

INTRODUCTION

1. Jesus is *the author & perfecter of faith* [Heb 12:2]. He is The Believer whose faith is the origin & culmination of our faith. We saw how faith in His Father's promises characterized Jesus at the point of the incarnation.
2. Tonite we continue our survey of Jesus as The Believer.

**1st: Jesus the Believer as a Child**

1. False gospels speculate about Jesus' childhood.
2. Luke informs us of visit to Jerusalem at 12 yrs old - Lk 2:46-52
  - i. Jesus *listening & asking questions & offering answers*.
  - ii. People's *amazement* [rxn to display of deity]
    - a. *understanding* - same term in Lk 24:45
    - b. *answers* - teachers asking Jesus questions: how Jesus interpreted OT must have stunned them.

**2nd: Jesus the Believer as the Fulfillment of OT Scripture**

1. Lk 24:46-47 Jesus' interpretation of the OT
2. He is the fulfillment of the promised suffering Messiah
3. He is the fulfillment of the promised resurrected Messiah - Lk 20:41-44

**3rd: Jesus the Believer Doing the Works of the Kingdom**

1. Mat 17:14-21
  - i. why cldn't disc effect the miracle? *unbelief* [v17]; *little faith* [v20]
  - ii. what does that tell us re: how Jesus worked miracles? w/ faith
2. Lk 7:20-23 Jesus assured JnB that He was fulfilling Scripture
3. Look at Jesus & see the future. Life lived with eschatological significance - the perfecter of faith.

**4th: Jesus the Believer Approaches Calvary Expecting to Rise Again**

1. Faith's dynamic: cross to resurrection. Faith in God who raises the dead. Jesus' faith is expressed as He approaches Calvary, expecting the Father to raise Him from the dead.
2. Lk 9:22; Lk 18:31-33
3. Jn 13:1-4 - Jesus knows He is about to return to Father. His prayer in Jn 17 is expectation of Father's promise to give HS in Messianic kingdom.
4. Prayer in Gethsemane expresses His *piety* [Heb 5:7]: manifest faith.

**5th: Jesus the Believer Dies Believing**

1. Mat 27:41-43 cross is ultimate test of Jesus' trust in God. Jesus is praying Ps 22:1 [v46]. He does trust in God & stays on the cross!
2. Lk 23:46 - Jesus prays Ps 31:5 - v6 *I trust in the Lord*
3. Jn 19:30 *It is finished* [Ps 22:31]
4. Heb 12:2 why did Jesus stay on cross? *for the joy set before Him*

**Applic #1: Do You Believe What Jesus Believed?**

1. Jn 11 Martha has orthodox, Abrahamic faith. Jesus is the God who gives life to the dead - Jn 11:21-27
  - i. v21-22 Martha struggles to believe
  - ii. v23- 24 biblical orthodox hope of OT faith
  - iii. v25-26 - Jesus is that hope: *I am the resurrection & the life*.
    - a. Do you believe what Jesus believed?
    - b. If we believe in Jesus, even tho we die the death of this age, we escape *the 2nd death* [Rv 20:14]
    - c. It all depends on whether or not we believe in Jesus
  - iv. v27 Martha's answer.

**Applic #2: Ask Jesus to Strengthen Your Faith**

1. Boy's father's faith mixed w/ unbelief - Mrk 9:22b-24
  - i. v24 - is faith mixed w/ unbelief? Go to author & perfecter of faith!
  - ii. Jesus' answer - exorcism = depiction of resurrection v25-27

- iii. We are given the resurrected Jesus.
- 2. It is encouraging to see Jesus as The Believer. Let us believe in Him & let us believe like Him.