

Is Jesus Just A Better Set Of Fig
Leaves?

- How personal is our personal relationship with Jesus? Have we like Adam and Eve, dehumanized Jesus and made him an object that covers my shame, forgives my sins, and provides eternity for me. In essence, just a better set of fig leaves. Is Jesus a utilitarian commodity I obtain for my functionality?

- “Christ’s love sees us with terrible clarity and sees us whole. Christ’s love so wishes our joy that it is ruthless against everything in us that diminishes our joy.” Frederick Buechner

- Your inner belief about Jesus will determine what sort of relationship you will or won't have with Him.

- The inner life, the story of our heart, is the life of the deep places within us, our passions and our dreams, our fears and our deepest wounds....The heart does not respond to principles and programs; it seeks not efficiency, but passion, art, poetry, beauty, mystery; these are what rouse the heart.

- No man or woman will ever know the Trinity in intimacy if we are not willing to think about ourselves the way that they do.
- If this is to be the case, then Jesus cannot be another set of fig leaves. He isn't simply a remedy for my shame and sin. He cannot be something or someone that I know about. There must be profound mystical **union** with the Trinity.

- “The Lord your God is in the midst of you, a Mighty One, A Savior (who saves)! He will rejoice over you with joy; He will rest (in silent satisfaction) and in His love He will be silent and make no mention (of past sins, or even recall them); He will exult over you with singing.” Zeph. 3:17 Amplified Bible

- Do we really believe that we are God's poetic master piece; the ultimate evidence of Their fathomless love? Their unfathomable richness of mercy and love is focused on us.
- If you want what you want, the good gifts that Jesus can provide and a life that does not get interrupted, then your motive is thievery

- Profound mystical intimacy will be found thru the “darkness” of God. His “silence, his impotency, his absence.” And in this part of the journey, “the valley of the shadow of death, the dark night of the soul,” all motive become apparent as to why I want to get close to Jesus.