

IV. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT JESUS CHRIST AND WHY A PERSON OUGHT TO BELIEVE IN HIM AND FOLLOW HIM.

**by
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A. JESUS CHRIST IS DESCRIBED AS THE ONE WHO CAME FROM GOD.

1. The names by which He is called testify to this truth.
 - a. He is called the "Son" of God which means to have the personal nature and character of God. This is how the prophet spoke of Him and this is how the Father referred to Him (Psa. 2:7; Matt. 3:17).
 - b. He is called the "Word" which means He is the very expression of what God is (Jn. 1:1,14; Rev. 19:13). In His incarnation He manifested to man the nature of God through His words and deeds (Matt. 11:27; Jn. 10:30).
 - c. He is called the "only begotten Son", meaning He is the only off-spring of God (Jn. 1:14,18; 3:16; I Jn. 4:9).
 - d. He is also called "God." The Father called Him God (Heb. 1:8); John, the apostle, called Him God (Jn. 1:1; I Jn. 5:20); Thomas called Him God (Jn. 20:28); and the writer of Hebrews called Him God (Heb. 1:3). The apostle Paul also attested to this truth (I Tim. 3:16).
2. The attributes which He possessed testify to this truth.
 - a. Jesus Christ manifested the attribute of omniscience (Matt. 9:4; 11:27; Col. 2:3). He displayed omnipotence (Matt. 28:18-20; Jn. 2:9-11; Col. 1:24) and omnipresence (Matt. 18:20; 28:20; Jn. 1:48; 3:13). Although He was localized in His humanity He was omnipresent in His deity. Jesus was also asserted to be immutable in His divine nature (Heb. 1:10-12; 13:8).
 - b. Jesus Christ also possessed eternity (Mic. 5:2; Jn. 1:1; Rev. 1:11). This is an inseparable argument for His deity. If he existed eternally then He has to be God.
3. The words which He spoke testify to this truth.
 - a. Jesus Christ claimed that He came from God (Jn. 5:17-21; 36).
 - b. Jesus Christ claimed to be the image of the invisible God (Col. 1:15; Jn. 14:9).
 - c. Jesus Christ claimed equality with the Father (Jn. 10:30; 12:44; 14:1). He also claimed eternity (Jn. 8:58) and asserted Himself to be the only Saviour (Jn. 8:24; 10:27-29; Matt. 11:28-30). The testimony of the officers to the Pharisees sums up this wonderful truth, "Never man spoke like this man" (Jn. 7:46).
 - d. Jesus Christ spoke loving words of grace, mercy and forgiveness (Jn. 8:11; Mk. 10:51,52; Luke 7:48). He also spoke words of judgment and wrath to come (Jn. 5:22; 8:24).

4. The works which He performed testify to this truth.

- a. Jesus Christ did miraculous things that only God could do. Only God could raise the dead (Jn. 11:43). Only God could have power over the forces of nature (Mk. 4:39). Only God could give eternal life (Jn. 3:1-14; 4:6-24; 10:28). Only God could forgive sin (Matt. 9:2,6; Mk. 2:1-12; Lk. 7:47,48).
- b. Jesus Christ testified that His work was the work of God and that it was all done in obedience to God and according to His will (Jn. 5:36; 8:29).

B. JESUS CHRIST IS DESCRIBED AS THE ONE WHO FULFILLS ALL THE PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE MESSIAH.

1. This truth was substantiated with His First Advent.

- a. It was prophesied that the Messiah would be the seed of a woman and be virgin born. Note how Jesus fulfilled this: Gen. 3:15 cp Gal. 4:4; Isa. 7:14 cp Matt. 1:23, Lk. 1:26-35).
- b. It was prophesied that the Messiah would also come of the seed of Abraham. Gen. 12:3; 18:18; 22:18; cp Jn. 8:56; Acts 3:25.
- c. The Messiah would come through the line of Isaac. Gen. 17:19; 21:12; 26:4 cp Rom. 9:7,8; Gal. 4:23-28; Heb. 11:18.
- d. The Messiah would come through Jacob. Isa. 41:8; 49:6; Jer. 14:8 cp Lk. 1:68; 2:32; Acts 28:20.
- e. The Messiah would come out of the Tribe of Judah. Gen. 49:10; I Chron. 5:2; Mic. 5:2 cp Matt. 2:6; Heb. 7:14; Rev. 5:5.
- f. The Messiah would come from the house of David. II Sam. 7:12-15; Isa. 9:7; 11:1; 55:3,4 cp Matt. 1:1; Lk. 1:69; Acts 2:30; Rev. 22:16.
- g. The Messiah would be born at Bethlehem. Mic. 5:2 cp Matt. 2:6; Lk. 2:4; Jn. 7:42.
- h. The sufferings of the Messiah were prophesied and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Psa. 22:1-18; Isa. 53:1-12; Zech. 13:1,6,7 cp Matt. 26:31; Lk. 24:26; Jn. 1:29; Acts 8:32-35.
- i. The death of the Messiah was prophesied and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Isa. 53:8,9; Dan. 9:26 cp Matt. 20:19; 26:2; Phil. 2:8.
- j. The resurrection of the Messiah was prophesied and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Psa. 16:10; 17:15; 49:15; 73:24; Jonah 1:17 cp Matt. 12:40; 16:4; John 2:19; Acts 2:27-31; I Cor. 15:4.

2. This truth will be substantiated with His Second Advent.

- a. When He comes Jesus Christ will return in power and glory as prophesied. Zech. 14:4

cp Matt. 25:31; 24:30.

- b. When He comes Jesus Christ will judge His enemies as prophesied. Psa. 50:3,4 cp Jn. 5:22; II Tim. 4:1; Jude 15; Rev. 20:11-13.
- c. When He comes He will regather Israel as prophesied. Jer. 23:5-8; Dt. 30:3-8 cp Matt. 25:30,31.
- d. When He comes He will resurrect Old Testament saints and Tribulation saints as prophesied. Dan. 12:2,3; Isa. 26:19,20 cp Rev. 20:4-6.
- e. When He comes He will establish His Kingdom as prophesied. Zech. 14:1-3; 9-11; 6:13; Isa. 11 cp Rev. 19:15, 17-19.

C. JESUS CHRIST IS DESCRIBED AS THE ONE WHO FULFILLS ALL THE OLD TESTAMENT TYPES CONCERNING A REDEEMER.

- 1. When God slew innocent animals and shed their blood to provide a covering for Adam and Eve it was a type of how God would provide a covering of divine righteousness through the death of an innocent substitute. Notice this type is fulfilled in Christ (Gen. 3:21 cp II Cor. 5:21; Rom. 3:21; Phil. 3:7-9).
- 2. When God instructed the Israelites to offer a passover lamb and to sprinkle its blood to avoid judgment, it was a type of Christ, who is the Lamb of God, who was sacrificed for sinners. Note this type is fulfilled in Christ. (Ex. 12:1-9 cp Jn. 1:29; Heb. 10:12; Rom. 3:25; I Pet. 1:18,19).
- 3. When God provided manna for the Israelites, to nourish and sustain them in the wilderness, it was a type of Christ who is the bread of life. Ex. 16:1-36 cp Phil. 4:19; Col. 2:3; Eph. 3:8; Jn. 6:48-58.
- 4. When Abraham was called upon to offer his only son, Isaac was a type of Christ who was offered for our justification. Gen. 22:1-14 cp Jn. 3:16; Heb. 11:17-19.
- 5. When Moses was divinely chosen to be a mediator between God and the Israelites, his ministry was a type of Christ who is our mediator, advocate, and intercessor. Ex. 19:9-25; Num.14:11-19 cp I Tim. 2:5; I Jn. 2:1.
- 6. When Abraham sought a bride for his son, Isaac became a type of Christ who is the bridegroom of the church which is His bride. Gen. 24 cp II Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:25-32.

D. JESUS CHRIST IS DESCRIBED AS THE ONE WHO OFFERS THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN.

- 1. This was the message that Jesus proclaimed (Jn. 3:36; 5:24; 6:47; 8:24; 10:9,27,28; 14:6).
- 2. This was the message that His disciples proclaimed (Acts 4:12; Rom. 1:16; Acts 13:39; 15:11; 16:30,31).

Notice from the foregoing truths, a person has a host of reasons why he ought to believe in

the Lord Jesus Christ and follow Him through a life of faith and obedience.

Someone has said, " A pastor needs to make much of Jesus in his ministry." This is no doubt needful for two major reasons. First, if people don't hear about Him they won't be saved. Secondly, if people don't develop a loving relationship with Him they won't serve Him.