

Col - (2) Jesus Reveals the Father

by Zac Poonen

Zac Poonen emphasizes the critical role of Christians in accurately representing the character of God through their lives, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Duration: 50:45

Topics: "Heavenly Father"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of believers living their lives in a way that reflects Jesus and manifests the Father. He draws inspiration from Romans chapter 2, where he concludes that just as the Father sent Jesus to earth to live and speak in a way that revealed the Father, believers are also sent by Jesus to do the same. The preacher encourages believers to live out their faith not only in church but also in their homes, workplaces, and even on the road. He challenges them to examine their attitudes and behaviors, including their handling of money and their pursuit of pleasure, and strive to be like Jesus in every aspect of their lives.

Transcript

So we were thinking about our thought of what we know, all of us know. How do you feel when somebody scandalizes your name? How do you feel? Tells a false story about you, completely untrue. Say somebody accuses you of adultery and spreads that rumor around, down.

Or, supposing somebody spread a story like that about your teenage daughter. We are very concerned about our name, our family name. It's so important for us.

But the Christians don't seem to be so concerned about the name of Jesus. The name of Jesus is dishonored, as I said, by Christians everywhere. And I feel that, I've seen this in my own country, I've often said it's Christians who are dishonoring the name of Christ in India, in America, everywhere, Canada, everywhere.

And many people who reject Christ have not rejected the Jesus Christ in the Bible, they have rejected the Christ they have seen in Christians. And when I give this to non-Christians in India one of the first things I have to tell them is the Christ you have seen in many Christians in India whom you have rejected, I've also rejected. That's not the real Christ.

And I reject that Christ which is manifested by most Christians I have met. So, we realize what a tremendous responsibility falls upon us when we take a name. Many nations say, you know, for example, if you are the ambassador for the Canadian government appointed you as its ambassador to some country.

If you are representing the nation just you and, you know, the media will just pick up on anything that you say. Everything is picked up. I want to tell you that there may be a lot of things in your life that are secret sins that other people cannot pick up and are not so well known for the media to follow you everywhere and on film stars.

But there is someone else who is following you around who is closer than the media and that's God and his demons. And they see everything you do they see how you behave with your wife at home how you speak your message they see how you relate to your neighbors they see how you handle your finances they see how religious you are in your business the demon man they know everything and the media publishes it in newspapers and on television the demons, through the devil, report to God see how you behave What can God say?

The Bible says that Jesus Christ is our advocate when we sin. But it says here, it's a very interesting word I hope you notice it If we sin and it's true, we will sin we have an advocate with the Father Do you know what his name is?

Tell me Please tell me Jesus Christ the Righteous It's about the only place in the New Testament where it is called Jesus Christ the Righteous because most lawyers are crooks but Jesus Christ is not a crooked lawyer who is going to defend you even when you have done something wrong A good lawyer will let you off the hook get you off the hook by telling lies about you, but not Jesus When the devil accuses you about something Jesus Christ the Righteous cannot pretend that you never did it So he's a righteous advocate and we bring so much dishonor to God's name Like I was telling you when I told this brother I said the fact that your moral failure scandalizes you among other Christians that is nothing That's garbage The opinions of men fit for the trash can Whether they praise you or present

you throw it in the trash can Think of what the demons of the devil have said to God about you and let that disturb you more than the fact that Oh, I lost it That's the thing that I told you The first book of the Bible, Job, the first chapter is about what goes on there in the heavenlies and that's where the name of God is dishonored in the heavenlies In the Old Testament it was Israel's name because they were earthly people it was dishonored in Egypt, it was dishonored in Assyria, Babylon, etc but today we are the heavenly people That's the difference between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant The Old Covenant, the Christian, the Northern Act, is supposed to be heavenly and it's there that the name of God is being dishonored You must always think about that The Bible says that we are

crucified with Christ buried with Him, we all know that in theory we know the verses Ephesians 2 says we were raised up together with Him and Ephesians 2 says we are seated with Him in the heavenly places and everything in Ephesians is about we are seated with Him in the heavenlies and our promises are in the heavenlies and our warfare is in the heavenlies and it is in the heavenlies that the name of God is being dishonored That's the thing that should concern us more but also on the earth So, let me show you two verses which have been a great challenge to me If I see God's standard and I want to tell you that God's standard is not what you see in other Christians it's not even what you hear in most preachers I've been a believer for 52 years and I've heard all the great preachers in my

lifetime, English speaking preachers I've read most of the great Christian authors whose books are available and they explain what it means for God's name Something which I want to share with you right now which I haven't almost ever heard anybody speak about I want to put two verses together One is, I told you that Jesus let's start with John 1, verse 18 No one has seen God in any time but Jesus, the only begotten Son of God explained the Father and that's the basis on which I want to share No one has seen God in any time and that's why we have so many religions Like, if you go to a country where nobody has ever seen an elephant or seen a picture of an elephant and you ask 20 people to draw a picture of an elephant nobody will draw along So many people have never seen God trying to

define God We have thousands of religions The only one that would explain God is the one that came from heaven Jesus explained the Father Then he said at the end of his life John 14, when Philip said to him in verse 8 Lord, just show us the Father once I mean, he had heard Jesus speaking so many wonderful things about the Father He said, Lord, just show us the Father once I mean, do for us.

He said, not for us Just do one thing for me I don't ask for anything else Just show me the Father And Jesus said, Philip He who has seen me has seen the Father Philip had seen Him for three and a half years And Philip, have you seen me? You've seen the Father You've seen me put my arm around the left? That's the Father You saw me washing everybody's feet just now? That's the Father That's how God is You saw me chasing the money changers out of the temple? That's the Father You saw me speaking words of compassion to that woman caught in adultery?

That's the Father You saw me telling the religious scholars you generational vipers how will you escape the damnation of hell? That's the Father Have you seen me? Have you heard me? You've seen the Father In the earthly life of Jesus the way He lived is to behold the kindness and the severity of God as said in Romans 11-22 You see that in Jesus' grace and truth There you see the Father So Jesus came to demonstrate to this world like you saw in John 1-8 He explained the Father by His behavior and conduct His attitude to money revealed what the Father was like The Pharisees revealed what the Father was like to His stumbling, bumbling disciples revealed His scarcity The Pharisees revealed the Father His whole life was revealing the Father Have you seen me?

Have you heard me? You've seen what the Father is like And one day when we meet that Heavenly Father we will discover, we will see He is exactly like Jesus The Father we will discover God is a very, very born of God person not progressing in humanity That's why I say most preachers I've met they don't know God at all He who has seen me has seen the Father Keep that in mind I want you to link that with this verse John 20 after the Resurrection He said He anticipated the day of Pentecost when they were going to be filled with the Holy Spirit by breathing on them John 20-22 He breathed on them and said, Receive the Holy Spirit That takes us back to Genesis 1 where the same Jesus before He was known as Jesus breathed on a pile of mud and there was a living soul there at Him So then in the pile of mud Jesus breathed on it and He suddenly became, He got a human spirit and I say here, the same Jesus that was the old creation Now as the new creation also begins with a breathing He breathed on that and said, Receive the Holy Spirit He was anticipating the day when they would be filled with the Holy Spirit So I say, the difference between a spirit filled Christian and a non-spirit filled Christian is the difference between a living Adam and a pile of mud Same shape, think of Adam Think for a moment of Adam before God breathed on him You know how he looked?

He looked exactly like you and me made from mud with a lot of water The moment God breathed on him He became a living human being That's it And now the question is Why did Jesus breathe on them and fill

them with the Holy Spirit As I said, this is an anticipation It was fully fulfilled on the day that God took business for four days The purpose, now listen to this A lot of controversy concerning the history of the Holy Spirit So you need to listen to Steven Hutton and all types of things I've been in something all up here Why have I breathed on you the Holy Spirit Verse 21, previous verse As the Father sent me I send you And in order to fulfill that ministry Here's the Holy Spirit See the connection there?

Verse 21 and 22 So God wants to fill me with the Spirit Be His representative on earth Just like Jesus As the Father sent me So send I you And in order for you to fulfill that Here's the Holy Spirit What for? Just to speak in tongues? No As the Father sent me So send I you Why did the Father send me?

The Father sent Jesus Saying go to earth And live and speak and conduct yourself 24 hours a day In such a way that at the end of your life You'll be able to say If you have seen me, you have seen the Father That was his ministry Now as the Father sent me So send I you Now go and live at home Place of work When you travel and drive around the world Here's how you must behave You must be able to say If you have seen me, you have seen Jesus I want to ask you I've never heard I was in America when I was 19 and now I'm 52 years old I wish somebody had laid a hold on me And said, Zach, don't you ever help me Show Jesus by your life And I wish somebody had got a hold on me And told me how I could do that If somebody had held me, every time you lose your temper You're manifesting the devil Every

time you've lost sight of women That's how the race of Adam is But you're not supposed to be like that God built you with the spirit so that you can say If you have seen me, you have seen Jesus And when you get married You should be able to tell your wife Darling, do you want to see what Jesus' life could be And you should be able to tell your husband Honey, do you want to see what Jesus' life could be How many of you believe that's even your calling Even on whether you're hurting But you never do it unless you feel that's your calling Then you can look at your brothers in your church Who have watched you, maybe you're a leader And they see how you conduct yourself as a leader You can say, if you've seen me, you've seen how Jesus was The day you are gripped with that I mean, there's a

nice thought you got today I see a lot of people, it's holy They haven't understood anything They're only seeking to get honour for some new thought That's not your calling, brothers Your calling is not to get honour I remember When I started to preach initially How children are, you know Children like to behave like grown-ups And in the early days I wanted to preach like someone in a synagogue I said, Lord, I don't want to preach like any of these people I want to study how you preach There's not much written about the way Jesus preached But I can get a little picture The Holy Spirit can show me from Scripture How Jesus preached So, in everything You should be able to say If you've seen me, you've seen a little bit about Jesus And as the years go by As you watch me, you'll see more and

more About what Jesus is like I'm not completely done yet No, the building is under construction And you see the buildings under construction around us They don't look so grand with scaffolding But it's under construction And one day you see a wonderful building there But that didn't come overnight And so, every year, the people who know us best Should be able to see And say I know a little more about what Jesus is like Because I've seen my husband I've seen my wife I've seen my brother I've seen my sister And I can see what Jesus is like It's not the message, it's not the words People have seen me, have seen Jesus That is how we glorify His name It's not just by distributing fracks And witnessing on the streets I did all that I remember a town with a hill base In two years, I've covered

every single street In that town, standing in every corner Preaching about Jesus by my life We can be so saddest in an event, in an activity And just like Martha, doing this, that, and the other And the Lord just repeats at the end of it Why do you worry about so many things?

Why don't you just sit in this building? And do you think our ministry will be less effective?

I've discovered that once I got a grip With this truth That my main calling in life Just like Jesus' calling was to manifest the Father Was to manifest Jesus in everything I do The way I handle money I said, Lord, I want to handle money exactly like you handle it And I want to increasingly become like that I want to have the same attitude to money That Jesus had I want to be able to look at every woman in the world The way Jesus, exactly the way Jesus looked at every woman A soul to be saved From sin To look at every hypocrite The way Jesus looked at the Pharisees I want to be like Jesus I don't want to make a reputation for kindness and gentleness And say to the Pharisees, oh you're a nice people Jesus never said that There's so much of an honour seeking You know, this is when they tell

preachers You shouldn't say honour things to people You shouldn't say things that will hurt them He mentioned how to win friends and influence people All that kind of stuff Jesus didn't do that He represented the Father He loved people too much to see them going to hell And to keep quiet about their real condition He loved them too much You don't love them too much I see Jesus turning around to Simon Peter and saying Get behind me Satan Get behind me Satan But Satan's right So it's a wonderful thing to look at the life of Jesus And see, Lord how shall I honour your name Why did you build me with a home So that I can represent you You know when Jesus came to earth People had such a wrong idea Of what God was like Israel was full of Bible scholars Great theologians Who were giving a wrong

picture of God And Jesus came and said it all right Correct picture And they got mad at him Because when he explained what God was really like That showed up these theologians and scholars As completely wrong And that's why they killed him Because they lost their reputation In fact, a lot of sincere people Were very struck by those theologians If you had asked Simon Peter Before he met Jesus Well Peter Or Simon Can you tell me the name Of some really godly people He would have told you the names of some pharisees Some old long synagogues Or some godly men And then Jesus gets up And calls them a bunch of vipers Snakes Ready to go to hell Can you imagine the shock When they think that these people Who they consider to be the greatest men of God In their generation Jesus exposes them all as

hypocrites Simon Peter was really evil And there were very few who saw it Most people still thought Those great preachers of that day Explained scripture so well But they didn't manifest Christ And they did not produce in their congregations People who were Christ-like They produced a bunch of people Who knew the scriptures Not Christ-like people And Jesus wasn't just trying to produce people He was producing people who were just being divine So now That was 2000 years ago Apply that situation to today As the Father sent me, so send I you I want all of you, if you call yourselves Christians To take that word and apply it to yourself As the Father sent me, so send I you I go out into a Christian world Where people have got a wrong understanding of God They've got a wrong understanding of

God Just like Israel had a wrong understanding of God 2000 years ago because of the great theologians And scholars presenting a wrong picture of God Okay, what is the picture of God That most Christians are getting today I'm talking about people who tend to be polytheists They get the picture of God From the television evangelists As if God was crazy after money Because they're always asking for money As the Father sent me, so send I you Okay, here are the offering guys who are talking around I mean, does that

deserve you When Jesus saw people making money in the name of religion He said, get out of here, if you want to make money Go to the marketplace and make as much as you like He got angry And I want to tell you in Jesus' name If you can watch these television preachers And every

preacher goes on begging for money And you don't get angry, you are not Christ-like That's not the place to be gentle and nice Jesus wasn't gentle and nice to his people Who were dishonoring the name of God by making money We think Christ-likeness is, always be very nice Don't say anything hurtful to people Well, then you haven't seen that Christ is a liar You've got a wrong understanding of Christ Because you don't read the scriptures How did he react when he saw those people making money in the name of religion How did Jesus react when he saw people making money in the marketplace That's your God, you're in the marketplace But when he saw that happening in the house of God He made a way And I believe this is Christ-likeness And I believe most Christians are not Christ-like Because they

can sit and watch these television preachers and be quite calm about it I'm never calm about it It makes my blood boil when I see these poor people being exploited That's what I say, a wrong picture of God And most Christians will just sit back and try to be Christ-like They're not being Christ-like, they're being like the devil The devil is the only one that's happy I'm just taking one area Or think of preachers who fall into adultery And the favorite example they quote is David He soon remained a slave Right!

That proves you're an old covenant preacher That proves you're building an old covenant church Be honest about that also David was not a great covenant preacher Do you find Paul falling into adultery? Do you find Peter falling into adultery? Do you go back to the old covenant and find comfort for your sin? And multitudes of preachers are like that They fall into homosexuality and adultery And they quote David So we're living in such a time A wrong understanding of God I don't expect everybody to do it The greatest preacher that ever walked on this earth And all you would find among the thousands Do you think that's a failure?

It wasn't. He didn't have a mega church And I believe this is a word we need to hear in our time My brothers and sisters You need to hear what God is calling you to do It doesn't matter if you're an ordinary young person Your responsibility is not just the responsibility of preachers Every Christian is supposed to be filled with the Holy Spirit So that the name of God, which is dishonored Will be honored once again In a land like Israel Where there was a caricature of God A wrong picture of God That was being portrayed by the preachers of his time Came Jesus and showed what God was like False teacher, heretic Beelzebul, prince of devils And Jesus said to us If they call the head of the family Beelzebul How much more they will call you I want to ask you my dear brothers and sisters What are the names you're being called?

You know that's the way you know you're part of God's family Jesus said that in Matthew 10 If they call the head of the family How much more they will call the members of his family That's how I know I'm a member of his family Jesus said rejoice When people speak ill of you because of me But today we have a Christendom That follows people who are acclaimed by men But they're not manifesting Christ I don't know whether that concerns you When I see all this money racketeering And I see the amount of racketeering Going on in the area of money In Christian work Money that's given by sincere people The way it's being used in orphanages I see a moment of dishonor upon your name Does it concern you that the name of Jesus Is being dishonored This is weighing down Your daughter is being scandalized Your daughter is such a pure virgin She's being scandalized as a prostitute You know the whole thing is false You wouldn't It would disturb you And when you love Jesus When you see his name being dishonored All over the world Let it begin with me Lord Don't let a sentence that I speak to my wife at home One sentence

Make the devil dishonor the name of Jesus Let it begin with me Let it begin with me Lord On this day when people are seeking to go up and up On titles and positions On honor How many people take the words of Jesus seriously Don't be all rattled We have a prison where people seek what titles Somebody wants to be reverend so and so Somebody wants to be right reverend so and so Somebody wants to be pastor so and so Every title is meant to say to other believers Listen, I'm one step above you fellas Whereas Jesus went down to their feet On the last day of his earthly life He was not a director or a CEO He was a slave washing his disciples' feet And if you're going in the same direction as Jesus As you progress in the likeness of Jesus You will become more and more a servant Of your fellow believers I remember I got a letter once From a college in the United States Saying, dear Mrs.

Blackwoman We'd like you to be a doctorate For the folks who are working on I love you Dr. Blackwoman For Jesus told me I should be A servant Do you represent Jesus more accurately If somebody calls you doctor I mean if you're a medical doctor How is it that people don't seem to have any light on all this They wanted to make Jesus a king He ran away, read that in John chapter 6 He who has seen me has seen Jesus That should be your goal They should see you washing people's feet Symbolically That the act of being a servant In everything Who made no demands on people He never expected people to respect him If only he was his own disciple You're forgiven He said I'm only the son of man I see when he said I'm the son of man That he used by himself most frequently I understand it to mean It's my interpretation, you're an exemplary man That's what he read in Matthew 12 This man sucks on our demons What a thing To call the son of God the prince of devils Can you think of a greater insult than that You and I have been insulted by many people But we're not almighty God We're just sinners And even if people say bad things about us A lot of it may be true Because there's so much corruption But to call me the son of God, the prince of devils Heavy sword in my hands I say Lord Jesus make me like you Make me like you That whatever people may say against me Let me always remember The son of God who was the son of Christ There's a little poem That I used to sing to myself As to what it means to pick up a cross And fall asleep And death to the world You cannot represent Christ adequately Unless you're really willing to die for the world And that's why that poem meant a lot He said Death to the world And its applause To all the customs, fashions, laws Of those who hate The humbling cross So dead That no desire may rise Or rise To appear good or great or wise In any but my Savior's eyes Can you say that?

Death to the world And its applause To all the customs, fashions So dead That no desire even rises To appear good or great or rise In anyone's eyes If you have that attitude I believe the Lord will help you Through the power of His Holy Spirit In the days to come We can't let Him on our backs And say Lord have mercy on me And fill you miserably By the way of the church My honor seeking, my money seeking My pleasure seeking, my lust seeking Those secret moments when I watched Internet monography for maybe only 5 seconds Dishonored journey Forgive me You think nobody watches Internet monography You lock the door and nobody's there But all the demons are watching all the time Just waiting for you to click on that site So that they can report to the devil To report to God Do you believe that there is a supernatural world?

Do you believe that the angels will hang their head in shame When they see a person calling himself a believer Watching Internet monography We have to take this matter seriously The name of God is last seen Because of us Because we are not willing to share The death of Jesus on the cross If I choose to die And say Lord I will call that name And you find that the Holy Spirit strengthens us And empowers us, any one of you There is no question against God What He did for Jesus, He will do for you That's a great thought that came to my heart And I will prove that to you in conclusion Do you know where I got it from?

Romans chapter 2 Sometimes you get revelations Most unlikely revelations from a worse scripture That doesn't even seem to talk about that If you read this verse, Romans 2 verse 7 What do you get from this verse? We are supposed to meditate on the word of God Not just read it Romans 2 verse 7 says There is no partiality with God Sometimes when I come to a verse like that There is a red light And I don't want to crash through the red light I stop, not rush on to the next verse Because I want to finish reading the chapter What I got from that as a meditator was this God is a father Many fathers have promises They have one favorite son and one favorite daughter And they do more for that than they do for the others God is not like that I've been a father, I've got four sons And as a father I've tried my best to be like God To my children All will be exactly the same I will not do more for my oldest son Which I wouldn't do for the others And I say, let me apply that to God now Jesus was called the only begotten son of God When he came to earth God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son He's never called the only begotten son He's called the firstborn son Do you know the difference?

What is the difference between the only begotten son and the firstborn son? Many years ago when I had only one son I could say that's my only son As other children came along and said he's my firstborn son That's the difference On the day of the resurrection Jesus said these amazing words to Mary Magdalene Almost the first words that man heard After Jesus rose from the dead Go and tell my brothers Before he went to the cross he told his disciples in John 15 I'm not following servants anymore I'm following my friends That itself was a promotion But after his resurrection he said My brothers Go and tell my brothers That I am sent to my father and your father It's my word now He never used it before Sometimes he would say your father But now it's different My father and your father combined You'll never see anywhere in the resurrection My father and your father My God and your God Those disciples that have now become And the possibility of becoming sons of God And the Spirit came and the Spirit bore witness to them That they were the sons of God now Not servants like Israel but sons And Jesus was the elder brother now The firstborn son No longer the only begotten son It's an amazing truth that's in scripture If I had time I would show you all those verses And Romans 8-29 says that God Has predestined us It's the only verse that speaks about predestination by the way Not to go to heaven or hell Predestined that we might be conformed To the image of His Son So that His Son Might be the firstborn among many brothers And I'm one of them Jesus is the eldest brother And we, men and women, are His younger brothers and sisters Now there's no question of any good God What God did for Jesus Boy, I remember when that truth gripped me I said Lord Jesus is amazing What God did for Jesus He'll do for me Provided I fulfill the same conditions I got rid of that life and said What God did for Jesus He'll do for me No, God gives His grace to the humble If Jesus was proud He wouldn't have got grace He was humble all the time and got grace If I'm humble all the time I'll get grace too And grace gave Jesus the power to overcome sin When sin can't, God's power still remains the same As He helped Jesus to overcome 1 Thessalonians 3 verse 21 A little phrase here If you overcome as I overcame That's the phrase To overcome as He overcame He will sit with me on my throne I want to sit with Jesus on His throne As I overcame He doesn't say in this verse Because I am the son of God Some of us say that Hang on, let me get that scripture Here's what Jesus said I sat down with my Father on His throne Because I overcame And you, if you overcome, you'll sit with me on my throne

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