



8 – 14 Sep, 2019

Jesus Christ, our all in all, part 1

**‘Lord let me not compare You to anything
because You are everything’ Joy Beaini**

‘But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you’ Jesus in Mt 6:33

- † Where Jesus Christ is, there is the Kingdom of Heaven
- † Seek Him first and all other things will be given abundantly: joy, success, money, education, health, a good social life, ...
- † *‘Aim at Heaven and you will get earth ‘thrown in’: aim at earth and you will get neither. Put first things first and we get second things thrown in: put second things first and we lose both first and second things’ C S Lewis*

The Person of Jesus Christ

- † Fyodor Dostoyevsky (1821-1881), the 19th century Russian novelist whose writings had a great impact on many thinkers, atheists as well as believers wrote: *‘If someone proved to me that Christ is outside the truth and that in reality the truth were outside of Christ, then I should prefer to remain with Christ than with the truth’*
- † Ethics, values, wisdom... are found in many religions and philosophies. However, the difference in Christianity is that Jesus Christ is Love; Christ is the only One Who died willingly for the salvation of His beloved and as an atonement for all humanity

Jesus Christ, our all in all

- † Charles Malik once said that Jesus Christ talked to us about many things that are so beautiful. Yet what He talked about the most was Himself, the Person through Whom all things were made
 - *‘You have heard that it was said... But I tell you’ Mt 5*
 - *‘Whoever acknowledges Me before others, I will also acknowledge before My Father in Heaven’ Mt 10:32*

- *'Whoever loses their life for My sake will find it' Mt 10:39b*
- *'I tell you that something greater than the temple is here' Mt 12: 6*
- *'Now something greater than Solomon is here' Lk 11:31b*
- *'Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away' Mt 24: 35*
- *'Take it; this is My Body' Mk 14:22*
- *'This is My Blood of the covenant' Mk 14:24*
- † Jesus asked His apostles, *'Who do you say that I am?' Mt 16:15b*. He did not ask, *'what do you think of My teachings, My work, My miracles?'*
- † The Nicene Creed proclaims only Who Jesus is, the being of Jesus not about His work

Let us carry the mind of Christ (Jn 4:1-42; 1 Cor 2:16)

- † According to Charles Malik, Jesus talked to the Samaritan woman from His perspective, and she from hers
- † He talked to her about divinity, she talked about worldly and materialistic matters; she was concerned with the well, the rope, the bucket, the relationship between the Jews and the Samaritans, and on which mountain does worship take place. Until Jesus told her bluntly, *'I am He'*
- † When she believed, she ran to spread the Word
- † The Samaritan woman became herself a spring of *'life-giving water'*

The Lewis trilemma: Jesus is not a good moral teacher

- † *'I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I am ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I do not accept His claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said, would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic – on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else He would be the devil of hell*
- † You must make your choice
 - *Either this man was, and is, the Son of God*
 - *or else a madman or something worse*
 - *You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about*

His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to'

Bibliography

1. Charles Malik. *Bihi Kān Kullu Shay*. Beirut: Dar El Machreq, 2013
2. Lewis, C. S. *Mere Christianity*. New York: Macmillan, 1960
3. Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical passages referenced are from the New King James Version

Legend

 Refers to mandatory readings

Verse to memorize

'For 'who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?'
But we have the mind of Christ' 1 Corinthians 2:16

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

† He knows me inside out and He chose me

My reaction

† Did I meet Him personally yet or not?

† If yes, am I doing like the Samaritan woman, living for Him?

During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon
2. for CrossTalk to find a locale
3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim
4. to become more of saints and less of sinners
5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think
6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth
7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him
8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor
9. to all the sick
10. to all those in prison
11. to the unity of the Christians
12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity
13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management

14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them
15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights
16. to the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and the whole region

During this coming week, we will lift the Greek Orthodox Church in prayer

<p><u>الصلاة الربانية</u> أبانا الذي في السموات ليتقدس اسمك ليأت ملكوتك ليتكُن مشيئتك كما في السماء كذلك على الأرض خُبزنا الجوهري أعطنا اليوم واترك لنا ما علينا كما نترك نحنُ لمن لنا عليه ولا تُدخِلنا في تجربة لكن نجنا من الشرير أمين</p>	<p><u>قانون الايمان</u> أؤمن بإله واحد أب ضابط الكل خالق السماء والأرض كل ما يرى وما لا يرى وبرب واحد يسوع المسيح ابن الله الوحيد المولود من الأب قبل كل الدهور نور من نور، إله حق من إله حق مولود غير مخلوق مساو للأب في الجوهر الذي به كان كل شيء الذي من أجلنا نحن البشر ومن أجل خلاصنا نزل من السماء وتجسد من الروح القدس ومن مريم العذراء وتأس وصُلب عنا على عهد بيلاطس البنطي وتألم وقبر وقام في اليوم الثالث على ما في الكتب وصعد إلى السماء وجلس عن يمين الأب وأيضاً يأتي بمجد ليدين الأحياء والأموات الذي لا فناء لملكه وبالروح القدس، الرب المحيي المنبثق من الأب الذي هو مع الأب والابن مسجود له ومُجدد، الناطق بالأنبياء وبكنيسة واحدة، جامعة، مقدسة، رسولية وأعترف بمعمودية واحدة لمغفرة الخطايا وأترجى قيامة الموتى والحياة في الدهر الآتي أمين</p>
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