleanses us from the times we have felt anger, bitterness, and hatred towards others
- c. The blood of Jesus cleanses us and washes us from all our sins...Amen.

- i. The Old Hymn says it all, *“What can wash away my sin, nothing but the blood of Jesus, what can make me whole again, nothing but the blood of Jesus, O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow, no other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.”*

VI. **Description #5 – “He is the Rewarding Master” (Vs. 6a)**

- a. In verse 6a, the apostle John continues by declaring, “And has made us kings and priests to His God and Father...”
 - i. The Lord Jesus is the *rewarding* Master who has rewarded all of His followers by making them into a kingdom of priests
 - ii. In Christ, all believers have been made into kings and priests – *“We have been given a new identity”*
 - iii. No longer are we children of wrath, however, we are now children of the King – In Christ, we are royalty...
- b. 1 Peter 2:9 declares, “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light”
 - i. In Christ, we have been rewarded with far more blessings, riches, and treasures than the world could ever offer us in a million lifetimes
 - ii. Truly, He is the Rewarding Master who rewards us with that which we do not deserve...

VII. **Description #6 – “He is the Recipient of all the Glory” (Vs. 6b)**

- a. In verse 6b, the apostle John continues by declaring, “...to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”
 - i. The Lord Jesus is the *sole recipient* of all the glory, honor, and praise – He alone is worthy of our worship...
- b. Throughout the New Testament, the authors continuously remind us that the Lord Jesus is the only One worthy of all the glory, honor, and praise
 - i. **2 Timothy 4:18b** declares, *“...to Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!”*
 - ii. **1 Peter 5:11** declares, *“...to Him be the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen”*
 - iii. **Revelation 5:12** declares, *“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!”*
- c. The Lord Jesus is the sole recipient of all the glory and honor, therefore, we must make sure that everything we do is bringing glory and honor to Him
 - i. Our lives should be lived in such a way that we simply *magnify* and *reflect* the glory of Jesus Christ to others...
 - ii. One of my greatest desires is that I would live my life in such a way that Jesus Christ would be glorified, magnified, and exalted
 - iii. Whether by life or death, that Christ would be glorified...

VIII. **Description #7 – “He is the *Returning Lord*”**

- a. In verse 7, the apostle John continues by declaring, “Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so. Amen.”
 - i. The Lord Jesus is the *returning* Lord who will one day return to the earth and establish His Kingdom
 - ii. The only solution for the world’s problems is the return of the King, and very soon, the King is coming back
- b. And when He does come back, it will be very different than His 1st coming...
 - i. The *first time* He came, He came as a Suffering Servant to die for the sins of the world; the *second time* He comes, He will come as a Conquering King to rule and reign upon the earth
 - ii. The *first time* He came, He came riding on a humble donkey into Jerusalem by Himself; the *second time* He comes, He will come riding on a glorious white horse with all the armies of heaven following Him
 - iii. The *first time* He came, He was rejected by the world; the *second time* He comes, He will judge the world
- c. Listen up, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords is coming and His reward is coming with Him cf. Revelation 22:12
 - i. Therefore, beloved, I would encourage you to continue to fight the good fight of the faith because one day you will be rewarded
 - ii. One day, you are going to see the King...

IX. **Description #8 – “He is the *Recognized Deity*” (Vs. 8)**

- a. In verse 8, the Lord Jesus declares, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, says the Lord, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty’”
 - i. The Lord Jesus is the *recognized* Deity – Almighty God who never had a beginning nor will ever have an end
 - ii. Jesus was not merely a good moral teacher, a miracle worker, a revolutionist, or a great man
 - iii. Surely, He is the greatest of all men, but He is infinitely more than a mere man, He is the God-Man – “*The Creator and Sustainer of the Heavens and the Earth and the Seas and all that is in them*”
- b. And that is why He is the most influential Person who has ever or will ever walk this earth because He is God in the Flesh

X. **Therefore, I end with this, in the beginning, we asked the question, “Who is Jesus? Who is Jesus?”**

- a. Well, Jesus is the *Reliable* Witness, the *Resurrected* Christ, the *Reigning* King, the *Redeeming* Savior, the *Rewarding* Master, the *Recipient* of all the *Glory*, the *Returning* Lord, and the *Recognized* Deity

- i. He is all this and so much more...
- ii. And the question I leave you with this morning is this, “*Do you know Him? Do you know Him?*”
- iii. Dedicate the remaining days of your life getting to know Jesus, and I promise you, it will not be a wasted life – Let’s pray!