That which comes to mind when we think about God, is the most important thing about us, for it reveals who and what we really are. The recorded history of mankind will ultimately reveal to us that no people, no nation has ever risen above its religion. And the spiritual history of man will absolutely demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea or concept of God. 

This morning I want to talk to you about the Uniqueness of Jesus Christ, the One and Only Savior. When something or someone is unique we would say they are unique: without equal; being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else; particularly remarkable, special, or unusual

Title Slide/Read text
We find ourselves living in a time where truth has become a matter of popular opinion and people will compromise just about everything once held sacred in order to gain social acceptance and a larger following among their peers. But be warned, some things in this life are sold for a loss, no matter how great the price we might gain for them.

The true revelation of our Savior Jesus Christ is one such thing. We dare not attempt to fashion Jesus into our image or make him politically correct or socially acceptable to our day. Instead, we must behold Him as He truly is and when we do, we will be forever changed. The only fitting response to a right revelation of Jesus Christ is humble and total submission to His Lordship and the alignment our lives to His will and His word. Become Biblically correct!

When Jesus said in: John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. It was not said in jest, pretense, or out of prideful egotism, but stated as a fact. The Apostle Paul witnessed to the fact of His Lordship after His crucifixion, burial and resurrection, when he said in: Philippians 2:9–11 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

When Peter stood boldly on the Day of Pentecost and proclaimed the first gospel message before Jerusalem, he did so at the peril of his own life. Yet fearlessly he declared who Jesus was, what He had done, and what He could for those who would repent and put their trust in Him.

1 A. W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God
2 http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/unique
Who Jesus is, in the midst of a world where everything is worshipped and nothing is sacred makes what we are a part of even more amazing and powerful. For us to be effective in what we have been called to do as His followers we must first determine what it is we truly believe about Jesus. Let me share with you some things that will encourage your hearts and build your confidence to go public! First of all He is:

I. JESUS: THE ONE AND ONLY GOD

A. When we declare this about Jesus Christ (and I trust that we all hold it in common) we identify ourselves with the body of Christ believers found around the world. And something equally profound is happening as well.
   1. When we focus our hearts upon Jesus, declaring Him to be the source of all that is true, good and worthy, we begin to make ourselves attractive to the larger body of people still standing outside of God’s family.
   2. There are multitudes of wounded people standing at the river’s edge, waiting for a reason to plunge headlong into the depths of faith, but they’re just not sure that it’s real.
   3. They’re waiting for a reason to hope to launch them out in faith, but they need a clear witness of who Jesus really is, lived out within the lives of those who profess to follow Him.
   4. I want to make some one and only statements to encourage us this morning to present to the lost and dying world a reason for the hope that is within us.

B. When we say that Jesus is Unique, the One and Only God, we are saying that in no uncertain terms that He is:
   1. Second Adam, sent to recover and restore everything lost when the first Adam plunged the world into sin.
   2. He is the Virgin-born Son of God, the sinless Man, the Truth Incarnate, and the literal manifestation of the fullness of the Father.
   3. He is the substitutionary Lamb of God, broken, bleeding, and dying according to the scriptures; given to redeem from sin all who believe.
   4. He is the crucified, buried and resurrected one; who rose literally, and physically in the power of an endless life.

C. Jesus alone has provided the grounds for all human redemption and has now ascended into heaven. He alone has taken His seat at the right hand of the Father. Jesus alone has been given all power on heaven and earth.

D. Jesus is uniquely the One who:
   1. From the throne of God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon all flesh.
   2. The One who ever lives to make intercession for us.
   3. The One who from that heavenly throne will come again to this earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, to receive the redeemed to rule and reign with Him for ever!
E. Jesus is truly unique; there is no other like Him in heaven and upon the earth!
1. When the fearful disciples watched as He calmed the storm with a spoken word, they asked, “What manner of man is this, that even the wind and sea obey Him?”
2. When the soldiers sent to capture Him returned empty handed they said, “We’ve never heard any man speak like this before.”
3. And as the Roman centurion watched His agony and Himself to death upon the cross he exclaimed, “Surely this man was the Son of God.”

F. The challenge before us this morning is whether we will settle this within our own hearts and say as Thomas did crying out, “My Lord and my God!”
1. There are countless examples of the uniqueness of Christ that could be mentioned from the scriptures but let me just share the following as a testimony of how His uniqueness abounds.

II. JESUS: THE UNIQUE SOURCE OF CREATION

John 1:1–3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

A. It takes very little exposure to Bible or Christian theology for people to recognize that Jesus Christ was unique among all the human beings born on this planet.
1. The fact is, though He was born into creation, yet He actually preceded it and He also exceeds it!

B. This passage from the Gospel of John is one of the summits of scripture. In fact it probably reaches beyond the height of human thought and conceptual understanding.
1. Because in these three short verses Jesus Christ is the revealed to us as the logos, the living Word of God.
2. The second person of the Godhead, and
3. The Creator of all things, the very essence of life itself.

C. These three truths must be pondered and studied to understand the depth of their meaning. A cursory glance over this passage will not even come close to revealing what is being said.
1. However, in these important truths lie the very foundations of life. They cannot be overstated, for what we believe about them will determine our destiny.
2. If Jesus Christ is the Word of God, then we must hear and believe that Word or else be lost forever in ignorance...³

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D. Furthermore, we worship Jesus Christ not only as Creations source, but also as its Sustainer.
   1. Literally everything that exists is held together by the power of the same word that created it.

_Hebrews 1:3_ (Jesus) who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power...
   2. All of creation, seen and unseen that is and continues to exist owes tribute to Jesus’ unique role as its creator and sustainer.

_Colossians 1:16–17_ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

III. JESUS: THE UNIQUE SON OF GOD

_John 1:14_ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

A. Jesus Christ is the perfect revelation of God to man in human form. He is the “only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”
   1. When the Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary the Holy seed of God impregnated the seed of woman.
   2. We become the sons of God by faith, believing upon Jesus Christ and being born again, but He was and is the “only begotten,” of God.

B. The Word, the logos became flesh and all that the Godhead was came to abide on this earth in vessel of His flesh and blood.
   1. Therefore, He would become the revealer of God the Father to man. When Phillip asked Jesus to, “Show us the father.” Jesus said, “He who has seen Me has seen the Father...” (John 14:9)
   2. He was all God and all man and could therefore be subject to all that we experience, suffer and are tempted with in this life, but without sin.

_Hebrews 2:17–18_ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

IV. JESUS: THE UNIQUE SAVIOR OF MANKIND

_Acts 4:12_ Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

A. It is here that we declare and celebrate Jesus’ uniqueness above all other and all things.
1. There are many religions in the world and many perceptions, opinions and even distortions of truth, but there is no other one like Jesus.
2. There is salvation in no other name under heaven.
3. This word salvation: (sōtērias) means literally to be delivered from destruction, danger or present peril, to be admitted into the eternal blessedness in the kingdom of Christ.

B. In a world where everything sinful wars against our souls, where countless false messiahs of indulgence and excess cry out for worship only to enslave those who follow them, it is:
1. Jesus’ blood alone that can atone for and wash away our sins!
2. The power of His cross alone, can break the chains of bondage, redeem us and make us whole again.
3. His righteousness alone can justify us before the throne of God and secure the verdict of “not guilty”.
4. It is the power of His resurrection alone that can set us free from the curse of death and triumph over the grave.
5. It is Jesus Christ alone, who gives eternal life to all who would believe on Him!
6. Somebody ought to shout Hallelujah right now!

C. The song we sings says so simply and yet so well...
   Our God is greater, our God is stronger
   God You are higher than any other
   Our God is Healer, awesome in power
   Our God, Our God...

V. JESUS: THE CHRIST & CHIEF SHEPHERD

Matthew 16:13–18 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” 14 So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” 15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

A. When Jesus came into Caesarea Philippi he asked His followers; “Who do men say that I am?” To which varying responses were given, “some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, or one of the prophets.” Then Jesus presses them with a question, which will determine the eternal destiny of every man, “But who do you say that I am?”
1. In Peter’s answer to this second question we find the revelation upon which the work of God in the world is founded. “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
2. It is upon this revelation, (not upon Peter himself as some suppose) that Jesus is building His church.

B. Jesus alone is the sole proprietor of the church; He purchased it with His own blood. Jesus alone is the churches foundation, “for no other foundation can any man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 3:11
1. He is the one building His church and He is doing it just as He pleases, and the gates, or powers and forces of hell shall not prevail against it!
2. It is interesting to note the church Jesus references is not hunkered down waiting for Him to rescue it from the evil world; they are on the offensive!
3. They are invading the territory of the enemy and powers of hell cannot stand against them!
4. That should change our perspective as to how we go out into our world. Confident, not cowing, worshipping not whimpering, bold in holiness and grace.
5. That which belongs to Christ is being built by Christ and will be triumphant in His name.

C. Jesus is also Jehovah-Raah, the Lord our Shepherd. It is paradoxical that the Lamb who has gave His life for the sheep is also their chief shepherd.
1. All authority that is derived from His headship can only be received under His Lordship and must always be exercised in the servant-spirit of His rulership. (J. W. Hayford)

Matthew 23:11 But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Philippians 2:5–7 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

D. We are again confronted with the amazing paradox of Christianity; He came and humbled Himself as the servant of all and will come again as the King of Kings.

Conclusion

Let every ear hear it; this is what we believe about Jesus and this is how we confess His uniqueness above and beyond all others!

We say of Him and to Him, You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God, You alone are the Source, the Son, the Savior and Shepherd and the glorious Sovereign! And best of all I am His beloved and He is mine! Hallelujah!

Our world needs to hear about our Savior, and we are the ones who have been called to share the glorious truth of who He truly is! Jesus is unique and He is the One and Only Savior!

The question He is asking each of us this morning, “Who do you say that I am?”