

Outline

AmazinG RACE Relay Leg #2

The Moment of Truth

Point# Content

This message is taken from the readings of March 31 – April 5 in the *One Year Bible* in the AmazinG Race.

1 Jesus' finds Himself in a "Moment of Truth" Luke 9-11 March 31-April 5

Was he a ghost?

When Herod Antipas, the ruler of Galilee, heard about everything Jesus was doing, he was puzzled. Some were saying that John the Baptist had been raised from the dead. Others thought Jesus was Elijah or one of the other prophets risen from the dead. "I beheaded John," Herod said, "so who is this man about whom I hear such stories?" And he kept trying to see him. March 31 - Luke 9:7-9

Was he a reincarnated holy man?

One day Jesus left the crowds to pray alone. Only his disciples were with him, and he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other ancient prophets risen from the dead." March 31 - Luke 9:18-20

Was he a racially charged, prejudicial revolutionary?

As the time drew near for him to ascend to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. He sent messengers ahead to a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival. But the people of the village did not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to Jerusalem. April 2 - Luke 9:51-54

Was he a demon possessed emissary of Satan?

One day Jesus cast out a demon from a man who couldn't speak, and when the demon was gone, the man began to speak. The crowds were amazed, but some of them said, "No wonder he can cast out demons. He gets his power from Satan, the prince of demons. April 5 – Luke 11:14,15

Like the controversial game show on TV right now, this leg of the AmazinG Race leads us to the place where Jesus must prove that He is telling the truth. For Jesus to be the Messiah, there must be no falsehood in Him and everything that He says must be proven to be true. Like the contestants on *The Moment of Truth*, Jesus is up to the task – or is He? It's either all in with the truth and very answer be true or just one false answer and there is no prize – all in or all out!

April 6, 2008

2 Jesus' Moment of Truth is all about living in the Kingdom of God .

He proves his right to talk about the Kingdom of God.

The crowds followed him. He welcomed them and taught them about the Kingdom of God... Late in the afternoon the twelve disciples came to him and said, "Send the crowds away to the nearby villages and farms, so they can find food. Jesus took five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread and fish to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. They all ate as much as they wanted, and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers!

March 31 – Luke 9:12-17

Peter states the obvious truth and Jesus predicts the start of the Kingdom of God

Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Messiah sent from God!" March 31 - Luke 9:20

Jesus warned his disciples not to tell anyone who he was. "The Son of Man must suffer many terrible things," he said. "He will be rejected by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He will be killed, but on the third day he will be raised from the dead." March 31 – Luke 9:21

"I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Kingdom of God." March 31 – Luke 9:27

God affirms to Peter the Truth that Jesus is God.

Jesus took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning...A voice said, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." April 1 – Luke 9:28-36

Jesus' truth about the Kingdom of God is that it was near.

"If you enter a town and it welcomes you, eat whatever is set before you. Heal the sick, and tell them, 'The Kingdom of God is near you now.' Anyone who accepts your message is also accepting me. And anyone who rejects you is rejecting me. And anyone who rejects me is rejecting God, who sent me."

April 3 - Luke 10:8,16

April 6, 2008

Jesus teaches his disciples how to pray for the Kingdom of God

Jesus said, "This is how you should pray: "Father, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. Give us each day the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And don't let us yield to temptation."

April 4 - Luke 11:1-4

"And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. April 4 - Luke 11:9-10

"You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." Luke 11:11

Is Jesus God? Is He the Son of God as He claims? Is Jesus the Messiah as Peter exclaims? That answer isTRUE. And Jesus proves it by miraculously feeding 5,000 people with very little food, having a conversation with two 3,000 year old guys while a voice from the Heavens claims Him as His Son, answering perfectly all challenges placed before Him. He passes His Moment of Truth - His Prize, the ability to save humanity from itself.

April 6, 2008