

Jesus Ministered in ...



Words to Find:
 Cana
 Nazareth
 Nain
 Sychar
 Bethphage
 Bethany
 Jerusalem
 Bethlehem
 Jericho
 Bethsaida
 Capernaum
 Caesarea
 Sarepta

Christ Pulls at Our Heart

Spurgeon

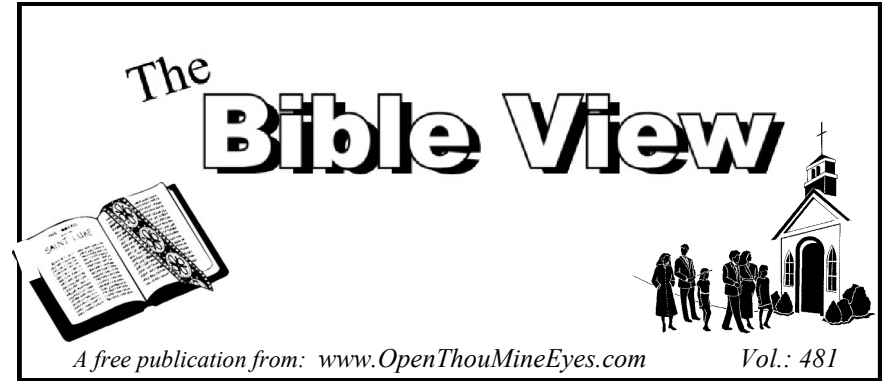
A boy made his kite fly aloft. It rose up so high that he could no longer see it. Still he said he had a kite, and he held fast by it.

“Boy, how do you know you have a kite on the other end of

that string?” he was asked.

“I can feel it pull,” he said.

Today we feel Jesus pull on our hearts. He draws us with a far greater force than a mere string. He is gone into Heaven, yet he draws us after Him. Lord, draw us with greater power than ever.



Jesus

Bill Brinkworth

Paul started his letter to the Ephesians reminding them about what Jesus had done for them. The encouraging reminder of the goodness of God through His Son included:

✿ That from the beginning God had pre-planned to allow those that trusted Christ as Saviour to become children of God (Ephesians 1:5).

✿ That by accepting Christ’s finished work on the cross; we are accepted by God (Eph. 1:6).

✿ That our sins are forgiven and paid for (Eph. 1:7).

✿ That He has given the saved Godly wisdom (Eph. 1:8).

✿ That God has let His will be known to us (Eph. 1:9).

✿ That one day all the saved will be together with Him (Eph. 1:10).

✿ That one day we will receive a Godly inheritance (Eph. 1:11).

✿ That we should be something that God is proud of (Eph. 1:12).

In a world that loads us down with trials and tribulations, it is a blessing to be reminded of how

good God is to those born into the family of God. Be encouraged; we are on the winning side. We are not just people passing through this world; if we are saved, we are God’s children!

Jesus, Our Example

Bill Brinkworth

While on this earth, Jesus did many things we as Christians are expected to do. He was our example. If we are saved, and want to live Christ-like, we should follow Jesus’ leader-ship. John 17 shows us that Jesus:

✿ Asked the Lord for power over the flesh (John 17:2), even though, unlike us, He was sinless. We may be saved, but we can still be tempted to sin, because we are not perfect. With the Lord’s help, we can resist

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Jesus, Our Example

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daily temptations to do wrong.

✿ Showed the world, by His testimony, that there was one, true God (John 17:3, 6, 12). We also can be the light that shows a sin-darkened world that there is another way — God’s way.

✿ Gave God the glory for all that He did (John 17:4, 7). We too can show the world how good God is and how He is alive and still working in the hearts and lives of man by living and acting Godly.

✿ Finished the tasks that God gave Him (John 17:4). We are saved to serve, and not to just sit. God desires each one of us to do something for His honor and glory.

✿ Told the world what God wanted them to know (John 17:8). We can tell the world what God wants them to know according to what is recorded in the Word of God.

✿ Prayed for those He encountered and had a burden for (John 17:9) them. God has allowed us to cross the path of many. We can have a burden for them and pray for their needs.

✿ Still had a burden for those

He ministered to, even though He knew He was leaving this world (John 17:12). This action shows that His desire for others was heart-felt and not just skin deep. Our concerns for others should also be deeply ingrained in us. It should be our goal to encourage and help others get closer to God.

Jesus’ example is certainly not what the natural man or the world encourages us to be. Our sinful flesh and the self-centered world constantly promote self-satisfaction and self-concern. Jesus’ example was certainly not that way. By making our Saviour our example, we can have a life that pleases God and meets the needs of others.

Jesus, Our Only Priest

Bill Brinkworth

During Old Testament times, there were priests that served as mediators between God and man presenting their prayers and sacrifices to Him. Before Moses, the priests’ duties were often done by the head of a household as did Job, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. During Moses’ day, God appointed priests from the Levite lineage, and this practice was intended to continue until the perfect priest came, Jesus Christ.

The Old Testament priests were not perfect. Their limitations were because:

- They were ordained (“appointed by”) men, although they were of an ancestry ordered by God (Hebrews 5:1). Not just any man could be a priest.
- They had to go to God with sacrifices and gifts (Heb. 5:1, 3). The offerings were not a one-time gift. They had to be offered more than once. They were only temporary appeasements to a Holy God.
- The priests themselves were sinners. They also had to give an offering for themselves. (Heb. 5:2, 3)

Soon the priesthood stopped. The sacrifices halted. Intercessory prayers and gifts to God ceased, but man was still in desperate need of a mediator between him and God.

God then sent man the perfect priest. He was not appointed by man. He only had to make one offering for all of man’s sins. That sacrifice covered sins past, present, and even into our future. This priest was not of Levi’s lineage. He was very much like a priest of Abraham’s time — Melchisedec. Like Melchisedec, whose name means “king of righteousness”; this God-

appointed priest was the real King of righteousness. This priest was the only God-appointed priest. This priest was God’s only begotten son — Jesus! Jesus’ one-time sacrifice that never had to be re-offered was His own life.

Unfortunately, many have not allowed God’s High priest to be the sacrifice for their sins. Too many have rejected Jesus and are still appointing their own priests. No matter what those sincere people offer to God, the Creator will refuse it. They are doing it their way and are refusing the one-time sacrifice Jesus made for them on Calvary’s cross.

The Old Testament priesthood was for another time — a time before the perfect Priest had been sent by God. Today we have the privilege of going to that High Priest, which is not sitting in some earthly temple or church, but is sitting at the right hand of the Father, in Heaven. We can accept His offering on the cross to cover all our sins. After we have accepted Him as our Saviour, we can go to Him anytime with our prayers and needs. We no longer need an imperfect middleman; we have the perfect mediator — Christ Jesus.



**Here is the priority
formula for a successful
and joy-filled life:**

**Jesus
Others
Yourself.**

**“God is good all
the time!”**