



God's Story: Coming Alive

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How does the NT present Jesus?

- The New Testament contains several literary genres
- Gospels as ancient *bioi*
 - Imitation as a desired outcome
 - Emphasis on “final hours” and the death scene
 - The aim is to present the person of Jesus

How does the NT present Jesus?

- Jesus is presented as on a mission to reveal the Father
- John 1:17-18 “The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.”
- Hebrews 1:1-4 - Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. 3 **He** is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

How does this connect to our story?

- The cross and resurrection are at the centre of God's story of salvation.

The Father



Jesus



Humanity

The Life and Transformation of Paul

- Acts 9:1-6 “Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest **2** and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. **3** Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. **4** He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” **5** He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. **6** But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

The Life and Transformation of Paul

- Galatians 1:12-16 “for I did not receive the gospel from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. **13** You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. **14** I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. **15** But when the one who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace was pleased **16** to reveal his Son to me ...”

Our Story as Participation in Christ

- Romans 6:4 “Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.”
- 1 Corinthians 6:15 “Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?”
- Galatians 2:20 “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.”
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 “If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”
- Philippians 3:10-11 “I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, **11** if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.”