

Title: Three Questions about the Jesus-Message

Series: Foundations

Date: July 16, 2023

Bid Idea Question: What is the essence of the Jesus-message?

Big Idea Answer: Real life is centered on the person of Jesus.

And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. -John 17:3

Belief or Action?

Belief: Believe the message.

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. -Ephesians 2:8-9

Action: Trust the message.

You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless? -James 2:19-20

Event or Journey?

Event: When's the moment?

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. -John 1:12-13

Journey: Before and after.

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. -Matthew 9:9

Simple or Complex?

Simple: Don't make it too complicated.

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. -John 3:16

Complex: It's not that simple.

For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. -Isaiah 55:9

The Big Idea: Real Life is Centered on the Person of Jesus.