



## Week 6: Jesus VS Jehovah

### INTRODUCTION – Shelley’s Shocking Behaviour

### DINE IN – Using What We DO Know To Reason About What We Don’t

1. Jesus trumps all previous revelations.  
**John 5:36; Hebrews 1:1-3; Matthew 11:27; John 1:17-18;  
Matthew 5:38-39, 44-45; Luke 9:54-55**
2. Jesus reveals that God has always been *incarnational*. He always steps into our humanity and sin.
3. Much of the Old Testament was intended as a *negative* object lesson.  
**Galatians 3:10, 23-25**
4. God takes responsibility for what he permits.  
**Exodus 12:12, 23; Hebrews 11:28; Revelation 9:11  
Job 42:11; 1:12; Jeremiah 13:14; 21:7; 34:2**

### TAKE OUT – God Weeps, While We Kill

In many cases, God doesn’t cause violence. But he uses the violence of others to accomplish his will. And so he depicts himself as doing it. In reality, Jesus shows us that God weeps, for he is the God who loves his enemies and prays for his persecutors.

Luke 19:41-44

### CONCLUSION – A *Christocentric Hermeneutic*

Jesus is our key to understanding our own Bibles. His life and teachings as recorded in the Gospels show us our most clear picture of God’s heart. We then attempt to understand the rest of Scripture in light of what is clear in Christ. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

#### For Further Research...

- Look for Greg Boyd’s upcoming book... *The Crucifixion of the Warrior God: A Christ-Centered Non-Violent Interpretation of the Old Testament*
- Listen to our online teaching series – *Strange But True (Summer 2004)*

Q & Eh? Text 647.330.2789 or email [ask@themeetinghouse.ca](mailto:ask@themeetinghouse.ca)

### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

#### Warming Up...

1. At this point, how would you respond to someone who asked you why the God of the Old Testament is so different from the God of the New Testament?
2. What are the flaws in using the Old Testament to build a theology of justified violence?

#### Look to the Book...

3. Read **John 1:1, 14, 17 & 18 & Hebrews 1:1-3**, from different translations if time permits. Using these texts, how would you respond to the following FAQs... a) How can Jesus be God and God’s Son? b) How can “the Word” be God and with God? c) Isn’t Jesus just another prophet, another revealer of God like Moses and/or Muhammed? d) What’s the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament? e) If God inspired the *whole* Bible, why should we give any part of it priority over another?

#### So What?...

4. Incarnating his reality into human experience has always been, and continues to be, God’s primary way of revealing himself. It’s no accident the New Testament calls the church “the body of Christ” in the world today (e.g., **1 Corinthians 12:27**). In what ways has the church done a good job incarnating God’s heart? In what ways have we failed to incarnate God’s heart in the world? What are some ways that you a) as a Home Church and b) as individuals, could do better at incarnating God’s truth?
5. Now that you’ve made it this far in this series, you’re ready to have some fun with what we’re all learning. Form two teams, one representing peace theology and the other just war theology. Have a Bible-based debate on the issue – Does the Bible teach Christian pacifism?

**The Meeting House | Sunday, May 16 / 23, 2010 | Gregory Boyd**

Notes are available online at [themeetinghouse.ca/teaching](http://themeetinghouse.ca/teaching)