

Sermon #29

What Did Jesus Do?

God is great and awesome.

He is close, not far away.

In Him we live and move and have our being.

He is our breath, our water, our food, our light.

He is the substance and core of our being.

Most of us don't really believe this, but there is One who did.

His name is Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus knew the truth, believed the truth and walked in the truth.

He healed the sick and raised the dead.

He opened blind eyes and deaf ears.

He fully expressed the power, authority and character of God.

We are called to be like Jesus.

But wearing WWJD jewelry does not make that happen.

Let's stop asking "What *would* Jesus do?", which is a speculative question, and let's start asking "**What DID Jesus do?**"

Did Jesus command people to "Go to church"?

No; He commanded them to follow Him.

Did Jesus direct them to build synagogues and temples?

No; in fact, when the disciples marveled over the awesome temple buildings, Jesus foretold their destruction.

He referred to Himself—not a building--as the true temple of God.

Did Jesus tell people to sell what they had and give to the church organization and go to church?

No; He told them to sell what they had, give to the poor and follow Him.

Did Jesus get involved in politics or try to bring about the kingdom of God through political means?

No.

Did Jesus try to forcefully or legally change the government or church structure?

No; He submitted Himself to be crucified by the government at the insistence of the church leaders.

Did Jesus stress the importance of tithing to the church?

No; He stressed the importance of justice, mercy and faithfulness, and rejected the notion that tithing could justify a man or make Him right with God.

Did Jesus tell parents to force their children to go to church?

No; He said, “Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

Jesus did not force, He attracted.

Did Jesus say, “Find a human pastor, submit to him and follow him”?

No; He said, “I am the Good Shepherd; Follow Me.”

He called human pastors “hired hands” that run when they see the wolf coming, because they don’t care for the sheep.

He DID say to follow the commands of God that the religious leaders taught.

Who did Jesus call “Satan”?

His disciple Peter: whoever hinders another person from going forward in what God has called them to do; whoever has in mind the things of man rather than the things of God.

Where did Jesus say He would build His church?

On His disciple Peter: the rock-like faith of anyone who receives and believes direct, personal revelation of truth from God.

What did Christ teach about the authority system of the Kingdom of Heaven?

There is One Father—God—and we are all children and brothers.

There is One Teacher/Rabbi—the Christ—and we are all students.

There is One Shepherd/Pastor—Jesus—and we are all sheep.

There is One King—God—and we are all subject to Him and ruled by Him.

There is One Owner—God—and we are all inheritors.

There is One Giver, and we are all receivers.

There is One Government:

the Governor is Peace and the Ruler is Righteousness.

All authority in heaven and on earth is vested in Christ, regardless of how things look or what we think.

What did Jesus establish as His status system?

Those who are great are called to humble themselves and serve those who are weak.

Those who are rich are called to share with those who are poor.

In His eyes, those who are great in worldly wealth and knowledge are least; and those who are the least in worldly wealth, status and knowledge are the greatest.

Did Jesus come to condemn and judge the world?

No; He came to save people from the world, to call them out of the world and empower them to overcome the world so that they can enter the Kingdom of God.

Did Jesus pray for the world or try to change the world?

No; Jesus prayed for believers to overcome the world and become united with God and each other in the Kingdom of God.

Did Jesus tell the truth?

Yes.

Did Jesus speculate, falsely accuse others or gossip?

No.

Did Jesus go along with the greed and deception and pride of the religious leaders?

No; He exposed them and called their actions evil; He told people to leave the religious leaders because they were blind guides who would lead them to fall into a pit with them.

Did Jesus command, “Worship Me”?

No.

Did Jesus command, “Follow Me and obey My commands”?

Yes.

Did Jesus emphasize worship and church activities, or did He emphasize obedience to God’s commands?

Obedience to God’s commands.

How did Jesus define love?

“He who loves Me will obey My commands.”

What did Jesus command?

Read Matthew chapters 5, 6 and 7.

What did Jesus say about religious rituals and traditions?

That religious people often use church rituals and traditions as an excuse to disobey God.

Let’s stop speculating and theorizing about “What *would* Jesus do?”

Let’s read about what He did, and what He commanded us to do, and let’s listen to the Spirit of Truth for personal, direct revelation and understanding from God.

Then, let’s follow Him and obey His commands, believing every word He says and rejoicing in all of His goodness and truth.

It’s really pretty simple, but it is also the greatest of challenges.

Seek the truth; hear the truth; obey the truth.

“I AM God. I AM good.

I AM your peace and joy.

I AM all you need.

Look to Me and learn from Me.

I will lead you well.

I AM the still, small Voice of Truth within your heart and soul.

Listen. Learn. Obey. I AM good.”

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