



WHO IS JESUS?

Intro: Jesus is the central figure of Christianity and its Founder. He was born of a virgin, lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and three days later He rose from the dead. Jesus said, **John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

Primary Background Reading:

- 1 Peter 2:21-25
- Colossians 1:12-23
- Hebrews 1

I. THE NATURE OF CHRIST as defined by the meanings and usage of His several Bible names

A. Son of God (Deity)

1. **Acts 8:37** And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
2. **Acts 9:20** And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.
3. **Romans 1:4** And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

B. The Word (eternal pre-existence and activity)

1. **John 1:1-2** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.
2. **John 1:14** And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
3. **1 John 1:1-2** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

C. Lord (exaltation and sovereignty)

1. **Acts 10:36** The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)
2. **Philippians 2:11** And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
3. **Revelation 17:14** These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him *are* called, and chosen, and faithful.

D. **Son of Man** (humanity)

1. **John 3:13** And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, *even* the Son of man which is in heaven.
2. **Luke 24:7** Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.
3. **Luke 22:69** Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.

E. **Christ** (official title and mission)

1. **Luke 2:11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.
2. **John 4:29** Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?
3. **Luke 9:20** He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God.

F. **Son of David** (royal lineage)

1. **Luke 18:39** And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, *Thou* Son of David, have mercy on me.
2. **Romans 1:3-4** Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:
3. **Matthew 12:35-37** And Jesus answered and said, while he taught in the temple, How say the scribes that Christ is the Son of David? For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The LORD said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool. David therefore himself calleth him Lord; and whence is he *then* his son? And the common people heard him gladly.

G. **Jesus** (saving work)

1. **Matthew 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
2. **Luke 2:19-21** But Mary kept all these things, and pondered *them* in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.
3. **Acts 3:13-16** The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go. But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses. And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

II. THE OFFICES OF CHRIST

- A. These are the offices of spiritual and national leadership established in Israel after the times of the Judges were finished.
- B. **Prophet.** - is sent to the people on behalf of God
 - 1. **Luke 24:19** And he said unto them, **What things?** And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:
 - 2. **John 6:14** Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.
 - 3. **Acts 3:22** For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.
- C. **Priest** - goes to God on behalf of the people
 - 1. **Hebrews 3:1** Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;
 - 2. **Hebrews 4:14** Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession.
 - 3. **Hebrews 6:20** Whither the forerunner is for us entered, *even* Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.
- D. **King** - rules for God to put down evil and establish equity and justice
 - 1. **Matthew 27:37** And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
 - 2. **Acts 17:7** Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, *one* Jesus.
 - 3. **1 Timothy 6:14-15** That thou keep *this* commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;
 - 4. **Revelation 19:16** And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

III. THE WORK OF CHRIST

- A. **Christ performed many works, but the work which He accomplished was to die for the sins of the world.**
 - 1. **Matthew 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
 - 2. **John 1:29** The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

3. Included in this atoning work are His death, resurrection and ascension. He must not only die for, but also live for us; He must not only rise from the dead for us, but also ascend to intercede for us.
4. **Romans 8:34** Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.
5. **Romans 4:25** Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.
6. **Romans 5:10** For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

B. His Death

1. Its Importance
2. Its Meaning

C. The Resurrection of Christ

1. The Fact of the Resurrection
2. The Evidence for the Resurrection
3. The Meaning of the Resurrection

D. The Ascension of Christ

1. **The fact of the ascension is witnessed to by the Gospels, Acts, and the Epistles.** His Ascension Constituted Him—
 - a. **The heavenly Christ**
 - (1) **Jesus left the world because the time had come for Him to return to the Father**
 - (2) **Acts 1:9** And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
 - b. **The exalted Christ**
 - In one place Christ is described as “going up,” and in another as being “taken up.
 - c. **The sovereign Christ**
 - d. **The way-preparing Christ**
 - e. **The interceding Christ**
 - f. **The omnipresent Christ**

Conclusion: *What are the practical values of the Ascension?*

1. The knowledge of the ascension makes for a right conception of the Church
2. Consciousness of the ascended Christ toward the world and worldly things
3. *Faith in the ascended Christ equals personal responsibility*
4. Faith in the ascended Christ is connected with the hope of His returning
John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.