

ROUTE: BE A WITNESS OF JESUS

WITNESSING TO PEOPLE WHO KNOW THE BIBLE OR WHO ARE JEWISH

Meditate on the following Scriptures

Isaiah 53

The Jewish feast, the PESACH – See Exodus 12:1-30

Genesis 22 – God providing a lam Himself

John 1:29 – Jesus is the Lamb of God

Luke 15:11-32

It is important to remember that Biblical faith starts when people discover their sins and repent.

When speaking to people who know the Old Testament or who is Jewish, that they need to discover Jesus as the Jewish Messiah of Isaiah 53 and as the Lamb of God who died for our sins.

Isaiah 53

The One the prophet is speaking about in this chapter, can't only be the nation Israel.

We read in Isaiah 53:3,

“He is He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

“Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

“But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

“He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?

“And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

“Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.”

The LAW OF MOSES show all of us, we all sinned, and are lying, cheating, blaspheming, and adulterers of heart. We are all lost and under God’s wrath, going to hell when we die.

The Bible is God’s way of introducing Himself to us. In it we will find the stories of people who met and experience the presence of this God among them, and they also heard the voice of this God speaking to them in different ways.

But the Bible is also an instruction book, introducing people to God and His ways and will for us.

But humanity has thrown away this instruction book.

Looking at the Jewish nation, we see people among them who are trying to apply the instructions of the Old Testament, trying to make heaven a reality on earth.

But looking around us, we all see it is a real mess! And for that reason, the majority of people around us, have chosen not to believe the Bible and to be done with it.

The GOOD NEWS of the GOSPEL OF JESUS

The good news of the Gospel of Jesus is that God send a Messiah to suffer and die on a cross.

The feast of PESACH, PASSOVER

Let’s go back Moses and the Law.

Where they slew an animal, a Lam. The Blood of the lam will be a covering for their sins temporarily.

This is celebrated every year during the Feast of PESACH, the PASSOVER.

Let’s talk about the meaning of this feast.

Blood was taken and put on the doorposts.

And now they could celebrate Death pass over their children.

All because they had the faith to trust in God who promised that the Blood on the door would be sufficient for Death to Pass over, and their children would be saved!

People could say, what a crazy thing to do! But the fact is, Death passed over their children and their lives were spared!

In the New Testament, we read about John, who was a Jew and knew about this Feast, pointing to Jesus of Nazareth, and saying,

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

So, what John is saying is that Jesus was the Messiah and the Lamb God provided once and for all to take away the sin of the world, which includes you and me!

Gen. 22

Do you remember the story of Isaac and Abraham?

Abraham was going to slay Isaac. But then, miraculously, God gave him a Ram, caught in the thicket!

But in Gen. 22 we also read that Abraham believed that God Himself will provide a lamb.

That is what God did in and through Jesus.

The Gospel message says, Jesus was the Lamb slain as part of God’s Plan He made before the foundations of the world, before creation, and before time.

Jesus, the Son of God, God’s Messiah sent as a gift of grace to the world, came to be born as a baby here on earth. The Gospel says: He was God in human form.

Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Do you see and hear? Already here in the Old Testament, about 800 BC, God already promised that He will give a Son.

Ps. 2:12

“Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.”

Jesus

Jesus called Himself the Son of God. But the Bible tells us He was God in human form and expressed in the body of a man the Invisible God.

The Lamb of God needed to be perfect, without sin. So, when God created a body for His Son here on earth, He used that body as a sort of glove to accommodate Him as a human being.

When we are looking at Jesus, we are looking at Jesus, as a real human being, who really lived here on earth, most probably from 3 BC to 30 AD, historians are saying, but also as God manifested in the flesh.

Isn’t that remarkable! That really is GOOD NEWS!

Jesus on the Cross and after

When Jesus suffered and died on the cross, He cried out: It is finished! And what He is saying is that the Law is satisfied!

That means God can legally grants us grace, absolution of our sins, everlasting life, and can legally dismiss our case!

All because of the fact that Jesus suffered and died on the cross as the Lam God provided once and for all and so, took the punishment for the sins of the world.

Then He rose from the dead and so, defeated death!

So, if you repent of your sins, and trust in Jesus and what He did also for you, the Bible says, God will remit your sins that very second, and grant you everlasting life as a free gift.

Not because you are good enough, but because He is good and kind and rich in mercy.

Contrition

So, are you sorry for your sins?

Do you know that it is called “contrition”?

The Bible says, Godly sorrow works repentance.

So, when you have a contrite heart, that brings about true repentance, which the Bible calls “repentance unto life”!

Are you ready to repent and put you faith in Jesus and what He did also for you?

Maybe you are still uncertain of even afraid.

But think of it, God is the God of Israel and He is the Lover of your soul! Go and read Ps. 139 and hear the voice of God telling you that He was the One who created you and formed you in your mother!

All it takes, all that is needed, is a little step of faith! Make a choice to believe what God is saying and promising you.

Just say,

“God, I am going to trust You and Your Word and Good News to me.

So, I am going to yield my life in faith to You.

I ask You to forgive my sins because of what Jesus did on the cross.”

That is all that it takes.

It is so simple, even a child can understand it.

That is why Jesus said, unless you become like a little child, you can't enter in to the Kingdom of God.

Luke 15

Ever heard of the story of the Prodigal Son?

Let me share it with you.

A young man went to his dad and said, I want my inheritance now!

So, his father gave him his inheritance and he went to a far country, away from his father. And the Bible says, he went and spend in on sinful living and prostitutes.

Then there was a famine in that country, and the only way the son could survive and only job he could get was to tend a herd of pigs. All he had to eat was the pig food!

And while he was sitting there in the pigsty, he said to himself:

“How many hired servants of my father have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

“I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.”

So, he got up and went back to his father.

And the Bibles says, his father saw him for a far way of, and ran to him!

Remember, this was a Jewish father, running to a rebellious son!

And he put his arms around him, fell upon his neck and kissed him.

“And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

“But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put [it] on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on [his] feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill [it]; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.”

That is a picture of God’s love for you! You have been a rebel, and turned your back on God, and desired unclean food, pig food!

And yet, God rans to meet us half-way!

That is what the Bible teaches. That is what Jesus was teaching us through this story.

Now it is your turn to respond to the GOOD News

So, if I were you, I would just say,

“God, be merciful to me as a sinner! Please forgive my sins and be merciful to me!”

“Thank you that You have already provided all. You provided a Jewish Messiah, to suffer for us. So that we can have a righteous standing in our sight. Not because of what we did, but because of Your love and grace.

“And because of what Jesus did, You want to give us peace of mind and peace of heart.

“That is what You are promising us in the Bible, in John 1:12:

“‘But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.’

“So, if we put our trust in Jesus and choose to follow Him from now on, You give us life and it for everlasting.”

Do you have a Bible, and if not, let's get you a Bible.

(See this conversation also on YOUTUBE: <https://youtu.be/c3KwDXoq29Q> And you can also find a lot of material and other helpful resources you can use in conversations with others at www.livingwaters.com