



WEEKLY SERMON

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Sunday December 3, 2023
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Message: Considering Jesus

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Text: Revelation 19:11-16

In Isaiah 9:6 we read, **“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”** More than 2,500 years ago, the prophet Isaiah told of One who would be the hope of mankind, the long-awaited Messiah who would establish an eternal kingdom based on justice and righteousness.

Audrey Mieir has been widely known for several decades as the composer and author of many fine gospel songs and choruses. "His Name Is Wonderful," written in 1959, is one of her finest. She tells in her biography how the inspiration for this song occurred while she watched the annual Christmas program given at her Bethel Union Church in Duarte, California. After the usual procession of angels, shepherds, Mary and Joseph, the singing of "sleep in heavenly peace," the pastor of the church suddenly exclaimed **"His Name Is Wonderful."** Audrey Mieir tells that she quickly grabbed her Bible, searched the concordance for names given to Jesus in the Scriptures, and soon composed this song, which has since been sung around the world.

His name is wonderful; His name is wonderful
 His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord.

He is the mighty King; Master of everything
 His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord.
 His name is wonderful; His name is wonderful
 His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord.
 Bow down before Him; Love and adore Him
 His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord.

He's the great Shepherd; The Rock of all ages
 Almighty God is He.
 Bow down before Him; Love and adore Him
 His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord.
 His name is wonderful; His name is wonderful
 His name is wonderful; Jesus my Lord.

He is the mighty King; Master of everything
 His name is wonderful; Jesus (my Lord) my Lord
 He is wonderful Jesus my Lord.

About 600 years before the birth of Christ, Daniel experienced the challenge of living in a culture hostile to Godly values. He lived out his convictions and proved the value of a Godly life. Daniel made eight decisions which show how he lived in the Spirit of his God. Consider each carefully, and they will become your joyful experiences as well.

(1). **He Purposed:** In Daniel 1:8 we read, **“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.”** This young lad was willing to take a stand against the pressure of the day. Today and every day, purpose in your heart to live a Godly life regardless of your surroundings. Walk a pleasing path with God, so you can refuse that which is proven to be evil.

(2). **He Proved:** In Daniel 1:12, 15 we read, **“Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. (15) And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king’s meat.”** Question, **“As a Christian do you prove the things of God, or are you for the most part occupied with the lusts of the world?”** Remember, **“We are the only Bible our sinner friends may read. Are you walking proof of what God can do with His own?”**

(3). **He Prospered:** In Daniel 1:20 we read, **“And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.”** Praise God! When you major in all that is right, and avoid evil, the result is thrilling to behold. Don’t let the worldly things chew away your prosperity as a living example of Christianity. Your genuine Godly life will prove you are better off than the most sin-fed sinner.

(4). **He Praised:** In Daniel 2:20 we read, **“...Blessed be the name of God forever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:”** Without whimpering about how hard it was to do right, Daniel praised the Lord for allowing him to be on the right side. Let me urge you to never miss an opportunity for testimony. Stand up and give glory to God for what He has done for you.

(5). **He Was Promoted:** In Daniel 3:30 we read, **“Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego, in the providence of Babylon.”** God looks for faithfulness under trial, and will bring great reward. He loves to shower His blessings on those who can emerge from testing still in victory, and keep serving the Lord. When you gain His approval there will always be new opportunities waiting.

(6). **He Was Preferred:** In Daniel 6:3 we read, **“Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.”** Daniel had done so well the king wanted to put him in charge of everything in the kingdom.

(7). **He Was Persistent:** In Daniel 6:4 we read, **“Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom, but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there found any error or fault found in him.”** In the midst of those who oppose you, remember **“God and you are a majority.”** Daniel proved this daily by his devotion to God, and his testimony toward men.

(8). **He Continued Praying:** In Daniel 6:10 we read, **“Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house, and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.”** Oh, how we need Godly believers today who will take an unchangeable stand in the time of testing. Daniel knew the decree, and the threat of a den full of lions, but was convinced God could preserve him against all evil.

In these last days it is going to be more and more difficult to do right as we stand among the unrighteous. It is wonderful to know we are not alone. Life is never easy, but always goes better for those who live without compromise and sin. As the song writer wrote, “Dare to be a Daniel.” I hope and pray that you, like Daniel, will face the world and the problems it presents, by standing true to the faith of our fathers. God can deliver us from all evil.

In *His* Amazing Grace
Pastor David Miklas

Update note: In November I was hospitalized with a number of health issues related to shingles. Thankfully my capable family members have stepped in to help me navigate any complications associated with modern health care. For now, Mary Lou is receiving excellent respite care right here on the United Zion Retirement Community campus.

During the month of December there will be only two Weekly SERMONS and devotional letters. Beginning January 2024 we will have a full calendar of 46 messages.” Again this year from our hearts we deeply appreciate your prayers for us, for our family and for our ministry. In addition, it would be a delight to hear from you either by letter or phone call, or better still - maybe a visit.

Final thought – **“Because Jesus is the reason for the season – Keep CHRIST in CHRISTMAS – focus on the NATIVITY not on SOCIETY!”**

"The King of Kings and the Lord of Lords"

INTRODUCTION: It has been estimated that some forty billion individuals have lived upon this earth since Adam. What a contrast can be seen in this vast multitude of humanity. It includes black men, white men, brown and yellow men. They speak dozens of languages, practice multitudes of religions, and have formulated numerous cultures.

But every single human being shares one vital thing. His purpose of life down here and his eternal destiny afterward depends completely upon his personal relationship with the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. The key question of the universe continues to be **"What think ye of Christ?"**

As we close out the Weekly SERMONS for 2023, and looking forward to all that God would have for us in the new year of 2024, let's pause to **"Consider Jesus."**

In Revelation 19:11-16 we read, **"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. (12) His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. (13) And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. (14) And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. (15) And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. (16) And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."**

There is coming a day when Jesus Christ shall return as the **"King of Kings, and Lord of Lords."**

One of the early church fathers said, **"If the highest heavens were my pulpit and all the world my parish, Jesus alone would be my text."**

Joseph was told in Matthew 1:21, **"And she (Mary) shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for He shall save his people from their sins."**

Paul determined in I Corinthians 2:2, **"...not to know anything among you, save JESUS Christ, and him crucified."**

To the Jews in Hebrews 12:2-3 Paul wrote, **"Looking unto JESUS the author and finisher of our faith; who...endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God... consider Him..."**

Unreservedly, unapologetically, I tell you that Jesus Christ is the moving force, the primary, basic and fundamental theme of all the Word of God. His eternal image is inscribed indelibly on every page of this wonderful Book. Cut the Bible anywhere, and it bleeds with the blood that stained the old rugged cross.

In the PENTATEUCH Jesus Christ is the Lawgiver.

In the HISTORICAL books He is the historian.

In the POETICAL books He is the Poet.

In the PROPHETICAL books He is the Prophet.

In MATTHEW He is the pontifical King of Israel.

In MARK He is the powerful Servant of Jehovah.

In LUKE He is the perfect Man, as much man as though He had never been God, and as much God as though He had never been man.

In JOHN'S gospel He is the pure God, very God the Son.

In the book of ACTS He is the Miracle worker. Yes God can still perform miracles.

In the EPISTLES He is the church-builder. "Upon this rock I will build my church." He didn't say "I will build your church," He said, "I, Jesus, will build my church."

In REVELATION He is the reigning King.

Consider with me His uniqueness.

**No artist can adequately capture His character on canvas.
No poet can adequately portray His preciousness on paper.
No orator can adequately describe His winsomeness with words.
No musician can adequately set His melody to music.**

**No miner can completely unearth His majestic jewels and precious gems.
No astronomer can adequately chart the sunlight of His love.
No perfumer can adequately duplicate His fragrance.
No philosopher can completely measure His wisdom.
No sculptor can adequately carve His image in stone.**

He is indeed unique and incomparable. What can be given Him that He doesn't already have?

**He needs no water. He's the Water of Life.
He needs no bread. He's the Bread of Life.
He needs no light. He is the Light of the World.
He needs no training. In Him dwells all the wisdom and knowledge of God.
He needs no direction. He's "the way, the truth, and the life."**

**He needs no counselor. His name is "called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."
He needs no calendar. He's the Ancient of Days, the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."
He needs no money. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills.
He needs no identification. He and the Father are one.
He needs no recommendation. "In Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily."**

**He needs no vindication. He's the only begotten Son of God, full of grace and truth.
He needs no justification. He's the justifier of all who believe on Him.
He needs no examination. He's the Great Physician, and one day He shall rise with healing in His wings.
He needs no revelation. He's the living Word of God.
He needs no amplification. When He speaks, His voice is like the sound of a trumpet.**

**He needs no fortification, for "out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations."
He needs no ratification. He is approved of God by miracles and wonders and signs among men.
He needs no ordination. He has been ordained of God to judge the world in righteousness.**

**He needs no allocation. He will "divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare the sin of many."
He needs no authorization. He's the lion of the tribe of Judah, "the bright and morning Star, the fairest of ten thousand to my soul."
He needs no affirmation. "He is the King of Kings and the Lord of lords."**

To whom would we compare Jesus Christ?

NO OTHER man was born as he was born, in Heaven without a mother, on earth without a father. He is the incomparable Son of God.

NO OTHER man lived as He lived, holy and homeless, undefiled and separate from sinners.

NO OTHER man died as Jesus, bearing "our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness." Who Himself had no sin but was made sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

NO OTHER man ever conquered death to become the Resurrection and the life and to declare, "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for ever-more, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

Leha Long wrote in a Hymn of Praise:

There have been names that I love to hear
But never has there been a Name as dear
To this heart of mine, as that name divine,
the precious, precious NAME OF JESUS.
There is no NAME in earth or Heaven alone,
That we should give such honor, and such love
As the blessed Name,
Let us all acclaim that wondrous,
Glorious name of JESUS.

And some day I shall see Him face to face
To thank and praise Him for His wondrous grace,
Which He gave to me, when He made me free,
The blessed Son of God called JESUS.

In the person of Jesus Christ I present to you:

my SAVIOUR, and my SOVEREIGN,
my SUFFICIENCY, and my SUPPLY,
my STRENGTH, my SATISFACTION, and my SECURITY,
my STANDARD-BEARER, and my SHEPHERD,
my SACRIFICE, and my SUBSTITUTE.

He is my LIFE, my LORD, my LIGHT, my LOVE and my LIBERTY. Jesus Christ is my REDEEMER, my RULER, my REWARD, my RIGHTEOUSNESS, my REFUGE and the ROCK of my salvation.

He is my ADVOCATE, my INTERCESSOR, and my FRIEND:

All our sins and griefs to bear.
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer."

FIRST: "Consider His INDISPUTABLE Claims." The claims of Jesus Christ are sure and steadfast.

Who else but Jesus Christ could say, "I am the Bread of life. If any man come to Me, he shall never hunger."

Who else could say, "I am the light of the world: He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Who but Jesus Christ could say, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."

Who else but Jesus Christ could say, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

Who else could say, "I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Who else but Jesus Christ could say, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore..." And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never, never, never die."

What claims are His! Jesus preserves us in **LIFE**. Paul tells us in Galatians 2:20,

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."

Jesus preserves us in **DEATH**. Remember the words of Paul in I Corinthians 15:55-57,

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be unto God, which giveth us the victory through our

Lord Jesus Christ." No wonder the psalmist said, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil."

Do you know why? "Because the good shepherd, Jesus, with His Rod and staff they will comfort me." AMEN!!

Jesus preserves us for **TIME AND ETERNITY**. The Apostle Paul climbed the summit of all New Testament revelation in Romans 8 when he poses the question in verse 35 and then answers it in verses 36-39.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ...Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, not things present, not things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

The Hymn writers wrote,

Once in Christ, in Christ forever.
Naught from His love my soul shall sever.
I've anchored my soul in the "Haven of Rest."
I'll sail the wide seas no more.
The tempest may sweep o'er the wild, stormy deep;
In Jesus I'm safe evermore.

SECOND: "Consider His INDESCRIBABLE Sufferings."

He suffered the humiliation of a lamb at the slaughter. Was this incidental or accidental? Seven-hundred and fifty years before Jesus was born, Isaiah took the inspired pen in hand and wrote in the 53rd chapter, verses 4-7 these words,

"Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. (5) But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. (6) All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. (7) He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."

The silent sufferer is the sovereign Saviour!

He suffered not only the humiliation of a lamb before the slaughter, but He suffered the humiliation of the incarnation. In all of His majestic glory before the morning stars sang together, before the moon ever reflected the light of the sun, He was, He is! It was the Apostle Paul who marvelously summed up the Lord's coming in these words found in Philippians 2:5-11,

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (6) Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: (7) But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: (8) And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (9) Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: (10) That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; (11) And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

He suffered the humiliation of the crucifixion. Remember the howling mob cried for His blood, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" And crucify Him they did, as they watched

the blood flow from His wonderful veins.

**There is a fountain filled with blood Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains.
Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood Shall never lose its power;
Till all the ransomed church of God Be saved, to sin no more.**

Come with me to a day in ancient history, the Day of Atonement. On this day the high priest takes off his royal robes, adorns himself with a linen robe and raises the curtain and goes beyond the veil in the tabernacle which separates the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. Year after year after year, after year, he makes an atonement for the sins of the people. But in Hebrew 10:12 we read,

"But this man (this man speaking of Christ, the Saviour, this Redeemer, this wonderful Lord of mine) after He had offered one (that is only one) sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God."

He cried, **"It is finished."** Forever finished. What a Saviour! What a Lord! What a Redeemer! **"Tis done! Tis done! The great transaction is done!"**

THIRD: "Consider His INCOMPARABLE Glory."

Listen to the confirmation of His glory given by the Apostle John in the first chapter of John verse 1-2, 14,

"In the beginning was the Word (speaking of Jesus Christ) and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God... And the Word (that is Jesus) was made flesh (that was at His birth), and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth."

The only Son whom God hath Begotten, full of grace, full of truth, and full of Glory! What Glory is His! What Glory of Glories is His!

FOURTH: "Consider His IMMUTABLE nature." By immutable we mean His unchangeable nature. We're living in a world of constant change. Governments change, people change, politics change, fads change, fashions change, education changes, religion is changing, all of these change. But I have come to tell you about **ONE** who never changes! The commentary is Hebrews 13:8, **"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."**

O' my friend, what a comfort that ought to be for your soul. Take courage! Don't be discouraged. Don't be downhearted. Don't be depressed or despondent. Jesus is not struggling for power, prestige, or position. He is the **UNCHANGING ONE**. Are you hurting today? Jesus not only sympathizes, but He also cares. Hebrews 4:14-16 says,

"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore COME BOLDLY UNTO THE THRONE OF GRACE, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

In your most distressful hour, in your darkest hour, in your most dismal hour, in the deepest sorrow of your life when you want to throw up your hands and quit: **"CHEER UP,"** my friend! Jesus is your strength. It has been observed that

Longfellow could take a blank sheet of paper, write a poem on it and make it worth \$10,000; and they called that genius.

Rockefeller could take a piece of paper, sign his name to it and make it worth millions of

dollars, and they called that capital.

A manufacturer could take come raw materials, put them together and make a profit on them; and they call that skill.

An artist can take a fifty-cent canvas, paint a picture on it and make it worth millions of dollars; and they call that art.

But only a Man by the name of Jesus can take a poor, Hell-bound, Hell-deserving sinner, bathe him in His own blood, and make him a child of God bound for Heaven; and they call that salvation!

Over in the British world, I understand, when a citizen wanted to plead his case before the queen, he always had to go through the heir apparent. When I was 5 years old, in seeking to get to God I went to the Heir Apparent, the Crown Prince, Jesus Christ, Lord of Lords, King of Kings, Savior of all mankind. "For whosoever calleth upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

**All Hail the power of Jesus name! Let Angels prostrate fall:
Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!**

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!**

**O that with yonder sacred throng We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, And crown Him Lord of all!**

My friend if you are here this last Sunday morning of 2023 and have never by faith trusted in the finished work of Christ, believing He died and rose again for you, why not this day trust Him as your Savior?

May those of you who are believers be challenged in the new year, to live up to the name of Jesus for all the world to see that our redemptive hope lies in that name.

If God has spoken to your heart after reading the sermon "**The King of Kings and the Lord of Lords**" then right now talk to God about what He has spoken to you.

Do you have the assurance that one day you will go to heaven? If you have no assurance that you know Jesus Christ, then I trust you will decide to accept Him as your personal Savior. The Bible tells us in

Acts 16:31, "...**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...**"

Romans 10:13, "**For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**"

This prayer is here for those who need to ask Jesus to be their personal Savior: "**I do want to go to Heaven. I know I am a sinner, and I do believe Jesus Christ died for me. I realize I cannot buy this great salvation, nor can I earn it. Knowing Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave to pay my sin debt and to purchase my salvation, I do now trust Him as my Savior, and from this moment on I am completely depending on Him for my salvation.**"

If you made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, please let me know. Please send an e-mail to pastormiklas@aol.com and I will send you some literature that will help you in your Christian life.

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