

JESUS, OUR EXAMPLE OF AUTHORITY

Last week we looked at God's plan for the earth, how he gave the earth to mankind to have dominion over. Then we looked at the life of Moses and how God worked through Moses, and we saw this pattern.

1) Hear God

2) Do what he says

3) God produces the results

Now I want to look at the life of Jesus and show you that he continued the same pattern in order to accomplish God's plan on the earth.

Jesus' purpose on the earth.

He came to reveal the Father's nature.

Hebrews 1:3 AMPC He is the sole expression of the glory of God [the Light-being, the out-raying or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God's] nature.

He came to reveal the Father's will.

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

He came to restore God's kingdom.

Luke 4:43 but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent."

The Kingdom of God is the restoration of God's plan for man on the earth.

He came to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

What was Jesus' main motivation?

Matthew 9:36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with **compassion** for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Jesus is our example.

Romans 8:29 NKJV For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Paul is telling us that Jesus was the example of all of us who are his spiritual brothers and sisters.

God never intended to do anything less in us than he did in and through Jesus.

Understanding the deception about Jesus.

Many modern theologians teach that Jesus did his ministry as God. If that were true it would still be a great encouragement to us, but would we believe what he says about us doing the same works as him? So, who do you think is influencing this teaching?

Philippians 2:7 AMP but emptied Himself [without renouncing or diminishing His deity, but only temporarily giving up the outward expression of divine equality and His rightful dignity] by assuming the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

Jesus never ceased to be God, but he set aside his deity and operated on the earth as a man who was in perfect communion with the Father.

Luke 2:52 NKJV And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

If Jesus was living as God, he wouldn't need to grow in wisdom and stature.

Acts 10:38 NKJV how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

If Jesus was ministering as God, he wouldn't need to be anointed and have God with him.

It is also very important to look at the words used to describe Jesus in this passage. He wasn't referred to as the Christ, the son of God, not even the son of man. Jesus of Nazareth is the most human term you could use, it would be like saying Larry from Diamond Springs, or Rick from Pine Grove.

The testimony of Nicodemus.

John 3:2 "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

If Jesus was ministering as God, he would have corrected Nicodemus for referring to him as a teacher or a mortal man being used by God.

Moses, a type of Jesus.

Moses was a type of Christ in the Old Testament, so the way that he worked with the Father should be the same as Jesus. Think back to Moses, when God called him, he did not give him a binder full of steps and principles, and tell him to go off to Egypt and follow his plan, why? Because principles without the power of God are fruitless. He simply said I will be with you and when you hear me and obey me, I will release my power to fulfill my purpose.

Moses cooperates with I AM.

When God identified himself as I AM he was saying I am the source.

Jesus reveals how he ministered.

John 14:10-11 TPT Even my words are not my own but come from my Father, for he lives in me and performs his miracles of power through me. 11 Believe that I live as one with my Father and that my Father lives as one with me—or at least, believe because of the mighty miracles I have done.

- 1) Jesus said he received directions from the Father.
- 2) He said and did what the Father said to say and do.
- 3) God was the source of power.

Think about the difference between Moses and Jesus.

With Moses, God was **with him**, he led him through and audible voice and thru physical manifestations like the pillar of fire by night, and cloud by day.

With Jesus, God led him through an abiding relationship. They were one, so God spoke to Jesus through an inner witness.

Jesus was saying that he was living in perfect communion with the Father, the source of all power and as he heard and obeyed the Father's voice the power of God was released to fulfill his divine purpose.

God's plan was always for man to live in a relationship with Him based on dependency and trust because he is the source of wisdom and power.

John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

Independence, Satan's goal for humanity.

In the garden, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil represented independence from God. The moment they ate the tree, they were separated from the source of life and became self-sufficient.

Satan knows that you can do nothing apart from God.

We live in a culture where many people view the Bible as a handbook full of spiritual laws and principles that if followed will lead to abundance. The problem is you are depending on either yourself or some other person to determine if, when, where, and how to apply the principles. **This was never God's design.**

Jeremiah 17:5-6 Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the Lord. 6 For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, And shall not see when good comes, But shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, In a salt land which is not inhabited.

Cursed means unproductive, the flesh is referring to natural knowledge.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord. 8 For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.

Whenever you see a reference to a fruitful life, it is always a picture of abiding, because God is the source of all things good.

God reveals Himself as the perfect source.

- 1) I am omnipresent. (I am always with you, ready to lead and guide you)
- 2) I am omniscient. (All knowing, God sees the past, present and future all at the same time and he knows exactly the right time to fulfill his plans)
- 3) I am omnipotent. (All powerful, well able to accomplish His divine purposes)

If you want to live an abundant life you will have to hear from him, do what he says and trust Him with the results.