

### **BETWEEN THE LINES - Son of God**

SCRIPTURE: Daniel 7:13, Philippians 2:5-11

#### CORE 52 - CHAPTER 17

**What I mean is, we sometimes lose sight of our humanity, until something like illness, or death affects us.**

#### **Son of Man:**

Mark Moore points out in Core 52, that the term Son of Man is used 107 times in the Old Testament, and 85 times in the new testament.

In the old testament, In the vision God had given Daniel, he records seeing this"

**Daniel 7:13-14 - 13** "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

When the Jews would read and study this, it would be confusing to them, because they knew that no man, not even Moses, could in the presence of God. And not only that, but how could man be given all power and authority? But we will see a later that a connection is made between this account in Daniel's life and how Jesus makes it come to life.

We know that we were made, and purposed by God, and we are loved by God, but we are not and cannot ever be God. We cannot because God is infinite. Which means that He has always been and will exist forever. He is not bound by space or time. Where as we, on the other hand are finite. We have a beginning, we get a chance to celebrate that every year, and we will have an end.

#### **The term Son of Man, reminds of our humanity:**

Son of man is not a demeaning term. However it isn't a term that brings awe and reverence. The term reminds us of our humanity. It is telling us that we are flesh and bone, veins, and muscles, cartilage and sinew.

When we read son of man in the New Testament, all but 4 of the 85 times it's recorded, you find it in the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which are the records of Jesus' life and

ministry. And the interesting part is, it is how Jesus refers to himself.

**Matthew 9:6** - But I want you to know that the **Son of Man** has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "Get up, take your mat and go home."

This comes from the interaction Jesus had with the paralytic man who's friends lowered him down through a roof so Jesus could heal him. Jesus forgives the man's sins, which perplexed the Jewish leaders who were present. They knew that only God had the authority to forgive sins. Jesus calls himself, Son of Man and then says that he has authority to forgive sins on earth. Which, I am sure, all of this is not lost on the Jewish leaders who were present. It's like a light goes on in their heads, and they begin thinking, "is this man claiming to be the one that was in Daniel's vision"?

### **Son of Man vs. Son of God**

On a personal note: when I think about, or read Son of man, my brain goes to Son of God. Very similar term, but also a very different term. When talking about Jesus, Son of God is so much more appropriate.

**In Matthew 16:16** - Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the **Son of the living God.**"

This is the proper term way to speak of Jesus. Also, Son of God was a term that was common during this time. Son of God was a title that Rome would use to give to the Caesars. Remember, the Greek and Roman gods, they lived in ethereal places, amongst the clouds and high atop mountains. Everything that happened in their culture, it was attributed to a god. They would call their Caesars the son of god because it gave them authority, and it meant that their rule was blessed by the gods.

But how amazing is it, that the one who rightly deserves this title Son of God, Jesus, instead calls himself son of man. A man, deserves the title son of man, and instead takes the title son of God. You see, the kingdom of God is an upside down kingdom. To rule you must serve. To be honored you must be humble. Jesus lived this out, and became the son of man.

He was the very nature of God, yet he was fully man. Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, God in the flesh. Rob Bell says it like this... He was the incarnate. Do you see the word carne? He was meat, like carne asada. He put on flesh and lived with His creation.

With all of this, what does it mean for us today? Even, Jesus understood the idea of son of man, and how he lived on earth is our greatest example of how we should live today.

I want us to look at three things that we can take away from all of this, this morning. From the title that Jesus called Himself, son of man.

### **Philippians 2:5-11**

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### **I. Jesus Understands Humanity**

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not

consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

We serve a God who know and understands our everyday life. He came and experienced all the things that you and I experience on a daily basis. Jesus' willingness to leave His place with the father, and live like one of his creation helps us see that God not only sees and is aware of those things, but that he knows how we feel.

Jesus experienced all things we do:

- a. Birth, growing, learning
  - a. Luke 2:40 - 40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.
- b. He hungered and had thirst, and was tired.
- c. He felt pain and loss, He experienced emotions
  - a. John 11:35 - Jesus wept. - He cried over the loss of his friend.
- d. He was tempted

a. Mark 1:13, records the time spent in the dessert being tempted by Satan.

b. Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

e. He was ridiculed and rejected - Even Jesus' own brothers doubted who he was. His closet friends denied him, and was betrayed by one of his own followers.

We don't have a God who is far off, but instead, we have a loving God who is present at all times and is aware of all things.

## II. Jesus Exemplifies Humility

7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

It was important, no - Necessary that Jesus become a man to teach how to treat one another. Humbleness is not a trait in our culture that is touted. Yes, we all love a person who is truly humble, but our world tells us to be about you, and what you have to do to be successful.

Jesus teaches us that humility is the way to gain respect and honor.

**Mark 9:35** "And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."

To us it makes not sense. You and I, we are more like the Ricky Bobby theology, If you ain't first, you're last! But Jesus instead turns it around and says for you to be a leader in the kingdom, you must be a servant.

**John 13: 4-9- 4** so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8 "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." 9 "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

**Matthew 16:20** - the last will be first and the first will be last.

Again, it's the idea of the upside down kingdom. For us to be with God, we must first humble ourselves, obey him, and love others.

### III. Jesus brings Hope

#### A. **A Living Hope**

1 Peter 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

What type of hope... a living hope through a new birth in Jesus. When you give your life to Christ, you are given a new life. We are given a hope not only that is alive in this life, but it is a hope that goes beyond into eternity.

#### B. **A Loving Hope**

John 3:16-17 - 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

This is how we know what love is, that a man lays down his life for his friend. I don't think we could truly live this if Jesus didn't first exemplify this action.

For a follower of Jesus to reach others, it means that we will have to sometimes put aside our wants and needs, and our likes

and desires, so that we can have an opportunity to share the hope we have.

#### C. **Lasting Hope**

Romans 6: 22-23 - But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Through Jesus we have a life eternal.

**Revelation 21** - Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

#### **Closing.**

Being a follower of Jesus doesn't make you better than others, it makes you obligated to others!

Small Group Questions:

1. It's getting kind of hard to keep things fresh and new these days. Did you do anything that you and your family haven't done before this past week? Do you have anything planned to do together this week or next?
2. Seeing how Jesus experienced day to day things, is there a comfort knowing that we serve a God that not only created us, but knows how we feel day to day?
3. Have you ever thought about the idea that Jesus was a young boy, and a teenager? Through speculation only, what do you think Jesus did as a kid?
4. Other than Jesus washing the feet of the disciples, how else did Jesus show humility?
5. What kind of things have you been hoping for recently?
6. Jesus gives us a living hope, and loving hope, and a lasting hope, how do you see that active in your life today?