

Jesus Teaches Us

Comparing Spiritual Ideas from the weekly Bible Lesson
with the sayings of Jesus from the Gospel of Thomas

by Trevor Leach CS

Christ Jesus says:

“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.” (Matthew 24:35)

“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;” (John 8:31)

Introduction

The Gospel of Thomas is an English translation of a Coptic copy of a Greek document of Jesus' sayings recorded in Syria **by the disciple Thomas**, in the 1st or 2nd century AD. This document has been divided into 114 Logia (verses).

It is believed the Gospel of Thomas is a primitive version of Jesus' sayings without ecclesiastical additions / interpretations. The Gospel of Thomas gives us a direct understanding of how Jesus taught and inspired his disciples. In these hidden sayings, Jesus is sharing **his keys of knowledge** so we too can seek and find for ourselves the Father's Kingdom (Kingdom of Heaven) and enter it. He teaches about fasting from the world (mortality), and seeking and finding (truth) a place of rest (experiencing the Christ) in oneness.

The meaning of the logia is deliberately presented in this puzzling way so as not to be immediately obvious, as Jesus invites us **to seek and find the truth ourselves, by interacting with his teachings.**

Christ Jesus

February 25 – March 3, 2019

Would you be interested in joining a **“Gospel of Thomas Study Group”** with Trevor Leach? Please email mark@prayerfulliving.com if you are interested. We'll let you know how the idea progresses.

Some may ask: **“Why should we look at the Gospel of Thomas?”** It is the only way we can discover Jesus' keys of knowledge and so transform our knowing as he requested.

Who can resist Jesus' invitation to become disciples? In this exercise we present spiritual ideas from the weekly Bible Lesson with correlative logia (sayings) from the Gospel of Thomas.

GOLDEN TEXT:

Mat_21:42 The stone (to :)

... The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner:

Spiritual Ideas from Golden Text:

The stone the builders rejected is head of the corner

Correlative logia from the Gospel of Thomas:*

Logion 43: His disciples said to him: Who art thou, that thou shouldst say these things to us? Jesus said to them From what I say unto you, you do not understand who I am, but you have become as the Jews; for they love the tree and hate its fruit, and they love the fruit and hate the tree.

Trevor's comment: Jesus said, understand who I am, the Christ

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com:thomas:gospelthomas43.html>

Spiritual Ideas from Responsive Reading:

Jesus Christ is our chief cornerstone

Correlative logia from the Gospel of Thomas:*

Logion 8: And he said: Man is like a wise fisherman, who cast his net into the sea and drew it up from the sea full of small fish. Among them the wise fisherman found a large good fish. He threw down all the small fish into the sea; he chose the large fish without trouble. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Trevor's comment: Be like a wise fisherman and choose Christ, the large fish [Dragnet]

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/thomas/gospelthomas8.html>

Spiritual Ideas from Section 1:

Jesus presented Christ, his Divine nature

Correlative logia from the Gospel of Thomas:*

Logion 104: They said [to him]: Come, let us pray today and fast. Jesus said: What then is the sin that I have done, or wherein have I been vanquished? But when the bridegroom comes forth from the bridal chamber, then let them fast and pray.

Trevor's comment: Value the everpresent Christ, and fear not [Friends of the bridegroom]

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com:thomas:gospelthomas104.html>

Spiritual Ideas from Section 2:

Jesus moved mountains with faith, prayer & compassion

Correlative logia from the Gospel of Thomas:

Logion 31: Jesus said: No prophet is acceptable in his village; a physician does not heal those who know him.

Trevor's comment: Be Christly, diffuse personality [light under bushel]

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/thomas/gospelthomas31.html>

Spiritual Ideas from Section 3:

Leave the false landmarks & precipitate harmony

Correlative logia from the Gospel of Thomas:

Logion 42: Jesus said: Become passers-by.

Trevor's comment: Be Passersby, become your real self as ahamkara* passes away

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/thomas/gospelthomas42.html>

*personal sense, mortal mind

Spiritual Ideas from Section 4:

Jesus gave his disciples power to heal

Logion 13: Jesus said to his disciples: Make a comparison to me, and tell me whom I am like. Simon Peter said to him: Thou art like a righteous angel. Matthew said to him: Thou art like a wise man of understanding. Thomas said to him: Master, my mouth will no wise suffer that I say whom thou art like. Jesus said: I am not thy master, because thou hast drunk, thou hast become drunk from the bubbling spring which I have measured out. And he took him, went aside, and spoke to him three words. Now when Thomas came to his companions, they asked him: What did Jesus say unto thee? Thomas said to them: If I tell you one of the words which he said to me, you will take up stones and throw them me; and a fire will come out of the stones and burn you up.

Trevor's comment: Imbibe the bubbling spring of Jesus' Secret Sayings, Christly spiritual ideas

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/thomas/gospelthomas13.html>

Spiritual Ideas from Section 5:

The Science Jesus taught must triumph over all material beliefs

The promises will be fulfilled

Correlative logia from the Gospel of Thomas:

Logion 90: Jesus said: Come unto me, for easy is my yoke and my lordship is gentle, and you shall find rest for yourselves.

Trevor's comment: Jesus said "come to me and find your repose/ rest in Christ"

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/thomas/gospelthomas90.html>

Spiritual Ideas from Section 6:

It is our duty to follow Jesus & demonstrate the greater works

Correlative logia from the Gospel of Thomas:

Logion 86: Jesus said: [The foxes have] the[ir holes] and the birds have [their nest, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head and rest.

Trevor's comment: Find your nest/rest in Christ, your true identity

See also: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/thomas/gospelthomas86.html>

* We are using the "Scholars' Translation" of the Gospel of Thomas by Stephen Patterson and Marvin Meyer. <http://users.misericordia.edu//davies/thomas/Trans.htm>

Trevor Leach has spoken on the significance of the Gospel of Thomas as part of one's prayerful work. See the Prayerful Living Learning Center:

<http://www.prayerfulliving.com/learningcenter/LCTL075.html>

And

<http://www.prayerfulliving.com/learningcenter/LCTL079-081.html>