

Fundamentals of the Faith

Lesson Four: The Person of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the central figure of all human history. There has never been anyone like Him. He is regarded as a great TEACHER, a RELIGIOUS leader, a PROPHET, the SON of GOD, even GOD Himself. The claims He made, as well as those that others have made about Him, have propelled Him into the center of endless controversies throughout man's history. Wars have been fought about Him; countries have divided over Him; masses of His followers have given their lives for Him. The question that we, as Christians, must answer is: "Who is this man called Jesus?"

- Who did Pontius Pilate unwittingly say that Jesus was in Matt 27:22? "CHRIST".
- Read Philippians 2:6-7. What does vs. 6 say about Jesus before He was born? EQUAL WITH GOD (THE "FORM" OF GOD).
What does vs. 7 say Jesus did? HE TOOK ON THE FORM OF A BOND-SERVANT & CAME TO EARTH "IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN".

The word "FORM" denotes the essential, unchanging character of something – what it is in and of itself - the exact essence. Jesus was the EXACT ESSENCE of God and the EXACT ESSENCE of man.

Jesus Christ came into the world in human flesh. By coming into the world as a man, He voluntarily set aside the independent use of His divine attributes and took on the form of man. He was fully human, a man in every way, except He was without sin. This is referred to as the INCARNATION.

- How do we know that Jesus was truly a man?
 - Luke 2:40, 52: He GREW, He BECAME STRONG, He increased in WISDOM and STATURE.
 - Mark 4:38: When He was tired He FELL ASLEEP.
 - Luke 4:2: When He had a lack of food He BECAME HUNGER.
 - John 4:6: After a long trip He WAS TIRED.
 - John 11:35: When He was grieved He CRIED.
 - Luke 24:39: He had FLESH and BONES.
 - The character and attributes of Jesus Christ are the same as the character and attributes of God. (See lesson Three)
- Jesus also had power over:
- Matt 8:23-27 NATURE
 - Luke 4:33-36 DEMONS
 - Luke 4:40 SICKNESS
 - John 11:43-44 DEATH

- Read Mark 2:3-12. According to verse 7, who alone can forgive sins? **_GOD_**. What authority did Jesus claim and exercise according to verse 10? **_TO FORGIVE SINS_**. Then who is this man called Jesus Christ?
 - Matt 1:23 **_IMMANNUEL_** -- actual translation is: the **_WITH US_** God
 - Philippians 2:10-11 **_LORD_** or **_SOVEREIGN_**
 - John 8:58 **_I AM_**. A title reserved for **_GOD_** according to Exodus 3:14.
- According to John 3:17, why did God send Jesus into the world? **_TO SAVE THE WORLD_**. To be **_MY SAVOIR_**.

What additional titles describe Jesus as our savior?

- John 1:29 **_THE LAMB OF GOD_**.
- John 6:35 **_THE BREAD OF LIFE_**.
- John 14:6 **_THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE_**.
- Read Matt 25:31-32 and Acts 1:11. What did Jesus tell His followers about the future? **_HE WILL COME BACK WITH ALL HIS ANGLES AND THAT HE WILL SIT ON THE THRONE AND THAT ALL NATIONS (MEN AND WOMEN) WILL GATHER BEFORE HIM_**.

How will He come back according to 2 Thessalonians 1:7b-10? **_IN A VENGEANCE TO JUDGE THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW GOD_**.

What will be His title when He comes back (Rev. 17:14 and 19:16)? **_KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS_**.

If Jesus is indeed God, Savior and coming King and Ruler, how can I best prepare for His second coming (2 Peter 3:14)? **_BY BEING DILIGENT TO BE FOUND BY HIM IN PEACE, WITHOUT SPOT AND BLAMELESS_**.