

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Finding your true self

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Matthew 16:21-27 – Finding your true self

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Earnest Becker – Pulitzer Prize winner

"Most of our life is in large part a rationalization of our failure to find out who we really are, what our basic strength is, and what thing it is we were meant to work upon the world"

"The issue of identity cannot possibly be dealt with strictly in terms of scientific psychology"

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Matthew 16:21-27 – Finding your true self

Let's tackle this morning by looking at:

- 1) What is the setting of these statements?
 - 2) How then do we find our true self?
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1) What is the setting of these statements?

- a) Warning about their core understanding of Messiah
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Matthew 16:13-19 – Finding your true self

1) What is the setting of these statements?

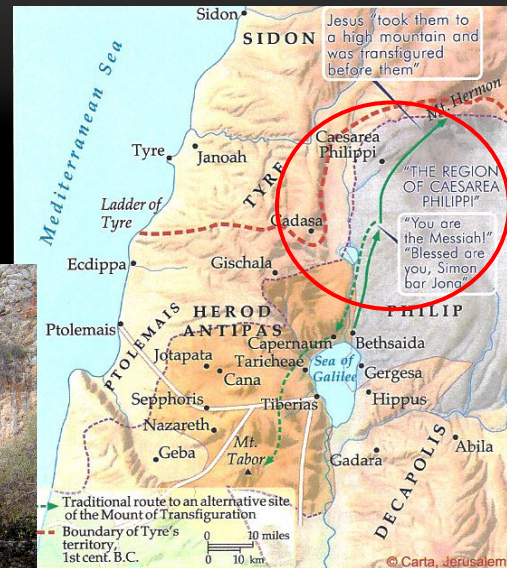
- a) Warning about their core understanding of Messiah
 - b) Warning about not grasping the calling of Messiah
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Matthew 16:13-19 – Finding your true self

1) What is the setting of these statements?

- a) Warning about their core understanding of Messiah
- a) Warning about not grasping the calling of Messiah



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Matthew 16:21-28 – Finding your true self

1) What is the setting of these statements?

Misunderstanding # 1: God Himself

Daniel 7 – “One like the Son of Man” – all rule, all authority, He will defeat evil & suffering

Micah 5:3 Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek. [2] But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for Me One who is to be Ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. [3] Therefore He shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

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1) What is the setting of these statements?

Misunderstanding # 1: God Himself

Couple together:

- *Israel had been under foreign oppression for 700 years*
 - *An expectancy FROM the OT prophecies of an eternal Ruler*
The word "anointed king" in the Jewish languages, Hebrew & Aramaic,
was the word we normally pronounce as Messiah
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1) What is the setting of these statements?

Misunderstanding # 1: God Himself

Misunderstanding # 2: Messiah's call

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Jesus is connecting 2 separate OT thoughts & not 2 thoughts that had ever been assumed together:

- *He takes the thought from Daniel 7/Micah – the Son of Man coming to rule with all authority*
 - *& yet now with the strands from (e.g.) Isaiah*
The Suffering Servant songs in Isaiah like chapter 53, 42...really all throughout Isaiah where a chosen One would come & suffer
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Is. 53:2 For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him. [3] He was despised and rejected by men; a Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. [4] Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. [5] But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.

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Remember Matthew 3 when Jesus gets baptized & the Father speaks?

“This is My beloved Son (comes from Psalm 2 - RULE) in who I am well pleased (Is. 42 – Suffering Servant)”

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1) What is the setting of these statements?

2) How do we find our true self?

a) Having your PERSON defined outside of yourself – by Jesus

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- 1) What is the setting of these statements?
- 2) How do we find our true self?

- a) Having your PERSON defined outside of yourself – by Jesus
 - b) Having your PURPOSE defined outside of yourself
-

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- b) Having your PURPOSE defined outside of yourself

I Cor. 1:4 Who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

II Cor. 4:11 For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

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2) How do we find our true self?

a) *Having your PERSON defined outside of yourself – by Jesus*

b) *Having your PURPOSE defined outside of yourself*

II Cor. 4:10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.
