



I have written, for my last few essays, on God, the Holy Spirit and on God, the Father. I decided therefore, to finish the trilogy of our “triune God” with an essay on the “second” person of the trinity – Jesus Christ, Messiah, Son of the Living God. I am aware you would all know most of what I will be discussing, however, I decided to write it anyway.

We must remember that a man claiming to be God is a radical thought. Jesus is the only leader of any world religion to have made that claim. However, He backed it up and proved that He was exactly what and who He said He was. Throughout the life of Jesus when He walked this earth, He declared, showed and then accomplished all that the Son of God could do to help save man from their ultimate destination which was hell and eternal damnation.

Through Jesus, we see that our one true God is made up of three distinct personalities, yet they are all still one God. That is very difficult for many to comprehend and actually I do not think that we ever could, nor will we ever truly, fully comprehend that fact. We believe it and walk in that fact but will we ever truly comprehend and understand what that truly means – I don't know. However, the fact is that it is the absolute and indisputable truth. That is the awesomeness of our God.

We know Jesus as the “second person” of the Trinity. That is not necessarily the order or position which they are in. Their “order” is literally interchangeable. There is really no difference between the three persons of the Trinity except for their function. In previous essays, as mentioned, I have discussed the functions of the Holy Spirit and the Father.

Jesus' function in the Trinity is to be the Messiah/Christ to the lost people of this earth. Actually, the word “Christ” does not appear in the Hebrew translation of the New Testament at all. “Christ” is actually from the Greek word, “Christos.” In Hebrew, that word is “Moshiach”, or Messiah. Yes, the word “Christ” quite literally, and very simply, means “Messiah.” The word “Messiah” literally means “Anointed One” - the One promised throughout the generations by all the biblical prophets to save, not only the Jewish people, but all who would believe in Him.

We must understand that God's desire from the beginning, when Adam and Eve fell, was to restore the relationship that was broken between God and Man when Adam and Eve ate of the fruit. We read of this in Genesis 3. God immediately spoke the prophetic word of redemption in Genesis 3:15 as He declared, "*And I will put enmity between thee (the devil) and the woman, and between thy seed (the devil) and her seed (Jesus); it (Jesus) shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*"

What this is saying is simply that Jesus will destroy the devil ("*bruise thy head*"), but in doing this, Jesus will need to first be crucified and die for the sins of the people ("*bruise his [Jesus] heel*"). Yes, Jesus would come and destroy the power of the devil over man through His death, burial and resurrection. We (anyone who believes) are now able to have new life, eternal life, in and through all that Jesus did.

Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ, the "Anointed One." However, we must always be careful of the enemy and every one of his tactics. We must not only be aware of those that directly come against Jesus and who He is but we must also be aware of the lies and deceptions of that enemy who would seem to skirt the issue of Jesus being the living Son of God and instead just look at Him as an idea which bears no true relationship to the fact that Jesus is real and He is the actual Son of God.

One of these deceptions is the "New Age Christ" deception that has been around for a while but it is still gaining steam. In such modern "New Age type thinking," the concept of "christ" is more like a "super life force" such as the New Age concept of "chi," which believes in "the god in all of us." The idea of "god" in this thinking bears absolutely no resemblance to the true God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This way of thinking is often referred to as "Christ Consciousness" and stands in opposition to the true identity of the true Messiah - Jesus.

Here is a definition of this New Age counterfeit (if you can really understand this definition): "Christ Consciousness is an awareness of the higher self as part of a universal system. Although it can be interpreted in a number of ways, a common understanding is that 'Christ Consciousness' is the state of consciousness in which a person has found self-realization and unity with God or the Divine. It may also be used as a synonym for the yogic and Hindu concept of "samadhi," or "deep spiritual bliss." (Definition from Yogapedia)

Unlike the true promised Jewish Messiah of the Bible, this version of “christ” is a figment of the imagination for people seeking “New Age enlightenment.” In this, the cross becomes a mere symbol of sacrifice and virtue, rather than the only means that one can truly be saved. Not only is this false, but there is also the danger of seeing Jesus purely as an “intellectual concept” rather than the true and living Messiah/Christ, the Son of the true Living God, the second person of the trinity.

Jesus (Isa – in the Quran) is mentioned in the Quran, but the Islamic version declares that Jesus is not the Son of God and that He did not die on the cross and that He never came back to life (resurrected). The Quran declares or states that Jesus is simply a “prophet.” Obviously, this is a lie that the devil had perpetrated to Muhammad. This was allowed to be perpetrated, unfortunately, because those who called themselves “Christians” were using their “faith” to help perpetrate their conquering of people which was not God’s plan. The devil was allowed to bring forth this lie to come against the truth of who Jesus was and Islam was born.

The true Jesus teaches us to die to ourselves; to pick up our cross and follow Him. Matthew 16:24-26 tells us this as it states, *“Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?”* Jesus clearly tells all those who would believe that He is the only way to the Father and to eternal life. He declares this in John 14:6 as He states, *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

The true Messiah invites us to walk with Him on that narrow path of denying of self and to join in His life of blessing others. Jesus is clear in telling us that we may be called to suffer, for His sake, in this type of lifestyle. The end result however, will be that the true believer will enjoy everlasting eternal life in heaven and then ultimately, the New Jerusalem with our God.

The predominant theme of the Scriptures is the “Person” and the “work” of Jesus. He is God. He became a human being, died by crucifixion, and was buried. He rose again from the dead and went to be with the Father. He is the only, all-sufficient Savior of the world. The Good News is that Jesus will come again to this earth to rule and reign for 1000 years and then He will usher in the New Jerusalem. There is no other “god” that declares such Good News.

Salvation was declared by the Father, as we stated, back in Genesis 3:15. Jesus' miraculous birth was prophesied 800 years before His coming as we see in Isaiah 7:14, *"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."* Those prophecies and many more were fulfilled to the letter as we read in Matthew 1:23-25, *"Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel."* <sup>24</sup> *Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: <sup>25</sup>And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name Jesus (God with us)."*

So, who is this Jesus? First, He is God and He came in the flesh. Jesus said in John 10:30, *"I and the Father are one."* At first glance, this might not seem to be a claim to be God. However, look at the Jewish leader's reaction to His statement. They tried to stone Him *"for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God"* (John 10:33).

The Jewish leadership understood exactly Jesus' statement as a claim to be God. In the verses that follow, Jesus never addresses the Jewish leadership's attempts to have Him clarify His statement. He never says, "I did not claim to be God." When Jesus said, *"I and the Father are one"* (John 10:30), He truly was claiming equality with God, the Father.

In John 8:58, Jesus declares His pre-existence which is an attribute of God as He states, *"Very truly I tell you... before Abraham was born, I am!"* In response to this statement, the Jewish leadership again took up stones to stone Jesus (John 8:59). In claiming pre-existence, Jesus applied the name of God to Himself—"I AM" as declared by God Himself in Exodus 3:14. The Jewish leadership rejected Jesus' identity as "God Incarnate." However, they understood exactly what Jesus was saying and declaring who He is - God.

The scriptures tell us that Jesus **is** God, the **Word of God**, who came "in the flesh." John 1:1 tells us, *"The Word was God..."* John 1:14 tell us, *"The Word became flesh..."* When Thomas, the disciple, declared to Jesus, *"My Lord and my God"* (John 20:28), Jesus does not correct him because it was a true statement. The apostle Paul describes Jesus as *"...our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ."* (Titus 2:13) The Apostle Peter says the same, calling Jesus *"...our God and Savior."* (2 Peter 1:1) God, the Father, also bears witness to Jesus' identity. In Matthew 3:17, when Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist we hear the Father, declare for anyone who had ears to hear, *"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*

Old Testament prophecies such as Isaiah 9:6 announce the deity of the Christ as well, *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”* Who else could be all of this except God. Isaiah was speaking about the coming Messiah. Jesus, was and still is, all of these to us because He is God.

If Jesus is not God then He was a liar and our faith is simply built on a lie. If Jesus is not God then all His disciples were fools or very good liars. If Jesus is not God then His death would have been insufficient to pay the penalty for the sins of the whole world (1John 2:2). Only God Himself could provide an infinite, eternal and true sacrifice (Romans 5:8; 2Corinthians 5:21) – Jesus, the Son of God. The scriptures tell us that God is the only Savior (Hosea 13:4; cf. 1Timothy 2:3). If Jesus is to be the Savior, then He must be God.

Jesus had to be both God and man. As God, Jesus could truly satisfy God’s wrath because mere man was incapable. As a man, Jesus had the capability of dying and taking our rightful punishment – eternity in hell. However, He was also God and therefore He was able to rise again from the dead and live forever as our Savior and as our Lord. It is the only way we can have access to the Father. It states this in John 14:6, *“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”* And... most importantly...Jesus shall return.

In the Gospel accounts, Jesus tell us that many will come in His name saying they are the “Christ.” Jesus tells us very clearly that we should expect false messiahs and antichrists. In Mark, Jesus warned, *“Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray.”* (Mark 13:6) Notice how they will say *“I am he!”* It is a play on the name of God. Jesus was stating what these false messiahs will say about themselves - that they are the one that we are seeking - but they are not. Jesus states it simply. He is the **“I Am.”** (John 8:58)

A few final comments concerning Jesus:

- He shall return again to this earth. Acts 1:11; Hebrews 10:37; John 14:3
- All believers in Jesus shall be bodily resurrected to begin a new, undying life in heaven and then the New Jerusalem. 1Thessalonians 4:17-18; 1Corinthians 15:51-58
- Jesus will reign forever, as King of kings and Lord of lords. 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 22:3-5

Jesus is the Son of God. He is equal with and has authority along with the Father and the Holy Spirit. However, He has different functions than the Father and the Holy Spirit. Yet, they are all the One true Living God. It is only through the blood and resurrection, and belief in all that Jesus did can anyone be saved from eternal torment. However, with, in and through Jesus, all believers have salvation, new life, and new life more abundantly because of, and only in, Jesus – our Savior and Lord. Thank you Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit!!!

**The following is a brief list concerning who the Bible says that Jesus is: (from Christianity.com)**

The second Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45);	Holy One of God (Mark 1:24);
Advocate (1 John 2:1);	Heir of all things (Hebrews 1:2);
The ancient of days (Daniel 7:22);	Judge (Acts 17:31);
Apostle (Hebrews 3:1);	King (Acts 2:34-36; Revelation 19:11-16);
Author and Finisher of the faith (Hebrews 12:2);	Light of the world (John 9:5);
Beginning of the creation of God (Revelation 3:14);	Life (John 14:6);
Only begotten of the Father (John 1:14);	Lion of the tribe of Judah (Revelation 5:1-5);
Beginning and End (Revelation 1:8);	Master (Matthew 8:19);
Shepherd and Bishop (1 Peter 2:25);	Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5);
Bread of Life (John 6:48-51);	Messiah (Daniel 9:25);
Bridegroom (Matthew 9:15);	Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7);
Bright Morning Star (Revelation 22:16);	Potentate (1 Timothy 6:15);
Brightness of the Father's glory (Hebrews 1:3);	Prince of life (Acts 3:15);
Brother to all who believe in Him (Hebrews 2:11);	Prince of peace (Isaiah 9:6);
Captain of our Salvation (Revelation 2:10);	Prophet (Luke 13:33; John 7:40);
The Chosen One (Matthew 12:18);	Propitiation (1 John 2:2);
Christ (Matthew 1:16);	Power of God (1 Corinthians 1:24);
Consolation of Israel (Luke 2:25);	Physician (Matthew 9:12);
Corner Stone (Ephesians 2:20);	Ransom (1 Timothy 2:6);
Counselor (Isaiah 9:6);	Refiner and Purifier (Malachi 1:13);
Day Star (2 Peter 1:19);	Sacrifice (Ephesians 5:2);
Deliverer (Romans 11:26);	Salvation (Luke 2:25-30);
Desire of all nations (Haggai 2:7);	Son of God (Matthew 4:3);
Door of the sheep (John 10:7);	Son of Man (Matthew 8:20);
Emmanuel (Matthew 1:23);	Son of Righteousness (Malachi 4:2);
Friend (John 11:1-44);	Surety (Hebrews 7:22);
Eternal Life (1 John 5:20);	Teacher (John 3:2);
Everlasting Father (Isaiah 9:6);	Testator (Hebrews 9:14-17);
Express image of the Father (Hebrews 1:3);	Truth (John 14:6);
Faithful Witness (Revelation 1:5);	The Way (John 14:6);
First fruits from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:23);	Wedding Garment (Matthew 22:12);
Fountain (Zechariah 13:1);	Wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24);
Governor (Matthew 2:6);	Wonderful (Isaiah 9:6);
Head of the Church (Colossians 1:18);	Word of God (Revelation 19:10-13)
High Priest (Hebrews 3:1);	