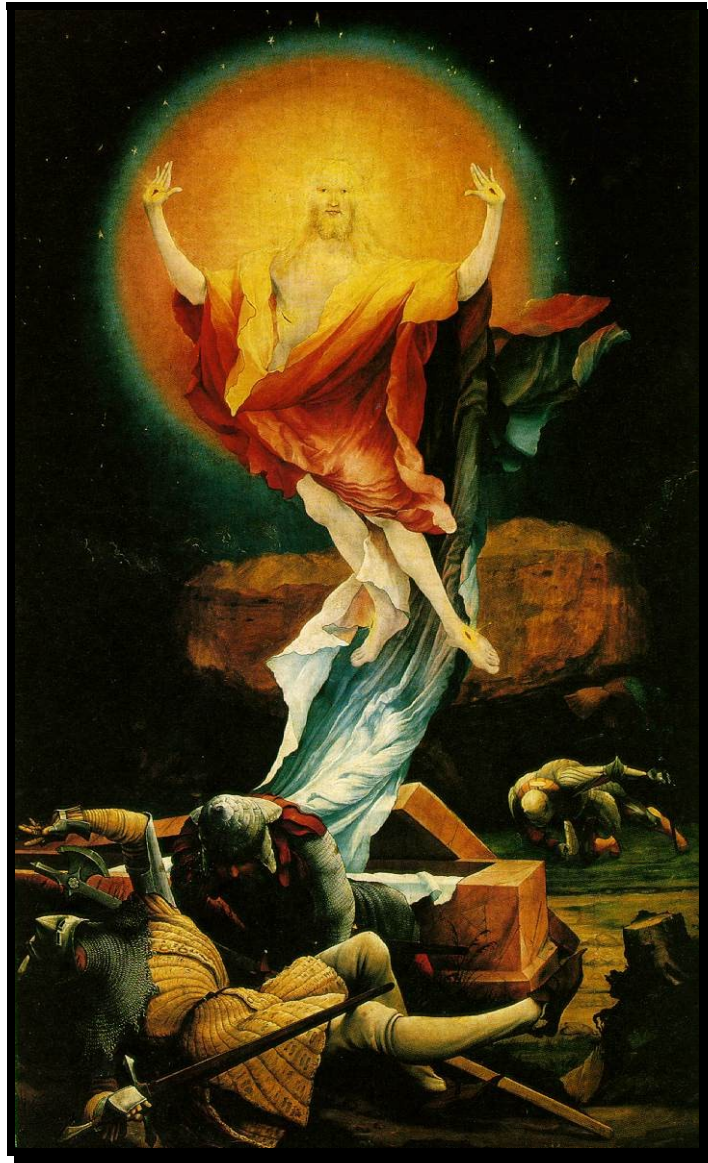


Christology



The Study of Jesus Christ

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Title: Christology – The Study of Jesus Christ

The intent of this seminar is to provide the Christian student with the basic tools of understanding the person, work, and ministry of Jesus Christ according to the scriptures. We will introduce the student to O.T. typology and to the prophecies concerning Christ's present and future work. Controversial historical and contemporary views of Jesus are examined in relation to the Bible portrayal.

Objectives

Upon completion of this seminar the student will be able to:

- Understand Jesus Christ's earthly and heavenly ministry
- Apply this knowledge in ministry
- Understand the role of Jesus Christ in the O.T. and the N.T.
- Know the different aspects of Jesus Christ (humanity and deity)
- Understand the early Heresies and their Successors
- Understand and apply the names of Jesus Christ in the Bible (person and work)
- Understand and explain Jesus Christ role in the plan of salvation



Chapters

This seminar will consist of the following:

Introduction

Chapter 1 - Gospels Purpose

Chapter 2 - Christocentric Bible

- Logos and Word
- Christ in the Godhead
 - Theophany
- Christ in the Tabernacle
- Typologies of Christ
- Jesus Christ in the 66 Books of the Bible

Chapter 3 - The Person of Jesus Christ

- His Deity
- His Humanity
- Summary

Chapter 4 - Bible Prophecies

- Ten specific Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah

Chapter 5 - Names of Jesus in the Bible

Chapter 6 – What Kind of Miracles did Jesus Perform?

Chapter 7 - Who did Jesus claim to be? I AM's of Jesus Christ

- Jesus claimed to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies

Chapter 8 - Who is Jesus to You?

- What the Bible says about salvation

Chapter 1 - Gospels Purpose

1. Matthew

Purpose is to show that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior and King prophesied by the Hebrew Prophets.

Matthew is a strong book, a book written to force belief in Jesus. Matthew sets out to prove that all the prophecies of the O.T. are fulfilled in Jesus, the carpenter from Nazareth. It has one recurring theme: "All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, saying..."

2. Mark

Purpose is to show that Jesus is unquestionably the Son of God.

Mark states his purpose immediately upon beginning his Gospel "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." Jesus is declared to be the Son of God at His baptism and transfiguration by the thundering voice of God, "this is my beloved Son..." Even demons cry out, "I know thee, who thou art, the Holy One of God." The conclusion of the Centurion is, "Truly this was the Son of God". Throughout His ministry Jesus Himself claims to be the Son of God time and again.

3. Luke

Purpose is to show to set forth an eyewitness account of Jesus, the Son of Man, the Savior of the world.

Luke wished Theophilus to know the certainty of those things, which he had believed. Thus Luke sets out to write an orderly and accurate account of the whole life of Jesus.

4. John

"These are written. That ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing, ye might have life through His name." This is John's clearly stated purpose for writing. However, there is a secondary purpose. The Gospel refutes almost any heresy that might arise in any generation.

- ❖ To those who deny Christ's deity, John argues: He is the Son of God, the very Word of God Himself
- ❖ To those who deny Jesus' humanity, John argues: He is the Word become flesh, the very flesh which must be experienced.
- ❖ To those who continue to look for a human messiah and an earthly utopia, John argues: He is the Messiah, the Savior of the world, the very One who had been promised by God from the beginning of time.

Chapter 2 - Christocentric Bible

“God is still God, even though He changes forms”

- ❖ **Logos (John 1:1) and,**
- ❖ **“In the beginning God created the Heaven and earth” (Genesis 1:1)**
- ❖ **“Fall of Satan”; “I beheld Satan as he fell from heaven as lightning.”**

- ❖ **Christ in the Godhead (Theophany)**
 - Abraham’s visitors (2 angels and the Lord)
 - Melchizedek, King of Salem (No beginning or end)
 - Jacob’s Dream
 - Moses burning bush
 - Joshua, Captain of the Lord host
 - Gideon angel of the Lord/authority of God

- ❖ **Christ in the Tabernacle *see Appendix A-E***
 - Tabernacle
 - Shekinah Glory
 - The Burnt Alter
 - Blood on the Doorpost
 - Blood on the Alter
 - The Laver of Water

- ❖ **Typologies of Christ**
 - Adam
 - Aaron
 - David
 - Jonah
 - Melchizedek
 - Moses
 - The Bronze Serpent
 - Manna from God
 - Passover Lamb
 - Rock of Horeb

- ❖ **Jesus in the 66 Books of the Bible**

The Bible is about Jesus. He is pictured or mentioned in each of the 66 books as well as in countless types in the lives of different characters in the Bible.

Genesis: ***The Seed of the Woman***

Exodus: ***The Passover Lamb***

Leviticus: ***The High Priest***

Numbers:	<i>The Cloud and The Fire</i>
Deuteronomy:	<i>The Prophet Like Moses</i>
Joshua:	<i>The Captain of Our Salvation</i>
Judges:	<i>The Judge And Lawgiver</i>
Ruth:	<i>The Kinsman Redeemer</i>
1 & 2 Samuel:	<i>The Prophet of The Lord</i>
1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles:	<i>The Reigning King</i>
Ezra:	<i>The Faithful Scribe</i>
Nehemiah:	<i>The Rebuilder of The Broken Walls</i>
Esther:	<i>Mordecai</i>
Job:	<i>The Dayspring From on High</i>
Psalms:	<i>The Lord Who Is Our Shepherd</i>
Proverbs & Ecclesiastes:	<i>The Wisdom of God</i>
The Song of Solomon:	<i>The Lover & Bridegroom</i>
Isaiah:	<i>The Prince of Peace</i>
Jeremiah & Lamentations:	<i>The Weeping Prophet</i>
Ezekiel:	<i>The Wheel Turning</i>
Daniel:	<i>The 4th Man in The Fiery Furnace</i>
Hosea:	<i>The Bridegroom</i>
Joel:	<i>The Baptiser With The Holy Spirit</i>
Amos:	<i>The Burden Bearer</i>
Obadiah:	<i>The Mighty Savior</i>
Jonah:	<i>The Forgiving God</i>
Micah:	<i>The Messenger With Beautiful Feet</i>
Nahum:	<i>The Avenger of God's Elect</i>
Habakkuk:	<i>The Great Evangelist, Crying For Revival</i>
Zephaniah:	<i>The Restorer of God's Lost Heritage</i>
Haggai:	<i>The Cleansing Fountain</i>
Zechariah:	<i>The Pierced Son</i>
Malachi:	<i>The Son of Righteousness</i>
Matthew:	<i>The Messiah</i>
Mark:	<i>The Wonder Worker</i>
Luke:	<i>The Son of Man</i>
John:	<i>The Son of God</i>
Acts:	<i>The Ascended Lord</i>

Romans:	<i>The Justifier</i>
1 & 2 Corinthians:	<i>The Gifts of The Spirit</i>
Galatians:	<i>The One Who Sets Us Free</i>
Ephesians:	<i>The Christ of Riches</i>
Philippians:	<i>The God Who Meets Our Every Need</i>
Colossians:	<i>The Fullness of The Godhead</i>
1 & 2 Thessalonians:	<i>The Soon Coming King</i>
1 & 2 Timothy:	<i>The Mediator Between God And Man</i>
Titus:	<i>The Faithful Pastor</i>
Philemon:	<i>The Friend, Closer Than a Brother</i>
Hebrews:	<i>The Blood That Washes Away My Sins</i>
James:	<i>The Great Physician</i>
1 & 2 Peter:	<i>The Chief Shepherd</i>
1 & 2 & 3 John:	<i>Everlasting Love</i>
Jude:	<i>The Lord coming with 10,000 Saints</i>
Revelation:	<i>The King of Kings and the Lord of Lords!</i>

“God can be anything He wants to be and not cease to be who He is”

Chapter 3 - The Person of Jesus Christ

Practical Observations

Our physical and bodily limitations are aspects of real humanity. The physical weaknesses and limits which we experience are not in themselves sinful or shameful but are merely aspects of humanity with which our Lord Himself is personally acquainted.

- Our psychological & emotional makeup are likewise aspects of real humanity. Laughter, crying, anger, etc., are all very proper expressions of our humanity.
- Our natural human & bodily functions are proper but must be subject to the will of God. Human appetites are not sinful, although the way in which we satisfy them may be.
- Jesus Christ is Himself the living model and pattern for our lives. We must think of Him more in this way!

His Deity

Definition

- Deity Defined
 - The rank or essential nature of a God: DIVINITY; SUPREME BEING
 - God or goddess
 - One exalted or revered as supremely good or powerful

His Humanity

Definitions

- A Human Body
 - The quality or state of being human (having human form or attributes).
- A Human Soul
 - The immaterial essence, animating principle, or actuating cause of an individual life.
 - The spiritual principle

Observations From History (see Introduction above)

Scriptural Data

A. Biblical Evidences of Jesus' Humanity

1. His Human Body
Lk.2:52, Mt.4:2, Jn.19:28, Mt.8:24
2. His Human Names & Titles
Jesus, Son of Man, Son of Abraham, Son of David, Man of Sorrows
3. His Human Claims
Jn.8:40
4. His Human Soul
Mt.26:38, Lk.23:46, Jn.13:21
5. Old Testament Predictions Regarding the Humanity of the Messiah
Gen.3:15, Is.7:14, Is.53:1-2
6. New Testament Statements Regarding the Humanity of Jesus Christ
I Tim.2:5, Jn.1:14, Rom.9:5, Phil.2:8, Heb.2:17

B. Biblical Expressions of Jesus' Humanity

1. The Gospels
 - a. His Growth, Lk.2:52
 - b. His Fatigue, Jn.4:6, Mt.8:24
 - c. His Hunger, Mt.4:2
 - d. His Thirst, Jn.19:28
 - e. His Testings, Mt.4
 - f. His Praying, Jn.17, Mt.26
 - g. His Anger, Mk.3:1-5
 - h. His Helpless Compassion, Mt.23:37
 - i. His Sorrowful Compassion, Jn.11:35
2. The Epistles
 - a. He died our death, Heb.2:9-10
 - b. He calls us brethren, Heb.2:11
 - c. He was made like us in order to be our priest, Heb.2:17-18
 - d. He is personally acquainted with our weaknesses and so can help, Heb.4:15-16
 - e. He learned the restrictions of life, Heb.5:8
 - f. He is man's mediator with God, 1Tim.2:5

Conclusion: Jesus is truly human in the fullest sense of the term. He became all that we are, in every detail except sin. (Sin is not essential to true humanity; cf. Adam & Eve before the fall.)

The Importance of Christ's Humanity

A. Concerning His Example, I Pet.2:21

As man He provided for us the pattern for living as men.

B. Concerning His Everlasting Priesthood, Heb.2:17-18

Only as man can Jesus be able to faithfully represent men to God.

C. Concerning His Daily Provision of Grace, Heb.2:17-18; 4:15-16

He understands our lives because He has lived it also. Because He understands, coming to Him we "obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Summary

Summary Statement

The New Testament teaching and the historic Christian position regarding the Person of Christ is that Jesus is truly God and truly man in the fullest sense of the terms. In His Person is a union of two distinct natures--human and divine. In this union the two natures did not combine or confuse so as to produce a unique, third kind of nature; nor was there a dual personality. Rather, the product was a single unique Person, a Person with two natures.

Key Terms & Clarifications

- Incarnation -- God "became flesh"
- Duality of Natures -- two distinct natures, human and divine
- Hypostatic Union -- union of the two natures in one Person
- Theanthropic Person -- the "person" is both "God" and "Man" (the theanthropos)
- Note the Distinction between "Person" and "Nature"

Key Texts

John 1:1-18

Rom. 9:5

Phil. 2:6-11

1 Tim. 3:16

Col. 2:9

Council of Chalcedon (451)

"Following the holy fathers, we unanimously teach one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, complete as to His Godhead, and complete as to His manhood; truly God, and

truly man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting; consubstantial with the Father as to His Godhead, and consubstantial with us as to His manhood; like unto us in all things, yet without sin; as to His Godhead begotten of the Father before all worlds, but as to His manhood, in these last days born, for us men and for our salvation, of the virgin Mary...known in (of) two natures, without confusion, without conversion, without severance, and without division; the distinction of the natures being in no wise abolished by their union but the peculiarity of each nature being maintained, and both concurring in one person and hypostasis."

Implications

A. Regarding The Person & Work of Christ

1. The Dignity of His Position

*Lordship

2. The Quality of His Life

*Sinless

*Impeccable

3. The Nature & Value of His Sacrifice

B. Regarding The Life of the Christian

*"Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame, Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than Thy blest name, O Savior of mankind!"*

Chapter 4 - Bible Prophecies

Jesus Christ is not only the central character in the New Testament, but in the Old Testament as well. There are many Bible prophecies in the Old Testament about Jesus being the Messiah. These Bible prophecies were fulfilled in the New Testament.

Event	OT Prophecy	NT Fulfillment
The virgin birth	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:23
The place of birth	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:6
The return from Egypt	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:15
Healings	Isaiah 53:4	Matthew 8:17
Servitude	Isaiah 42:1-4	Matthew 12:18-21
Parables	Psalms 78:2	Matthew 13:34
Jesus enters Jerusalem	Zechariah 9:9	Matthew 21:5
The rejection of Jesus	Psalms 118:22	Matthew 21:42
Jesus is God	Psalms 110:1	Matthew 22:44
The abandonment of Jesus	Zechariah 13:7	Matthew 26:31
Jesus will return	Daniel 7:13	Matthew 26:64
Jesus on the cross	Psalms 22:7	Matthew 27:39-40
Jesus on the cross	Psalms 22:8	Matthew 27:43
Jesus on the cross	Psalms 22:1	Matthew 27:46
The burial of Jesus	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60
God will declare the Messiah (Jesus) to be His Son	Psalms 2:7	Matthew 3:17
Everything will be placed under The Messiah's feet	Psalms 8:6	Hebrews 2:8
Jesus will be raised from the dead	Psalms 16:10	Mark 16:6-7
Jesus will be forsaken by God	Psalms 22:1	Matthew 27:46
Jesus will be insulted on the cross	Psalms 22:7-8	Luke 23:35-36
Jesus will come to do God's command	Psalms 40:7-8	Hebrews 10:7
Jesus will be betrayed by a friend	Psalms 41:9	Luke 22:47
The throne of Jesus is everlasting	Psalms 45:6	Hebrews 1:8
Jesus will ascend to God's right hand	Psalms 68:18	Mark 16:19
Zeal for His Father's house will consume Him	Psalms 69:9	John 2:17
Jesus will be given gall and vinegar to drink (on the cross)	Psalms 69:21	Matthew 27:34, 48
Zeal for His Father's house will consume Him	Psalms 69:9	John 2:17
Jesus will pray for his enemies	Psalms 109:4	Luke 23:34
Jesus' betrayer will be replaced	Psalms 109:8	Acts 1:20
Jesus will be a priest like Melchizedek	Psalms 110:4	Hebrews 5:6

Event

Jesus' hands and feet will be pierced

Jesus' clothes will be gambled for

Jesus' bones will not be broken

Jesus will be wrongfully accused

Jesus will be despised for no reason

Jesus will come in the name of the Lord

OT Prophecy

Psalm 22:16

Psalm 22:18

Psalm 34:20

Psalm 35:11

Psalm 35:19

Psalm 118:26

NT Fulfillment

John 20:25, 27

Matthew 27:35-36

John 19:32-33, 36

Mark 14:57

John 15:25

Matthew 21:9

Chapter 5 - Names of Jesus in the Bible

The name Jesus comes from Greek for 'Joshua' which means 'God is salvation'. The name 'Jesus' was well explained in Matthew's Gospel: "And she (Mary) will bear a son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

There are other titles for Jesus Christ in the New as well as in the Old Testament.

Names found in the New Testament

Title	Meaning/Significance of names	Bible reference
Son of God	The special relationship of Jesus to God	Mark 1:1
Son of Man	The human identity of Jesus	Matthew 8:20
Son of David	Jesus is descendant of King David	Matthew 15:22
Word	Jesus revealed God	John 1:1
Lamb of God	Jesus is the sacrifice for world's sin	John 1:29
Christ	The Greek for 'Anointed One'	Matthew 16:16
Savior	The one who saves	John 4:14
Rabbi/Teacher	Jesus taught people about God	John 1:38, Mark 5:35
Author of life	One who gives life	Acts 3:15
Alpha and Omega	The first and last letters of the Greek alphabets, meaning that Jesus is the beginning and the end	Revelation 1:8
Lion of Judah	A title of the Messiah	Revelation 5:5
King of Kings/Lord of Lords	The ruler of all people	Revelation 19:16
Bright Morning Star	The one who gives light	Revelation 22:16
Word of God	Jesus is the voice of God	Revelation 19:13
Holy and Righteous	Attributes of Jesus	Acts 3:14
Head of the Church	The leader of all Christians	Ephesians 5:23

Names found in the Old Testament

Title	Meaning/Significance of names	Bible reference
Immanuel	God with us	Isaiah 7:14
Prince of Peace	Jesus will bring everlasting peace	Isaiah 9:6
Wonderful Advisor	Jesus will always rule with honesty and justice	Isaiah 9:6
Mighty God	Jesus is supreme	Isaiah 9:6
Eternal Father	Jesus is eternal	Isaiah 9:6

Chapter 6 – What Kind of Miracles did Jesus Perform?



*Since Jesus claimed to be **Equal**
to God, what did he do to **Prove it?***

Many people have claimed to be God, but only one man in history demonstrated through his actions that he had a supernatural power source. The power Jesus displayed shook the nation of Israel to its core.

He healed the lame and the blind, controlled the movement of fish, and calmed storms. Not only did Jesus heal hundreds of people from sickness and disease, but on several occasions he raised people from physical death!

He himself was raised from the dead three days after his crucifixion, just as he had predicted. Was his resurrection a real event, or a myth? Take a look at the facts and make your own informed decision.

Chapter 7 - Who did Jesus claim to be? I AM's of Jesus

When Moses met God in the wilderness (Exodus 3:14) and asked His name, God replied 'I AM THAT I AM...This you shall to the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.' Jesus claimed this name for himself showing He was Israel's God and Messiah.

Bread - John 6:35 'I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger.'

Light - John 8:12 "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:23-24 But he continued, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I AM, you will indeed die in your sins."

John 8:56-58 'Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.' "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I AM!" At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself.

Gate - John 10:9 'I am the gate; if anyone enter through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.'

Good Shepherd - John 10:11 'I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for His sheep.'

Resurrection and Life - John 11:25-27 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

Way, Truth, Life - John 14:6-7 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well.

John 10:24-33 The Jews gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" "We are not stoning you for any of these," replied the Jews, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God."

True Vine - John 15:1 'I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.'

There are so many more passages like these, but even limiting ourselves to the above quotes, any honest reader can see exactly what Jesus was claiming about himself. Like C.S Lewis wrote in the quote above, He was claiming to be the promised Messiah, God in the flesh. And He also claimed to be the only way of salvation. At this point, you may be saying 'I can see that He claimed to be God, but how do we know that the Bible record of His claims are accurate?' One of the most compelling proofs that God gives us is in the fulfillment of prophecy. No other religious books such as the Koran contain detailed prophecies. The God of the Bible declares:

Isaiah 46:9-10 'I am God, and there is no other. I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand and I will do all that I please.'

Jesus claimed to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies

Luke 24:44-47 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written **about me** in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

John 5:45-46 But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote **about me**. But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?"

Mark 16:61-63 Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?" "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. "You have heard the blasphemy. (Ed Note: the Son of Man sitting at the right hand and coming on the clouds was a key specific prophecy about the Messiah from the Old Testament book of Daniel.)

So lets look to see if Jesus fulfilled the the specific requirements for the Messiah laid out in the Old Testament.

Ten specific Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah

Be Born in Bethlehem

OT Prophecy: Micah 5:2 'But you, Bethlehem, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old.'

NT Fulfillment: Matt 2:1 'After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea...'

Preceded by a messenger

OT Prophecy: Isaiah 40:3 'The voice of him that cries in the wilderness, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.'

NT Fulfillment Matt 3:1-2 'In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

Enter Jerusalem on a colt

OT Prophecy: Zech 9:9 'Rejoice greatly O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy King comes to you... humble riding on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

NT Fulfillment Luke 19:35 'They bought it to Jesus, and they threw their coats on the colt and they put Jesus on it.'

Be Betrayed by a friend

OT Prophecy: Psalm 49:1 'Yes, my own friend in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.'

NT Fulfillment Matt 26:47-50 'And while he spoke, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords... Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whosoever I shall kiss, that same is he; hold him fast... and Jesus said unto him, 'Friend, why have you come?'

Have his hands and feet pierced

OT Prophecy: Psalm 22:16 'The assembly of the wicked have enclosed me. They have pierced my hands and my feet.'

NT Fulfillment Luke 23:33 'And when they came to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left.'

Be wounded and whipped by his enemies

OT Prophecy: Isaiah 53:5 'But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him and by his stripes we are healed.'

NT Fulfillment Matt 27:26 'Then they released Barabbas unto them and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.'

7. Be sold for thirty pieces of silver

OT Prophecy: Zech 11:12 'And I said to him, If you think it is good in your sight, give me my wages... So they weighed out thirty pieces of silver for my price.'

NT Fulfillment Matt 26:15 'What will you give me if I deliver him unto you? And they agreed with him for thirty pieces of silver.'

Be spit upon and beaten

OT Prophecy: Isaiah 50:6 'I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked out my hair: I did not hide my face from the shame and spitting.'

NT Fulfillment Matt 26:67 'Then did they spit in his face, and hit him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands'

The betrayal money thrown in the temple and used for a potters field

OT Prophecy: Zech 11:13 'And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter that magnificent price at which I was valued by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the Lord.'

NT Fulfillment Matt 27:5-7 'And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple... And they conferred together and with the money bought the Potter's field as a burial place for strangers.'

Cast lots for Jesus' clothing

OT Prophecy: Psalm 22:18 'They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.'

NT Fulfillment Matt 27:35 'And when they had crucified Him, they divided up His garments among themselves by casting lots.'

Statisticians have calculated that for all of the above prophecies to be fulfilled in one person it is a combined probability of **One chance in 10,000,000,000,000,000!** And this is limiting ourselves to just these 10 prophecies! So we have seen that Jesus himself claimed to be God and the savior of the world. We have seen that He claimed to be the fulfillment of the Old Testament Messianic prophecies, and now we have seen that His life and death did accurately fulfill these prophecies made hundreds of years before.

Chapter 8 - What the Bible says about Salvation

1. That **salvation is found in Jesus and Him alone**. We have already stated His claim that no one can come to the Father except through Him. The Bible constantly confirms this by saying:

Acts 4:12 'And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.'

1 John 5:11-12 'And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.'

2. That **salvation cannot come by performing good works** but through faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for your behalf.

Eph 2:8 'For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.'

Romans 3:20 '...by the works of the Law no one will be justified in His sight.'

3. God now offers **salvation as a gift** to those who will believe.

Romans 3:21-24 'But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known... This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified as a gift by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.'

Romans 6:23 'For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

4. You need to act to **receive the gift of salvation**.

John 1:11-12 'He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.'

Acts 2:38 'Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'

Who is Jesus to You



What does all this have to do with you?

*Can **We** still have a **personal**
relationship with Jesus Christ **today**?*

Is Jesus still interested in us? What does it mean to have a personal relationship with Christ, and in what way does it impact our lives? And how does someone go about making that kind of commitment?

Those are good questions, and typical of someone who understands the significance of Jesus. Here is some information to help answer these and other questions you may have about Jesus.

Because of Jesus' resurrection, his followers do not honor a dead founder

They have a vital, personal relationship with him. Jesus Christ lives today and faithfully enriches the lives of all those who trust and obey him. Throughout the centuries, multitudes have acknowledged the worthiness of Jesus Christ, including many who have greatly influenced the world. French physicist and philosopher Blaise Pascal spoke of people's need for Jesus when he said, "There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of every man, which only God can fill through his Son Jesus Christ."

Would you like to know **JESUS** Personally?

You can! Because of God's deep love for you, he has already made all the necessary arrangements. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, you can enjoy a personal relationship. Jesus made it possible to bridge the chasm which separates us from God. The following four principles will help you discover how to know Jesus personally and experience the abundant life he promised.

PRINCIPLE 1

God LOVES you and created you to know Him personally

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 17:3 "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent."

What prevents us from knowing God personally?

PRINCIPLE 2

Man is SINFUL and SEPARATED from God, so we cannot know Him personally or experience His love

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 6:23 "The wages of sin is death" [spiritual separation from God].

Romans 8:6-8 "The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God."

A great gulf separates man from God. Man is continually trying to reach God and establish a personal relationship with Him through human efforts, such as living a good life, philosophy, or religion. But he inevitably fails.

The third principle explains the only way to bridge this gulf...

PRINCIPLE 3

Jesus Christ is God's ONLY provision for man's sin. Through him alone we can know God personally and experience God's love

Romans 5:8 "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

1 Corinthians 15:3-6 "Christ died for our sins... he was buried... he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures... he appeared to Peter, then to the twelve. After that he appeared to more than five hundred..."

John 14:6 "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

God has bridged the gulf that separates us from Him by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross in our place to pay the penalty for our sins.

But it is not enough just to know these truths...

PRINCIPLE 4

We must individually RECEIVE Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior; then we can know God personally and experience His love

John 1:12 "As many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name."

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith. This does not depend on anything you have achieved, it is the free gift of God; and because it is not earned no one can boast about it."

Receiving Christ involves turning to God from self (a spirit of repentance) and trusting Christ to come into our lives to forgive us of our sins and make us what he wants us to be. Just to agree intellectually that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that he died on the cross for our sins is not enough. Nor is it enough to have an emotional experience. We receive Jesus Christ by faith, as an act of our will.

Jesus Christ is waiting for an invitation to come in to your life. In fact, he says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in" (Revelation 3:20).

Perhaps you can sense Christ knocking at the door of your heart. You can invite him in by faith right now. God knows your heart so it doesn't matter exactly what words you use. Here's a suggested prayer:

Lord Jesus, I want to know you personally. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life to you and ask you to come in as my Savior and Lord. Take control of my life. Thank you for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Make me the kind of person you want me to be.

If this prayer expresses the desire of your heart, pray it right now and Jesus Christ will come into your life just as he has promised. Once you invite Christ into your life, he promises to never leave you.

Hebrews 13:5 "God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.'"

To know God personally is the greatest decision you will ever make. If you've just asked Jesus Christ into your life contact us at logosofcharlotte@cs.com and tell us about it. We would love to hear from you.

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