

An Eternity of Regrets

(December 14, 2022)

People who often ascribe titles to Jesus like "good" or "moral" or even "prophet" actually believe they're giving Him high praise and we Christians should applaud their efforts. Unfortunately, these titles rob Him of His true identity and there is nothing good or applause worthy in that.

Several thousand years ago, a rich young ruler went to Jesus and called Him, "Good" and then asked Him how to gain eternal life. Jesus' response to the young man was, "*Why do you call me good? There is no one good except God.*" This is in [Luke 18](#) and I believe Jesus asked the question to cause the man to think about what he was saying. Did he actually believe Jesus *was* God or was he simply being polite? It seems clear from the conversation that occurred in [Luke 18](#), that the young man already thought he was doing well and would have little to no problem getting into heaven.

The reality hit him when Jesus told him that he must sell all he had and follow Jesus. He couldn't do it because he liked his riches too much. What is it you and I tend to hang onto and put stock in? We may need to relax our grip on those things if they're competing with God's deity.

Jesus said things to the religious leaders who, instead of believing what He said as truth, took His words as blasphemy and wanted to kill Him. A great example of this is when Jesus uttered the words, "I AM" ([v 58](#) below), in His discussion about Abraham. This was shortly after they accused Jesus of having a demon ([John 8:48-59](#) ESV), but note verse 58 specifically in the partial quote below.

56 Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." 57 So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

How does a "good," "moral" man or a "prophet" make Himself equal to God unless He actually *is* God? If He is not God, then He does deserve death and in fact, the religious leaders did take up stones to kill Him because they thoroughly believed He was claiming equality with God because He was doing just that.

Jesus is far from simply being a "good" or "moral" man or even a "prophet." He *is* good. He is human (as well as God) and He is either God in the flesh or He is not. If He is not God, then the things He ascribed to Himself and from others are lies. 1 Timothy 2:3-6 tells us more about Jesus.

3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of **God our Savior**, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For **there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus**, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

In the above words, Paul makes it pretty clear that Jesus IS God. First, in verse [3](#), he uses the term "God our Savior." Then in verse [5](#), Paul states there is one God and one mediator between God and humanity

- the man Jesus Christ. Paul is referring to Christ's humanity that He used to *cloth* (and hide), His deity (**Philippians 2; 1 Timothy 3:14-16**). Paul is NOT talking about two individuals, but is speaking about ONE Person who is both; God and Mediator.

We see this same thing in play when people are introduced in a way that highlights their titles but still only refers to one person. "*Ladies and Gentlemen, I'd like to introduce to you my mentor for 12 years, a phenomenal teacher, a coach extraordinaire and an all around great guy...*" etc. Obviously, the person being introduced is only one person. Four separate people are not being introduced. This is what Paul did. He pointed to Jesus - God, Mediator, Servant and Sovereign (all in various chapters of **1 Timothy**). These attributes provide proof for us of Jesus' identity as God.

Yet, atheists come along and think they are complimenting God (and placating Christians), by claiming Jesus is a good, moral man and a prophet. For Someone who did and said the things that Jesus said and did, He is either who He claimed to be or an absolute liar. Of course, if we refer to Scripture to buttress our case, these same atheists will come back with, "*You cannot trust the Bible because it was written by men.*" Whatever their excuse, they find a way to backtrack out of things.

Even if they say that Jesus was a good, moral man, do their lives evidence truth? Hardly. It is a sad situation that many find themselves in because while they think they are giving God a compliment, they in essence are negating the truth of His character. How could that please God? It doesn't.

Every once in a while I think about a friend of mine who was a guitarist and a genius when it came to music. I played drums on a number of his CDs - all original music he wrote. I liked him a lot but always felt bad that he was into the New Age and was one of those people who saw Jesus as a "good," "moral" man, someone that we should endeavor to imitate in the way He loved others. My friend would emphasize God's "love" but that usually translated to accepting everything and everybody, something not even Jesus did. To many people today, Jesus is a hippie who goes around flashing the peace symbol and saying, "Peace, love, dope!" They hide behind the wrongly used "don't judge" command claiming that if we judge words or actions we are disgracing God. These people have not read Scripture.

My friend died of CV complications several years ago and is now in eternity. I cannot help but think of him living with all the regrets he must be living with as he awaits the day when he will be brought before God at the Great White Throne Judgment. Good Lord that is a *scary* prospect! I'm assuming based on my knowledge of him and conversations I had with him during the days we worked together - that he fully rejected salvation found only in Jesus. I'm certain he already knows the truth about Jesus more than he knew anything in this life.

I cannot imagine being alive one moment then being caught away through death into eternity where the truth is unavoidably clear and present for all eternity. There is no trying to squeeze out from under it. No chance of pushing it away. It is stark and foreboding in its consistency and presence for all who await their judgment. It will not be denied as was so easily done for so many while they lived.

We are living in an age where the truth is suppressed by the unrighteous acts of corrupt people. [1] We see a perfect example in this with Dr. Anthony Fauci, who began his very public career as the go-to COVID answer man with one lie after another. While some might argue that he may not have known

early on but was merely making educated guesses, the truth is that he continues to maintain that what he said several years ago still holds in spite of all the information that has come out that disproves his assertions (especially regarding efficacy of Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine).

Of course, Fauci is now doubling down and even calling Twitterverse a "*cesspool of misinformation*." [2] Fauci has even begun to employ security guards as he maintains that his life is now being threatened because of Elon Musk's tweets. Fauci will continue to do whatever it takes to suppress the truth and attempt to vindicate himself. He is corrupt and evil, spreading lies, which cost the lives of multitudes. More people are waking up to that fact and are not happy about what Fauci and others have put this world through and continue to do so.

In this life, the truth *can* be hidden easily enough. Pay off politicians to push a narrative. Toss lots of money to journalists to write lies and support that same narrative. Censor and ban anyone who tries to push the truth. Come down hard on people who insist on telling the truth or at least questioning the accepted narrative (whether it's about CV, God or something else).

All of this is fairly easy to do in this life because most people have a price and can be bought. Most people are willing to lie, cheat or look the other way if it somehow enriches them, regardless of the harm caused to others. Corruption blankets this world because Satan controls it still.

But once having left this life and arrived in eternity, only truth exists. Lies are seen for what they are and don't hold up. Only truth is seen and understood and I believe it is innate, gained from a person's surroundings and ability to think more clearly than they did in this life. The story of the rich man and Lazarus seems to bear this out (**Luke 16:19-31**).

In that story (not a parable), the rich man dies and immediately finds himself in hell, awaiting judgment. He looks up to see a beggar he was familiar with in the land of the living: Lazarus. There was apparently a tremendous gulf or space separating the two groups of people in hell so that one could not cross into the other area. The rich man was in a bad place and he knew it. He very likely experienced hell as more real than anything he had ever experienced while alive.

The saddest part of hell (and eventually the Lake of Fire), aside from the pain and torment, is that it goes on for eternity and during that eternity, for those housed there, they will experience an eternity of *regrets*. There will be no "do-overs" and they will exist forever with their unfulfilled desires.

I believe the biggest regret they will live with is the realization of their rejection of Christ's salvation. They will remonstrate against themselves and express anger toward God for all eternity that they did not see and were not "forced" to accept the truth but instead believed lies they thought to be truth!

In this day, we see a plethora of lies laying the foundation for the final global kingdom. [3] As such, it will become more difficult to witness to and evangelize those who are perishing. Why? **Romans 1**. Their thinking is darkening. They will embrace the lies of this age (**2 Thessalonians 2:11**). This does not mean that God will no longer bring people to salvation. It simply means that it will become harder and more difficult for most to see and appreciate what God has done for them.

Like my friend who is likely in hell right now, many will join him. Yet, currently they believe they hold Jesus in high esteem when in reality, they deny His identity and character. This will lead for many to an eternity of regrets.

[1] <https://www.raptureready.com/2022/12/10/suppressing-the-truth-by-daymond-duck/>

[2] <https://www.msnbc.com/andrea-mitchell-reports/watch/dr-fauci-twitter-has-become-almost-a-cesspool-of-misinformation-157438021572>

[3] <https://expose-news.com/2022/12/11/gov-reports-prove-child-strep-a-deaths-due-covid-vaccine/>