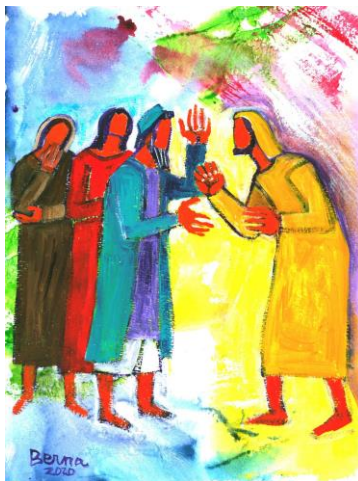


# WHICH JESUS



These must be the last days!

Never in all these centuries have there been so many versions of Jesus among those who claim to be Christians!

## **There is the Left-wing Jesus.**

The Left-wing Jesus is a revolutionary.

His main message is social justice.

This Jesus hangs around with the poor and the rejects of the world.

## **There is the Right-wing Jesus.**

The Right-wing Jesus has two main concerns:

Saving the babies who are being killed by abortions.

Stopping the spread of sexual confusion caused by the gays, trans and queers.

How do Christians come up with such divergent versions of Jesus?

They read the same four gospels.

They claim to be following the same Jesus who was crucified and risen.

Can they possibly be disciples of the same Lord?

When we go to those four gospels quite a different Jesus comes into view:

## **The Kingdom Jesus.**

### **The Kingdom Jesus.**

If we forget all that is going on in front of us in the Christian world and simply read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, we see a Jesus who is neither left-wing nor right-wing.

The Jesus we see in the gospels is focused on one thing:

### **The Kingdom of God.**

***“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel.”***

***“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”***

***“The kingdom of God is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”***

The kingdom of God---God’s World---arrived on this planet with Jesus.

God’s kingdom is a world where things are as they should be.

No lies.  
No sickness.  
No death.  
No strife.  
No fear.  
No hunger.  
No despair.

Jesus’ words are all about God’s kingdom, which is here only in part.

Many things had to happen before the kingdom could arrive in its fullness.

Jesus had to conquer the powers of darkness through his atoning death.

Jesus had to become the Firstborn of the New Creation (the kingdom) through his resurrection.

And the gospel of the kingdom will still have to reach every heart, every ear, of all time.

***“And I, when I am lifted up from the earth (on the cross) will draw all people to myself.”***

***John 12***

### **Who belongs to Jesus’ kingdom?**

The single mark of those who now belong to the kingdom is this:

**God’s love flows consistently from their lives toward all people.**



They feed the hungry.

They clothe the naked.

They welcome the stranger.

They care for the sick and the prisoner.

**What to look for.**

What the kingdom is like is clearly revealed in the gospels.

Jesus describes the kingdom with his words.

Jesus manifests the kingdom with his signs.

Jesus promises that one day the kingdom will replace this world of lies, sadness and despair.

**The power of the kingdom is already alive in those who walk in Jesus' steps.**

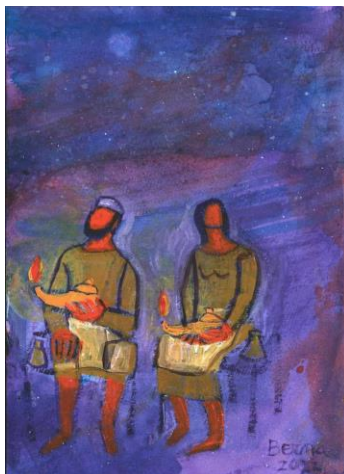
***Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.***

***"Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.***

***For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.***

***Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks."***

**Luke 12**



## **Which Jesus?**

So which Jesus are we going to follow?

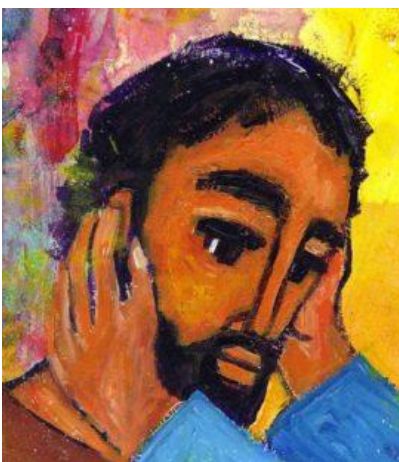
The left-wing Jesus?

The right-wing Jesus?

The Jesus of the Kingdom?

Surely Jesus himself will help us choose....

**if we but humble ourselves,  
listen to his words,  
and ask him for light.**



Message: REB November 2021

Featured Artists: Berna Lopez at [evangile-et-peinture.org](http://evangile-et-peinture.org)

*Prayer: Yes Lord, help us to lay aside whatever distracts us from choosing you and the Kingdom life you call us to. May you Jesus, only you, be the treasure of our hearts. As we see you for the treasure you are ...help us to repent...to leave our attitudes, opinions, politics and all behind and in joy to buy the field. Jesus give us your light, help us to hear your voice, so that we can choose you...the Kingdom Jesus above all else. Help us to bring you Jesus to this world...you lifted up in your offer of love, new life, and holy forgiveness. And yes, may that power be alive in us as we walk your beloved steps. Amen.*

*Maranatha Mirror*

## **Maranatha Mirror Messages**

[mmirror.net](http://mmirror.net)

