

Amazed At Jesus

*"When his parents saw him, they were astonished."
Luke 2:48 (NIV)*

*"All the people were astonished and said, 'Could this be the Son of David?'"
Matthew 12:23 (NIV)*

There is no doubt that the people who encountered our Lord while He was among us were remarkably affected by His words and actions. Jesus made a very deep and lasting impression on all who met Him.

There was a small but growing group of people who learned to be jealous of His popularity with the common people. A segment of the population became hateful of His wisdom and remarkable teaching. Jesus was able to give clear and compelling answers to their trick questions – designed to trap Him.

Other people resisted His claims to be God and sought opportunities to execute Him. This group of people finally succeeded in their efforts but they had not counted on the fact that Jesus was able to raise Himself from the dead (John 10:17-18).

One thing was certain. Everybody knew that He had unbelievable power and

some who hated Him realized that if they did not soon stop Him the entire nation would go after Him and leave them without their positions of leadership (John 11:47-53). As much as they hated Jesus they knew He could raise the dead, make the blind see, cause the deaf to hear and cure all forms of illness.

They also knew that arguing with Him was futile as He knew the Scriptures better than any of them. After many attempts with trick questions – to trap Him in His words – they finally gave up and stopped their feeble efforts (Matthew 22:46).

What is so remarkable is that for all the hatred and jealousy that surrounded Jesus everyone had a sense of amazement – even awe – when they encountered Him. Enemies and friends alike knew He was different. The centurion who supervised His execution was in awe of Jesus and the way He died on the cross (Luke

23:47-48).

May I ask you if you have taken enough time to examine this carpenter turned preacher Who could astound all who met Him? He did not have political office. He never went to university. He was not lauded by the leaders in government or the business community. He never travelled the world. His public career was no more than 3 years long.

What an amazing person Jesus was and is! All who encounter Him are truly astonished. There is so much more to Him than we can fathom. All attempts to understand Him fail at some point and we are left incredulous. Will you fall at His feet and lose yourself in wonder, amazement, worship and praise? There is no one like Him. Be amazed! This One wishes you to be is friend, His follower. How amazing!

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