

Jesus Is God

Sunday 3/3 at 8:00 & 10:45

The Transfiguration of Our Lord – 2019

Ash Wednesday is on 3/6 – Divine Service at 11 & 7

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: During this Epiphany season, *with today being the final Sunday*, the sermons have been based on the epistle readings. Therefore, today, I'm going to touch on the gospel readings of this season – *so that we are absolutely certain that **Jesus is God!*** Then, knowing that vital truth, *we will be ready for the season of Lent and our remembrance of Jesus' work to take away our sins!*

1. **Jesus Turned Water Into Wine – John 2:1-11:** ³ **When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ...** ⁵ **His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ...** ⁹ **When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine... the master of the feast called the bridegroom** ¹⁰ **and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first... But you have kept the good wine until now.”** ¹¹ **This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him. // Water into wine – sound impossible? Remember, *Jesus is the Son of God...* and the Bible says, “All things were made through him...” (Jo 1:1 ESV). *So water into wine was easy because **Jesus is God!*****
2. **Jesus Kept Himself From Being Killed – Luke 4:16-30:** ¹⁶ **... [Jesus] went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read...** ¹⁸ **“The Spirit of the Lord is**

upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ...²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

[So Jesus announced: **I AM THE MESSIAH!**] ... [Then]

²⁸ **When** [Jesus told them how God had helped Gentiles rather than Jews], all in the synagogue were filled with wrath.²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff.³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away. // The mob was determined to kill Jesus, and He was greatly outnumbered, but since **Jesus is God**, and it was not yet His time to die, He passed right through the middle of the mob – unharmed! No one ever took Jesus' life; when the time was right, He laid down His life (Lu 23:46; Jo 10:17-18)!

3. **Jesus Healed Many – Luke 4:31-44:** ³³ ...in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon [an evil angel] ...³⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "...come out of him!" And... he came out... [Evil angels are powerful, but since **Jesus is God**, He is almighty!] // ³⁸ Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever...³⁹ And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them. [A fever is one consequence of the fall into sin, but since **Jesus is God**, and came to destroy the work of the devil (1Jo 3:8), He demonstrated His power and she showed that she had been healed!] // ⁴⁰ Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one

of them and healed them.... // The sun was setting, *the Sabbath was over*, so **everyone** brought **everyone they knew** who was sick; since **Jesus is God**, *He healed them all!*

4. **Jesus Controlled Fish – Luke 5:1-11**: ⁴ ... [Jesus] said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” ⁵ And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.” [*Peter set aside what he thought was best and did what Jesus said; let us do the same (Pro 3:5-6)*] ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.... // What happened? Once the nets were in place, and since **Jesus is God**, He told the fish to come into the nets – *and they did!* Why? Because on day 5 of creation, the Son of God made the fish (*Ge 1:20-22*), and *has control over them!*
5. **Jesus Cast Out Demons – Luke 6:17-26**: ¹⁷ ... [Jesus] came down with them... ¹⁸ [the ones] who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.... // Do you know of anyone who has a physical disorder of any kind? I know MANY such people – including **my own mother who was recently diagnosed with cancer** and **my own physical problems**. Now, imagine HOW WONDERFUL it would be if EVERYONE with a physical disorder could *simply touch Jesus and be made whole!* That is what happened – as recorded in Luke chapter 6, and why? Because **Jesus is God!**

6. **Jesus Taught True Love – Luke 6:27-38:** ²⁷ “But I [Jesus] say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.... // The things Jesus taught are *the BEST PRACTICES for all people!* By the power of the Holy Spirit we should try hard each day to do all such things – to ♣honor our Savior and ♣glorify our Father! But we will always fall short, so, *knowing **Jesus is God***, let us always trust in Him!
7. **Jesus Was Transfigured – Luke 9:28-36:** ²⁹ ...the appearance of [Jesus’] face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰ And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah... ³² Now Peter and those who were with him... saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.... ³⁵ And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!” ... // Jesus is the Son of God *clothed in human flesh!* During all of His earthly life people saw only the human part, *except here*, when He showed His glory – *proving to us that **Jesus is God!*** So let us ♣trust in Him, ♣listen to Him, and ♣ever be thankful for His saving Work!

This Week’s Sermon Challenge: Think about the many amazing things done by Jesus. Which one most convinces you that He is God?

Let Us Pray: Jesus, *we are in awe of Your sacrifice for us!*

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