

A photograph of a person wearing a white, textured robe, kneeling on a sandy surface. The person's hands are resting on their lap, and their right hand is pointing towards a footprint in the sand. The background is a vast expanse of sand.

What Now?
Jesus: Who and Why? – Part 8

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Melbourne Community Church
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A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. They are using their right hand to draw a footprint in the sand. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape. The text 'The restoration of Jesus:' is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font with a black outline. A red horizontal line is positioned below the title.

The restoration of Jesus:

- ❖ He practiced nonviolence.
- ❖ He fed the hungry.
- ❖ He healed the sick.
- ❖ He brought the dead to life.

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. Their right hand is resting on their knee, and their left hand is pointing towards a set of footprints in the sand. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Offensive symbols:

- ❖ The yoke of burden
- ❖ The cup of suffering
- ❖ The towel of service
- ❖ The cross of execution

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. Their right hand is resting on their knee, and their left hand is pointing towards a set of footprints in the sand. The background is a vast, flat expanse of sand under a bright sky.

Why has Jesus called you?

- ❖ That he might be with you
- ❖ That he might send you



This, not that:

- ❖ Desperate, not arrogant (3)
- ❖ Compassionate, not unconcerned (4)
- ❖ Submissive, not pushy (5)
- ❖ Hungry for God, not self-satisfied (6)
- ❖ Merciful, not harsh (7)



This, not that:

- ❖ Pure in heart, not deceitful (8)
- ❖ Peaceful, not violent (9)
- ❖ Kingdom-advancing, not self-preserving (10)

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. The person's hands are resting on the sand. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape. The text "All about God:" is written in a white, stylized font with a black outline, centered above a red horizontal line.

All about God:

- ❖ Why should we love our enemies?
- ❖ Why be holy?
- ❖ Why live without worry?
- ❖ Why store up treasures in Heaven?
- ❖ Why pray?



Miracles show:

- ❖ Jesus is cause for celebration.
- ❖ Suffering may be for God's glory.
- ❖ Jesus made it a priority to spend time alone in prayer.
- ❖ Jesus is our true source for sustenance.
- ❖ Jesus cares.



The heart of God?

- ❖ Look at how Jesus responds to suffering.
- ❖ Look at how Jesus responds to rejects.

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. Their right hand is resting on their lap, and their left hand is extended, pointing towards the ground. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape. The text 'The mission of Jesus' is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font with a black outline, positioned above a thin red horizontal line.

The mission of Jesus

- ❖ To set the oppressed free
- ❖ To proclaim
 - ❖ Good news to the poor
 - ❖ Freedom for the prisoners
 - ❖ Recovery of sight for the blind
 - ❖ The year of the LORD's favor

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. The person's hands are visible, with one hand resting on the sand and the other pointing towards the ground. The background is a soft, out-of-focus brown, suggesting a desert or beach setting. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font with a black outline.

Colossians 2:15

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. Their right hand is resting on their lap, and their left hand is extended, pointing towards a footprint in the sand. The scene is dimly lit, creating a somber and reflective atmosphere.

The message of the cross:

- ❖ Power causes suffering.
- ❖ Love absorbs suffering.

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Respond to the resurrection:

- ❖ Believe and change.
- ❖ Reject and find something else to believe.



Acts 1:8-9

[Jesus]: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a brown, textured carpet. The person's hands are resting on the carpet, and their head is bowed. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The text "Acts 1:10" is overlaid in the center of the image, with a red horizontal line below it.

Acts 1:10

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.

A person wearing a white, textured robe is shown from the chest down, looking upwards. The background is a warm, brownish-gold color. The text "Acts 1:11" is centered in a white, serif font with a black outline. Below the title is a thin red horizontal line. The main text is in a white, bold, sans-serif font with a black outline, arranged in five lines.

Acts 1:11

“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Romans 8:18-19

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

Romans 8:20-21

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

Ephesians 3:10-11

His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our LORD.

Departed God parables:

- ❖ Tenants (Matthew 21:33-40)
- ❖ Wedding Banquet (Matthew 22:2-14)
- ❖ Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13)
- ❖ Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

Matthew 25:31-32

[Jesus]: “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Matthew 25:44-45

[Jesus]: “They also will answer, ‘LORD, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’”



Philip Yancey

“God has not absconded at all. Rather, he has taken on a disguise, a most unlikely disguise of the stranger, the poor, the hungry, the prisoner, the sick, the ragged ones of earth.”



Mother Teresa

“We are a contemplative order. First we meditate on Jesus, and then we go out and look for him in disguise.”

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a sandy surface. Their hands are resting on the sand, and they appear to be in a state of prayer or contemplation. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and spiritual.

2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

We are hard pressed on every side,
but not crushed; perplexed,
but not in despair; persecuted,
but not abandoned; struck down,
but not destroyed.



2 Corinthians 4:10

We always carry around in our body
the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus
may also be revealed in our body.



2 Corinthians 4:11-12

For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.



John 18:36

Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

[The LORD]: "... if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."



Philip Yancey:

“Have we any reason to assume God has a similar covenant arrangement with the U.S.? Indeed, have we any indication that God not judges the U.S. or any other country as a *national entity*? Jesus told his parables of the kingdom in part to correct such nationalistic notions.”

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is kneeling on a dark wooden floor. The person's hands are clasped in front of them, and their head is bowed. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the fabric and the grain of the wood.

C. S. Lewis

“God will invade. But I wonder whether people who ask God to interfere openly and directly in our world quite realize what it will be like when he does. When that happens, it is the end of the world. When the author walks on to the stage the play is over.”

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Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the LORD's Supper