

# JESUS IS ALL

Bottom Line: Jesus is all that I'm looking for in this life.

## **NOTE TO SELF** - PUT THE TREASURE CHEST ON THE STAGE

Date of Sermon Feb 11, 2024 #2 Week in Series Series Title: Essentials

**Colossians 2:3 “In Him (Jesus) lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”**

- **FENN'S TREASURE FOUND**


*It took 10 years for people to find FOREST FENN's treasure. He was an avid collector of antiques and artifacts and had amassed quite a collection worth millions. He felt it would be fun to hide a 10" by 10" box - a treasure chest - in the middle of the Rockies and let the pursuit give joy to thousands. He didn't know 350,000 people would take part in the hunt and that 3 people would die trying to find his treasure!*

*The treasure hunter who solved [Forrest Fenn's famed treasure hunt](#) in the Rocky Mountains has come forward – though if he'd had his way, he would've stayed anonymous. It took 10 years since it was hidden and it took Jack 2 years of searching to find it.*

*Jack Stuef, a 32-year-old medical student from Michigan, revealed that he found [Fenn's treasure chest](#) – a claim Fenn's family independently verified with [Outside magazine](#), which interviewed Stuef. He disclosed his identity because a recent lawsuit would make his name public, he said.*

*He's not willing, though, to part with the treasure's secrets and the clues that led him to it. Fenn's infamous treasure hunt began 10 years ago, when the author published a cryptic poem in his autobiography meant to lead prospective explorers to the spot in the Wyoming wilderness where his treasure chest was hidden.*


- People will search for something like that because we all want adventure in our lives and we certainly don't like being broke. But most of all I think this story speaks to the longing in ALL of us to FIND what we're looking for.
- In Apostle Paul's letter to the church ...


 Colossians 2:2-3 ... “I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they

understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself. 3 In Him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."


Reiterate ... Col 2:3 "In Him (JESUS) lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Holy Spirit, help us understand what this means today! Open our understanding to the beauty and perfection of Christ.

 Col 2:1-7 "I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally. 2 I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself. 3 In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.


 4 I am telling you this so no one will deceive you with well-crafted arguments. 5 For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong. 6 And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. 7 Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.




## // #1 JESUS IS THE JOY OF OUR SALVATION

- So many people live without the joy of knowing the treasure of Jesus. Life without finding Jesus is a rat race.
- APOLOGETICS of few weeks back.
-  **Life without Jesus is a rat race. Life after finding the treasure of Jesus is an adventure with a secure destination greater than anything you can imagine!**
- Solomon said in Ecclesiastes that man toils and toils, works and works and in his sarcasm, Solomon says that it's all for nothing. But what he's doing is getting us to think — what it is for? Do we just live, have 3 kids, work, mortgage, golf, death. Done. No. We have a Creator who loves us and wants a relationship with us. There's a King in Heaven and His name is Jesus and He's worthy of ALL our affection AND all our work - all our work is for HIM. It's not for retirement. For me. It's for HIM>

- Let's go back to that passage in Colossians.
- 5 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. (This means - take action - do something to put these old ways to DEATH) Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. 6 Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming.\* 7 You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. 8 But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. 9 Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. **NEXT>**10 Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like **HIM**. 11 In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile,\* circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized,\* slave, or free. **Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.** 12 Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

## // #2 JESUS DEFINES OUR VALUE

-  **Matt 13:44-46** “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field. 45 “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. 46 When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!”
- Jesus gives us such a simple, clear illustration. This about this treasure I have on stage. If (someone in the church) was looking to buy some land and while walking on the land, he found THIS treasure and in his curiosity, he moved the dirt away and saw an inscription “1743 King \_\_\_\_\_” He would CERTAINLY buy the land. WHY? So he could have the treasure because the treasure pays for the land AND some more.
- Many of you are searching for the “more” when the treasure is right under your nose. JESUS is the most beautiful one - He will satisfy every longing of your heart.
- Mt 6:33 “and all these things”

-  **You don't have to strive to get the approval and affection of others when you know that JESUS, your Creator, defines your value.**
- Our kids look to us to affirm them ... We did this when we were kids undoubtedly. In fact, it probably won't surprise you some of the greatest wounds someone will feel in life is the shame or disappointment or simply LACK of blessing from a parent, namely a father. When we don't let God DEFINE our value, we will look to everyone else to do so. The problem is it will never be enough. PEOPLE can never fill the void meant for GOD.
- YOU have JESUS CHRIST, the TREASURE, living on the INSIDE OF YOU!
-  **A treasure can't be earned - only found, enjoyed and stewarded. JESUS is the greatest TREASURE ever found! When you find Him and the price He paid to have you, you understand YOUR value. You are loved!**
- So many people struggle with insecurity.
-  **Insecurity is the sense that you aren't yet loved so it causes you to search for praise, affirmation and acceptance. Insecure people make every conversation about them and they make every decision out of fear.**

“I'm afraid they'll think ... so I'll say ...” or “I'm afraid they'll not see me as important so I'll say ...”

- People who know how loved they are by Jesus make every conversation about others and their entire life is aimed to build up and help others. They've received the revelation of sonship and see that every single person is equally loved and valued by God so they treat people with respect and dignity - loving them as much as they love themselves. This is the call of every Christ-follower.
- Help them assess that here...

**When I Don't Know My Identity, I Try my BEST to Identify with the World (“friend of the world”**

Making yourself a friend with the world:

Making yourself a friend TO the world means you are aware of social justice. You do care about crime and racism; you don't look for it everywhere but you admit it's there in some places. You want people who are struggling to be cared for.

You want the single mom who's husband left and won't pay child support - you want her to be cared for. The kid who is actually selfish and demanding - you want to teach them a better way when they're at your house playing with your kids. FINE. GOOD. That's a friend TO the world.

But a friend OF the world means you're becoming more like the world than you are becoming like Jesus. Being a friend OF the world means you're falling subject to the 3 deadly sins outlined in Scripture:

### **Making a friend with the world.**

1. Lust of the eye - WANTING everything I see
2. Lust of the flesh - WANTING my own way
3. Pride of Life - WANTING to appear important

### **Lust of the eye**

Did you know that 4 of the 10 commandments deal with wanting something you were not given? Spouse, Neighbors Stuff, N

People who want what they see and feel a need to have it have bought into the most dangerous lie that Satan tells "You aren't really loved." When I want SOMETHING and feel I have to have it, it's because I'm not content with WHO I am.

### **Lust of the flesh**

Wanting my own way. Being demanding is one of the sure signs of someone who is not letting the Holy Spirit transform them and sanctify them. A demanding person insist their way is always the best way and the ONLY way to do something right. To be dogmatic is to truly feel that you're the smartest person in the room (in every room) and you simply will use physical force OR manipulative force to get your own way. This is a Jezebel spirit that can lead someone's thinking and behavior. Someone dealing with Lust of the Flesh will never submit to godly authority. They don't recognize that leaders true authority and leadership - why - they don't believe GOD actually put them there.

### **Pride of Life**

Many and honestly I would say MOST of us use social media to simply stay in touch with friends, watch their kids grow up, etc. Another way, the way I might use social media the most is to learn tips and tricks on home design, building materials and construction, that's a hobby of mine. I love architecture and design. But here's where social media can REALLY be a problem. Keep in mind that what I'm about to say is NOT just a pastor's thought. It's proven by scientific research! Millions of women will look at social media, see constant barrage of beautiful women in gorgeous spotless kitchens and think "why can I

have a life like that? Why cant I be that beautiful? I am not beautiful. I am not enough. I don't have enough." TWO HUGE lies that steal our identity and joy and contentment!

Millions of men, not just women, MEN, will go on social media and one of two things. 1st comparison - same prob as women - "I don't make enough money to have that home or that car - I'm not good enough." So they feel beat up, depressed and it's not good. Or 2nd - they see these beautiful women wearing next to nothing and it's a doorway to pornography. Men are VISUAL creatures. Men love to look at half naked women. hello. If you don't know that, you're not alive. Every company knows that sex sells and they'll use a half naked woman for just about anything in an ad. but my point is this ... Guys you gotta be careful if you start lusting after women on IG or facebook or Twitter... that's a doorway to a terrible addiction - an addition that will rob you of intimacy with your wife and leave you feeling separated from God.


Comparison and Competition is robbing millions of Christians from the character that God wants to develop in them. Character develops in the fear of the Lord. Wisdom is developed there. JESUS and HIS LOVE can satisfy you to the point where you DON'T NEED the approval of someone else or the false approval of social media friends to give you a sense of value!

## #3 JESUS IS OUR FUTURE HOPE

- **You will never be fully satisfied here. HEAVEN is where you're going!**


-  **Col 3:1-5**

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven. (btw I love how it says realities of heaven - Heaven is more real than the air we're breathing all right now - all of this is temporary) where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. 2 **Think about the things of heaven**, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is **hidden** with Christ in God. 4 And when Christ, who is your\* life, is revealed to the whole world, **you will share in all his glory**.

- It's remarkable that Jesus, who is perfect, is willing to share His glory with us!
-  **Jesus is the fulfillment of the promises in God's Word including the main promise given to Abraham - the promise of**

## **blessing and covenant!**

- God's promise to Abraham which was "I will bless you and your children and make you a nation of many. I'll protect your investments ..." that blessing of protection and promise to love and care for Abraham - that's made available to all of us. We talked about that last week "According to the promise" give to Abraham then fulfilled in JESUS! If I don't walk in the promise it's not God's fault. It's mine. His word is available for me to read. His presence is available for me to enter. And the Community of believers - the church - the family of God - is someone I can take part in or ignore. Whether I walk in this blessing or not is up to me.
- JESUS fulfills the covenant in the Old Testament!
- How could He be Messiah if David called him lord, though he would actually be David's son. He puzzled them with claims to be the Son of Man- did he mean that term with all the meaning that Daniel 7 implied?
- Even those who believed in him had difficulty recognizing the fulfillment of promises in his person and ministry. John the Baptist was baffled. His disciples took offense. If Jesus really was the Messiah king, where was his kingdom? When would it really be seen in power?
- It was only as the church reflected on its experience of Jesus in the light of the resurrection that they came to see, as Paul put it, that all the promises of God "are 'Yes' in Christ" (2 Cor 1:20). "We tell you the good news," Paul said. "What God promised our ancestors he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus" (Acts 13:32-33).
- These are some of the things they saw were now true about Jesus:
- He was the singular seed of Abraham, through whom that seed would become universal and multinational.
- He was the one through whom people of all nations would be blessed. For anyone anywhere, to be "in Christ" was to be "in Abraham" and therefore to share in the inheritance of God's people.
- He was the Passover Lamb protecting God's people from his wrath.
- His death and resurrection had achieved a new exodus.

- He was the mediator of a new covenant. His sacrificial death and risen life fulfilled and surpassed all that were signified in the tabernacle, the sacrifices and the priesthood.
- He was the One in whom we now have an inheritance, greater even than Israel's Old Testament inheritance of the land—an inheritance that cannot be robbed or lost.
- He was the temple not made with hands.
- Indeed he was Mount Zion itself, the place of the name and presence of God.
- I want to illustrate this truth with the rap song called HE IS CHRIST I produced and worked on with a great artist 6 years ago: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5t7SJoYG4m4>
- **BAND COMES UP while video plays**
- The question then is have YOU found out who JESUS is?
- Have YOU discovered Him as the greatest treasure to ever be found?
- Have YOU had the revelation of His worth?
- Have you given EVERYTHING to Him because of that revelation?
-  **If you're holding things back from His Lordship it's because you need another revelation of His worth.**

// Conclusion \ \ **Response**

- **We can unintentionally worship (put our focus on) other things.** To stick with the metaphor, the other “fields” can be enticing. But only JESUS, the true TREASURE, can satisfy you and me. Why would we waste our time and money and attention and affection on lesser things when the King of Kings is available to us?
- **Have you given your life to Jesus?**
- Have you let something else become more important than knowing Jesus daily?



# Group Discussion Guide

JESUS IS ALL 02.11.24

Bottom Line: Jesus is all that I'm looking for in this life.

- JESUS IS THE JOY OF OUR SALVATION
  - The sin in me that separated me from God was paid for by Jesus!
- JESUS DEFINES OUR VALUE
  - I don't get my value from the things I do (perform) or accolades of people Jesus is my Maker so HE defines my value and calls me loved.
- JESUS IS OUR FUTURE HOPE
  - If I'm broke here, I'm rich in Heaven. If I'm sick here, I'm healed in Heaven. If I'm alone here, I'm with Jesus forever in Heaven. HEAVEN is my hope. Nothing this world gives me will make me truly at home.

## // Discussion Questions

1. Tell the group of a time when the presence of JESUS overwhelmed you? When you could FEEL Him in the room changing you and speaking to you.
2. Someone read Luke 24 where Jesus walks the road to Emmaus then the crew realizes who He is after He teaches them for a few hours. Now, tell us about a time when you realized His worth in a new or fresh way.
3. Describe a character trait or role about Jesus in under 1 minute that means a great deal to you. For example... Jesus is **all** but Jesus is my **Provider**. He sent someone to give me \_\_\_\_\_ right when we needed it...
4. When we don't focus on the wonder and awe of Jesus, what happens to our hearts?
5. Someone read **Col 3:1-5**  
Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, (btw I love how it says realities of heaven - Heaven is more real than the air we're breathing all right now - all of this is temporary) where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. 2 **Think about the things of heaven**, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is **hidden** with Christ in God. 4 And when Christ, who is

your\* life, is revealed to the whole world, **you will share in all his glory.**

6. Let's let the Spirit anoint our imaginations. What might Heaven be like?