

The Great Reset Part 8

Acts 2:41-47; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; May 9, 2021

Jesus and the Kingdom: *What is the teaching of the Apostles?*

- **God sent His Son, Jesus the God-Man, to save us from sin and satisfy us in God forever.**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16

This truth answers questions like: *Why is there something and not nothing? Why are things the way they are? If there is a God, why doesn't He do something about it?* There is a God who has a purpose for our lives and there is a huge problem with not fulfilling that purpose. We will live in light of purpose (divine) or pain or pleasure. Jesus was sent to restore us to living for the purpose for which we were created.

- **Jesus lived the life we could never live (perfect obedience/ love).**

For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. – Romans 5:19

This truth answers questions like: *Nobody's perfect, is that a problem? What does it take to get to heaven? Does God grade on a curve? What is the standard?* God's standard is perfection. God doesn't grade on a curve. No one can enter the kingdom of heaven without perfect righteousness: a record of perfect obedience to God. We will make our decisions based what God says is right or based on what we think and feel. Jesus is the only One who ever lived simply to do the will of God.

- **Jesus died the death we deserve to die (just wrath on the cross).**

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; - 1 Peter 3:18

This truth answers questions like: *Why did Jesus have to die? Why can't God just let it go? Can't God just overlook things?* God is holy and just. And we don't want it any other way, for others at least! But we must face our accountability to God and the question of what we will do about our guilt. Christianity is 'Savior theology' because we need Someone to rescue us from our personal guilt. One day God will liberate his people and the world from oppression and oppressors but 'today is the day of salvation' for sinners who have sinned against a holy and just God.

- **Jesus rose from the dead as an able and willing Savior to offer forgiveness, the Holy Spirit and eternal life to all.**

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. – Luke 24:45-47

This truth answers questions like: *How do we know Jesus is who he said he was? How do we know that Jesus did what he said he was going to do?* If Jesus rose from the dead, then there are serious implications for our lives because of who Jesus said he was and what he said he came to do and what he calls us to do. The only thing that can set us free from envy and grasping at what others’ have and we don’t, is the promise of resurrection and reward in the future that far exceeds what anyone has in this world. (Luke 14:12-14)

- **Jesus reigns over all things as sovereign Lord and King for the good of His people and the glory of God and He sent His Spirit to bring people into His kingdom.**

⁶ When they did not find them, they began dragging Jason and some brethren before the city authorities, shouting, “These men who have upset the world have come here also; ⁷ and Jason has welcomed them, and they all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.” – Acts 17:6-7

This truth answers questions like: *How do we know that Jesus can keep his promises? Who’s in charge? Why should I obey Jesus and not Caesar/the government?* If Jesus is the King, then we are not. If Jesus is king, then Caesar is not. If Jesus is king, then we either bow the knee or incite insurrection. Our worship of government/the State is seen in our willingness to lose our freedoms in order to depend on the State for our provision and our safety. Thus, we turn the State into a ‘god’ and we worship at a pagan altar. But it is God who is our protector and provider. And Jesus is our King!

- **Jesus will return to rescue His people, judge all men, destroy evil and usher in the kingdom of heaven on earth.**

... when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ... when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. – 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8, 10

This truth answers questions like: *If Jesus is the path to true happiness, then why is life so hard right now? Why doesn’t God do something about all the evil and suffering?* God will one day deal with evil and eliminate suffering and give his people full and lasting joy. But we are accountable to God. Jesus will be our judge. The question is whether or not he will be our Savior! Man tries to bring prosperity and unity through force. God brings prosperity and unity through faith – faith in Jesus Christ. The City of Man or Kingdom of Man is oppressive and unsatisfying and enslaving. The City of God or Kingdom of God is true freedom and satisfaction and joy.