

# **CHRISTOLOGY**

## **(The Doctrine of Christ)**

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**(The Person of Christ)**

# Introduction

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- What does the world say about the person of Jesus?
- What do you say about Jesus?

# The Person of Christ

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- Matthew 16
- Two responses to the question:
  - Culture's answer: A good moral teacher, a prophet
  - Peter's answer: You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God

# The Person of Christ

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- Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man in person, and will be so forever
- The heart of the Christian faith is in the person of Jesus Christ

# The Person of Christ

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- Christology
  - Christos - Christ
  - Logy – Study of.
- When we study the Bible, we are ultimately studying Christ! From Genesis to Revelation, the whole Bible is about Jesus.

# **Christ from beginning to end**

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OT- He's coming

NT- He's here

Acts/Letters- Proclaim him

Revelation- He's coming again

# Christ in the Gospels

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- How do the four gospels portray Jesus?
- The Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) are not contradictory accounts, but cohesive accounts of Jesus' life.



# Christ in the gospels

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- Matthew, Mark and Luke are called “Synoptic gospels”
  - “Syn”- together or with
  - “Optic”- seen
  - Some of the same material (parables, stories) are in the Synoptic Gospels
  - John is not considered a part of the Synoptic Gospels, because his gospels is on a different focus.

# Christ in the gospels

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- Focus of each of the 4 Gospels
  - Matthew- Jewish perspective, Fulfillment of OT prophecies, Jesus is the promised Messiah
  - Mark- Brief and abrupt, Focus on Jesus' miracles
  - Luke- Gentile emphasis. Salvation is not only for the Jew but for the Gentile as well
  - John- two-thirds is dedicated to the last few weeks of Jesus' life. Very high Christology in John

# People's Responses to Jesus

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- Shepherds- the good shepherd
- Simeon- the promised Messiah is now here
- John the Baptist- the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
- Nicodemus – a good teacher
- Woman at the Well- the Savior
- Pharisees- a blasphemer

## **Jesus own testimony about his identity**

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- Jesus testifies to his own identity in the gospel of John.
- He gives seven “I AM” statements in John
- Ego Emi- “I AM”
  - When Jesus uses this phrase, he clearly identifies himself as God

# Jesus “I AM” statements

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- John 12:49
  - Jesus says he is sent in the Father's authority and says and does what the Father has commanded
  - To the Jewish community and the religious leaders, this would be considered blasphemous for a man equating himself as God.

# Jesus “I AM” statements

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- I AM
  - The Bread of Life (John 6:35)
  - Context: After the feeding of the five thousand
  - Purpose: Jesus is the satisfaction of his people

# Jesus “I AM” statements

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- I AM
  - The light of the world (John 8:12)
    - Purpose: Jesus’ life and ministry glorifies the Father and shines a light on our sin and our need for salvation
  - The Door (John 10:7,9)
    - Purpose: Eternal life is only found in Jesus
  - The Good Shepherd (John 10:11)

# Jesus “I AM” statements

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- The Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6)
  - Purpose: No one comes to the Father except through Jesus
- The True Vine (John 15:1)
  - Purpose: Our life is connected to being connected to Jesus
- The Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
  - Purpose: Only Jesus brings life to dead souls.



# Paul's Testimony about Jesus

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- Jesus as Savior (Acts 9; Eph. 2:8)
- Accomplished Redemption (Eph. 2:1-10; 1 Corinthians 15)

# Jesus in the Old Testament

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- The book of Hebrews illustrates how Jesus is better type in the Old Testament
- Better Moses
- Better Adam
- The true Tabernacle
- The fulfilment of the sacrificial system
- The fulfilment of the priesthood

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# **JESUS HUMANITY**

## **(Why was it necessary for Jesus to be human?)**

# **The humanity of Jesus**

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- What does it mean for Jesus to be human?
- Why do you think it is necessary for Jesus to become a man?
- Why was it necessary to Jesus to become a man?

# **Jesus needed to become a man**

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- For Representative Obedience- Jesus obeyed where Adam utterly failed and disobeyed. Just as through the disobedience of one man many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one man many are made righteous. (Rom. 5:18-19; 1 Cor. 15:45,47)
- To be a Substitute Sacrifice- Jesus had to be made like us in every way to be an acceptable sacrifice for man, since it was man who rebelled against his Creator. (Heb. 2:14-17)

# Jesus needed to become a man

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- To be the One Mediator Between God and Man- We needed Christ to represent us to God and to represent God to us. (1 Tim 2:5) “Only someone both fully divine and truly human can effectually mediate between God and men.” C.J. Mahaney
- To fulfill God’s Original Purpose for Man to Rule the Creation (Heb. 2:8-9; Luke 19:17, 19; 1 Cor. 6:3)
- To be Our Example and Pattern in Life – Christ showed and taught us how we are to live. We have no better example to follow than in Christ. (1 John 2:6, 3:2-3; 2 Cor. 3:18, 1 Pet. 2:21)
- To Be the Pattern for Our Redeemed Bodies – Jesus’ resurrection body was the first fruits of those who will follow and be resurrected with Him on that last day. (1 Cor. 15:42-49)
- To sympathized as High Priest – Jesus has experienced our struggles and so he can understand what we go through. (Heb. 2:18, 4:15-16)

# Fully Man: The Virgin Birth

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- Scriptural evidence for
  - Isaiah 7 – allusion to Jesus' virgin birth
  - Galatians 4:4 “when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman”
  - Luke
  - The virgin birth made possible the uniting of fully deity and full humanity in one person” – Wayne Grudem