

A Beautiful Portrait of Deity from the Gospel of John



Christ the Eternal Son: A Beautiful Portrait of Deity from the Gospel of John by A. W. Tozer

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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The Gospel of John presents a beautiful and compelling portrait of deity. Through the words and actions of Jesus, John reveals the nature of God and his relationship with humanity. This portrait is both personal and profound, offering us a glimpse into the very heart of God.

Jesus as the Divine Son of God

One of the most striking things about the Gospel of John is the way it portrays Jesus as the divine Son of God. In the opening verses, John declares that Jesus is "the Word" who was with God from the beginning and who is himself God (John 1:1). This is a bold claim, and it sets the tone for the rest of the Gospel. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus is consistently portrayed as being equal to the Father and sharing in his divine nature.

For example, in John 5:18, Jesus says, "I and the Father are one." This statement has been interpreted in many different ways, but it is clear that Jesus is claiming to be on an equal footing with the Father. He is not merely a created being, but rather the eternal Son of God. This is further confirmed in John 10:30, where Jesus says, "I and the Father are one." Here, Jesus is not simply saying that he and the Father are in agreement, but rather that they are one in essence. Jesus is the divine Son of God, and he shares in the Father's divine nature.

Jesus as the Word Made Flesh

Another important aspect of John's portrait of deity is the way he presents Jesus as the Word made flesh. In John 1:14, John writes, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." This verse is a beautiful and succinct summary of the incarnation. The Word, who is God, became human in the person of Jesus Christ. He came to live among us, to share our experiences, and to reveal the Father to us.

The incarnation is a mystery that we cannot fully understand, but it is also a truth that we must embrace. Jesus is both fully God and fully human. He is the bridge between heaven and earth, the one who makes it possible for us to know God and to have a relationship with him.

Jesus as the One Who Reveals the Father

One of the most important roles of Jesus in the Gospel of John is to reveal the Father to us. Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). This is a bold claim, but it is true. Jesus is the only one who can lead us to the Father and show us what he is like.

Jesus reveals the Father to us through his words and his actions. He teaches us about the Father's love, mercy, and grace. He also shows us how to live in a way that is pleasing to the Father. Through Jesus, we come to know the Father and to experience his love for us.

Implications for Our Understanding of God

The portrait of deity that we find in the Gospel of John has profound implications for our understanding of God. First, it shows us that God is personal. He is not a distant, impersonal force, but rather a loving Father who is deeply involved in our lives. Second, it shows us that God is relational. He created us for relationship with him, and he desires to have a close and personal relationship with each one of us. Third, it shows us that God is accessible. He is not hidden from us, but rather he has come to us in the person of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus, we can know God and experience his love for us.

Implications for Our Relationship with Him

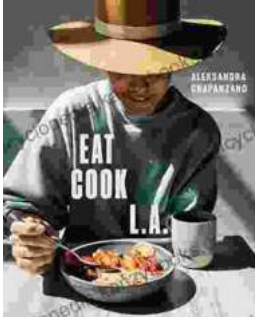
The portrait of deity that we find in the Gospel of John also has profound implications for our relationship with him. First, it shows us that we can have a personal relationship with God. Through Jesus Christ, we can come to know God and experience his love for us. Second, it shows us that we can trust God. He is a faithful and loving Father who will never abandon us. Third, it shows us that we can hope in God. He is the source of our hope and strength, and he will never let us down. The Gospel of John gives us a beautiful and compelling portrait of deity. It shows us that God is personal, relational, and accessible. He is a loving Father who desires to have a close and personal relationship with each one of us. Through Jesus Christ, we can know God and experience his love for us.



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