

New Year Special 2024-25

December 29, 2024

Series: The Doctrine of the Son of God: His Person and Work

Message: The Person of Jesus Christ; John 1:1-18 and selected verses

Who is Jesus Christ? Never has a more important question been asked. And never has the answer been so vital and needed in the world today! When Jesus asked Peter and the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” Peter answered with a most profound and pointed declaration, “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.” Today, I hope to help remind you of the glory of the Person of Jesus Christ!

I) The Preexistence, Eternity and Deity of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

- A) The Preexistence of Jesus Christ the Son of God.
 - 1) Meaning that Jesus Christ the Son of God existed before His birth.
 - (a) Jesus said to the Jews, “Verily, verily I say to you, before Abraham was born, I AM!” (Jn 8:58)
 - (i) The Jews rightly interpreted His meaning: Jesus was claiming preexistence and deity.
- B) The Eternal Nature and Deity of Jesus Christ the Son of God.
 - 1) **John 1:1-2**: “In the *beginning* was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the *beginning*.” (Think of
 - (a) **Col. 1:17**: “He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”
 - 2) **Philippians 2:6a**: “Who, being in very nature/form God...” (see also **John 14:9**)
- C) Heavenly Origin, Co-equality with God and divine Glory
 - 1) Heavenly origin: **Jn 3:13**: “No one has ever gone into heaven except the One who came from heaven—the Son of Man.” (also Jn 3:31; 6:33,35,41,48, 62; 8:23; **17:5**)
 - 2) Co-equality with God the Father: **Jn 10:30**: “I and the Father are One.” (Jn 17:11, 20-23; Ph.2:6)
 - 3) Divine Glory (shared glory): **Jn 17:5**: “And now Father, glorify Me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.” (see also Jn. 17:24; Revelation 5:11-14)
- D) The Work of the Son of God before the incarnation. (The following is NOT and exhaustive list.)
 - 1) Dwelling in perfect unity, intellect, wisdom and holiness w/ God. (Prov. 8; Jn 1:1-2; 1 Cor.1:30).
 - 2) Co-Creator: (Gen.1:1; Col. 1:16, “...all things were created by Him and for Him.” (also Jn. 1:3)
 - (a) Heb. 1:2: “...and through whom (The Son) He (The Father) made the universe.”
 - 3) He appeared to people in dreams (Gen. 28:10ff), visions (Is. 6), and as *The Angel of the Lord*. (Ex. 3; Gen. 16; Judges.6:22). (I have cited just a few. The number of OT appearances is staggering.)

II) The Incarnation of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

- A) Truly God and Truly Man (this union is termed “the hypostatic union.”)
 - 1) John 1:14: “The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the Only Begotten, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
 - (a) Heb. 1:3: “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact imprint of His being...”
 - 2) His humanity is an aspect of His glory. 1 Tim. 3:16: “Appeared in a body”; shared in our humanity (Heb. 2:14); “made like us in every way yet without sin to become our High Priest” (Heb. 2:17).
 - (a) Heb. 10:5-10: Suffered in His body (on the cross) as our sin bearing Savior.
 - 3) Unique unity: Divine and human nature: conceived of the H.S. born of virgin Mary. (Mt. 1:20-23)
- B) Divine Promise and Purpose of His Incarnation
 - 1) His coming fulfilled the promise of the Seed (“meaning one person, who is Christ.” **Gal. 3:16**)
 - (a) To Eve: The Seed would destroy the serpent’s seed (Promised: Gen. 3:15; explained: 1 Jn. 3:8; fulfilled: Rev. 20:7-10)
 - (b) To Abraham in Gen. 12:1-3 and 15:4-6. (Also, **Isaac** (a type) and **Jacob** (a people)).
 - 2) The Lamb of God: The Perfection Divine, substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of His people.
 - (a) John 1:29, 36; Matt. 1:21, 23; 1 Jn. 3:5: “He appeared to take away our sins. He had no sin.”
 - 3) To be the Head of His Church (Eph. 1:22-23, 4:14-16, 5:23; 1 Cor. 11:3; Col. 1:18; Matt. 16:18)

- (a) **The family of God** (Matt. 12:49-50; 2 Cor. 6:18; 1 Jn. 3:14-18); **The Bride of Christ** (Jn. 14:1-4; Eph. 5:22-32; Rev. 19:7); **The body and fulness of Christ** (1 Cor. 12:27; Eph. 1:23, 4:12; Col. 1:18-24); **A Royal Priesthood and Holy nation** (1 Pet. 2:5, 9); **Other descriptions**: Salt, Light, a city on a hill, fruitful branches, an olive tree, Living Stones built into a spiritual house.

III) The Work of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

- A) The Significant Witnesses to His Authority.
- 1) The Witnesses
 - (a) God the Father: “A Voice from heaven” confirmed both Sonship and Authority.
 - (i) At His inauguration for public ministry: Matt. 3:17: “And a voice from heaven said, ‘This my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.’”
 - (ii) At His transfiguration: Matt. 17:5b: “This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him.”
 - (iii) After the Triumphal entry: John 12:28-30: “Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified [My Name], and will glorify it again.’”
 - (b) Jesus testified of four witnesses to His authority to the works He had and will do.
 - (i) John 5:31-35: John the Baptist
 - (ii) John 5:36: The works and miracles
 - (iii) John 5:37-38: The Father’s testimony
 - (iv) John 5:39-40: The Scripture. (Also, Luke 24:27-44)
- B) His Work as Mediator of the New Covenant (Predicted in Jeremiah 31:31-34)
- 1) As our Great High Priest, He sympathizes with our weaknesses: Heb. 4:15; intercedes (Heb.7:25)
 - 2) As our Great High Priest, He is sinless offering no sacrifice for Himself, but for us, by offering His own body as the acceptable sacrifice for our sin and guilt: Heb. 7:26-27.
 - 3) He is our Redeemer. **1 Tim. 2:5-6**: “For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all men...”.
 - (a) Redeeming His people from all peoples: **Rev. 5:9**, “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, b/c you were slain, and w/ Your blood you purchased me for God...”
- C) The cross of Christ and its centrality in the Christian faith:
- 1) First, notice, the love of God is most demonstrated there. (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8; **1 Jn. 4:9-10**)
 - 2) This cross is where the righteousness of God is demonstrated, leaving no doubt that God, who is holy, punishes sin. (Rom. 3:21-26 tells us that He is both “just” and the “justifier”).
 - (a) 2 Cor. 5:21: “God made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we would become the righteousness of God.”
 - (i) Condemned in our place He stood in as our substitute, on our behalf!! **1 Pet. 3:18a says**, “For indeed Christ died for sins once for all, the Just and Righteous in place of the unjust and unrighteous [the innocent for the guilty] so that He might bring us to God...”
 - (a) Rom. 5:6-10: He died for the weak, the powerless, the guilty—for sinners.
 - 3) At the cross God demonstrated His initiative to **reconcile sinners to Himself!** (2 Cor. 5:19)
 - (a) The cross demonstrates the great **love** of God for us in that Christ became the sacrifice for sin. But His **grace and mercy** are seen in the fact that His wrath was turned away from us.
- D) His resurrection and ascension
- 1) His resurrection secured our justification! (Rom. 4:25: “...raised for our justification.”)
 - 2) His ascension and subsequent *exaltation* secured His eternal glory and authority! (**Phil. 2:9-11**)
 - 3) With His Supremacy settled (Eph. 2:18-23; Col. 1:18-20; Phil. 2:9-11):
 - (a) He serves as the eternal High Priest of His Church (Heb.8:1-4);
 - (b) He is building His Church on earth (Matt. 6:18), through His personal presence through the Holy Spirit (Jn. 14:16-17), and preparing an eternal home for us (Jn. 14:1-3)
 - (c) and He is our Intercessor and Advocate, appearing before *The Presence* for us (Heb. 9:24).
 - (d) He is coming again to take us to be with Him forever! (Jn. 14:3)