



Church on Purpose Jesus' Disciples

I. God & People

Job 42:10-12 (NASB®)

¹⁰ **The LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends**, and the LORD increased all that Job had twofold. ¹¹ Then all his brothers and all his sisters and all who had known him before came to him, and they ate bread with him in his house; and they consoled him and comforted him for all the adversities that the LORD had brought on him. And each one gave him one piece of money, and each a ring of gold. ¹² The LORD blessed the latter *days* of Job more than his beginning; and he had 14,000 sheep and 6,000 camels and 1,000 yoke of oxen and 1,000 female donkeys.

A. Sovereignty & Majesty of God

Job 38:1-7 (NIV®)

¹ Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said:
² "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge?
³ Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.
⁴ "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand.
⁵ Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it?
⁶ On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone--
⁷ while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

Romans 1:20 (NIV®)

²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Romans 1:25 (NIV®)

²⁵ They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised. Amen.

B. Uniqueness of Humanity

Genesis 1:27 (NIV®)

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Hebrews 2:5-8 (NIV®)

⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking.
⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" ⁷ You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor ⁸ and put everything under his feet." In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him.

II. Following Jesus

Matthew 16:21-24 (NIV®)

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" ²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "**If anyone would come after me**, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

A. Lord Jesus

Romans 10:9 (NIV®)

⁹ That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

B. Water Baptism

Acts 2:40-41 (NIV®)

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.

1 Peter 3:20-21 (NIV®)

. . . in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water,
²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

C. Serving

Matthew 10:42 (NIV®)

⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."

Luke 9:46-48 (NIV®)

⁴⁶ An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. ⁴⁷ Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside him. ⁴⁸ Then he said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For he who is least among you all--he is the greatest."

Matthew 23:11-12 (NIV®)

¹¹ The greatest among you will be your servant.

¹² For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

D. Small Groups ---perceived value

Acts 2:46-47 (NIV®)

⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 20:28-29, 36-38 (NIV®)

²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. . . . ³⁶ When he had said this, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. ³⁷ They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. ³⁸ What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

Prayer

Almighty God You alone are worthy of praise, worship and glory. You have established the earth and all that is within it. By Your word You brought everything into being. We honor You, we lift our voices in thanksgiving. Let all the earth give praise to our Lord and King. May the name of Jesus be exalted, may Your Kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven, amen.

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