

You Must Answer the Question: "Who is Jesus Christ?" PT 2
 Series: CH_RCH: Your Role in the Body of Christ

Col 1:15-29/ Rom 8:31-39

March 3, 2019

United Community Church

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The problem facing America today is found in Amos 8:11-12

Can religions ~~Coexist~~? No, because no religion other than Christianity acknowledges Jesus Christ as God

	Christian	World Religions	Naturalism
Foundation	God of the Bible	god & human founder	Science/ Reasoning
Jesus Christ	Member of Godhead/Savior of mankind	A good moral teacher but not God	Irrelevant because Jesus is not needed
Mankind	We are all sinners who need to be reconciled to God	Ignorant & disobedient who need knowledge & good works	Author of their own destiny
Salvation	Saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ following/ serving God	Follow the teachings of the founder of their religion	Make the world a better place
Morality	Defined by the Bible & absolute	Defined by founder & absolute	Defined by the people & subjective
Identity	Who I am in Christ as described in the Bible	Who I am as determined by my works	Who I am as I define myself
Responsibility	Love God & Love others	Serve god through good works to obtain salvation	Become the best person I can be
Actions	Live for Christ & tell the world about His plan of salvation for all who turn to Him	Live to serve their god & tell the world about their religion	Respect those who agree with their views and challenge/silence those who disagree with them

Who is Jesus Christ?

A Christian understanding of our relationship with God

God created us in His image and in the beginning - we were perfect, holy, and righteous. Adam and Eve, God's first created human beings and representatives of mankind, disobeyed God by eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Their sin brought God's wrath and severed their perfect relationship with God.

Since our sin separated us from God, only God could accomplish two things necessary to restore our relationship with God. First, He had to satisfy His wrath towards sin which is called expiation meaning we are justified – declared not guilty & righteous before God (Justify – just if I'd never sinned) (Rom 4:25-5:2). Second, He had to prepare a perfect sacrifice to atone for the sins of mankind. Atonement refers to a covering for sin and is sometimes referred to as propitiation (Rom 3:23-26).

God had to send the perfect sacrifice to die in our place. That person was God's only Son, Jesus Christ, who was God in the flesh (John 1:1-17). God's Word tells us when we believe what Christ did for us by faith, confess our sin, and trust God to save us, we will be saved (Rom 10:9-10,13). As evidence of our faith, we live our lives in accordance with the commandments contained in God's Word and share God's message of salvation with others.

What is salvation? "God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin." 1 Cor 1:30
NLT

In light of what was said, I will explain the question, "Who is Jesus Christ?"

Who is Jesus Christ?

1. Jesus Christ is God, Col 1:15-18
 - a. He existed with the Father – He was not created (Jn 1:1, 18, Jn 10:30, Jn 17:21, Phil 2:5-6, Col 1:17, Col 2:9-10)

- b. He was the sinless Son of God (1 Pet 2:22, 2 Cor 5:21, Heb 4:15, 1 Jn 3:5) who claimed to be God (Jn 5:18, Jn 10:33)
 - c. He came to forgive sin, as only God could do (Mk 2:7, Matt 9:6, 1 Pet 2:24)
2. Jesus Christ became Man, Col 1:19-20
 - a. He was born to the virgin Mary (Isa 7:14, Matt 1:22-23, Lk 1:34-35)
 - b. He was human (attributes – Jn 4:6, 19:28, Lk 24:40-43, Mk 6:34, Jn 11:35, Heb 14:15, Jn 19:30)
 - c. He died on the cross in our place so we can be forgiven and reconciled to God (ransom – Matt 20:28, Rom 3:24, 1 Pet 1:18, to pay penalty for sin – Rom 3:24, 1 Jn 2:2, 4:10, took God’s wrath – Rom 5:9, died so we would be forgiven – Jn 1:29, Eph 1:7, Col 1:13-14, and reconciled to God – 2 Cor 5:18, Col 1:19-20)
 3. Jesus Christ rose from the dead, Rom 8:31-39
 - a. The reality of His resurrection (Matt 28:6, Acts 1:3, 1 Cor 15:1-4, 17, Rev 1:5, 18, Col 1:18, Jn 2:19-22, Rom 6:9)
 - b. Witnesses saw His resurrection & ascension (Angels - Matt 28:2-6, Mary Magdalene – Mk 16:9, two on Emmaus – Lk 24:31-35, Peter – Lk 24:34, disciples – Jn 20:19-20, more than 500 – 1 Cor 15:4-6, ascension – Acts 1:9)
 - c. He is in heaven as Mediator and Savior waiting for the day we will come again as Just Judge (Rom 8:31-34, 2 Tim 4:1, Acts 17:30-31, Rev 19:11)
 4. Jesus reconciled us to God to serve Him, Col 1:21-23, 27-29
 - a. We are declared holy & righteous through Christ (1 Cor 1:30, 1 Thess 5:23)
 - b. Christ took our sin upon Himself (1 Peter 2:24-25, 2 Cor 5:21, Gal 3:13, 1 Pet 3:18, 1 Jn 3:5, Heb 7:26)
 - c. Christ expects to work through us to lead us to live for Him (2 Cor 5:15, 1 Pet 2:24)

In Summary:

- My identity: I am a Christ follower (Christian)
- My responsibility: I follow Christ in every area of my life
- My Actions: I live as a Christ follower according to the Bible

If we do not answer that question from a biblical perspective, the world will remain in darkness and separated from God for eternity