

THE PERSON AND LIFE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Lesson Seven

THE EARTHLY MINISTRY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Scripture reading: Luke 15:4-6; John 10:10-16, 27-28

Burden to Impart:

The Lord Jesus began His earthly ministry at thirty years of age. He ministered for 3 1/2 years, from His baptism until His crucifixion. *His ministry on the earth was to reveal God to man by carrying out the Father's will and work of saving men and bringing them to the full knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:3-4).*

Memory Verse: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away in release those who are oppressed" (Luke 4:18).

Facts to Teach:

1. In His life on the earth, the Lord Jesus only did the Father's will and carried out the Father's work. He did not come in His own name, to speak His own words (John 12:49-50), to give His own teaching (7:16), or to do His own will (5:30; 6:38). He did nothing from Himself (5:19). He only did those things that pleased His Father (8:29).
2. The Lord Jesus spoke and taught God's Word as no one on earth has ever done. He brought good news to the poor, released the people who were captive to Satan and his demons, recovered the sight to those who were blind both spiritually and physically, and sent away in release those who were oppressed and crushed by Satan (Luke 4:18). He loved all men, sympathized with their needs, and had compassion upon them.
3. The Lord's ministry on the earth can be seen in His work as the good shepherd.
 - a. As the good shepherd, the Lord Jesus comes to seek and to save the lost sheep (Luke 15:4-6).
 - b. As the good shepherd, the Lord Jesus heals the wounded ones and feeds the hungry ones (John 10:9, note 92).
 - c. As the good shepherd, the Lord Jesus laid down His life for the sheep so that they may have eternal life (John 10:10-11, 28).
 - d. As the good shepherd, the Lord Jesus rescues the sheep from the thieves and wolves (John 10:8, 11-12).
 - e. As the good shepherd, the Lord Jesus calls His own sheep by name to follow Him (John 10:3-4, 16b, 27).
 - f. As the good shepherd, the Lord Jesus brings the sheep into the flock, into the church life (John 10:16).

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Songs for Lesson Seven

THE LORD'S MINISTRY WHILE ON EARTH

New tune.

D G D A⁷

Je- sus brought good news to the poor; Are you poor? Hear the good news!

D G D A⁷ D

Je- sus brought good news to the poor; Hear the good news of the Lord.

Jesus restored sight to the blind;
Are you blind? Come see the Lord!
Jesus restored sight to the blind;
See the good works of the Lord.

Jesus bound up the broken hearts;
Bring your heart, He cares for you!
Jesus bound up the broken hearts;
Open your heart to the Lord.

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(Story for lesson 7)

THE MINISTRY OF THE LORD JESUS

Memory verse: The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away in release those who are oppressed.

Luke 4:18

Our Lord Jesus came to this earth as the Son of God to bring God to us all. He did not do His own will or even speak His own words. One day God spoke from the heavens saying, "This is My beloved Son in whom I delight." He lived with the poorer people and He loved children. Jesus said that all those who would enter the kingdom of God must be like a little child. He told the people that He came to them as a shining light in the darkness.

His first four disciples were fishermen. Great crowds of people followed Him. They had been waiting for many long years for their King to come and deliver them from the hard Roman rulers. The Lord Jesus told them about the Kingdom of the heavens and showed them how they could be a part of that Kingdom. The Lord also showed them the true meaning of their laws and commandments, and how to obey God from their hearts.

Jesus went into their synagogues on the Sabbaths and read to them from their Scriptures. He showed them the loving heart of His Father God by forgiving many people of their sins and healing all who came to Him. We read of a poor sinful woman who met the Lord Jesus at a well. He showed her her wicked heart, yet He dealt so kindly with her that she believed in Him and her sins were all forgiven. She was so excited that she brought her friends from the city to meet the Lord Jesus for themselves so they could believe on Him too. Many people were waiting for years to be healed but once the Lord Jesus came and touched them they were well right away. He made the blind to see. Lazarus was dead and buried for four days but when the Lord Jesus called his name he immediately came out of the grave.

So much kindness our Lord Jesus did and he fed thousands and thousands of hungry people that followed Him. Surely they knew that He was the Son of God! It was the Scribes and Pharisees and the priests who were against the Lord. They would not accept Him and did not want the people to follow Him. They planned to kill Him but they could not until one day our Lord gave Himself up to die as a sacrifice for all the people of the world.

What a wonderful Savior is Jesus our Savior!

What a wonderful Savior is Jesus our Lord!

(See Hymn 286; which is 17 in the 100 Selected Hymns)