



LESSON 03: TURNIN' IT UPSIDE DOWN

Gospels

The Purpose and Scope of Jesus

I. Purpose

→ [Luke 1:46-55](#)

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

*⁴⁸ for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.*

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

*⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.*

*⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.*

*⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.*

*⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.*

*⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.*

*⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful*

*⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors."*

- What does Mary think the coming of Jesus means?
- For whom?

II. Scope

→ [Isaiah 53:4-6](#)

⁴ Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.
⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.
⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

→ [1 Peter 3:18](#)

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.

The Response of the People

I. The Faith of People

→ [Matthew 9:1-2](#)

¹ Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town. ² Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven."

→ [John 15 \(various passages\)](#)

⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.

²⁶ "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out

from the Father—he will testify about me. ²⁷ And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

→ [John 17:20-23](#)

²⁰ “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

II. Peter’s Sermon: Collective Guilt and Salvation

→ [Acts 2:22-23](#)

²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.

→ [Acts 2:36-40](#)

³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

III. But the “One” Still Matters

Luke 15: Lost things

→ [Luke 15:4-7](#)

⁴ “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

→ [Luke 15:10](#)

“...there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Conclusion

- OK to focus on “personal relationship with Jesus.”
- But be careful not to sentimentalize. Jesus had the whole world in mind.
- “He’s got the whole world” *and* “you and me brother [and sister]” in his hands.