

“Six Million Dollar” Man

Presentation Handout

Six Million Dollar Man TV Show

- "Steve Austin, astronaut. A man barely alive.... Gentlemen, we can rebuild him. We have the technology. We have the capability to make the world's first bionic man. Steve Austin will be that man. Better than he was before. Better...stronger...faster."
- This is the famous opening lines from the popular 70's TV sci-fi action series: Six Million Dollar Man.
- Col. Steve Austin (played by Lee Majors), an American astronaut, is seriously injured when his lifting body-spaceship crashes, leaving him severely injured.
- Austin is “rebuilt” through a government sanctioned surgery that replaces his damaged right arm, both legs, and left eye with bionic implants, which give him superhuman strength or ability, like:
 - Seeing clearly at great distances with his bionic eye
 - Running at speeds of 60 plus miles per hours with his bionic legs
 - Lifting heavy weight (the force of a bulldozer) with his bionic arm
- Then Col. Austin uses his new bionic powers to battle evil as a secret agent with the Office of Scientific Information (OSI) throughout the series.
- This sci-fi action series illustrates what God had to do in response to humanity's sin and continual failure in relationship to Him and His covenant. He needed a new Man—more than a “rebuilt” bionic man/humanity—that would live in faith-relationship with Him and in faithfulness to His covenant blessing that He originally intended/created human beings to experience.
- What did God do...?
 - Created a new human, a new humanity by entering humanity—the human race—Himself as the new “human”, a new “humanity”, a new “Israel” in the person of Jesus Christ *{Isaiah 49:3, 5-6, 8; Hebrews 2:6-9}*.
 - Where we failed as humans, as humanity in general, Jesus succeeded!
 - Christ Jesus is the ideal human being who was faithful to God and His covenant—living in a unbroken relationship with God the Father, believing His promises, and living as God intended/created humans originally! This is so much better than some sci-fi action TV series!

Jesus: the New Human, New Humanity, New/Last Adam

- Adam's (our) failures and condition
 - Self-sufficient *{Genesis 3:6-7}*
 - Broken/sinful *{Genesis 3:7}*
 - Broken faith connection with God *{Genesis 3:8}*

- Broken relationships with other humans {**Genesis 3:12-13**}
- Sinful nature bound/open to Satan and his temptations {**Genesis 3:15, 22-24**}
- Christ Jesus' Faithfulness—God's answer to Adam's sin
 - God-dependent/reliant {**Isaiah 42:1-2, 5-6; 49:3, 8; John 5:19, 30; 8:23; 14:28**}
 - An independent spirit part of human nature, particularly in the U.S. where it's even "deified."
 - This spirit/attitude "kills" one's relationship-walk with God.
 - A "God helps those who help themselves" attitude will only produce self-sufficiency, not faith dependence on God.
 - Jesus **didn't** live faithful to God through human self-sufficiency. Neither, did He live by divinity. Yes, He was God, divine, yet while in humanity He lived by faith, not divinity, the same as we can!
 - Jesus' God-dependence is illustrated by two Scriptures:
 - ❖ **John 14:10** ~ Jesus' obedience, faithfulness, good works occurred because God the Father was doing them in and through Jesus, not done by Himself.
 - ❖ **Hebrews 9:14** ~ Jesus was so God-dependent He couldn't even die for our sins without the empowering of the Holy Spirit who strengthened Him to do it. It wasn't some kind of "spiritual grit" that got Him through the ordeal of Gethsemane, the trial, before Pilate & Herod, or the crucifixion!
 - Holy {**Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:31-35; 2:40**}
 - What hope does this give me as a human being? Jesus was holy, but I'm not! Again, Jesus didn't live by divinity but by faith like we can.
 - Another struggle for us as humans in relating to Jesus is the thought: how can a holy Jesus understand my struggles and temptations as a result of sin?
 - Yes, Christ is/was holy (no sin), yet He could be tempted just like Adam & Eve in the Garden though they were perfect. They sinned and so could have Jesus {**Hebrews 2:8; 4:14-16; 5:5, 7-9**}. But, He didn't {**Hebrews 4:14-16**}! This is our hope!!
 - Jesus' temptation to help Himself—to live self-sufficient in His divinity—is the same root sin that led Adam & Eve to sin and the same root struggle/temptation we wrestle with.
 - Unbroken faith relationship/oneness with God {**John 5:19-23; 10:30; 17:22, 24**}
 - Adam & Eve disconnected—broke their relationship/oneness—with God through their sin and so have all of us as human beings, but Jesus never did. He was/is one with God the Father!
 - This oneness Jesus had with God; we can also have with our heavenly Father through Jesus {**John 17:21**}!
 - Healthy relationships with others {**John 13:34-35; 17:22-23; 1 John 4:7-8, 11**}
 - How we treat others reflects our love-walk-relationship with God.
 - We can't claim to love God and treat others indifferently or with disdain, the opposite of how He would. This reflects we haven't really experienced God's love or don't understand it.
 - This doesn't mean we condone sin either. Jesus didn't with the woman at the well {**John 4**} or the woman caught in adultery {**John 8**}. Yet, He still showed them respect, care, and a love that won them to Himself in salvation.

- His treatment of others is the way we should treat others too! Having the “truth” doesn’t give us a license to treat others like the “devil.”
- Overcame Satan and his temptations {*Luke 4:8a, 13-14; John 14:30; Hebrews 4:14-16*}
- In the Wilderness of Temptation we see Jesus tempted by Satan in the same areas/points Adam & Eve were tempted. However, praise God, Jesus was victorious where Adam & Eve failed and where we fail too!

Taste/Flesh	Sight/Pride	Intellect/Eyes
Adam/Eve: saw...food	Adam/Eve: pleasant... eyes	Adam/Eve: desirable... wise
Jesus: hungry...make bread	Jesus: world’s glory... pride	Jesus: worship Satan... avoid the crucifixion

- Jesus as the new human, humanity, Israel succeeded where Adam & Eve failed, where the children of Israel failed, and where we fail. He didn’t succumb to Satan’s temptations. This is our hope and salvation!!

LIVING CHOICE: Will you lean into Jesus as your hope, salvation, and power against Satan’s temptations, living in His new humanity that God originally created you for?