

Matthew 13:13-16

What does it mean when we say in the Creed, “I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord?”

- For Christians, Jesus is the center of our faith
- If the claims about Jesus are true, they can’t be ignored and MUST impact our lives

## **1. Who IS Jesus? Who do YOU think Jesus is?**

**What clues in OT passages do we have about his identity?**

- What does it mean that He is the “Christ”?
  - Psalm 89:18-20
  - 2 Samuel 7
- He is the expected King who will rule forever
  - Psalm 89:26-29
  - Colossians 1
  - Revelation 1:5
  - It is the throne of JESUS that is established forever

## **2. Jesus’ own words point to His identity**

Matthew 1:21

- Jesus = “Savior”, “God saves”

**“Christ” is a TITLE, not a surname**

- (Greek) Christos = anointed one
- Equivalent to the Hebrew for “Messiah”
- When we use “Jesus Christ” or “Jesus the Messiah”, this means that Jesus is God’s Anointed Savior or Savior King

**Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the city of David, of the tribe of Judah**

- Genesis 49:10
- His family tree in Matthew 1 show He is of the tribe of Judah and a direct-descendent of David
- 1 Timothy 6:15
- Revelation 17:14
- Revelation 19:16

**How could Jesus fulfill God’s promises if He died?**

- Daniel 7:9-14
- “Son of Man” is Jesus’ self-designated name

**Jesus calls Himself the “Son of Man” and talks about Himself as if He is God**

- Luke 5:24

**The Jews of His day had certain expectation for the Messiah**

- He’d be a great political or military leader and overthrow the Roman occupation
- Daniel 7

**Jesus challenged these expectations**

- Mark 8:31
- Mark 10:45
- Isaiah 53

**The suffering Messiah is a role the Jews overlooked**

- Messiah meant Savior... but the real saving was from sin and it’s effects (spiritual and physical death)

**Jesus IS the Christ, the Anointed King... but He is also the Son of Man that has first come for our sake, as God’s suffering servant**

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## **The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day He rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

Amen.