

Title: **What has Jesus Accomplished?**

Recap: Last Week we looked at “Who was Jesus?”

We saw that Jesus was a historical figure – that this was proven both through Christian and through secular historians –

We also looked at who Jesus claimed to be and saw that through his actions and words, he claimed to be God.

Discussion: Do you think Jesus is relevant to us today? If so why? If not why not?

Introduction

Many people ask, “Why is Jesus relevant to us today?” After all he lived over 2000 years ago and society has changed since then. How on earth can he still have any significance today?

Here are three reasons why Jesus is relevant to us today!!

Teaching point 1 : - Jesus is relevant to us today, because Jesus is the one who has paid our debt!!

The reason why Jesus is as relevant to us today as 2000 years ago is because what he has achieved on the cross has freed us from the slavery and consequences of the wrongdoing that we commit. As we have already looked at, the reason why we were created was to have a relationship with God. We were created for His special purposes.

The bible says that the wrong things that we do and the selfish ways that we live, separate us from God and place us under his judgement. The bible tells us the punishment for going our own way and living for ourselves is death!! If I committed a crime against the law of the land I would be arrested and punished for it. In real terms God has established spiritual laws that we are to live by. The most serious law to break is to not love the God who created you and not to live your life for Him. Whether we choose to believe in God or not at this point, it does not change the fact that he exists – that he has established spiritual laws and that those who break them will be punished!!

Death means Two things.

1) Spiritual death now – So we don’t experience Him in our lives – do not hear Him or see Him – this is why He seems so far away.

2) Physical death and everlasting punishment in hell when we die.

YET no parent would punish a child without the possibility of that child being restored. True love has at its core both the desire for perfect justice and perfect mercy. This is the reason Jesus came into the world and died on the cross. He came to pay the penalty for our sin and to fulfil perfect justice.

Jesus dying on the cross was not an accident – but part of God’s plan to rescue us from our sins.

What the Bible says:-

Jesus death was no accident :- Acts 2 v 22 – 24

“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. (because they were eye witnesses) This man was handed over to you **by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge**; and you with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. BUT God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him!”

Continued Next Page.....