



On Jesus Christ

By

Mark McGee

Chapters

On Jesus Christ	3
On Why Jesus Came	6
On Jesus' Death and Resurrection	9
On A Portrait of Jesus	13
On The Judgment Seat of Christ	17

On Jesus Christ

In our last *Teaching Notes*, we looked at the Bible's teaching about the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God the Father is often referred to as the First Person of the Trinity, yet the New Testament is quite clear that God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are Co-Equal with God the Father.

We turn now to the Second Person of the Trinity in this continuing series of *Teaching Notes* from the 1970's.

The birth of Jesus the Christ (Messiah) was predicted hundreds of years before He was born (Isaiah 7:14). The fulfillment is found in Matthew 1:18-25 –

- Jesus was born to a virgin
- His Father was God and His mother was a young Jewish maiden named Mary
- He lived a sinless life (John 8:46) and gave His life to ransom the lives of others (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

Jesus shares the attributes of His Father and the Holy Spirit –

- He is All-powerful (Matthew 28:18)
- All-knowing (Colossians 2:3)
- Everywhere-present (Matthew 18:20)
- Eternal (John 1:1-2, 15)

Jesus Christ –

- became a man (John 1:14)
- did His Father's will (John 6:38)
- came to save sinners (Luke 19:10)
- came to destroy Satan's works (1 John 3:8)
- came to fulfill the Old Testament (Matthew 5:17),
- came to give life (John 10:10, 28)
- came to complete revelation (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Jesus Christ –

- was worshiped by demons (Mark 5:6)
- was worshiped by angels (Hebrews 1:6)
- was worshiped by His disciples (Luke 24:52)
- is worshiped by the saints in Heaven (Revelation 7:9-10)
- will one day be worshiped by all mankind (Philippians 2:10-11)

Jesus Christ is the most beautiful Person of all time –

- I love Him deeply and have received amazing love from Him
- He is my dearest and closest friend
- He died in my place that I might be justified
- He rose from the grave to lead me into triumph over death

- At this moment He is at the right hand of God the Father acting as my High Priest and Heavenly Advocate (Hebrews 4:14; 9:24; Acts 1:9-11; 1 John 2:1)

On Why Jesus Came

The sermons and lessons that have been and will be preached and taught about Jesus Christ must number in the hundreds of millions, if not billions. Jesus is our life and light, our heart and soul, our reason and purpose, our hope and goal.

In our last Teaching Notes we looked at Jesus Christ as the Second Person of the Trinity. We now look at why He came to earth from Heaven.

I. Jesus Christ was pre-existent with God. He always was God and will continue to be God throughout all eternity.

II. Why did Jesus come from Heaven to earth?

As we search the scriptures for an answer to that question, we see that Jesus came for many different reasons.

- He came to crush the head of Satan
- He came to save His people from their sins
- He came to baptize them into a great body by the Holy Spirit
- He came to be their light
- He came to give them abundant life
- He came to set them free from the bondage of sin
- He came to send them out into the world as witnesses of the love and grace of God

- He came to call them to obedience and holiness
- He came to comfort and encourage them
- He came to shepherd them
- He came to love and be a husband to them
- He came to support and uphold them
- He came to shield and protect them
- He came to produce fruit in and through them
- He came to give them absolute truth
- He came to give them real peace and security
- He came to model the message of eternal hope

We could call these some of the secondary or resultant reasons for Christ's coming, but what about His primary purpose in coming to earth from Heaven?

III. Turn in your Bibles to John 17:1 (read vss. 1-5)

vs.1 – Jesus highest goal in life was to bring glory to His Father.

vs. 2 – God the Father gives Jesus His people and Jesus gives them eternal life.

vs. 3 – Eternal life is knowing God.

The Greek word for know in this verse means “to understand completely” and it carries the concept of appreciation because of the knowledge.

vs. 4 – Jesus was obedient to His Father's will and brought glory to Him.

vs. 5 – Part of doing the Father's will was to leave the glory of eternal reign to become a man and serve in meekness and humility.

Turn to John 6:35-38 (read)

Turn to Luke 22:39-44 (read)

IV. What significance does this insight have in our lives?

The Scripture tells us that we are called to be and do many things as God's children. We are called –

- to be witnesses
- to be ambassadors
- to be ministers of reconciliation
- etc.

Again, however, I think that these are secondary callings and resultant upon a higher purpose for existence.

The great call of Christ to His disciples upon earth was "Follow me." He called them with those exact words 17 times in the Gospels. The word "follower" is used for disciples 77 times in the Gospels. The concept the Holy Spirit is trying to convey to us through divine inspiration is that we are to walk in the same steps that Jesus walked. In fact, the Greek word for follower means "one going in the same way." (Illustrate)

To be a true follower of Christ is to completely abandon oneself to the will of the Father.

Turn to Matthew 6:9-10 (read and close)

On Jesus' Death and Resurrection

When Jesus died and rose from the dead –

- 1 He redeemed us and forgave our sins — Acts 20:28; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14
- 2 He justified us freely by His grace and saved us from the wrath to come — Romans 3:23-26; 5:9
- 3 He saved our lives by atoning for our sins — Romans 5:10-11
- 4 He gave us the gift of righteousness — Romans 5:12-21
- 5 He freed us from sin by placing us under grace — Romans 6:6-14
- 6 He died for the ungodly sinners — Romans 6:6-7
- 7 He gave us the gift of eternal life — Romans 6:23
- 8 He delivered us from the sin nature — Romans 7:21-25
- 9 He removed us from the condemnation of God — Romans 8:1
- 10 He made us free from the law of sin and death — Romans 8:2
- 11 He made us joint-heirs in the inheritance of God — Romans 8:16-18
- 12 He gave us every good spiritual thing — Romans 8:31-34
- 13 He gave us an unbeatable love — Romans 8:35-39
- 14 He showed us the power of wisdom of God — 1 Corinthians 1:18, 23-24
- 15 He became the foundation of all Christian service — 1 Corinthians 21-2; 3:11
- 16 He died for our sins according to the Scripture ... He fulfilled all Old Testament prophecies about the suffering Messiah — 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

- 17 He placed all His enemies under His feet — 1 Corinthians 15:24-26
- 18 He gave us victory over sin — 1 Corinthians 15:55-57
- 19 He became sin for us — 2 Corinthians 5:21
- 20 He made us rich — 2 Corinthians 8:9
- 21 He delivered us from this present evil world — Galatians 1:3-4
- 22 He gave us the Holy Spirit and freedom from the law — Galatians 3:1-3
- 23 He redeemed us from the curse of the law — Galatians 3:13
- 24 He made us spiritual sons — Galatians 4:4-7
- 25 He gave us freedom and liberty from the law — Galatians 5:1-4
- 26 He crucified the world to us and us to the world — Galatians 6:14
- 27 He blessed us with every spiritual blessing — Ephesians 1:3
- 28 He accepted us in the beloved — Ephesians 1:6
- 29 He sealed our salvation with the Holy Spirit of Promise — Ephesians 1:13-14
- 30 He became the Head of the Church, His Body — Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:23
- 31 He opened the way for the spiritually dead to come to life — Ephesians 2:1, 5
- 32 He made a place for us to sit in the heavenlies — Ephesians 2:6
- 33 He demonstrated the exceeding riches of His grace — Ephesians 2:7
- 34 He created us unto good works — Ephesians 2:10
- 35 He made a way for the Gentiles to come to God — Ephesians 2:13
- 36 He abolished the law of commandments in ordinances and blotted them out — Ephesians 2:15; Colossians 2:14
- 37 He made the Jew and Gentile fellow citizens in the family of God — Ephesians 2:15-19; 3:6

- 38 He demonstrated His love for us — Ephesians 5:1-2, 25
- 39 He made us spiritual lights — Ephesians 5:8
- 40 He set us apart to be holy and without fault — Ephesians 2:25-27
- 41 He gave us weapons to fight spiritual warfare — Ephesians 6:10-18
- 42 He became our example of obedience and service to God —
Philippians 2:5-8
- 43 He provided a way to guard our hearts and minds from worry and
anxiety — Philippians 4:6-7
- 44 He gave us strength to face the difficulties of life — Philippians
4:12-13
- 45 He supplied all our needs — Philippians 4:19
- 46 He made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance — Colossians 11:12
- 47 He delivered us from the power of darkness — Colossians 1:13
- 48 He earned pre-eminence in all things — Colossians 1:18
- 49 He made peace and reconciled us to God — Colossians 1:20
- 50 He presented us holy to God — Colossians 1:22
- 51 He delivered us from the wrath to come — 1 Thessalonians 1:10
- 52 He became our mediator with God — 1 Timothy 2:5-6
- 53 He called us with a holy calling — 2 Timothy 1:9
- 54 He abolished death — 2 Timothy 1:10
- 55 He redeemed us from all iniquity and purified us as a special people
— Titus 2:14
- 56 He cleansed our sins — Hebrews 1:3
- 57 He tasted death for us — Hebrews 2:9
- 58 He became the author of our salvation — Hebrews 2:10; 5:9
- 59 He destroyed the devil — Hebrews 2:14
- 60 He became our High Priest of Heaven — Hebrews 4:14

- 61 He became the mediator of a better covenant — Hebrews 8:6
- 62 He entered once into the holy place and obtained eternal redemption for us — Hebrews 9:12
- 63 He cleansed our conscience from dead works to serve the living God — Hebrews 9:14
- 64 He fulfilled the new covenant putting the promise of inheritance in full force — Hebrews 9:15-17
- 65 He appeared in the presence of God for us — Hebrews 9:24
- 66 He bore the sins of many — Hebrews 9:28
- 67 He set us apart for God's service — Hebrews 10:10
- 68 He offered one sacrifice for sins for ever — Hebrews 10:12
- 69 He spiritually completed us forever — Hebrews 10:14
- 70 He made a way for us to boldly enter into the holiest place — Hebrews 10:19-20
- 71 He became the author and finisher of our faith — Hebrews 12:2
- 72 He suffered for us to set us apart — Hebrews 13:12
- 73 He washed us from our sins — Revelations 1:5
- 74 He made us kings and priests — Revelation 1:6
- 75 He received the keys of hell and of death — Revelations 1:18

On A Portrait of Jesus

“Then He said to them, ‘These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.’ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.” Luke 24:44-45

Following His resurrection, Jesus opened the understanding of His disciples so they would comprehend the Scriptures (Law of Moses, Prophets, Psalms) and see that the words in them were about Jesus. The Old Testament predicted a Messiah. The New Testament revealed that Jesus is the Messiah.

The entire Bible paints a beautiful “Portrait of Jesus.”

The Bible is a great portrait of God’s love and grace and eternal plan of man’s salvation. Within this great picture we see the face of Jesus Christ. He is at the center of this picture because He is at the center of God’s love, God’s grace, and God’s eternal plan of man’s salvation.

The Holy Spirit is the Master Artist who has painted many pictures of Christ and for the next few minutes I’d like us to take a composite view of these many pictures and see the greater portrait of Christ within the pages of holy Writ.

Four of the great painters under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit are Isaiah and the apostles John, Peter and Paul.

Isaiah's Portrait

- Illuminator
- Immanuel
- Judge
- Almighty God
- Reprover
- Everlasting Father
- Law-giver
- Prince of Peace
- Liberator
- Mighty Traveler
- Burden-bearer
- Anointed Preacher
- Sin-bearer
- Arm of the Lord
- Intercessor
- Divine Servant
- Only Savior
- Righteous King

John's Portrait

- The Son of God
- The Son of Man
- The Divine Teacher
- The Soul Winner
- The Great Physician
- The Bread of Life
- The Water of Life
- The Defender of the Weak
- The Good Shepherd
- The Prince of Life
- The Light of the World
- The King
- The Servant
- The Consoler
- The True Vine
- The Giver of the Holy Spirit
- The Uplifted Savior
- The Faithful Witness
- The Conqueror of Death
- The Alpha and Omega
- The Lion of the Tribe of Judah
- The Lamb of God
- The Word of God
- The King of kings and Lord of lords

Peter's Portrait

- The Son of the Living God
- The Shepherd and Bishop of Souls
- The Only Source of Truth

Paul's Portrait

- The Peacemaker
- The Lord of Glory
- The Only Foundation
- The Sacrificial Lamb
- The Image of God
- The Liberator
- The Goal of Character
- The Supreme Prize
- The Head of the Church
- The Coming Lord
- The Blessed and Only Potentate
- The Judge of All Men
- The Redeemer
- The Captain of our Salvation
- The Great High Priest
- The Author and Finisher of our Faith

On The Judgment Seat of Christ

We have seen in previous *Teaching Notes* that Jesus Christ is God and came from Heaven to earth to save His people from their sins through the power of His death and resurrection.

We now move to a future event that will impact every member of the Body of Christ – The Judgment Seat of Christ.

(1) The Judgment Seat of Christ is a time of examining.

“everyone of us shall give an account of himself to God.”

(2) The Judgment most likely takes place immediately following the rapture and resurrection.

(3) The Judgment Seat is most likely located in Heaven.

(4) Christ is the Judge on the Judgment Seat.

(5) The Judge is concerned only with believers at the Judgment Seat. Judgment of the unsaved comes later.

(6) The Judgment concerns the works believers performed during their life on earth. Sin is not an issue in this Judgment. Jesus paid for our sins on His Cross!

(7) The Judgment will cause a two-fold result: a reward received or a reward lost.

References:

- Romans 14:10
- 1 Corinthians 3:14-15; 15:51-57
- II Corinthians 5:1-10
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

[These Teaching Notes were presented to a group of pastors during special meetings in the 1970s. We invite you to download, print and use as God leads.]