

BIG SUNDAY
One Solitary Life
December 13, 2015

One Solitary Life (modified version)

Nearly two thousand years ago in an obscure village called Bethlehem, a child was born of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village called Nazareth where He worked as a carpenter until He was thirty. Then for three short years He became an itinerant preacher. *He healed the sick, cast out demonic powers, calmed the raging storm, multiplied food to feed the hungry and most important of all He taught the principles of an unseen Kingdom, that radically challenged human thinking.*

This man never went to college or seminary. He never wrote a book. He never held a public office. He never had a family nor owned a home. He never put His foot inside a big city nor traveled even 200 miles from His birthplace. And though He never did any of the things that usually accompany greatness, throngs of people followed Him. He had no credentials but Himself.

While He was still young, the tide of public opinion turned against Him. His followers ran away. He was turned over to His enemies and sentenced to death on a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth – the simple coat He had worn. His body was laid in a borrowed grave provided by a compassionate friend.

But three days later this Man arose from the dead – living proof that He was, as He had claimed, the Savior whom God had sent, the Incarnate Son of God.

Twenty centuries have come and gone and today the risen Lord Jesus Christ is the central figure of the human race. On our calendars His birth divides history into two eras. One day of every week is set aside in remembrance of Him. And our two most important holidays celebrate His birth and resurrection. On church steeples around the world, His cross has become the symbol of victory over sin and death.

Many have attempted to vilify Him, negate His claims and even erase His memory from mankind's history. Many have persecuted His followers, threatened them, killed them and burned them alive. Many have tried to refute, overthrow and destroy the Bible. Thousands of copies have been burned. Men, women and children have lost their lives for looking at its pages. And yet all these efforts have been in vain.

Today, this one Man's life has furnished the theme for more songs, books, poems and paintings than any other person or event in history. Thousands of colleges, hospitals, orphanages and other institutions have been founded in honor of this One who gave His life for us. The Bible has been translated into more languages and there are more Bibles in the earth today than there are copies of any other book ever written!

All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the governments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned have not changed the course of history as much as this One Solitary Life.

So, Who was this Jesus? Why did He come? Why do we still talk about him today? Why should you consider this Jesus?

Who was this Jesus?

The existence of God and aspects of His nature (The greatness of God, the holiness of God, the justice of God, the love of God)

The Holy scripture tell us that this Jesus was more than a man, more than a good teacher, more than a great leader. The Bible clearly tells us that the Eternal God, the One who created all things, who held all things in place, laid aside His eternal powers of Deity and became a Man. This was God who had become Man. He is Immanuel, "God with us".

The prophet Isaiah said about Jesus: "**For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end,....**" (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Why did He come?

The problem of sin and its consequences

Our need for a Saviour

Jesus - Saviour, Healer, Deliverer and Miracle Worker

When Jesus was born 2000 years ago, angels announced His birth saying that this is "**good news of great joy which is for all people.**" There was an angelic choir singing "**Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!**"

Sitting here in this place, as highly esteemed each one of us are, as highly accomplished each of us are....we know we are all frail...as the song says:

We are like flowers quickly fading
Here today and gone tomorrow
Like waves tossed in the ocean
Like Vapor in the wind

All of us have deep inside a vacuum, an empty space, an inner need that can only be filled by a personal relationship with God. And so we search for meaning, purpose, direction, fulfillment – when really it is a search for a deep and personal relationship with God.

All of us have brokenness, character flaws, weaknesses and defects in our personhood, things in our own selves that we know are not right and which we wish we could mend - things that can only be transformed by the touch of our Creator God Himself.

All of us have sin, wrong doing, misdeeds, small or big, some known and some hidden, which we know would never be acceptable in eyes of a God who is pure, perfect and right. We know we will never be able to stand vindicated in the court of heaven, based on our own merit.

Many of us have areas of pain and hurt, where the storms, the trials, the tragedies and the trauma of life's experiences have left their wounds and scars. We are in need of healing that only God can bring.

And these are the very reasons why Jesus came.

Jesus said “I have come that you may have life in abundance”.

Jesus said that He came “to heal the broken in heart, to set at liberty those who were oppressed”.

At His birth the angel announced, call His name Jesus, because He will save people from their sins.

The Bible says that He came to be the savior of the world.

This Jesus, who was sinless, holy and pure, God who had become Man, was nailed to a cross. On that cross He took the sins of the whole world. The Holy Scriptures state that All of us like sheep have gone astray, but all our sins were laid upon Him. The Bible says that He became the payment of our sins and for the sins of the whole world.

He did this on our behalf. All of us have sinned. Our sins have separated us from God who is holy and who cannot tolerate sin. Sin has to be punished. The ultimate punishment for sin, the Bible tells us is eternal separation from God in a place called hell. It is appointed for all of us to die, and then we face judgment. On our own, we have nothing that can assure us a place in God’s presence, and by default our own wrong doing will take us to eternal hell.

However, the good news of great joy is that Jesus Christ on the cross took upon Himself the punishment and judgment we deserve. He died in our place. He was buried and after three days He rose up from the dead, as death could not hold Him. He showed Himself alive with many infallible proofs and then commanded that the good news be proclaimed all over the world. He then went up into heaven, with the promise of returning again.

The good news of Jesus Christ to all people is that

- ✓ Everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness for their sins.
- ✓ Everyone who believes in Him, He makes them sons and daughters of God. They come into a personal relationship with God.
- ✓ Every one who believes in Him receives, the abundant life, the God-kind-of-life freely.
- ✓ Every one who believes in Him experiences the indwelling presences of His Spirit that heals, and transforms.
- ✓ Jesus Christ is alive to meet our deepest needs.
- ✓ This is good news of great joy and hope for every one.

This is why He came. He reaches out to each of us today in compelling love.

The Uniqueness of Christ And Who He is

Jesus - unique, only Saviour. His claims, His call, His return

Why do we still talk about him today?

Jesus told His disciples, to take this message of hope, joy, and peace – this message of forgiveness of sins, this message of healing to the broken, this message of freedom to the captives, this message that brings God’s healing to the sick, and liberty to those who are troubled by demons...He told us to take this message to all nations and to all people.

What we have seen over and over again is broken, hurting lives receive healing and wholeness in the name of Jesus Christ. In many places in our land, in many nations of this world, people have experienced the joy of being forgiven, they enjoy the richness of a personal relationship with God, are healed of bodily ailments, set free from demonic oppression, restored emotionally – through simple faith in Jesus. This time and time again attests to the reality of the person of Christ and the message of Christmas.

Why should you consider this Jesus?

God's promise and invitation

Repent and believe

Response

This invitation is extended to everyone seated here.

Jesus said: **“I stand at the door and knock. If any one hears my voice and opens the door I will come in, and eat with Him and he with me”**. The Bible says, **to every one who received Him and who believe in His name, Jesus gives the power to become the children of God.**

Let us take a moment to pray and respond to this invitation.

Prayer in response to Christ’s invitation – to receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

Minister by the gifts of the Spirit

Prayer for healing for broken hearted

Prayer for healing for sicknesses and diseases



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>