



GOOD NEWS

for the unsaved WORLD!

(#69)
Good News – Facts about Jesus (3)

A **MAN** named **JESUS**

- 1. Lived
- 2. Died
- 3. Came back to life

He also:

- ... a descendant of David, ...
Romans 1:3b (NIV)
- ... declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.
Romans 1:4b (NIV)

Demonstrating that he was **MORE THAN** just a man.

As a **MAN**...

Where is he TODAY?

Where is he TODAY?
TODAY?
TODAY?

✓ He is not here.
✓ He cannot die.

This brings us to the "Jesus Facts" #4 and #5.

The FIVE "Jesus facts"

1. His life on earth.
2. His death.
3. His resurrection.
4. His ascension into heaven.
5. His future coming.

TODAY:



This **MAN**...

- ✓ Has gone into heaven.
- But residing in heaven is only temporary.
At some point in the future, ... this **MAN**... *
- ✓ Is returning to earth.

* [We know that Scripture reveals he is also GOD. But what we will see and have direct interaction with is Jesus as a human.]


EVERYTHING JESUS DID WAS FOR A PURPOSE.

He didn't choose to LIVE "for the fun of it" (which is what many people seem to live for).

He didn't choose to DIE "for the fun of it"

NOT!!

THIS IS SO MUCH FUN, I'D LIKE TO DO IT AGAIN SOMEDAY!



Rather:
He lived and died, and **CAME BACK TO LIFE**, in order to accomplish the things associated with FACTS #4 and #5.

4. His ascension into heaven.
5. His future coming.

THERE IS PURPOSE IN WHAT JESUS DID... and it has to do with us, his followers!

- **FACT #1:** He came the first time so that he could accomplish the rest of these things.
- **FACTS #2 and #3:** His death and resurrection paid for our sins and made salvation possible.

He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.
Romans 4:25 (NIV)
- **FACTS #4 and #5:** His ascension and return will finish what was made possible by his death and resurrection.

... those he justified, he also glorified.
Romans 8:30b (NIV)

Now for a look at **FACTS #4 & #5!**

✓ **FACT #4 – HIS ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN.**

As we read the New Testament, we discover many things that were made possible because of Jesus' ascension into heaven. **SOME OF THESE ARE:**

- ✓ He would enter his glory – Luke 24:26
- ✓ He would be exalted at the right hand of God – Eph. 1:20-21.
- ✓ He would send the Holy Spirit in his place – John 14:16; 16:7.
- ✓ He would prepare a place for us – John 14:1-3.
- ✓ And more!

SOME OF THESE THINGS ARE **NOT** PART OF THE GOOD NEWS MESSAGE.

Some we hear about *after* we have accepted the Good News, turned to Jesus, and started to learn more about what the Bible says.

IN THE BOOK OF ACTS, WE DISCOVER (as part of the Good News)...

- **Jesus has been exalted to the right hand of God.**

"[Jesus] has been exalted to the right hand of God ... God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."
Acts 2:33b, 36b (CSB)

"He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins."
Acts 5:31 (NASB)

Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven. He saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. He said, "Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
Acts 7:55-56 (CSB)

- **God's promise to Israel is fulfilled in Jesus.**

[= perhaps more important for Jews to know]

"We are telling you the Good News: What God promised our ancestors has happened. God has fulfilled the promise for us, their descendants, by bringing Jesus back to life."
Acts 13:32-33a (GW)

- **Salvation is now available to all people (Jews and Gentiles).**

"... what the prophets and Moses said would happen—that the Messiah would suffer and be the first to rise from the dead as a light to Jews and Gentiles alike."
Acts 26:22b-23 (NLT)

"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved."
Acts 4:12 (CSB)

- **God's people now have the Holy Spirit.**

GIVEN TO ALL WHO OBEY HIM.

"... the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."
Acts 5:32b (NASB)

GIVEN IN A SPECIAL WAY TO THE APOSTLES.*

On the contrary, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:
And it will be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out my Spirit on all people; ...
[Jesus] has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit, [and] has poured out what you both see and hear.
Acts 2:16-17, 33b (CSB)

* (Certain miraculous signs were given to the Jews, to indicate that the New Covenant had finally arrived.) (Another example: Acts 4:7-10.)

✓ **FACT #5 – HIS FUTURE COMING.**

As we read the New Testament, we discover a number of things that will happen when Jesus returns. **SOME OF THESE ARE:**

- ✓ He will come with power and glory – Matthew 24:30.
- ✓ He will be seen by all – Revelation 1:7.
- ✓ All will bow down and confess that Jesus is Lord – Philippians 2:9-11.
- ✓ All will stand before God and be judged – Revelation 20:12.
- ✓ The earth will be made new – 2 Peter 3:13.
- ✓ And more!

But which of these "future-coming facts" are the focus of the Good News???

ONLY ONE OF THEM IS FOUND IN ACTS!!!

IN THE BOOK OF ACTS, WE DISCOVER (as part of the Good News)...

- **Jesus is coming back to bring judgment and justice.**

[Jesus] commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be the judge of the living and the dead.
Acts 10:42 (CSB)

Paul discoursed on ... the judgment to come, ...
Acts 24:25a (NIV)

"For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."
Acts 17:31 (NIV)

TWO NOTES:

FACT #3 (resurrection) } At the cross, the world wrongly judged Jesus. When Jesus returns, he will rightly judge the world!
FACT #5 (judgment) }

"JUDGMENT and JUSTICE" as the focus of the Good News?

- **THE WORLD** tends to **hate** it, and calls it "negative."
 - They prefer hearing people say what they want to hear.
- **FALSE TEACHERS** tend to **hate** it, and call it "negative."
 - They prefer to "lure" unsaved people with a message of "heaven and happiness."

- **GOD** **loves** it, and calls it "truthful," and tells us that WE must change our views.
 - The genuine Good News, which includes judgment and justice, provides us the opportunity to change!

For the Lord is righteous,
he loves justice;
upright men will see his face.
Psalms 11:7 (NIV)

How SHOULD We Respond to These Facts?

⇒ **FOR THE MOST PART, ISRAEL HAS REJECTED JESUS' WORTH.**
(Someday, this rejection will end.)

Their rejection,
described here
symbolically.

[Jesus] is the stone that the builders rejected,
the stone that has become the cornerstone.
Acts 4:11 (GW)

⇒ **BECAUSE OF THIS, GOD HAS OFFERED SALVATION TO NON-JEWS.**
(Any Jew who wants to turn to Jesus still can.)

Some of the Jews have hard hearts, but this will last only
until the complete number of Gentiles comes to Christ.
Romans 11:25b (NLT)

⇒ **WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO GET READY FOR THE COMING JUDGMENT!**

[God] commands all people everywhere to repent.
Acts 17:30b (NIV)

>> GET READY! <<

REALIZE THAT EVEN NOW JESUS IS LORD (MASTER) OVER ALL.

"So let it be clearly known by everyone in Israel that God has made
this Jesus whom you crucified to be both **Lord** and Messiah!"
Acts 2:36 (NLT)

... the good news of peace through Jesus Christ—he is **Lord** of all.
Acts 10:36b (CSB)

THIS MEANS: NOW IS THE TIME TO SUBMIT TO HIS RULE
– to get ready for the Judgment Day!

I tell you, **now** is the time of God's favor, **now** is the day of
salvation.
2 Cor. 6:2b (NIV)


>> GET READY! <<

THEN YOU CAN LIVE THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH HE SAVED YOU!

He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to
make us his very own people, totally committed to doing what is right.
Titus 2:14 (NLT)

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever
you do, do everything to the glory of God.
1 Cor. 10:31 (GW)

And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord
Jesus, all the while giving thanks through him to God the Father.
Work hard and cheerfully at whatever you do, as though you were
working for the Lord rather than for people.
Col. 3:17, 23 (NLT)



YOUR MISSION

**FULFIL THE PURPOSE
FOR WHICH JESUS
SAVES YOU!**

Make it your mission to
BE one of God's people!

So you can LIVE as one of God's people!

However, you are chosen people, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, people who belong to God.
You were chosen to tell about the excellent qualities of God,
who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
1 Peter 2:9 (GW)

Credits

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