

Who is Jesus and why He became Jesus?

Jesus "The Word"

Trying to give an answer to this question lots of books are written. They all give, on their own way, a picture of the person Jesus. In this short bible study our view is aimed on Him. What we know about Him, we know from the bible. All books of the bible witness of Him. But they also tell us how He interacts with us, from paradise to paradise. The bible shows us a piece of time within eternity.

God is beyond time, yet He chose to create the world, and all that's within it and on it, within timeframes. This sounds probably a little bit complicated, but the thing I'm getting across is, that, clearly, we can't look at God from our three dimensional realm. And with that knowledge, which is consequently very partial, I'd like to take a look with you at the 'historical' Jesus.

Jesus is the Son of God. God the father made that clear Himself.

Luke 3:22

"a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Luke 9:35

"A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him."

Before Jesus got His name, at His birth in Bethlehem, He was called "The Word".

John 1:1-3,14

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made."
"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who

came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Everything that was created, was created by the speaking God: The Word. And this speaking God became man and received the name: Jesus.

Most likely you knew that Jesus was the Creator. If not, you probably would like to have some more 'proof'. Therefore let's read two parts of the bible.

Colossians 1:15-17

"yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live."

Jesus is the Creator. When we look at the story of creation, every time God speaks, it was so. God is a speaking God, that's why it is written in John 1, He is the Word.

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The Hebrew name of God, as we can see in Genesis 1 is Elohiem. So the Word is Elohiem. But also the Hebrew word JHWH (Jahweh or Jehovah) is a name of God the Creator. We see this name throughout the whole bible. Every time God shows Himself to people, or He speaks to people, it is the Lord (JHWH).

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So, when we read in the Old Testament words of God they are in fact words of Jesus.

Why had the great King of the universe become a man?

Before man was created something happened with an extensive impact.

God created angels. Sons of God they were called.

Job 2:1 KJV.

"Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before

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the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.”

Job 38:7 KJV.

“When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

One of them was Lucifer. This Lucifer was a very highly ranked angel. The model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. God gave him a place on the holy mount of God. He was blameless in his ways till.... Till wickedness was found in him. He wanted to become like the Most High. (See Ezekiel 28:11-19 and Isaiah 14:12-15. Read this in your own bible.)

This Lucifer became Gods great opponent, diabolos, devil, satan. God appointed him as ruler. Ruler over the earth, but this was not enough for him. His kingship was taken away from him. The earth became void and empty.

Genesis 1:2

“Now the earth was formless and empty”. (In the original Hebrew it is not "was" but "became")

God created a new beginning. The Word recreated the the earth. Adam and Eve were created.

The great King appointed Adam to rule over the fish, the birds and all the animals that were on the earth.

Genesis 1:28

“God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.””

Adam was appointed as king, but he had to obey God. God wanted to teach him how to rule, but also how to obey. That’s why he established a commandment. By giving Adam the possibility

to disobey Gods commandment, his character would be formed. A king who was able to make the right decisions.

Then God’s adversary came. Not with honest arguments, but with sly lies. It appears Adam had not enough character. With that, it seems the end of Gods plan to make humans sons of God, because the punishment on sin was death, departed from God for ever, no son ship and no heritage.

Adam was the ruler by God appointed. He however didn’t obey God, but in fact he obeyed Gods adversary and by doing that he became Satan's slave.

2 Peter 2:19

“They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity--for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him.”

And that is how Gods adversary, in a sly manner, became ruler again over the earth. Adam the first man passed him that power.

God didn’t put up:

Genesis 3:14-15

“So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.””

God couldn't turn a blind eye to the deeds of Adam and Eve and His former angel.

Both had to be convicted and the power had to become back to God.

Because God is righteous, but also loves men, He had to come with a just solution, as King and Judge of the universe, to solve this problem. The punishment men had to bear was taken over by God Himself, in Jesus Christ. At the same time would Jesus, Who is the seed of the woman, dethrone de leader of rebellions, that is the devil.

God never lost His power. You can see that in numerous parts of the bible. The whole story

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about Israel is one great witness of His royal power.

But we read also about a heathen king who had to acknowledge God has all the power:

Daniel 4:34, 35

“At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes towards heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives for ever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: “What have you done?””

At the other side we see as well, there is an enormous battle going on in the unseeable world. Read about it in Daniel 10. Big fight in the heavenly realms. By Satan appointed princes with their armies are in battle with the by God appointed princes and their armies. Not only then, but nowadays too. Paul tells us, we the believers, don't have to struggle against flesh and blood (humans), but against spiritual powers (demons). Even so after the cross.

Ephesians 6:10-12

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

When Jesus died it was indeed D-day (decision day), but the enemy didn't disappear. Jesus dethroned him by His death.

Hebrews 2:14, 15, NIV.

“Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil-- and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.”

The devil is indeed dethroned *), but he still prowls around like a roaring lion. That is something we have, as Christians, to count on. Therefore we have the full armor to our disposal.

Ephesians 6:10-18

“10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

Happily the time comes that the devil will be captured and put in prison for thousand years, after that time he will be freed for a short while. After that he will be made permanently harmless.

In those thousand years Jesus will take the kingship over this world. He will be King in Jerusalem and we -believers- will be kings with Him.

*) The NIV gives “destroy”. The two most known translations of the Netherlands, comparable with the NIV and the King James, have : “dethroned”. And that's what really happened. The devil lost his power because he was dethroned.