CHRISTOLOGY

The Doctrine of Jesus Christ

General Outline

- (I) The Pre-existence of Jesus Christ.
- (2) The Messianic Claims of Jesus Christ.
- (3) The Deity of Jesus Christ.
- (4) The Incarnation & Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ.
- (5) The Humanity of Jesus Christ.
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- (7) The Death of Jesus Christ.
- (8) The Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- (9) The Ascension & Present Ministry of Jesus Christ.
- (10) The Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

"The Pre-existence of Jesus Christ"

His Eternalness

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. And the word became 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.

(John 1:1-2 & 14)

"The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His way, before His works of old.

Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.

(Proverbs 8:22 & 30)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

(Hebrews 13:8)

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys to Hades and of Death.

(Revelation 1:8 & 17-18)

His power and work in creation

All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. (John 1:3)

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist and He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence.

(Colossians 1:16-18)

To make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ.

(Ephesians 3:9)

His Revelation of the invisible God

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

(I Timothy 1:17)

No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

(John 1:18)

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son. Whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.

(Hebrews 1:1-13)

Who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son"? But when He again brings the first-born into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."

And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire."

But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of Your Kingdom.

First born = gk; prototokos = eng; protype Image = gk; eikon = eng; picture or photograph

His presence in the old testament

The angel of the Lord = 50 times
The angel of God = 5 times

All are references to the Lord Jesus Christ! The Word = Angel simply means Messenger.

To Hagar

Now the Angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. And He said, "Hagar, Sarai's maid, where have you come from, and where are you going? "She said, "I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress, Sarai."

The Angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her

hand. "Then the Angel of the LORD said to her," I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude." And the Angel of the LORD said to her: "Behold, you are with child, and you shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the LORD has heard your affliction. He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, and every man's hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren." Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, You-Are-the-God-Who-Sees; for she said, "Have I also here seen Him who sees me?"

(Genesis 16:7-13)

To Abraham

But the Angel of the LORD called to Him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided."

(Genesis 22:11-14)

To Moses

And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father---the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

(Exodus 3:2-6)

To Gideon

And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, "The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!"

(Judges 6:12)

To All of Israel

Then the Angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said: "I led you up from Egypt and brought you to the land of which I swore to your fathers; and I said, 'I will never break My covenant with you.

(Judges 2:1)

He is called in the old testament

The Redeemer

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.

(Isaiah 44:6)

The King

And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!" And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.

(Isaiah 6:3-5)

The Mighty God

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(Isaiah 9:6)

His pre-eminence over all things

Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened.

(Ephesians 1:15-23)

That you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.

Far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

"Let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. "This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with lesus.

(Acts 4:10-13)

"The Messianic Claims of Jesus Christ"

(John 20:31)

The word "Messiah" appears once in the bible. (Daniel 9:25)

The word "Christ" appears 555 times. The Hebrew word "Mashiyach" 39 times. The Greek word "Christos" appears 569 times.

I HAVE LISTED HERE 20 OF THE MAIN MESSIANIC CLAIMS.

Messiah will be of the seed of the woman

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

(**Genesis 3:15**)

And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 1:16-18)

Messiah will be from the line of Shem

"Shem" means: "The people of the name."

And he said: "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem, may Canaan be his servant. May God enlarge Japheth, may he dwell in the tents of Shem; And my Canaan be his servant". (Genesis 9:26-27)

Messiah will be of the seed of Abraham

Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you.

I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed".

Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built and altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

(Genesis 12:1-3 & 7)

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed, "who is Christ.

(Galatians 3: 8 & 16)

Messiah will be of the seed of Isaac Not from the seed of Ishmael

And Abraham said to God, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!" Then God said: "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him. "But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at the set time next year."

(Genesis 17:18-19 & 21)

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

(Hebrews 11:17-19)

Messiah will be from the line of Jacob

"I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; a Star shall come out of Jacob; a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and batter the brow of Moab, and destroy all the sons of tumult. Out of Jacob One shall have dominion, and destroy the remains of the city."

(Numbers 24:17 & 19)

Messiah will be from the tribe of Judah

The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people.

(Genesis 49:10)

Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.

(Matthew 1:2)

For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life.

(Hebrews 7:14-16)

Messiah will be from the family of Jesse

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

(Isaiah 11:1-2)

And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope."

(Romans 15:12)

Messiah will be from the house of David

"When you days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."

(2 Samuel 7:12-13)

I have found My servant David; With My holy oil I have anointed him, With whom My hand shall be established; Also My arm shall strengthen him. His seed also I will make to endure forever, And his throne as the days of heaven.

(Psalms 89:20-21 & 29)

Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh.

(Romans 1:3)

Messiah will come from the line of Solomon

'Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon, for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. 'He shall build a house for My name, and he shall be My son, and I will be his Father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.

(I Chronicles 22:9-10)

"However the LORD God of Israel chose me above all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever, for He has chosen Judah to be the ruler; and of the house of Judah, the house of my father, and among the sons of my father, He was pleased with me to make me king over all Israel. "And of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons) He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel.

(I Chronicles 28:4-5)

Messiah will be born in Bethlehem.

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

(Micah 5:2)

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

(Matthew 2:1-2)

Messiah will be born of a virgin

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

(Isaiah 7:14)

But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

(Matthew 1:20-21)

Messiah will come while 2nd temple is still standing

"So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver. And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"----that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.

(Zechariah II:13)

"Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to his temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming, "Says the LORD of hosts.

(Malachi 3:1)

Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed.

(Matthew 27:3-5)

Messiah will come before the 2nd temple is destroyed

"Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city. To finish the transgression, to make and end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. "Know therefore and understand, that from going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."

(Daniel 9:24-27)

Messiah will be a prophet

'I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.

(Deuteronomy 18:18)

So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day, and stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

(Luke 4:16-21)

Messiah will be a priest

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house.

(HEBREWS 3:1-2)

Messiah will be a judge

The Mighty One, God the LORD, Has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth. Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people.

(Psalms 50:1-4)

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

(Revelation 19:11)

Messiah will be a King

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

(Zechariah 9:9)

Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

(Revelation 11:15)

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

(Revelation 19:11-16)

Messiah will perform miracles

Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do no fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God; He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing.

(Isaiah 35:4-6 & 17)

When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses." (Matthew 8: 16-17)

Messiah will be our Savior from sin

I, even I, am the LORD, and besides Me there is no savior. (Isaiah 43:11)

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

(John 1:29)

Messiah will be raised from the dead

I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; my flesh also will rest in hope. For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. (Psalms 16:8-10)

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know"Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; "whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. "For David says concerning Him: "I foresaw the LORD always before my face. For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. For You will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

(Acts 2:22-27)

"The Deity of Jesus Christ"

His names prove that He is God!

He is called "God"

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1)

According to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen. (Romans 9:5)

Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. (Titus 2:13)

But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever." (Hebrews 1:8)

And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

(I John 5:19-20)

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(Isaiah 9:6)

He is called the "Son of God"

This is a reference to His position, not His origin. The word for "born one" in the Greek is "Teknon", it is never used of Jesus Christ.

Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal to God.

(John 5:18)

"I and My Father are one."

(John 10:30)

The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.

(John 19:7)

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

(John 20:31)

He is called Lord

The Greek word is "Kurios" used in the Septuagint, it is also the Hebrew word for "YAHWEH" which means Jehovah.

"Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that to Me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall take an oath." (Isaiah 45:22-23)

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:9-11)

And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.' (Joel 2:32)

And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.' (Acts 2:21)

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

(Romans 10:9-10)

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal to God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in the heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should of confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:5-11)

He is called the "Lord of glory"

Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting door! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the KING of glory shall come in, Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.

(Psalms 24:7-10)

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

(I Corinthians 2:7-8)

He is called the "Holy One"

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God. (Isaiah 48:17)

"I am the LORD, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King." (Isaiah 43:15)

"But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, "and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. " And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

(Acts 3: 14-16)

He is called "the First and the Last"

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God.

(Isaiah 44:6)

"Listen to Me, O Jacob, And Israel, My called: I am He, I am the First, I am also the Last. (Isaiah 48:12)

And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

(Revelation 1:17)

"And the angel of the church of Smyrna write, These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life."

(Revelations 2:8)

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, The First and the Last." (Revelation 22:13)

He is called the "Lord of host"

"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: (Isaiah 44:6)

His attributes are proof He is God!

He is eternal

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

(I John 5:11)

He is Immutable

But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness: Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions." And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain: and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail."

(Hebrews 1:8-12)

He is omnipresent

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20)

Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

(Matthew 28:19-20)

Christ is all and in all.

(Colossians 3:11)

He is omniscience

Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man. (John 2:23-25)

"Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God."

(John 16:30)

That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

(Colossians 2:2-3)

He is omnipotent

For out citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to his glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all this to Himself.

(Philippians 3:20-21)

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, "says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

(Revelation 1:8)

His abilities prove that He is God!

He created all things

All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. (John 1:3)

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

(Colossians 1:16)

He controls all things

And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

(Colossians 1:17)

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

(Hebrews I:I-3)

He cures all diseases)

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them.

(Matthew 4:23-24

He calms the elements

Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by. And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled.

(Mark 6:48-51)

And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"

(Mark 4:37-41)

He conquered death

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. "And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (John I 1:25-26)

Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" (John 11:43)

Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead.

(John 12:9)

But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb.

(Luke 24:2)

His claims

To forgive sin

Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

(Mark 2:3-12)

To answer prayer

"And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."

(John 14:13-14)

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand."

(John 10:27-28)

"The Incarnation and Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ"

The Scriptures declaration of the Incarnation and Virgin birth of Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Luke 1:26-35)

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God." And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 'He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God."

The meaning of the Incarnation

"The Divine act by which the second Person of the Triune God became flesh and dwelt among us."

And the Word became 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.

(John 1:14)

The method by which Christ became Incarnate

For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh. (Romans 8:3)

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

(Philippians 2:5-8)

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

(I Timothy 3:16)

All of this as promised in the scriptures came through the seed of the Woman.

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.

(Galatians 4:4)

The prophecies of the Old Testament

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

(**Genesis 3:15**)

And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

(I Timothy 2:14-15)

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

(Isaiah 7:14)

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

(Matthew 1:23)

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder, And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(Isaiah 9:6)

"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

(Luke 1:31-33)

Evidence of incarnation and virgin birth He will be without sin.

And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

(Luke 1:35)

Conceived of the Holy Spirit

But while he thought about these things, behold, and angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit."

(Matthew 1:20)

Proved by His life.

"But because I tell you the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell you the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."

(John 8:45-47)

Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him" Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him."

(John 19:4 & 6)

Proclaimed by His followers

Peter

"But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, "and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.

(Acts 3:14-15)

<u>Stephen</u>

"Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, "who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it." When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right

hand of God, and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

(Acts 7:52-56)

<u>John</u>

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

(John 1:29)

Paul

For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.

(Hebrews 7:26 & 9:24)

He is special

He is the "Son of God" not the "daughter" of God. According to genetic law, the virgin conception should have produced a daughter, not a son. The human male determines the sex of the offspring. His entrance into the unfertilized egg caused it to develop without the expected duplication of the female (X) chromosomes. When an unfertilized egg duplicates its chromosomes in response to artificial stimulation, the result is female, (In every animal study). There is no indication that God fertilized the egg of Mary through the work of either the Father or the Spirit. She conceived without human or Divine fertilization when God the Son entered not only her womb, but also the egg in her womb, under the superintending ministry of the Holy Spirit.

And the Word became 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. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

(John 1:14 & 18)

Angels are sons of God by creation.

Believers are sons of God by adoption.

Jesus Christ is the son of God by His eternal relationship to the Father.

The manner in which Christ changed

A change of His dwelling place

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

A change in His possessions

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

(2 Corinthians 8:9)

A change in His Glory

"And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."

(John 17:5)

A change in His position

Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal to God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

(Philippians 2:6-8)

A change of His form

"Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. "And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave-------"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:26-28)

But no change in His Divinity

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

The reasons for the Incarnation

That He might die for sinners

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

That He might share eternal life with mankind

"For God so loved the world that He have His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

(John 3:16)

"But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

(John 4:14)

That He might know human life by personal experience

Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

(Hebrews 2:17-18)

That He might be a truer Judge of mankind

"For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, "that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

(John 5:22-23)

That He might be a living example to us

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

(I Peter 2:21)

But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the Head- Christ. (Ephesians 4:15)

The importance of this teaching

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

(I John 4:1)

For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds. (2 John 1:7-11)

"The Humanity of Jesus Christ"

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:5-11)

Three physical aspects are involved

His physical development

He became flesh

And the Word became 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.

(John 1:14)

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh. (I Timothy 3:16)

In as much then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same.

(Hebrews 2:14)

He experienced birth and was a baby

"And this will be the sign to you: You will find the Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. (Luke 2:12 &16)

He experienced normal physical growth

And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. (Luke 2:40 & 52)

His Resurrection involved a physical body

Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have

flesh and bones as you see I have." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence.

(Luke 24:36-43)

His physical desires

He was hungry

And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

(Matthew 4:2)

When they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry.

(Mark 11:12)

He needed sleep

And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with waves. But He was asleep.

(Matthew 8:24)

But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

(Mark 4:38)

He experienced fleshly temptations

The Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

(Matthew 4:1)

For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

(Hebrews 2:18)

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

(Hebrews 4:15)

He experienced physical weariness

Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

(John 4:6)

He was thirsty

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

(John 19:28)

He experienced physical agony

And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

(Luke 22:44)

He experienced human emotions

Jesus wept.

(John 11:35)

His physical death

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.

(Hebrews 2:14)

"The Supernatural Miracles of Christ"

There are approximately 456 prophecies concerning the Messiah, of which many of them are about the signs and wonders He will perform as proof that He is the Christ.

This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

(John 21:24-25)

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

(John 20:30-31)

Proof of His Deity will be the miracles

Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?" For which is easier, to say, "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Arise and walk"? "But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"-----then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to this house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

(Matthew 9:2-8)

The prophesy of Christ's supernatural signs

The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the excellency of God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God; He will come and save you. "Then they eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then

"Then they eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing.

(Isaiah 35:1-10)

The fulfillment of the prophesy

And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?"

Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

(Matthew 11:2-5)

Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, and He healed them. So the multitude marveled when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God if Israel.

(Matthew 15:30-31)

Supernatural miracles are to be an evidence

This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

(John 2:11)

Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did.

(John 2:23)

This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

(John 3:2)

Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased.

(John 6:2)

And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?"

(John 7:31)

Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs."

(John 11:47)

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know. (Acts 2:22)

Seven areas that Jesus manifest His power

Power of the molecular structure

"Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made into wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!" This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

(John 2:7-11)

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said the them, "Peace be with you."

(John 20:19)

Power over the elements of the earth

Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

(Mark 4:39)

Power over all physical diseases

Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed."

(Mark 1:40-41)

Power over birth defects

Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk."

(John 5:5-8)

Power over food supply

"There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost."

Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets.

(John 6:9-13)

"The Death of Jesus Christ"

(Matthew 27:24-54)

Why did Jesus die?

To do the will of God!

Then I said, "Behold, I have come in the volume of the book it is written of Me, To do Your will, O God." Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, not had pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the law), then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified. (Hebrews 10:7-14)

To save lost sinners!

And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. "But go and learn what this means: "I desire mercy and not sacrifice." For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

(Matthew 9:11-13)

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

(I Timothy 1:15)

To fulfill the law!

"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill."

(Matthew 5:17)

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. (Romans 10:4)

To redeem those who are under the law

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

(Galatians 3:13-14, 24-26, & 4:4-5)

To demonstrate God is righteousness!

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

(Romans 3:21-26)

To manifest God's love to us!

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

(John 3:16)

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

(Romans 5:8)

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

(I John 3:16 & 4:9-10

To bring us to the Father!

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. (Hebrews 2:9-10)

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. (I Peter 3:18)

To destroy the devil's power over us!

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.

(Hebrews 2:14)

To be a merciful and faithful high priest!

Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted. Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 2:17-18 & 4:14-15)

To serve and give His life as a ransom!

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

(Mark 10:45)

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all.

(I Timothy 2:5-6)

"The Resurrection of Jesus Christ"

"Jesus said to her [Martha] I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies..."

(John 11:25)

There can be no certainty whatsoever about life after death unless Jesus was raised from the dead. Christianity stands or falls on the truth of Jesus' resurrection, as does any hope of life after death.

The Testimony of Paul

The Apostle Paul made this point clear in his writings. When defining the essence of the Gospel, he wrote that it was the **death**, **burial**, and **resurrection** of Jesus.

(Corinthians 15:3-4)

To make his point crystal clear, he added, "... if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain"!

(I Corinthians 15:14)

And then, as if to make certain to get his point across with no misunderstanding, he repeated his assertion, "...and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins"! (I Corinthians 15:17)

The Testimony of Jesus

Jesus Himself asserted that our hope of resurrection depended upon His own triumph over death. Sixty-five years after His resurrection, He appeared to the Apostle John on the island of Patmos and made this remarkable statement:

"Fear not; I am the first and the last, I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and I have the keys of Hell and Death".

Think on that statement for a moment. Jesus is saying, "I am the beginning of history. I am the end of history. I am the meaning of history. And because I have overcome death, I have authority over death (the body) and Hell (the spirit)."

(Revelation 1:17-18)

The Testimony of the Apostles

All the apostles recognized fully the significance of Jesus' resurrection, and because of that, His resurrection became the focal point of their preaching.

Peter, in the first Gospel sermon ever preached, reminded his audience that King David had prophesied that the Messiah would be resurrected from the dead. **(Psalm 16:10)**

He then proclaimed that Jesus had fulfilled that prophecy: "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are witnesses".

(Acts 2:32)

In Peter's second sermon, delivered on the Temple Mount, He charged his audience with participating in the execution of Jesus by demanding that the "Prince of Life" be put to death, "the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses".

(Acts 3:14-15)

Peter's third sermon was delivered to the Sanhedrin Council, the very group of Jewish leaders who had condemned Jesus to death. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter bravely proclaimed, "...let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead... there is salvation in no one else".

(Acts 4:10-12)

Speaking of the boldness of the apostles in their preaching, Luke wrote, "And with great power the apostles were giving witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus...".

(Acts 4:33)

When all the apostles were arrested and hauled before the Sanhedrin Council and were threatened if they did not stop preaching, "Peter and the apostles answered and said, 'We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross'".

(Acts 5:29-30)

As Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was being stoned to death for his testimony of Jesus, "he gazed intently into Heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and he said, Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God".

(Acts 7:55-56)

When Peter was called to preach to Cornelius, the first Gentile convert, he spoke of the crucifixion of Jesus, and then he said, "God raised Him on the third day, and granted that He should become visible, not to all people, but to witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God, that is, to us, who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead".

(Acts 10:40-41)

When Paul was called and sent forth as a missionary (Acts 13:1-41 his sermons focused on the resurrection as the cardinal event of history, emphasizing that Jesus' resurrection was a fulfillment of prophecy: "And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus... from the dead, no more to return to decay..."

(Acts 13:32-34)

In Thessalonica Paul reasoned with the Jews in the synagogue, "explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead..."

(Acts 17:3)

At Athens, we are told that Paul "was preaching Jesus and the resurrection" (Acts 17:181)

And when Paul was arrested and brought before King Agrippa, he said, "I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said was going to take place; that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead, He should be the first to proclaim light to both the Jewish people and to the Gentiles" (Acts 26:22-23)

As you can see, over and over again the apostles affirmed the resurrection of Jesus and asserted that it is the heart of the Gospel

Paul's Letters

Accordingly, Paul began his profound theological epistle to the Romans by asserting that he was an apostle called to preach the Gospel concerning Jesus Christ, "who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead..."

(Romans 1:1-4)

Later, in the same letter, Paul stated, "...that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved" (Romans 10:9)

And when Paul wrote to his protege, Timothy, he exhorted him in his teachings to "remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel" (2 Timothy 2:8)

Paul emphasized the validity of the Resurrection by recounting some of the appearances that Jesus made after His resurrection. He states that Jesus appeared to Peter and then to all the apostles, and that after that, He appeared to more than 500 brethren at one time. He also appeared to His brother, James, who later became the leader of the church in Jerusalem. (I Corinthians 15:5-8)

Paul then reminds his readers that Jesus appeared to him, referring to his conversion experience on the road to Damascus.

(Acts 9:1-9)

The Overall Significance

The overwhelming significance of the resurrection of Jesus is to be seen in the fact that it is an event that sets Christianity apart from all other world religions.

The Resurrection is the unique stamp of Christianity, for only Christianity can claim an empty tomb for its founder. No resurrection has ever been claimed for Buddha, Confucius, or Mohammed.

It is no wonder that Peter claimed that "our living hope" is based on "the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (I Peter 1:3)

"The Ascension and Present Ministry of Jesus Christ"

The chronological order of events

(After the resurrection) Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God."

(John 20:17)

Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

(Acts 1:9-11)

"This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses."Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

(Acts 2:32-36)

Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

(Romans 8:34)

His position reflects God's authority

Who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

(I Peter 3:22)

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2:9-11)

His position reflects God's approval

Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended" what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

(Ephesians 4:8-13)

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

His position reflects His accomplishments

A Priest never sat down, for his work was never finished. But noticed that Christ was seated, His work was finished.

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things, which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

(Colossians 3:1)

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

(Hebrews I:I-3)

His present ministry

His exaltation

And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

(Ephesians 1:19-23)

His intercession

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us

therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Hebrews 4:14-16)

But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

(Hebrews 7:24-25)

His preparation

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

(John 14:1-3)

His expectation

But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

(Hebrews 10:12-14)

So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; And they were afraid.

(John 6:19)

Power over life and death

"For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.

(John 5:21)

Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

(John 11:43-44)

Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel.

(2 Timothy 2:8)

"The Second Coming of Jesus Christ"

Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

(Revelation 1:7)

Promised by Christ

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

(John 14:3)

Guaranteed by angels

Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into the heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

(Acts 1:9-11)

Taught by the apostles

Paul

These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

(2 Thessalonians 1:10)

Peter

Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Were is the promise of His coming?" The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

(2 Peter 3:3-10)

lames

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the

precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

(James 5:7-8)

Matthew

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

(Matthew 24:29-30)

Predicted by the prophets

And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south. Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, for the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah, king of Judah. Thus, the LORD my God will come, and all the saints with You.

(**Zechariah 14:4-5**)

"I was watching in the visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of Heaven!

(Daniel 7:13)

Chronology of the Rapture, Tribulation and Second Coming!

The rapture

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

(I Thessalonians 4:16-17)

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

(I Corinthians 15:51)

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set

in heaven, and One sat on the throne.

(Revelation 4:1-2)

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

(Philippians 3:20-21)

The tribulation

"At the time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt.

"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

(Daniel 12:1-4)

The second coming

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from Heaven, and the powers of the Heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in Heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of Heaven with power and great glory.

(Matthew 24:29-30)

The millennial reign of Christ

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshipped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

(Revelation 20:1-6)