Jesus Christ, the Anointed One of God

1. Regarding the French Revolution, the famous author Victor Hugo wrote:

"The revolution changed everything, except the human heart."

- a. Sometimes we think everything will change if...
- b. when in reality, times change but people stay the same.
- 2. But there is one Person at one point in time who changed everything even the human heart—the life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah

I. THE PROMISED MESSIAH

A. A MESSIAH WAS PROMISED TO ISRAEL

- 1. In the OT the Messiah was the title of the King that the Jews were looking forward to who would save them and set them free from oppression
 - a) The Messiah was the Great Hope of Israel, the Savior and King of Israel
- 2. To understand this title we look at the original languages of the Scriptures
 - a) Messiah is a Hebrew word: מַשִּׁיחַ (*māšîaḥ*) 'Anointed One'
 - b) The same Hebrew word translated into Greek is 'Christ' (John 1:41)
- Messiah means 'anointed' 'anointed one' or 'the Lord's anointed'

B. ANOINTING WAS CONNECTED TO THREE PARTICULAR ROLES

- 1. THE PROPHET: was anointed
 - a) Elijah was instructed to anoint Elisha as Prophet (1 Kings 19:15-16)
- 2. THE PRIEST: was anointed
 - a) God commanded that priests be anointed in order to consecrate and sanctify [set apart as holy] (Exodus 28:41)
 - b) Anointing oil was to be poured on His head (Exodus 29:7)
- 3. THE KING: was also anointed
 - a) King Saul was anointed King of Israel...
 - b) Later Samuel was commanded to anoint the next King among the sons of Jesse...
 - c) After each son was rejected by God he asked Jesse, do you have any other sons?
 - d) When Samuel saw the young David, (1 Samuel 16:12–13)

"the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward."

- 4. During David's Reign as King He wanted to Built a House of Worship Unto the Lord—a Temple in Jerusalem...
 - a) God said He would allow David's son Solomon to build a Temple to the Lord...
 - b) But then God told David that He wanted to build a house for David!
 - c) But Not a House in the literal sense of a physical Dwelling Place...

- d) a House as in a Family Dynasty or Royal Dynasty! (2 Samuel 7:11b-13, 16)
- e) A King from the Family Line of David Would Rule Forever!
- f) Which is Why the Destruction of Jerusalem and of the Temple in 587 BC by the Babylonians was such a shock!
- g) After 400 yrs of Silence, By the Time the Prophet John was Preaching and Baptizing in Jordon the people wondered if he was the Messiah...
- h) but John said no...there was one coming that was greater than he

C. THIS MESSIAH WOULD TAKE ON ALL THREE OFFICES...

- 1. PROPHET: who brings the message of God down to people
- 2. PRIEST: who takes the role of making people acceptable to God
- 3. KING: who rules over God's Kingdom and Protects His People

II. JESUS THE MESSIAH

A. THE PROMISE OF THE MESSIAH WAS THE GREAT HOPE OF ISRAEL

- 1. After a Long and Painful History of Slavery, Prosperity, and then Captivity, the People Were Still Searching for the Messiah
- 2. Even Wise Men from the East searched for Him! (Matthew 2:1-4)
- 3. Even the Samaritan Woman at the Well Knew of the Messiah (John 4:25–26)

 —Jesus Tells Her Who He Is!

B. JESUS IS THE MESSIAH, THE CHRIST

Not Only the Hope of Israel but of the Whole World!

- 1. But it is Absolutely Critical for the Disciples to Know This Truth!
- 2. Because Without a Proper Understanding of Jesus True Identity...
- 3. They Wouldn't Understand What Was About To Happen in Jerusalem... the Critical Work He Was Going to Accomplish there...

C. SO JESUS ASKS THEM A CRITICAL QUESTION...

- 1. 'Who do men say that I Am?' (Mark 8:27-28)
 - a) Jesus often used questions to get people to think deeply about important truths...
 - b) Some say you are John the Baptist, some say Elijah, some say one of prophets
- 2. But Who Do <u>You</u> Say I Am? (Mark 8:29-30)
 - a) Peter speaks truth... You are the Christ (the Messiah)

III. JESUS THE MESSIAH REJECTED

A. THE MESSIAH WOULD BE KILLED (Mark 8:31)

- 1. Jesus was preparing them for what was going to take place
 - a) Confirming the Messianic prophesies of His Suffering (Isaiah 53)
 - b) And His death in Jerusalem (Daniel 9:20-26)

- 2. This was the Tragic Plan of God... the Awful Grace of God that was purchased at such a heart-breaking price
- 3. God Would Pour His Wrath against All Sin onto His Son and Jesus would Drink the Cup of Wrath down to it's Dregs

B. PETER OBJECTED TO THIS (Mark 8:32)

- 1. Peter Didn't Understand this—He didn't understand the Big Picture
- 2. He Doesn't Understand this Was the Plan of God from Before the Foundation of the World!
- 3. But Peter Knows What's Best—and tries to talk some sense into Jesus
- C. <u>JESUS REBUKES PETER!</u> (Mark 8:33)
 - 1. "Get Behind Me Satan. For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."
 - 2. Peter is Offering Jesus an Easy Way Out... to avoid the terrible cost
 - 3. So Jesus Teaches Them About the COST of DISCIPLESHIP (8:34–38)

IV. JESUS THE MESSIAH CONFIRMED

A. <u>JESUS HAS SET HIS MIND TO ACCOMPLISH THE GREATEST EVENT IN</u> HISTORY—HIS SACRIFICE TO SAVE THE WORLD...

- 1. But First He Will Show the Disciples His Glory...
 - a) So They Can Fully Understand He is the True Messiah (Mark 9:2-10)
- 2. Upon the Mountain, Jesus Begins to Glow with Glory in Luminescent Light
 - a) <u>Matthew</u>: "He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light." (17:2 NKJ)
 - b) Mark: His clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. (9:3 ESV)
 - c) **Luke**: As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe *became* white *and* glistening. (Lk 9:29 NKJ)
- 3. But There are 3 Now Standing: Jesus is talking with Moses and Elijah!
 - a) Who have been dead for 1,000 years!
 - b) But They're NOT dead because God is not God of the dead but of the Living!
- 4. But What are they Talking About? (Luke 9:30-31)
 - a) They were talking to Jesus about the Cross! about His Death!
 - b) About What Jesus was going to accomplish in Jerusalem!

B. JESUS IS THE MESSIAH, THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD AND HE PROVED IT ON THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION

- 1. Jesus showed them a glimpse of His Glory
- 2. And God the Father Confirmed It by Speaking From Heaven,
 This is My Beloved Son, Hear Him!
- 3. The Disciples Needed to Know Because Jesus Was Going to Be Crucified

V. LESSONS FOR US TODAY

A. <u>LIKE PETER WE OFTEN SEE THINGS IN PHYSICAL RATHER THAN</u> SPIRITUAL TERMS—THROUGH THE PRISM OF HOW IT AFFECTS US

- 1. Peter had just made the most incredible confession...
 - a) that Jesus is the Christ the Messiah, the Son of God!
 - b) But Then Peter Turns Around and Thinks He Knows Better than Jesus... When Jesus tells them He must go to Jerusalem and be rejected
 - c) Trying to Stop Jesus from Accomplishing the Eternal Plan of the Father!
- 2. Why Did Jesus Rebuke Peter so Harshly?
 - a) He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."
 - b) Peter Tried to Convince Jesus Not to Go to the Cross!
 - c) Unwittingly Peter is Offering the Same Temptation Satan Offered in the Wilderness
 - d) A CROWN w/o the CROSS, a KINGDOM without Being KILLED, SELF w/o SACRIFICE
- 3. Remember, Jesus Had the Power to Call Down 12 Legions of Angels
 - a) So the Temptation to Avoid the Horrible Torture of Crucifixion was Real!
 - b) Especially considering the Malice of the Mob—They Had No Right!
- 4. Do You See How Satan Takes Advantage of Us?
 - a) By Telling Us What We Want to Hear...
 - b) By Offering Us an Easy Way Out...
 - c) By Getting us to Compromise the Truth...
 - d) by focusing on the Things of Men rather than the things of God
 - e) through the Prism of How it Affects Us rather than seeing the Big Picture

B. JESUS THE MESSIAH WENT TO THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS SO THAT WE ALSO CAN BE TRANSFORMED

- 1. As they were on the Mountain, Jesus was transformed before them, and began glowing with His Eternal Glory...
 - a) The Same Greek Word is also used in (Romans 12:2)
 - b) It's the Greek word: Metamorphos where we get our word: Metamorphosis
 - c) The Amazing Transformation of a Caterpillar into a butterfly
- 2. This is the Transforming Work of Jesus Today (2 Corinthians 3:18)
 - a) Transforming us to become like Him!
- 3. This is the Eternal Plan of God (Romans 8:28) to be like Christ (8:29)
- C. ONE DAY WE WILL SEE JESUS IN HIS GLORY!
 - 1. Just as Peter, James and John did on the Mt of Transfiguration...
 - 2. Just As John Did when He was in the Spirit on the Island of Patmos

- 3. Just as Paul did on the Road to Damascus when He was Blinded but the Light of Jesus' Glory
- 4. On that Day Every Knee Will Bow and Every Tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!

CONCLUSION:

- 1. We Know this was not the first time Peter Failed—Not the Last Time!
- 2. But the Beauty of Peter was that even though He Failed many times
- 3. Peter always came back to the Lord seeking forgiveness and strength
- 4. We Have Such A Loving and Forgiving Savior! (1 John 1:8–9)
- 5. Don't Ever Give Up... Don't Let the Enemy Keep you down Because of your Failures
- 6. God is Greater and He Will Help You

 God is still bringing the work He began in us to completion (Phil 1:6)