

Who Is This Jesus?

Jesus Is Our Loving Ruler (Colossians 2.6-23)

He rules with divine authority, yet identifies with our humanity (vs 9-10)

1. Respected leaders have a _____ of power with people and sensitivity for them
2. Only Jesus Christ maintains the _____ pairing of authority and sensitivity
 - 1) As _____, He has all authority
 - 2) He understands the common man because He became a man of the _____ circumstances

He rules with tender mercy, yet crushes our enemies (vs 11-15)

1. Jesus is the perfect illustration of a _____ but tender leader
2. Only Jesus deserves our total allegiance since He alone can conquer our fiercest foes
 - 1) He defeats our “_____”

2) He defeats our spiritual _____

3) He defeats _____ and his _____

4) He defeats _____ itself

He rules with definite principles, yet enhances our freedom (vs 16-23)

1. His freedom comes, not by eliminating all guidelines or expectations, but from the _____ of His wise and liberating principles (John 8.31-32)
2. Beware of well-meaning believers who would restrict your freedom by adding _____ rules
 - 1) They might appear to be the most spiritually _____, but they are not at all
 - 2) Don't judge others worthy or unworthy as a Christian by _____ the Bible doesn't impose
3. Consider how your exercising of freedom will affect others – use it to _____ others in love (Galatians 5.13)

Additional Scriptures cited: Romans 6.16; 2 Corinthians 8.9; Hebrews 4.15; Romans 11.22; 2 Corinthians 5.17; Revelation 12.12; Hebrews 2.14-15; 1 Corinthians 15.55-56; 8.9