HOW JESUS TREATED PEOPLE

Mark Moore Prague, Czech Republic, March 2001

A. See the attached chart.

- 1. Five categories of people Jesus dealt with: Friends (he had circles of influence); seekers; opponents; outcasts and the infirm.
- 2. Four broad themes from those encounters.
 - a. His dominant call was to faith (Calming the storm; Centurion's servant). He was relentless in his demands (Would-be disciples; a call to a cross the new method of victory. This leads to the second theme.)
 - b. His kingdom was an upside-down kingdom where the winners became losers and visa-versa (Nicodemus and the Woman at the Well; parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector praying)
 - c. Compassion This introduces a new mode of morality. The Sabbath controversies fit under this theme.
 - d. His own identity. The incarnation was such a radical idea that it had to be justified significantly. (See handout on claims to Jesus' deity).
 Some of the most impressive are forgiving sins of the paralytic and the I AM statements of John.

B. Objections to Jesus

- 1. Sabbath controversies and other religious ritual
- 2. Fraternizing with sinners
- 3. Blasphemy

C. Why Jesus Got angry with others

- 1. Sadducees, cleansing the temple
- 2. Pharisees, prioritizing ritual over compassion
- 3. Disciples, not allowing the little children to come to him.