

"I AM THE MESSIAH"

Jesus' "I AM" (3)

Banská Bystrica, 24th November 2013

John 4:3-26 He left Judea and went again to Galilee. 4 He had to travel through Samaria, 5 so He came to a town of Samaria called Sychar near the property that Jacob had given his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, worn out from His journey, sat down at the well. It was about six in the evening. 7 A woman of Samaria came to draw water. "Give Me a drink," Jesus said to her, 8 for His disciples had gone into town to buy food. 9 "How is it that You, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" she asked Him. For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. 10 Jesus answered, "If you knew the gift of God, and who is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would ask Him, and He would give you living water." 11 "Sir," said the woman, "You don't even have a bucket, and the well is deep. So where do you get this 'living water'?" 12 You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and livestock." 13 Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. 14 But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again-- ever! In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up within him for eternal life." 15 "Sir," the woman said to Him, "give me this water so I won't get thirsty and come here to draw water." 16 "Go call your husband," He told her, "and come back here." 17 "I don't have a husband," she answered. "You have correctly said, 'I don't have a husband,' " Jesus said. 18 "For you've had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." 19 "Sir," the woman replied, "I see that You are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, yet you *Jews* say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." 21 Jesus told her, "Believe Me, woman, an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know, because salvation is from the Jews. 23 But an hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. Yes, the Father wants such people to worship Him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." 25 The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will explain everything to us." 26 "I am *He*," Jesus told her, "the One speaking to you."

OUTLINE

0. INTRO: WHY "THE MESSIAH"

0.1. THE MEANING OF THE WORD "MESSIAH"

0.2. MESSIANIC EXPECTATIONS

0.3. MESSIANIC "SECRET"

0.4. MUNUS TRIPLEX

1. SALVATION: WE NEED A REPRESENTATIVE

1.1. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY - GOOD

1.2. INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE - BAD

2. SALVATION: WE NEED THE SPIRIT OF GOD

2.1. OUR HOPES PLACED IN...

2.2. THE WAY OF GOD

2.3. JESUS AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD

3. SALVATION: WE NEED A PERFECT SACRIFICE

3.1. ALL RELIGIONS: SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS

3.2. THE OLD TESTAMENT PROBLEM WITH SACRIFICES

3.3. JESUS: OBEDIENCE AND SACRIFICE

4. CONCLUSION

- Samaria: hated by the Jews, they avoided it
- Jesus “had to travel through Samaria” (v. 4) – He knew something important would happen there
- Men had a higher status than women
- Jesus comes there in the hottest time of the day (noon)
- Jesus introduces Himself as Messiah to someone who is totally marginalized!
- Truth is often said where we don’t expect it and where it’s not very probable

0.INTRO: WHY "THE MESSIAH"

0.1. THE MEANING OF THE WORD "MESSIAH"

- The Anointed one = the Christ
- from Hebrew MASHACH = to anoint (with oil to a ministry – in the Old Testament: prophets, priests and kings were anointed)
- Jesus is the Christ = the name *Jesus Christ*
- The Anointed one = delegated (Greek: CHRISTOS)

0.2. MESSIANIC EXPECTATIONS

0.2.1. NATIONS (GENTILES)

- "A god-like child shall be born... come quickly to receive your power for all the world awaits you. Oh that I may live to see so noble a subject for my verse!" (Works of Virgil).
- waiting for a messiah with non-capital “M” is present among gentiles as well (it’s not solely a Biblical theme)

0.2.2. JEWS

- pseudepigrapha – intertestamental apocalyptic literature = almost wild expectations from the messianic era (shocking – He dies on a cross!)
- John 12:34** Then the crowd replied to Him, "*We have heard from the law* that the Messiah will remain forever."
- people were waiting for someone filled with the Holy Spirit who would solve their problems = problems of humanity

0.3. MESSIANIC "SECRET"

- "In Biblical criticism, the Messianic Secret refers to a motif primarily in the Gospel of Mark in which Jesus is portrayed as commanding his followers to silence about his Messianic mission. Attention was first drawn to this motif in 1901 by William WREDE."¹
- According to the Synoptic Gospels, Jesus never declared himself to be the Messiah.²
- = in fact, Jesus wants me to come to the personal confession “He is a Messiah” because I’ve seen Him touch my own life, not because I just read it in the Bible (He didn’t want everyone to talk about Him being a Messiah without personal experience)
- I see Him as a Messiah in my own story – He’s solving my own problems (= the woman at the well)

0.4. MUNUS TRIPLEX

- ascribed to Calvin (*Institutes*) = “a triple office”

0.4.1. THE BIBLE

- Jesus is our *high priest* (**Heb 8:1** we have this kind of *high priest*, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,)

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messianic_Secret (24-Nov-13)

² KNOHL, I. *The Messiah before Jesus*, p. 1

-Jesus is *our King* (Acts 17:7, **1 Timothy 6:14-15** keep the commandment without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which God will bring about in His own time. *He is* the blessed and only Sovereign, *the King of kings*, and the Lord of lords)

-Jesus is the great *Prophet* (**Mt 13:57** Jesus said to them, "A *prophet* is not without honor except in his hometown and in his household."). (prophesized in Deuteronomy 18:15)

0.4.2. THEOLOGY

-Eusebius in his Ecclesiastical History (1.3.8) said that Jesus is, "the only *high priest* of all, and the only king of every creature, and the Father's only supreme prophet of prophets."

1. SALVATION: WE NEED A REPRESENTATIVE

-the problem of individualism (the western society: everybody stands for himself)

-BUT before God we stand as humanity (together)

1.1. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY - GOOD

-The Reformation – you must come before God with your *personal* faith

-the song: "It's me of Lord standing in the need of prayer..."³

Not my mother, not my father

But it's me, oh Lord...

Not my elder, not my leader...

Not the preacher ...

-BUT it doesn't mean that I am in charge of my own salvation

1.2. INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE - BAD

-*personal identity* in individualism is derived not from *belonging* but from *personal* wealth, talent, fame...

-**Mt 18:3** "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and **become** like **children**, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." (finding a lost child: ... "to whom do you *belong*, child?)

1.2.1. GOD'S DEALING WITH HUMANITY

-**1 Cor 15:45-47** The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. The first **man** is from the earth, earthy; the **second man** is from heaven.

-in Adam (**Rom 5:12** through **one man** sin entered into the world)

-in Christ (**Rom 5:18** So then as through *one transgression* there resulted condemnation to *all men*, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted *justification of life to all men*.)

1.2.2. JESUS ACTING AS THE HIGH PRIEST

-**Heb 7:25** He is always able to save those who come to God through Him, since He *always lives to intercede for them*.

-**Heb 4:15** For we do not have a **high priest** who is unable to *sympathize with our weaknesses*, but One who has been tested in every way as we are, yet without sin.

= faith: I've given up my own way of salvation and hope that I could earn anything in God's eyes – I believe in Jesus who intercedes for me – He is my representative before the Father, I can't do it on my own

= my identity is defined by to who I belong (under which "head" – either Adam OR Jesus)

³ http://www.gospelsonglyrics.org/songs/its_me_o_lord_standing_in_the_need_of_prayer.html (24-Nov-13)

2. SALVATION: WE NEED THE SPIRIT OF GOD

-real unity

-Jesus as the High Priest brings us the Holy Spirit so that we would be able to understand = only in Him are we able to understand that He bore our punishment

-His Spirit leads me into truth

2.1. OUR HOPES PLACED IN...

-...Mind (philosophy, science) – education, domination

-...Power (Legislation, litigation, Politics) – coercion

-...Religion (good deeds, rituals)

2.2. THE WAY OF GOD

-1 **Samuel 2:9** For **not by might** shall a man prevail.

-**Zechariah 4:6** This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, '**Not by might** nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.

2.3. JESUS AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD

-**Isaiah 61:1** **The Spirit of the Lord** GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners;

-**Heb 9:14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who *through the eternal Spirit* offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

(1) The Spirit *and truth* – **John 16:13** the Spirit of **truth**, comes, He will **guide** you into all the **truth**;

-1 **Cor 2:14-15** But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one.

(2) The Spirit *of life* – **Rom 8:2** the law **of the Spirit of life** in Christ Jesus has set you free from **the law of sin and of death**.

(3) Spiritual *worship* – **John 4:23** the true worshipers will worship the Father **in spirit and truth**

3. SALVATION: WE NEED A PERFECT SACRIFICE

-**Mt 9:13** But go and learn what this means: 'I **desire** compassion, and **not sacrifice**,' for I *did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.*"

-**Mt 12:7** "But if you had known what this means, 'I **desire** compassion, and **not a sacrifice**,' *you would not have condemned the innocent.*

3.1. ALL RELIGIONS: SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS

-Comparative religion - the study of the meaning of offering sacrifices in religions

-Cain and Abel

-worship means giving the most precious (Abraham giving Isaac)

-worship means obedience: **Ps 40:6** *Sacrifice* and meal offering You have not desired; **My ears You have opened**; Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required.

-**Heb 10:5** Therefore, as He was coming into the world, He said: You *did not want sacrifice* and offering, *but You prepared a body for Me.*

-all religions seem to understand that there is no true love without sacrifice

3.2. THE OLD TESTAMENT PROBLEM WITH SACRIFICES

-Leviticus: *perfect* animals (**Mal 1:8** When you present a blind *animal* for **sacrifice**, is it not wrong? And when you present a **lame** or sick *animal*, is it not wrong? Bring it to your governor! Would he be pleased with you or show you favor?" asks the LORD of Hosts.

-**Jer 6:20** Your burnt offerings *are not acceptable*; your sacrifices *do not please Me*.

= Jesus is the one perfect sacrifice that He brought as the High Priest – I need Him to come to God

3.3. JESUS: OBEDIENCE AND SACRIFICE

| |
|--|
| - Heb 7:27 He doesn't need to offer sacrifices every day, as high priests do-- first for their own sins, then for those of the people. <i>He did this once for all when He offered Himself.</i> |
|--|

-**Hos 6:6** For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

-**Heb 10:7-14** Then I said, "See, I have come-- it is written about Me in the volume of the scroll--to do Your will, O God!" After He says above, *You did not desire or delight in sacrifices* and offerings, whole burnt offerings and sin offerings, (which are offered according to the law), He then says, See, I have come to do Your will. He takes away the first to establish the second. By this will, we have been sanctified through *the offering of the body of Jesus Christ* once and for all. Now every priest stands day after day ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this man, after offering one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God. He is now waiting until His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are sanctified

4. CONCLUSION

-Jesus as the Messiah is your representative before God.

-Jesus as the Messiah gives you the Holy Spirit that you could understand the Gospel.

-Jesus as the Messiah is the perfect sacrifice to God for all humanity. Will you submit to him?