

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

THE JESUS DILEMMA

OT Witness

May 08, 2011



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. For all Rock Church events, please visit <http://www.therocksandiego.org/eventcalendar/>
2. Let your friends know that they can always live stream the Rock Church Sunday worship experience by visiting <http://www.therocksandiego.org/live/>

MEMORY VERSES

“Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.’” (John 8:58 ESV)

“For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.” (John 5:27-28 ESV)

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but passed from death to life.” (John 5:24 ESV)

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – THE JESUS DILEMMA (OT WITNESS)

Getting Started

1. What is a theophany as defined by Pastor Miles in his sermon?
2. Review the 5 points of “OT Witness” as listed in the lesson plan:
 1. Jesus is the ‘I AM’ who **independently** exists. (cf. Exodus; John 8:58)
 2. Jesus receives our **prayers**. (cf. Genesis 32; John 16:23)
 3. Jesus **judges** sin. (cf. Genesis 18; John 5:26-27)
 4. Jesus **fight**s our enemies. (cf. Josh. 5:13-15; Rev. 19:11-16)
 5. Jesus **protects** from hell fire. (cf. Dan. 3; Matt. 25:34; John 3:16; John 5:24)

Digging Deeper

This week's message is a continuation from last week's...

1. Read Col. 1:15-20 together as a group. Try to define the attributes of Jesus as listed in these verses.

Consider the term **sovereignty**: A theological term that refers to the unlimited power of God, who has sovereign control over the affairs of nature and history. The Bible declares that God is working out His sovereign plan of redemption for the world and that the conclusion is certain.

2. Col. 1:15 states, "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created..." Consider the following notes below:

- **Image** = *eikon*, likeness, or form; Christ is the image of the invisible God. Since representation of what is invisible is impossible, the meaning here is a revelation with substantial participation.
- **Firstborn** = *prototokos*, or existing before, superior; what is stated is Christ's supremacy over creation as its mediator. The term *prototokos* is used, then because of its importance as a word for rank.
- **OT Reference** = the rabbis said it meant preeminence (cf. Ex. 4:22). It was also used for the eldest son as heir and manager of the family. All used as a way to identify the Messiah (cf. Psalm 89:27).

Based on this verse and the notes above, how does this change or solidify your view of Christ as Lord and God?

3. The Latin term *imago dei*, or image of God, refers to man, being made by God in the image of God. We typically define the attributes of God and his image in two categories: communicable (or shared) and incommunicable (or unshared) attributes.

Communicable (Shared) Attributes

Holiness
Love
Truth
Righteousness
Mercy
Beauty

Incommunicable (Unshared) Attributes

Omnipresence
Omniscience
Omnipotence
Immutability
Eternality
Sovereignty

How are you worshipping God and honoring him through your shared attributes, and how are you worshipping him by recognizing your unshared attributes?