

Week 8: Seeing Jesus in the New Testament

Scripture: (these passages provide various testimonies about who Jesus is) Mt. 1:20-23, 3:16-17, 16:13-20, 20:17-19, 27:54, Mk. 1:23-26, 5:1-13, 14:61-62, Lk. 1:29-38, 2:8-12, 2:25-32, 19:37-38, Jn. 1:1-17, 29-34, 47-51, 4:25-26, 6:35, 7:37-44, 9:35-38, 11:25-26, 20:26-29, Acts 2:22-36, 4:8-12, 5:29-32, 10:39-43, 13:26-31, Rom. 3:21-24, 1 Cor. 15:20-28, Eph. 2:1-10, Php. 2:5-11, Col. 1:15-20, Heb. 4:14-5:10, 1 Jn. 1:1-4, Rev. 1:8, 17-18, 5:9-14, 7:10-12

Devotional:

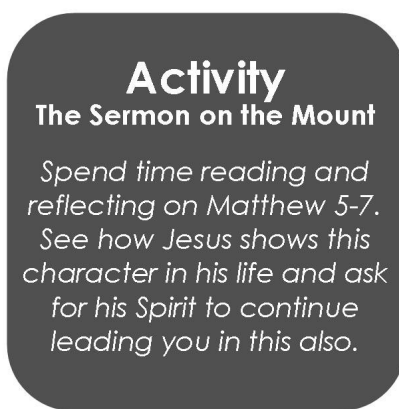
It might seem obvious to talk about seeing Jesus in the New Testament. After all, these are the books of Scripture which record Jesus' life and ministry on earth. Indeed, Jesus is plainly "on the scene" in the New Testament, and yet there are a whole smattering of responses to him. Some believe quickly, some reject, and some don't know what to believe. It is quite obvious that seeing Jesus is only the beginning because seeing Jesus requires a response.

One sport I enjoy playing and watching is tennis. Right now the #1 women's player in the world is Serena Williams. Serena found success and won often from a young age. After a few years some began proclaiming that she might be the best player ever. There was evidence to back this claim up, but many weren't convinced. As her career went on, Serena's excellence continued and more began to agree that Serena is the best. However, despite the mounting evidence, some who don't believe it. Some believe and some don't, but Serena's presence and results force anyone watch to respond to this question.

Jesus in the New Testament presents us with a similar kind of question to a much more important topic. As Jesus starts ministering he garners lots of attention and fanfare. Jesus' followers begin to make claims about who Jesus is – he is the Messiah. Not all agree, and some oppose this strongly. Nevertheless, as Jesus ministers, the New Testament witness is that the evidence continues to mount in favor of this. Yet even when Jesus raises others from the dead, some are not convinced. Of course this opposition eventually leads to Jesus' death on the cross. Some see Jesus and believe

and some don't, but seeing Jesus and his claims to be the Christ force anyone paying attention to respond – including us today.

As we see Jesus in the New Testament, we are seeing the followers of Jesus pointing to why they believe Jesus is the Christ. They want us to believe this too. But each of us must respond to Jesus and to who he claims to be. As you read these words about Jesus and hear all the claims attached to him, do you believe he is the Christ? This is the aim of Scripture, not just to see Jesus, but to believe in him as Lord.



Memory Verse:

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Questions to reflect on this week:

- How have I seen Jesus in the **B**ible?
- How have I seen Jesus in the **L**ove I show toward God/others?
- How have I seen Jesus in **E**arth he's created?
- How have I seen Jesus in **P**rayer?
- How have I seen Jesus in the **O**thers he's placed before me?

[**BLEPO**: means "to see" in Greek]

Seeing Jesus is believing in Him!



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