

Jesus: Yesterday, Today & Forever

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What is your view of Jesus?

Hebrews 13:7–9 (NLT)

Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. ⁹ So do not be attracted by strange, new ideas. Your strength comes from God's grace, not from rules about food, which don't help those who follow them.

JESUS IS COMPLETELY RELIABLE AND CONSISTENT IN
WHAT HE SAID - WHO HE WAS - AND THE PLAN HE CAME TO CARRY OUT!

Yesterday, He rescued us. Today, He walks with us. And in eternity he will rule as our King.

In the mission:

The Incarnate Saviour (who came in the PAST) is our message

The PRESENT Shepherd is our help and strength

The reality of his return and judgement (in the FUTURE) is our urgency.

Jesus: The Saviour Who Was, the Shepherd Who Is, the King Who's Coming Again

1. Jesus came in the PAST as the incarnate Saviour

JESUS CAME TO REVEAL GOD'S HEART TO US:

- God Is full of love and compassion:

Luke 15:20 (NLT)

"So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.

- God Is Just and Holy:

Matthew 5:20 (NLT)

"But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!

- God Desires All to Be Saved:

Luke 19:10 (NLT)

For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

JESUS ALSO CAME TO TEACH US HOW TO LIVE:

- Love God with everything we are:

Matthew 22:37–38 (NLT)

Jesus replied, “You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’

³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.

- Love our neighbour

Matthew 22:39 (NLT)

A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

JESUS CAME TO DIE FOR OUR SIN

JESUS AND HIS WORK IN THE PAST IS OUR MESSAGE TO THE WORLD!

2. Jesus leads in the PRESENT as our personal Shepherd

John 14:16–20 (NLT)

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn’t looking for him and doesn’t recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. ¹⁸ No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. ¹⁹ Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live. ²⁰ When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

Living as a Son/Daughter of God

- Secure in the Father’s love
- Lives from acceptance
- Rests in God's presence
- Trusts God's provision
- Embraces identity in Christ
- Serves from love
- Walks in freedom and joy
- Knows they belong in the family

Living with an Orphan Spirit

- Strives to earn love or approval
- Lives for acceptance
- Feels alone or abandoned
- Fears lack or hoards resources
- Builds identity on performance
- Performs to be loved
- Driven by fear and insecurity
- Feels like an outsider

Psalms 23:1–6 (NLT)

The LORD is my shepherd; I have all that I need. ² He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. ³ He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. ⁴ Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. ⁶ Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

ARE YOU EXPERIENCING THE POWER OF HIS PRESENCE?

JESUS AND HIS WORK IN THE PRESENT IS OUR PROVISION AND STRENGTH

3. Jesus is coming again in the FUTURE as our Eternal King

Revelation 22:12–13 (NLT)

“Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

Matthew 25:31–40 (NLT)

“But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his 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 creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. ³⁶ I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’ ³⁷ “Then these righteous ones will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? ³⁹ When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰ “And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’

ETERNITY CLARIFIES WHAT REALLY MATTERS

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” – Jim Elliot

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Mark 8:36 (NIV)

“What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?”