

CONSIDER CHRIST JESUS

HEBREWS 3:1 • TV-019B

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Hebrews 3:1

“Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus.”

Our subject is: **“CONSIDER CHRIST JESUS.”** And our text is **Hebrews 3:1.**

Now, there are many verses in the Bible that I could have selected as a text for this topic, **“CONSIDER CHRIST JESUS,”** for Jesus Christ the Son of God with power and Jesus Christ the Son of man with perfection is the theme of the Bible.

He said, *“Moses, wrote of me. Abraham saw my day.”* The Scripture says in **Acts 10:43**, *“To Him give all the prophets witness.”*

And our Lord said to the religious people of His day, *“You search the Scriptures,”* and they did; they were students of the Scripture. But He said, *“In the Scriptures you think you have life but they are they which testify of me, (the Scriptures testify of Christ).”*

So I could have selected any number of verses from the Word of God on this subject, **“CONSIDER CHRIST JESUS”** but I selected this one. Now you listen to it, **Hebrews 3:1;** *“Wherefore, holy brethren, (speaking to believers), partakers of the holy calling; consider the apostle and high priest of our profession Christ Jesus.”*

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Brethren are those who have been called by the Holy Spirit, those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ, those who have been brought to His precious feet as believers; consider Christ Jesus, consider Him.

**“Christ is the theme
Christ is supreme
Sweeter He grows
Glory He bestows
Bright as the sun
Ever He glows.”**

Christ is the theme, eternal theme. Paul said, *“I preach Christ, I preach Christ.”*

But this is our text; listen to it again; *“Consider the apostle and high priest.”* You consider him who is the apostle and high priest of our profession Christ Jesus.

Now, when you tell a congregation that you’ve got an 8-point message it scares everybody to death because they don’t know how long they’re going to be there. But you know how long I’m going to be here. At 11:30 I go off the air.

So, I’ve got eight points and I’ll get them all in. Now you follow me. We’re going to consider Christ Jesus, consider Christ Jesus.

First of all: We’re going to consider Him as the creating Christ!

John 1:3 says, *“All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made.”*

And Paul in **Colossians 1:16** says, *“For by Him were all things created that are in heaven, that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created by Him and for Him and He’s before all things and by Him all things consist.”*

And then in the book of **Hebrews 1:1-2**; listen to this Scripture; *“God hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son; whom He hath appointed heir of all things by whom He also made this world.”*

All things were made by Him, the creating Christ. Our Lord created the angels, all of the heavenly beings and heavenly messengers:

**“He put the sun in place
He hung the stars in space.”**

He spread out the valleys. He lifted up the mountains. He made the rivers and the seas. He created man in His own image. In **Revelation 4:11** the Scripture says, *“Thou art worthy O Lord*

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to receive glory and honor and power, for thou hast created all things and for thy pleasure they were and are created?"

We could take this whole program just considering Christ the creator, Christ the creator, the creating Christ. Everything that's made He made.

And according to His own divine wisdom and for His own pleasure; go out yonder where this universe ends and come this way and all of the planets, stars, sun, moon, earth, nature, trees, men, animals, fish and flies; God made them in the person of His Son. Consider Christ.

Secondly: And then consider this, oh miracle of miracles; consider the cradled Christ ! In **Luke 2:11**, *"Unto you is born a Saviour."* These angels are speaking to the shepherds on the Judean hillside; *"We bring you good tidings of great joy. Unto you is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord."*

"And this shall be a sign unto you. You shall find that babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger (in a manger cradle)." Jesus Christ the ancient of days became an infant of days. God who created all things was clothed in human flesh. God who is infinite, unlimited, is now limited in the confines of a fleshly body.

He who made man is now made in the likeness of man. He who created the angels is now made lower than the angels. He who said *"Before Abraham was I am"* was born 2,000 years after Abraham.

He who was David's Lord is now David's Son. He who was Abraham's Saviour is now Abraham's seed; He who was rich, infinitely rich, became infinitely poor. Miracle of miracles; do you understand that? I don't understand it but I believe it, I believe it.

There's nobody who can understand that. There's nobody who can explain that. God almighty who was before all things and by whom all things were made; God almighty whom the universe cannot contain but rather is contained in God, the heaven of heavens can't contain Him. This body of flesh contains Him.

When was Christ made flesh? Look at **Galatians 4:4**. When was He made flesh? *"In the fullness of time (in God's appointed time, when it pleased the Father) God sent forth His Son."*

How was He made flesh; read that same text, *"Made of a woman?"* He came forth from the womb of a woman. Why was He made flesh? Read that text, *"Made under the law to redeem those who were born under the law that we might receive the adoption of sons."*

Consider the cradled Christ. Simeon saw Him and he said, *"Now I'm ready to die because I've seen God's salvation, (the cradled infant)."* The ancient of days becomes the infant of days.

Thirdly: Consider Christ Jesus the healing Christ!

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Listen to **Mark 1:32-34**; *“And at evening when the sun was setting they brought unto Him all that were diseased and them that were possessed with devils and He healed them.”*

Our Lord Jesus Christ met blind men and gave them sight. Our Lord Jesus Christ met dumb men and made them talk. Our Lord Jesus Christ met crippled men and made them walk. Our Lord Jesus Christ met deaf men and made them hear.

Our Lord met crazy men and made them sane. Our Lord met lepers and cleansed them as white as snow. Our Lord met a human need and He supplied it. And our Lord never faced a storm that He couldn't calm. Christ is the healer, *“And He's the same yesterday, today, and forever.”*

Just because you don't go forth and shake people's heads (pretending to heal) and make merchandise of folks (with clever tricks) and pass out washtubs to get your offering doesn't mean you don't believe that God heals people.

The Word of God teaches that the Lord is the same yesterday, today, and forever. And He's not only the healer of sin's diseases but He's the healer of bodily diseases. Listen to the Word of God, **James 5:14**; *“Is any sick among you, (you believers) any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up.”* Our Lord is the same; consider it, Christ the healer.

And when John the Baptist needed some assurance that He was, that He was the Christ that Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ. Our Lord sent this word to John; He said, *“You go back to John and you tell him that the blind see and the lame walk and the deaf hear and the dead are raised. And you tell him not to be faithless but to believe.”* Consider Christ Jesus.

Yes, He does heal; that's what the Scripture says, *“Bless the Lord O my soul and all that's within me bless His Holy name, who forgiveth all thy iniquities, who healeth thy diseases.”*

It's not a commercial healing. And it's not a power given to a man to make him wealthy. And it's not a power given to a man to make fools out of people. And it's not a power given to man to go out and to misuse and to deny means which God uses. God may heal without means but God also uses means. Consider Christ the healer!

Fourthly: And then consider the prophet Christ Jesus!

You know, people come to the preacher and they say, “Preacher; show us God.” I can't do it, I can't do it. “Preacher; put us in touch with God.” I can't do it. “Preacher; reveal unto us God.” I can't do it, I can't do it.

But Christ can and Christ did. He is Christ the communication of God. That's right! The Scripture says, *“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.”*

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What are words? Words are a form of communication. Now I have a thought in my head or in my heart and I want you to know what I'm thinking. So how do I reveal to you what I'm thinking? I use words, vehicles of thought.

And that's why Christ is called, "*The Word of God.*" If God wants us to know what He thinks, if God wants us to know who He is, if God wants us to know how He operates, He's going to do it through the Word and the Word is Jesus Christ.

Consider Christ Jesus; He is the communication of God. Phillip said to the Lord Jesus, "*Show us the Father.*" And our Lord said, "*He that hath seen me hath seen the Father. I and my Father are one.*"

They asked, "What shall we do that we might work the works of God?" He said, "*This is the work of God that you believe on me who God has sent.*" They said, "Let us see God. Let us see the work of God. Let us hear the words of God."

And Christ said, "*The works that I do are the works of Him that sent me. The words that I speak are the words of Him that sent me.*" And when He went into Gethsemane's Garden He prayed; "*I have glorified thee Father on this earth. I've finished the work you gave me to do.*"

Fifthly: Consider Christ the criticized one!

"He was despised. He was rejected. He was a man of sorrows. He was acquainted with grief." My friend, I can say this to you as a believer; there's no valley through which you can go where Christ has not already been.

There is no trial that you can endure which Christ has not already endured. There's no sorrow you can bear that He has not already bore. There's no experience that you can have that He hasn't already had. "*He was tested in all points as we are, yet without sin.*"

That's the reason He can be a sympathizing High Priest, "*touched with the feeling of our infirmities.*" Listen to it. They called Him a blasphemer. He said, "*Many good works have I done among you, for which of these do you stone me?*" They said, "We're not stoning you for doing good works; we're stoning you for blaspheme. You say that you're God and you're nothing but a man."

They called Him a winebibber. They called Him a drunk. They called Him a gluttonous man.

They accused Him of keeping bad company; they said, "Why this man receiveth sinners and eats with them. This man's the friend of sinners. He keeps bad company." They charged Him with insanity. One of them said, "Why He's beside himself."

They called Him a liar. That's right; they said, "You bear record of yourself and your record's not true." They accused Him of being in league with Satan. Why they said, "You're casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub, by the power of the devil."

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They assembled false witnesses against Him and accused Him of treason, the highest crime they can think of, treason.

**“Man of sorrows, what a name
For the Son of God who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim
Hallelujah what a Saviour**

**Bearing shame and scoffing rude
In my place condemned He stood
And sealed my pardon with His blood
Hallelujah what a Saviour.”**

Consider Christ Jesus, criticized, hated, despised, rejected, mocked, and finally taken out, outside of the city, because they were too religious to kill Him inside the walls of the city. They took Him outside the city wall, outside the camp, and they nailed Him to a cross.

Sixthly: I want you to consider the crucified Christ!

Luke 23:33 says, *“And when they were come to a place which is called Calvary (or Golgotha); there they crucified Him.”*

Now while we consider the crucified Christ I want your undivided attention just for a moment; listen to me. Nobody out there listening to me and nobody in this studio listening to me has any idea or can even imagine what a cross meant 1,900 years ago. There’s no way you can imagine what it meant to die on a cross.

Death by hanging, death by drowning, death by stoning, and death by sword was an act of mercy compared to death on a cross. Death by crucifixion didn’t begin on the cross; it began down there in the soldier’s hall where a man was lacerated with a cat of nine tails, with leather whips, 39 lashes with pieces of metal and pieces of glass tied in those leather straps.

And as they raked that cat of nine tails across the victims back the flesh and the blood was thrown against the opposite wall. And then He was taken out to a cross and there He was nailed or tied to that cross. And it was a lingering death. It was a death that lasted for hours and hours and yea, even days.

That’s the reason they came and wanted to take Him down from the cross. They wanted to make sure He was dead because it was approaching their Sabbath Day and they were too religious to have their victim hanging out there on a cross over their Sabbath Day.

That was a holy day and we wouldn’t want that fellow to be screaming while we were in church worshipping God, you know. It lasted for hours.

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And two horrible facts were always present in crucifixion, two supreme facts, it was great suffering, indescribable suffering. The other; it was great shame. *“He endured the cross despising the shame?”*

They stripped the victim naked and left Him to hang up there and writhe in agony before the staring multitude. You see these pictures of Christ on the cross with a loin cloth, not so. No beautiful scenes but a horrible scene. It's a scene of suffering and a scene of shame.

But I'll tell you this; when you go to Calvary and I've been there. I'm not talking about going over there to what they call “the Holy Land” and walking upon a commercialized hill that they call Calvary.

I'm talking about going to Calvary in your heart by faith and with eyes of faith and a heart of faith, seeing Christ die for your sins. I've been to Calvary. I can say I've seen the Lord. I've been to Calvary, not on a Holy Land tour, but through the witness of His Word.

**“Each day at Calvary
What a thrill of love divine
Just to think, just to feel, just to know
That that Saviour's mine.”**

And there in that horrible, suffering, shameful, agonizing, death; I see four things vividly:

First of all: How God hates sin. Now, if you want to see how God hates sin; you go to Calvary. That's His Son. *“That's His only begotten, well-beloved Son.”*

And if God spared not His own Son because His Son was made sin for us, do you think He will spare the rebels who reject His Son and despise His Son and hate His law? God hates sin. God hates sin worse than He hates hell because He made hell to punish sin.

And another thing I see there; I see the love of God for sinners. I see both. Somebody said, “You can't preach both.” I can because they're both there. God hates sin. And I see the love of God for sinners. *“God so loved the world that He gave His Son.”*

“God commended His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners; Christ died for us. But God who is rich in mercy for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sin He hath quickened us together with Christ.”

I see something else there; I see the justice of God satisfied. I see the debt paid an effectual, particular, offering for sin fully paid.

**“Jesus paid it all
All the debt I owe.”**

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That's right; I'm not ashamed to say that. I want you to understand it. Our Lord didn't go to that shameful, agonizing, place of torture and shame to make an effort to do anything; He went there to get a job done.

And when He came away He said, *"It's finished, it's finished.* There the justice of God was satisfied. There the debt was paid. There, every sin of every believer, of every generation, was put away, *"Separated from us as far as the east is from the west, cast behind the back of God into the depths of the sea to be remembered no more, (annihilated)."* My old sinful nature is not annihilated, but my sin is.

Fourth: I see the debt of sin fully paid, fully paid. There is no installment due. Have you ever had those little books, those installment books, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months, and 36 months? Isn't it wonderful when you get down to the last one?

You've got a 24 month book and you've paid 23 of them but there's one left and you're still in dept. Now you can kick up your heels and talk about how you paid 23 of them but you've still got one and it must be paid, it must be paid. And the debt's not cancelled. They won't stamp that thing paid in full until you pay that last payment. Our Lord didn't pay most of it; He paid all of it, all the debt I owe.

Seventhly: Consider the risen Christ!

The Scripture says that when Joseph died being 110 years old they embalmed him and put him in a coffin in Egypt. Joseph was put in a coffin in Egypt and he's still there. That's been a long time ago, Joseph, lover of God, Joseph, man of God. Joseph, servant of God, died and they put him in a coffin in Egypt and he's still there.

They took our Lord from that cross of whom Joseph was a type and they put our Lord, not in a coffin, but in a tomb. He borrowed a tomb. There was a man who had a tomb in which man had never laid. And they put Him in that tomb and on that third day, the morning of the third day, and the first day of the week when the women came to the tomb to pay their respects; the angels met them and they asked them a question. Do you know what it was? They asked them a question; they said, *"Why do you seek the living among the dead?"*

We don't worship a dead Christ. We don't worship a body on a cross. We don't worship a man in a tomb. We don't worship a dead Christ. Why are you looking for the living among the dead? *"He's not here; He's risen, the risen Christ."*

**"Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph for His foes
He arose a victor over the dark domain
And He lives forever
With His saints to reign."**

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Paul said, *“If Christ be not risen, you’re yet in your sins. If Christ be not risen, there’s no resurrection of the dead. If Christ be not risen you’re a false witness (and so am I). And if Christ be not risen we are of all men most miserable.”*

But thank God He has risen. The victorious, conquering Christ is risen and is evident from the fact of His resurrection that the Father hath accepted His work. If the Father had not accepted His offering, His sacrifice, He never would have put His seal of approval upon it by raising Him from the grave.

And it’s evident from His resurrection that we who trusted in Him shall also be raised up too. We were chosen in Him, redeemed in Him, risen in Him, and seated in Him. He said, *“Because I live you shall live also.”*

Eighthly, and closing: Consider the coming Christ!

Those disciples went out there on the mountain as our Lord arose and ascended back to the Father. And while they stood there and watched and the clouds received Him out of their sight; the angels appeared and said, *“Ye men of Galilee; this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as you’ve seen Him go.”*

The coming Christ; consider Christ Jesus!