

# Jesus' Wisdom for Our Lives

## Advocates for Jesus

### I. "We Would See Jesus"

John 12:20-26 (NIV)

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Feast.<sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "**Sir,**" they said, "**we would like to see Jesus.**"<sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. . . . My Father will honor the one who serves me."

#### A. Man of Sorrows

Isaiah 53:3 (NIV)

He was despised and rejected by men, **a man of sorrows**, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

##### 1. a man rejected

John 1:10-13 (NIV)

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.<sup>11</sup> **He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.**<sup>12</sup> Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--<sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

##### 2. a perspective refused

Luke 19:41-44 (NIV)

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it<sup>42</sup> and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes.<sup>43</sup> The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side.<sup>44</sup> They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

Matthew 21:14-15 (NIV)

The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them.<sup>15</sup> But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple area, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.

#### B. Jesus is an "Old Testament" man

Matthew 5:17-20 (NIV)

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; **I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.**<sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

#### C. Man of Compassion

John 8:1-11 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group<sup>4</sup> and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery.<sup>5</sup> In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"<sup>6</sup> They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.<sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."<sup>8</sup> Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.<sup>9</sup> At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.<sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"<sup>11</sup> "No one, sir," she said. "**Then neither do I condemn you,**" Jesus declared. "**Go now and leave your life of sin.**"

## D. Intelligent

Matthew 22:15-22 (NIV)

**Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words.** <sup>16</sup> They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. <sup>17</sup> Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" <sup>18</sup> But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? <sup>19</sup> Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, <sup>20</sup> and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" <sup>21</sup> "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." <sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

## E. Courageous

John 19:9-13 (NIV)

"Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup> "Do you refuse to speak to me?" **Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?"** <sup>11</sup> **Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above.** Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." <sup>12</sup> From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar." <sup>13</sup> When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement

Matthew 8:24-25 (NIV)

Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. <sup>25</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"

## F. A Good Friend & A Fierce Adversary

Matthew 14:28-31 (NIV)

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup> "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

Revelation 19:11-16 (NIV)

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. . . . <sup>15</sup> **Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations.** "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. <sup>16</sup> On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

## Prayer

We gather today to give honor to our Lord and Redeemer, Jesus of Nazareth. We acknowledge Him as the Christ. We yield to Him as Lord. We serve Him as King. We pray today that through our lives His name may be exalted and His Kingdom extended. Give us boldness and discernment to be unrelenting advocates for our Lord and King. Come quickly Lord Jesus. Amen.