



Myth or Majesty? - February 2024

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:13-21

"And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live. For our Lord Jesus Christ has shown me that I must soon leave this earthly life, so I will work hard to make sure you always remember these things after I am gone. For we were not making up clever stories when we told you about the powerful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw his majestic splendor with our own eyes when he received honor and glory from God the Father. The voice from the majestic glory of God said to him, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy." We ourselves heard that voice from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain. Because of that experience, we have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns, and Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts. Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.

In Peter's final letter to the church, he seeks to "remind them as long as he lives" that the story of Jesus Christ is true. It is not a man-made myth. It is the very majesty of God revealed.

An increasing percentage of the population believes that the Bible's stories about Jesus are myths-- untrue stories. This is not a new phenomenon! C.S. Lewis addressed this problem in the 1940s, but the roots of this skepticism reach back to the 1800s.

Lewis argues that the story of Jesus is not a myth on par with other cultural myths, but is the true story upon which all myth is based. There are countless myths, stories, and traditions that actually point to the true story of Christ.

Questions:

1. What myths, stories, or traditions are you familiar with that "point" to the story of Christ?
2. What modern stories tell of redemption, salvation, or a messiah figure? (For example, Lord of the Rings, Chronicles of Narnia, Star Wars, superhero movies).
3. Discuss how these can be avenues to sharing the Gospel with people who don't know Jesus.
4. How did Paul contextualize the Gospel in Acts 17?
5. Why do you believe that the stories of Jesus are true? How can you share this with others?

