

CALL ON JESUS

All scripture in NKJV

Mark 10:46-52

⁴⁶ Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. ⁴⁷ And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁸ Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁹ So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called.

Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you."

⁵⁰ And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."

⁵² Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

A blind man called out to Jesus in faith & Jesus healed him.

A woman with an issue of blood touched Jesus's garments by faith and was instantly healed. (Mark 5:25-34)

Roman Centurion's servant healed

(Mat 8:5-13)

But then there were others who approached Jesus merely as someone was a good teacher or a moralist. The Pharisees and others simply called on him to have their doubts cleared on spiritual and moral matters. (Mat 15:1, Mark 8:11, Mat 22:33-46, Mark 10:17-27)

He remarked to those keeping the law (John 5:39, 40) –

³⁹ You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. ⁴⁰ But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

Many called upon Jesus.

What mattered is if they believed in Him for who He is!

The question before us is the very same question He asked His disciples -

Matthew 16:15

¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

Who do you say He is?

Elijah, John the Baptist, a prophet, a carpenter, a philosopher, a good teacher, a moralist or a religious revolutionary?

Call on Jesus for who He is –

1. Saviour – Our victory over sin

Luke 2:10-11

¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

1 John 3:5

⁵ And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.

Jesus saved us from sin. He bought our salvation.

Romans 6:14

¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

The power of sin over us is broken.

Because Jesus saved us, we can live a new life (Romans 6:4, 2 Cor 5:17)

2 Tim 1:10

but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel

We have been set free from sin and death, because death is a consequence of sin.

(Romans 6:23, 1 Cor 15:55)

2. Lamb of God – Our forgiveness

John 1:29

[The Lamb of God] The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Jesus became our atonement (repair, amendment, reconciliation), to restore our relationship with God.

There was a need of one who would be the Passover Lamb to shed blood to remove our sins. (Hebrews 9:24-26, Hebrews 10:10, 1 Corinthians 5:7)

Hebrews 9:22

²² *And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.*

Though He was God, He identified with us

(Fully God – John 8:58, John 10:30)

Fully man – Hebrews 2:9, I Tim 2:5)

He became the perfect sacrifice

He became our substitute

He atoned for our sins to re-establish our relationship with almighty God.

His sacrifice redeemed us (Romans 5:18-19)

Everyone who believes in Him will have forgiveness of sins. Acts 10:43

His love for us is substitutionary, meaning He took up all our weaknesses, so that we can walk in His strength and power.

He became the perfect sacrifice to perfect us...who are imperfect

The Lord Jesus became a curse, so you and I could receive the blessings of Abraham.

Galatians 3:13,14

¹³ *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),*

Jesus took the shame of the Cross, becoming as the One cursed for us, so that the full blessings of Abraham could be released on us – Gentiles.

The blessings of Abraham included

(a) Righteousness by faith

(b) Friendship with God

(c) victory over enemies

(d) prosperity in the land (2 Cor 8:9)

(e) Financial blessings

Many others, including healing of the physical body (Luke 13:16)

(some points adapted from the Cross Series, APC Sermons – 2011)

3. Messiah – Our deliverer

Messiah is the anointed one.

The one anointed with the presence of the almighty God to deliver mankind from sin & Satan.

Luke 4:18

*18 "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the broken hearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;*

Jesus - the promised Messiah (Micah 5:2), the Son of David & Son of Abraham (genealogy confirming the one blessed in the lineage of Abraham & David)
Jesus fulfilled over 300 messianic prophecies through His life, death, burial and resurrection.

Side note:

Historicity of Jesus

The fact that Jesus is a historical figure is long established and widespread.

Jesus and his life is written about by several Jewish and Roman historians as well as Christians within a few decades of His lifetime. In fact, King Arthur from AD 500 is said to have been written about 300-400 years after his existence. But, the accounts of Jesus are not limited to later accounts. Scholars agree that letters & the New Testament records talking about Jesus were written 25-40 years after the death of Jesus. Many of the eye-witnesses of Jesus were alive at the time.

Non-believing historians have also written about this Jesus.

- Flavius Joseph has references to Jesus in his writings from around 93 AD.
- Roman politicians Pliny and Tacitus or other prominent dignitaries wrote about the trial of Jesus, concurrent with the account of the gospels

Ancient literature from believers in Jesus and non-believers are evidence of the existence of Jesus and they have references to his life, death and resurrection as described in the gospels.

Peter Stoner, a scholar of mathematics and astronomy studied messianic prophecies and how Jesus fulfils them so accurately.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/14/what-is-the-historical-evidence-that-jesus-christ-lived-and-died>

1 John 3:8

⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

The works of the devil are sickness, oppressions, poverty, addictions and anything that does not line up with God's perfect design for man. Jesus came to destroy or loosen us from the shackles of Satan.

Acts 10:38

³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

Through faith in Jesus, we can overthrow the works of the devil.

4. Express Image of God – Revealed the Heavenly Father

Jesus revealed the God the Father accurately to us.

Hebrews 1:3

³ who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Col 1:15

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

When we could not understand what God was like, Jesus showed us the nature of the Father.

God is love.

He is God of mercy, compassion, justice, power and authority

Matthew 4:23

²³ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

Matthew 9:36

³⁶ But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Once again we are back to the question -

Who do you say He is?

As Peter answer, **Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ**

God loved us that He sent His son Jesus!

This is how God loved us, that He chose to become a man and pay the price for our sins that our relationship with Him.

Our God who loved us, came to dwell with us – Emmanuel

Mathew 1:22-23

²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

John 1:14

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Call on Jesus for who He is –

1. Saviour
2. Lamb of God
3. Messiah
4. Express image of God

He is the same Jesus yesterday, today and forever. (Heb 13:8)

In knowing about Him, our goal is to know Him the Messiah (John 17:3 20:31)

Call out to Jesus, for it is only He who can save.

Believe in Him, received Him and worship Him.

Romans 10:13

¹³ For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

Salvation Call