

## **Jesus did not come for the marginalised.**

Jesus did not come for the marginalised, poor, oppressed and insignificant. He came for everyone.

Because everyone is spiritually poor, oppressed, immiserated and in bondage, whether they've seen it or not. Everyone is under the burden of sin, catastrophically alienated from the life of God.

So, God came down to save His people from their sins.

“You shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins.”  
(Matt 1:21)

Truly a man to save men. Truly God to lead them to God.

Jesus is the Saviour – not of the downtrodden – but of all who receive Him by repentance and faith.

The cast of people involved in His miraculous birth is not a cast of outsiders – it's a cast of all people, outsiders included. Noblemen were there, as were shepherds and peasants.

Of course, those who are physically poor are more likely to understand their spiritual poverty. That is a major reason why Jesus was a man of the people more than the establishment. They received Him and saw what those blinded by status could not see.

“For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.” (1 Cor 1:26)

But there were always those in the establishment who came to Him and believed, from the eastern magi, to Nicodemus, to the Apostle Paul.

This is a stark warning to many of us in the West. We are not poor, not unworldly. We are wealthy, comfortable, self-absorbed, lacking nothing. Indeed, those of us who are younger have been taught how incredible we are through most of our education and upbringing.

How many of us really know our spiritual poverty?

“You say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have no need of anything,” and you do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.”  
(Jesus, Rev 3:17)

Unless God shows us our grave need, the salvation Jesus won for us (no matter who we are) will be out of our grasp.

“They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” (Jesus, Luke 5:31-32)

If you are seeking God, it is a very worthy thing to pray that He will show you your true need of the Great Physician – the Saviour of sinners.

The heights of salvation are for those who know the depths of repentance.

Christmas is for sinners. I thank God He showed me I'm among them.

**Martyn Iles**

