

Real-World Help

Developing A Muscular Christology

“Who do you say I Am?” - The question at the Pantheon
Matthew 16:13-18

A Muscular Christology

When the **STARTING POINT** for our belief system isn't moored in Christ the results are the deeply corrupt world we see today

CHRISTOLOGY must inform our **ANTHROPOLOGY**, which informs our **MISSIOLOGY**, which then informs our **ECCLESIOLOGY**

Who do the Scriptures say He is?

Colossians 1:13-22, John 1:18, John 14:6, Ephesians 1:22,23

He is the singular source for **HUMANITY'S REDEMPTION**

He is the singular **FACE** of the **TRIUNE GODHEAD**

He is the singular **HAND**, behind all **CREATION**

He is the singular **HEAD** of His Body, the **CHURCH**

He is the singular **SOURCE** of **LIFE** after Death

He is the singular **EMBODIMENT** of **DIVINE** Fullness

He is the singular **VEHICLE** of **RECONCILING** Peace

Practical Implications

He has **DELEGATED** His Fullness to His Body Ephesians 1:23

We are the continual **INCARNATION** of His Body Colossians 1:24

We are the continual **EXTENSION** of the Father's Sending
John 20:21

A muscular Christology will drive us to our **KNEES** in worship;
And consequently, drive us to our **FEET** with **POWER** and **PURPOSE**

Auburn Grace Community Church – November 3rd, 2024

Life Group Discussion Questions – November 3, 2024

Matthew 16:15-17 ... *“But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.*

DISCOVER

1. Who are you? If a close friend answered the same question, how might the response be different? Explain whether your identity is something that changes over the course of a lifetime? What pivotal events have molded you into the person that you are now?
2. Is there a common starting point for the belief system for all Christians? If yes, then what is that starting point? For non-believers, what are the starting points for their many belief systems? Again, from the perspective of a non-believer, how have you seen belief systems change over the years?
3. Why does anthropology, the scientific study of humans, fall short in informing our theology? In imagining the nature of God, how can projecting human limitations on Him lead us far astray? How did the life of Jesus expand our perspectives on the power of God.
4. What are the characteristics of someone with a muscular Christology as taught by Pastor Steve?

EXPLORE

1. Read Exodus 3:14. God gave an atypical response to Moses' question when asked “What is His name? What shall I say to them?” How was the response of God informative in describing who He is?
2. Share with each other some of the names or descriptions of Jesus. Read Colossians 1:13-20. Using the scripture, list all the phrases or descriptions that inform our understanding of Jesus and His nature. How does this scripture refute someone who says that Jesus was primarily a good teacher or prophet? Why do non-believers struggle to think of Jesus as God? Does this scripture add clarity to the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Explain.
3. Knowing that Jesus lived as man and God gives us an advantage compared to those who lived in the millennia before His incarnation. Describe this advantage we have over those who worshiped God prior to the birth of Jesus.
4. Steve taught us that Jesus is the ‘singular source’ of many aspects of the Godhead. Recite as many of Steve’s points as you are able. Cite scriptures for each of the following two questions. Picking a few of the ‘singular’ points, first, how is Jesus the face of the Triune Godhead? Second, how is Jesus the source of life after death?

EXPERIENCE

1. John 20:21 says “...Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” Where have you been sent for the good of the Kingdom?
2. Can you define the power and purpose in your life? Share your response. After worshiping on your knees, if you are not lifted to your feet with power and purpose, then what is holding you down?

PRAY

Father God, where would we be without the revelation of the Trinity through Your Son? You have given us the ability to see clearly the love that is behind all creation. Open our eyes to Your intent for each of us in fulfilling the all-important mission of taking the Good News to the ends of the Earth. In Jesus mighty name we pray, Amen.