

THE PERSON AND MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

“The human predicament finds its solution in Christ.”

“The Person, ministry, and passion, and continued existence of Jesus Christ are central to Christianity. While we believe and accept all that Jesus taught, the essence of our faith is our personal relationship to Him as the Son of God and Savior of our souls.”

“To rescue man from everlasting death He laid aside His garments of transcendent light, entered this world of woe as the immortal Son of God, ‘took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him...’” (Phil. 2:7-9).

The preceding quotations are taken from the book, A Handbook of Christian Truth by Harold Lindsell and Charles J. Woodbridge. Published by Fleming H. Revell Company, Westwood, N.J. Copyright 1953.

This packet contains a nine study lesson dealing with the person and ministry of Jesus Christ. The Study Guide is based on the Eternal Word of God. This study guide was designed by Elmo Parish and is free to be duplicated. It is designed for self study or for classroom study. All questions can be answered from the Bible. There is also a tract available titled “Which Jesus Do You Know”. A copy of the study guide and the tract may be downloaded at www.djssundries.com. For more information, please contact us at the address below.

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Study Guide – Lesson 1 – Jesus Christ and Prophecy

The Holy Spirit of God prepared the way for the Redeemer when He should come!

There are over 330 prophecies relating to the first coming of Christ. All were fulfilled!

A. Prophecies Concerning Christ's Origin.

1. Christ would "...rise out of _____" (Numbers 24:17). He would come through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Matthew 1:1-17).
2. "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of _____, (David's father) and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:" (Isaiah 11:1; Genesis 49:10; & Luke 1:31-33).
3. The place of His birth was to be _____ (Micah 5:2 & Luke 2:4-7).
4. "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a _____ shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14 & Matthew 1:18, 22-23).
5. In Daniel 9:24-26 the time of His death was specified as 490 years following the rebuilding of _____.
6. Isaiah 40:3 says that a forerunner would announce His coming. "In those days came _____ the _____, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand " (Matthew 3:1-2).
7. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, _____, _____, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6 & John 1:1, 14).

B. Prophecies Concerning Christ's Pathway in His Earthly Life.

1. Some of His childhood would be spent in _____ (Hosea 11:1 & Matthew 2:15).
2. He would suffer and "the LORD hath laid on him the _____ of us _____" (Isaiah 53:4-6 & 2 Corinthians 5:21).
3. Christ would ride into Jerusalem on _____ (Zechariah 9:9 & Matthew 21:2, 4-5).
4. "They gave me also _____ for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me _____ to drink" (Psalm 69:21 & Matthew 27:34).
5. Not one of his _____ was broken. Psalm 34:20 & John 19:33, 36.
6. "They part my _____ among them, and cast lots upon my _____" (Psalm 22:18 & Matthew 27:35).
7. He would utter these words on the cross: " _____" (Psalm 22:1 & Mark 15:34).
8. His soul would not be left in _____ (Psalm 16:9-10 & Acts 2:31).

C. Prophecies in the Old Testament and their fulfillment in the New Testament give us these facts (Taken from Messiah in Both Testaments by Fred John Meldau. The Victory Publishing Company. Denver, CO, 1956).

1. It proves that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, for unaided man is neither capable of writing or fulfilling such a literary wonder.
2. It proves that the God of the Bible, the only One who knows the end from the beginning, and who alone has the power to fulfill all His word, is the true and living God.
3. It demonstrated that the Bible is both all-knowing to be able to foretell the future entwined around numberless men who are free moral agents, and all-powerful, to be able to bring to pass a perfect fulfillment of His word in the midst of widespread unbelief, ignorance and rebellion on the part of men.
4. It demonstrates that the Person, Jesus of Nazareth, who so perfectly and completely fulfilled all the Old Testament predictions, is indeed the Messiah, the Savior of the world, the Son of the Living God.

HALLELUJAH, WHAT A SAVIOUR!

Study Guide – Lesson 2 – The Earthly Pathway of Christ

A. His Life

1. The first 30 years of the life of Christ (before His public ministry) is covered below.
 - a. The pre-incarnate state is spoken of in John 1:1-14. Christ existed before _____ things and "...the Word was _____". His birth and infancy are recorded in Matthew and Luke.
 - b. His childhood is recorded in Matthew 1:18-2:23 and Luke 1 and 2.
 - c. Jesus at the age of _____ is recorded in Luke 2:42-52.
 - d. Jesus is approaching thirty years of age and soon to begin His public ministry. He is _____, Matthew 3:13-17; _____, Matthew 4:1-11; and begins to make _____, Matthew 4:18-22.
2. The public ministry of Christ covers about three years and takes place in Judaea, Samaria, and Galilee.
 - a. What two great witnessing events take place in John 3 and 4, during this period?
_____.
 - b. His Galilean ministry was the early events covered by Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Crowds and miracles abounded. _____ the _____ is beheaded (Matthew 14:3-12) and the Sermon on the _____ is preached (Matthew 5-7).
 - c. He leaves Galilee and informs His disciples of His coming _____ and _____ (Matthew 16:21-23). He is _____ (Matthew 17 and Mark 9).
3. The last months of Christ's earthly life includes the later Judean and Perea (Trans-Jordan) ministries, "...this same _____, which is taken up from you into _____, shall so _____ in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:3-11) concludes His three years of public ministry.
 - a. He mourns over Jerusalem, answers questions, performs miracles, and teaches His Disciples concerning the future. Matthew records several parables and the Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24-25) during this time.
 - b. John records in John 14-17 much material not covered by the other writers. All the Gospel writers record the arrest, trial, suffering, death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Jesus said, "...I am the _____, the _____, and the _____: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).
 - c. "...how that Christ _____ for our _____ according to the scriptures; And that he was _____, and that he _____ again the _____ day according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of _____, then of the _____: After that, he was seen of above _____ brethren at once;... After that, he was seen of _____; then of all the _____" (1 Corinthians 15:3-7).
 - d. Jesus gave the Great Commission. He was concerned with getting the Gospel into all the world. Then He ascended into heaven. "This _____ Jesus... shall so come in like manner..." (Acts 1:11).

- B. His Miracles (acts of supernatural power). These attest to His claims that He is God. Only God has power over disease, nature, death, and the Devil. No one but Jesus, who is God incarnate could do these miracles. “_____ and my _____ are one” (John 10:30).
- C. His Teaching. He was the world’s greatest teacher but his teaching does not take superiority over His deity nor His death and resurrection. Jesus came, to go to the cross to pay for mankind’s sins. The Sermon on the Mount and the Golden Rule contain the basic truths of life and conduct.
1. Man to God. We are to love, trust, and put our faith in Him. “...And thou shalt _____ the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might” (Deuteronomy 6:4-5).
 2. Man to man. “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should _____ to you, _____ ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets” (Matthew 7:12).
 3. Man to himself. “As it is written, There is _____ righteous, no, not one:” (Romans 3:10). “For _____ have _____, and come short of the glory of God;” (Romans 3:23). We are depraved individuals who need the Lord Jesus Christ to save us from ourselves, as well as sin. We need humility and servant-hood.

Study Guide – Lesson 3 – The Deity of Jesus Christ

The first century had not closed before there was a vicious attack on the fact that Jesus is God! The Apostle John proclaimed that the historical Jesus is the Son of God. John 20:31. John deals severely against those who reject the deity of Christ (1 John 4:1-3; 5:1, 9-13). The Church Council of Nicea in 325 A. D. proclaimed that Jesus had neither beginning nor end of days. To this day men are divided on this issue. Who Is this Jesus? Is He God in the flesh, as He claimed and we believe, or is He not God, and a fraud? The Bible is very clear.

A. The Eternal Pre-existence of Christ.

After searching the Bible, we see that it states Jesus existed eternally. Isaiah 9:6 says He is "...the _____ Father." Hebrews 13:8 says "He is the same _____, and today, and _____." See also 1 Timothy 3:16; John 8:58; 16:28; 17:5.

B. Jesus Testified about His Deity.

In John 10:30 Jesus declared "I and my Father _____." "...he that hath seen me hath _____ the _____;..." (John 14:9 & Matthew 11:27). The high priest asked Him, "...Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am;..." (Mark 14:61-62). The high priest, scribes, and elders accused Jesus of blasphemy and demanded His death (Mark 14:64). You will either worship Him, ignore Him, or declare He was a fraud. He is God whether you believe it or not. What you believe does not change God or Jesus' claim to be God.

C. Divine Attributes of Christ.

1. **Holiness.** "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who _____;..." (2 Corinthians 5:21 & also see Hebrews 7:26; John 8:46; 1 Peter 2:22; and Luke 4:34).
2. **Eternity.** "For unto us a child is born...and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The _____, the Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6 & also see Micah 5:2; John 17:5, 24).
3. **Omnipotence.** "All _____ is given unto me..." (Matthew 28:18 & also see Revelation 1:8; Hebrews 1:3).
4. **Omniscience.** "Now are we sure that _____, ... by this we believe that thou camest forth from God" (John 16:30 & also see Matthew 9:4; and John 6:64; 18:4).
5. **Immutability.** "Jesus Christ _____ yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8 & Hebrews 1:11-12).
6. **Omnipresent.** "...lo, I am with you _____, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20 & John 3:13).
7. **Creator.** "For by him were _____, that are in heaven, and that are in earth,..." (Colossians 1:16-17 & John 1:3; and Hebrews 1:8, 10).
8. **Ability to forgive sins.** "When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be _____ thee" (Mark 2:5). The scribes responded and thought, "Why does this man thus speak blasphemies? who can _____ sins but _____?" (Mark 2:7, 9-11 & see also John 1:29 and Acts 10:43). The scribes did not believe Jesus was God.
9. **Right to be Worshipped.** God only is to be worshipped. Worship of anyone or anything else is idolatry. Paul tells us that some day "That at the name of Jesus _____ shall _____..." (Philippians 2:10).

D. What is the Result of Denying the Deity of Christ?

A religion with a less-than-God Christ is described by Paul as “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: _____” (2 Timothy 3:5).

If Jesus is not God, then:

1. Jesus was a false witness and a sinner Himself. He was not a good man, but a liar.
2. The Bible would be supporting a religion based on error rather than truth. It would lose its authority as the verbally inspired Word of God.
3. To deny Christ’s deity leads to a denial of the virgin birth of Christ, His physical resurrection, and His miracles. The deity of Christ is essential to our faith.

Study Guide – Lesson 4 – The Virgin Birth

This doctrine causes more difficulties than any other doctrine. It is the one single test as to whether one is a theological liberal or conservative. Other doctrines may be open to interpretation but you either believe this one or you do not believe it. The greatest opponents to this doctrine are from within the church itself. Its strongest opponents claim to be Christian.

A. Importance of the Virgin Birth.

1. The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary. To deny the Bible teaching on this subject is to reject the authority of the Bible. To deny one major teaching is to question the whole Bible.
2. If you reject the Virgin Birth you also reject supernaturalism. The Virgin Birth, the sinless life, the miracles, the teachings, the submission to death, the resurrection of Jesus are all supernatural. To reject the supernatural is to reject the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.
3. To reject the Virgin Birth destroys your faith in the deity of Christ. "..._____ was manifest in the _____" (I Timothy 3:16).

B. Fact of the Virgin Birth.

The question of the Virgin Birth is not doubted because it did not happen, but because it DID happen. It is a FACT! "When as His mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with _____ of the _____" (Matthew 1:18).

1. When God spoke to Joseph, he did not hesitate to believe it and married her. "..._____ _____ to take unto thee _____ thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the _____" (Matthew 1:20).
2. Dr. Luke provides more detail. He tells how the angel prepared Mary for the great event. Luke 1:28-33. He confirms Matthew's statement that the _____ should beget the child, and that the child would be the _____ of _____ (Luke 1:35).
3. When tracing the genealogy of our Lord, Luke says in 3:23: "And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (____) the son of Joseph..." The people of Jesus' day did not understand. Jesus was the Son of Mary but the Son of God by the Holy Ghost. The Church has always believed it.

C. Isaiah prophesied the Virgin Birth.

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold _____, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). Sceptics, infidels, and theological liberals have tried to explain it away because they did not want to believe it. Matthew explains it in Matthew 1:22-23. Jesus is God in the flesh – born of a _____.

D. The Significance of the Virgin Birth.

1. Jesus was a real human being. "But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was _____ in the _____ of _____." (Philippians 2:7).
 - a. Jesus was not only man. He was both man and God. He had two natures – human and divine. Therefore, this Son of God was called _____ in Isaiah 7:14 and Matt. 1:23. In the Hebrew, it means "God (is) with us." God Himself is with us. Jesus is God.
 - b. Jesus was sinless. He was without original sin. He had no earthly father and was preserved sinless. In John 8:46 Jesus says, "Which of you convinceth me of sin?..." Pilate said "... _____" (Luke 23:4 & John 18:38; 19:4, 6).
2. He is a divine Redeemer who was sinless and without spot or blemish. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, _____; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Study Guide – Lesson 5 – The Sinlessness of Jesus

Sinful man in his unbelief will try to refute the sinlessness of the Lord Jesus which is essential to the Christian faith.

A. Meaning of Sinlessness. The opposite of sinlessness is sinfulness and that helps us understand the meaning of sinlessness. Sin is not only an external thing expressed in acts such as cheating, lying, stealing or adultery. Sin originates in the heart. Therefore sinlessness is total conformity to the positive qualities and graces of God, inherent in the only begotten Son of God. Jesus was sinless "...but was in _____ points _____ like as we are, yet _____" (Hebrews 4:15). As God He was not able to sin, but as man He was able not to sin. The issue is not whether He could have sinned or could not have sinned, but that HE DID NOT!

B. Testimonies to the Sinlessness of Jesus.

1. Jesus testified concerning His own sinlessness. Jesus never had an evil thought or deed that needed forgiveness. "Which of you _____ me of sin?..." (John 8:46 & also John 8:29).

2. Testimony of others. Even Jesus' enemies testified favorably of Him.

a. Pontius Pilate, the Roman procurator, examined Him and said, "...I find in him _____ at all" (John 18:38).

b. The wife of Pontius Pilate sent word to her husband, "...Have thou nothing to do with that _____ man:..." (Matthew 27:19).

c. The thief on the cross testified of his own wickedness and guilt but said concerning Jesus, "...this man hath _____" (Luke 23:41).

d. Judas Iscariot who betrayed the Son of God testified that "...I have sinned in that I have betrayed the _____ ..." (Matthew 27:4).

e. The centurion, commander of the Roman guard, at Calvary watched the three men on the crosses dying and said of Jesus, "...Certainly this was a _____" (Luke 23:47).

3. Testimonies from the Epistles in the New Testament.

a. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, _____;..." (2 Corinthians 5:21).

b. "...but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet _____" (Hebrews 4:15).

c. "...leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: _____, neither was _____ found in his mouth:" (1 Peter 2:21-22).

Study Guide – Lesson 6 – Miracles

Many scientists do not believe in the possibility of miracles. If they are given evidence of a miracle, they rule it out and explain it away. The Christian believes in the possibility of miracles and simply accepts them. The Bible is full of miracles.

A. The Definition of a Miracle.

1. A miracle has been defined as “an effect in nature not attributable to any of the recognized operations of nature, nor to the act of man, but indicative of superhuman power, and serving as a sign or witness thereof; a wonderful work manifesting a power superior to the ordinary forces of nature.”
2. God’s providence in escaping death as in a terrible accident is not because of a miracle. This is the power of God in protecting us according to His will. We see this in the following Scriptures: Nehemiah 9:6; Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3; Psalms 104 and 148.

B. The Miracles of Jesus were Unique.

1. His miracles began at Cana of Galilee and “...manifested forth _____; and his disciples _____ on him” (John 2:11 and 20:30-31).
2. The miracles of Jesus were different from the miracles of the prophets and the apostles. He performed between 35-40 miracles. The prophets performed miracles by power given to them from God. Moses said in Exodus 14:13 “...Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the _____, which _____ will show to you today:...” Then Moses used the rod to part the waters of the Red Sea. The miracles the apostles performed were attributed to God’s power, and not to their own. Simon Peter in Acts 3:12-16 said “...as though by our _____ power...through faith in _____ hath made this man strong....”

C. Jesus’ Miracles show us His Power.

1. Power over _____ . Matthew 8:28-31.
2. Power over _____. Mark 5:12-13; Matt. 8:28-32; Luke 17:14-19; Mark 1:23-27.
3. Power over _____. Matthew 8:3; 12:10-13; Mark 2:3-12; John 4:46-53.
4. Power over _____. John 11:14, 43-44; Luke 7:12-16; Matt. 9:18-19, 23-25.

D. The Credibility of Jesus’ Miracles.

1. Jesus’ miracles cannot be separated from the Bible.
2. Jesus performed His miracles openly and before many witnesses.
3. The miracles of Christ were effected immediately. Not natural process.
4. Miracles became less frequent toward the end of the Gospels and died out completely in the early church.

E. Are Miracles Possible Today?

1. Our God’s power is the same today as it was in the days of the prophets and His Son. “Jesus Christ the _____ yesterday, and _____ and for ever” (Hebrews 13:8).
2. The “miracle of the new birth” accredits the Gospel. God also answers the prayers of His children.
3. God is able and does perform “miracles” today for His own glory.

Study Guide – Lesson 7 – The Resurrection of Christ

“Now is Christ risen from the dead.” This should be central to Gospel Preaching and Teaching.

A. Importance of Christ’s Resurrection.

1. Denying the physical resurrection of Jesus destroys the authority of the Bible.
2. If we believe the physical resurrection of Christ, we will believe the supernatural.
3. Paul’s argument for a resurrection is found in I Corinthians 15:12-19. “Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.”

B. Fact of Christ’s Resurrection.

Did Christ rise or not rise? The apostles had seen the risen Christ and believed. The early church taught and believed Christ rose from the dead. Their belief came from the fact that Jesus rose from the dead.

1. Testimony of Paul. In his writings in 1 Corinthians 15:5-8, he says “...that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all he was seen of _____ also, as of one born out of due time.”
2. The four gospels record Christ’s bodily resurrection.
 - a. The women who came to the tomb were told by the angel “He is not here: for he is _____, as he said, Come, see the place where the Lord lay” (Matthew 28:5-10).
 - b. Mary _____ in John 20:14-18 told the _____ she had seen Him.
 - c. “...The Lord is _____ indeed, and hath appeared to _____” (Luke 24:34-40).
 - d. In John 20:24-29, we have the account of _____ who would not believe unless he could put his fingers in the nail prints and put his hand into His side.
3. The existence of the church today. All churches since the resurrection are a result of belief in the resurrection. The Easter season testifies of a risen Lord, almost every church creed and doctrinal statement testify of a resurrected Christ.

C. Theories Opposing the Resurrection.

There are four main theories that seek to undermine and explain away a bodily resurrection of Christ.

1. **The Swoon Theory.** This theory says Jesus did not actually die. The soldiers and people thought He died. The soldiers said He was dead. No one could produce a dead body after three days. Would the Disciples die for a cause they knew to be untrue?
2. **The Fraud Theory or the Stolen Body Theory.** This makes the Disciples dishonest men, who stole His body during the night. "...they gave large money unto the soldiers, Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day" (Matthew 28:12-15).
3. **The Hallucination Theory or the Vision Theory.** The Disciples in their imaginations believed He did rise and that they had seen Him. If Christ was still dead, the Roman soldiers would have produced the body.
4. **Other Theories.** The women found the wrong tomb as He was buried in a different tomb. Others say the writers of the Gospels made up the story.

D. Results of the Resurrection.

1. The deity of the Lord Jesus. In Romans 1:4 He is "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the _____ from the _____."
2. We can be justified. "Who was delivered for our offences, and was _____ again for our _____" (Romans 4:25).
3. We can be forgiven of our sins. "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your _____" (1 Corinthians 15:17).
4. There will be a final judgment. In Acts 17:31 we have assurance because "...he hath _____ him from the _____."
5. We have the hope of our resurrection. "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the _____ of them that _____" (1 Corinthians 15:20).

Study Guide – Lesson 8 - The Ascension of Christ

A. The Ascension Was Delayed.

1. Jesus waited forty days before ascending to be seen by many people at different times to prove without a doubt that He had risen from the dead.
2. He delayed to instruct His disciples in the truths of the Christian faith (Luke 24:27). When the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, He would "...teach you _____, and bring all things to your _____, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26).

B. The Ascension Was Necessary.

1. In John 8:23 Christ said, "...I am from _____: ye are of this world; I am _____ of this world."
2. In John 14:28; 16:5; 20:17 Jesus told them of His coming ascension.
3. He had to go away so He could send them the _____, the Holy Spirit (John 16:7).
4. Christ went to heaven because He said, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it* were not so, I would have told you. I go to _____ a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, _____ will _____ again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also" (John 14:2-3).
5. Jesus Christ, who is our High Priest, now appears before _____ on our behalf (Hebrews 9:24).

C. The Nature of the Ascension.

1. Jesus is forever God and man and as both He ascended into heaven.
2. The ascension was real. "And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same _____, which is taken up from you into _____, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:10-11). The ascension was seen by men and He will come again.

D. The Ascended Christ.

1. Christ ascended and now "... sitteth on the _____ hand of _____" (Colossians 3:1 & also see 1 Peter 3:21-22; Eph. 1:20-23; Heb. 1:3). "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to _____ into his _____?" (Luke 24:26).
2. "Wherefore God also hath highly _____ him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every _____ should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;" (Philippians 2:9-10).
3. Christ is ever God and ever man. "For in Him _____ all the fullness of the _____" (Colossians 2:9).
4. Christ is the Head of His body the Church. God "...hath put _____ things under his _____, and gave him to be _____ over all things to the church, Which is his _____, the fullness of him that filleth all in all" (Ephesians 1:22-23 & Colossians 1:18).
5. Christ must reign until "...he hath put all _____ under his feet..." (1 Corinthians 15:25-26). "...now we see _____ yet all things put under him" (Hebrews 2:8). The final victory of Christ over evil has not happened.
6. Christ makes _____ in heaven for the saints (Romans 8:34). Christ is now "...in the presence of _____ for us:" (Hebrews 9:24). Does this encourage you? _____

Study Guide – Lesson 9 – The Second Coming of Christ

God's people have always believed in the 1st and 2nd comings of Christ to the earth. The 1st was fulfilled at Christ's birth. That marked the numbering of the years. The time before Christ's birth became known as B.C. (before Christ) and the years since have been marked by A.D. (of the Christian era or in the Year of our Lord). There is no question concerning His 1st coming.

His 2nd Coming has been much more controversial. Just because a person disagrees on the time of Jesus' return does not mean he cannot be a Christian brother. Every Christian believes Jesus will return. There are generally three viewpoints on when Jesus will return.

1. The Post-millennial view. They say Jesus will come at the end of the Millennium. This will be marked by a Golden age in which man has created a perfect world for Jesus to return and reign. They look at the world today and say, "Every day and in every way things are getting better and better" and when man gets it perfect, Jesus will come and assume His throne and reign. Two World Wars and continued strife has caused many to reject this idea.

2. The A-millennial view. They reject a millennial age of 1,000 years either before or after the return of Christ. The coming of Christ will signify the end of the age. They also spiritualize Revelation 20 where it speaks of a 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth as well as many Old Testament references on the return of Israel to the Holy Land.

3. The Pre-millennial view. We believe this view to be correct. Christ will return and establish a 1,000 year reign on the earth. Christ will return before the Millennium and establish His government over the earth. Generally all dispensationalists are also pre-millennialists but not all pre-millennialists are dispensationalists. Many, if not most, pre-millennialists also hold to a pre-tribulation position. That is, that Christ will come before the seven year Tribulation Period. The coming of Christ is imminent (at any moment) and the Pre-tribulation position is the only view that allows for the "any moment" return of Christ.

A. The Pre-millennial View of Christ's Second Coming:

1. Before His coming these events take place:

- a. **Destruction of Jerusalem.** "And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the _____ is nigh...and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the time of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21:20-24).
- b. **Calling out of the Gentiles.** "... that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the _____ of the _____ be come in" (Romans 11:25).
- c. **Preaching of the gospel to the ends of the earth.** "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the _____ for a _____ unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14).
- d. **Coming of the anti-Christ.** "...for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that _____ of _____ be revealed, the son of perdition... And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall destroy with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming" (2 Thessalonians 2:3-8).

- e. **Strange physical phenomena.** "... the _____ be darkened, and the _____ shall not give her light, and the _____ shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken" (Matthew 24:29 & Luke 21:25-28).
- f. **Rapture of the church.** "... we which are alive *and* remain unto the _____ of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from _____ with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the _____ in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the _____, to meet the Lord in the _____: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17).
- g. **Other signs include:** the persecution of the church; false prophets and false Christs increasing; apostasy in the professing church; and the return of Israel to the land. "This know also, that in the last days _____ times shall come" (II Timothy 3:1).

2. The Details About His Coming:

- a. **Time is unknown.** " _____: for ye know _____ what hour your Lord doth come" (Matthew 24:42 & see also Matthew 25:13 and Mark 13:32).
- b. **Personally.** " _____... shall so come in like manner..." (Acts 1:11 see also 1 Thessalonians 2:19 and 2 Timothy 4:8).
- c. **Physical and Visible.** "...he cometh with clouds; and _____ shall _____ him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him" (Revelation 1:7 & Matthew 24:30; Mark 13:26; Luke 21:27; and Titus 2:13).
- d. **Suddenly.** "But as the _____ of _____ (Noah) were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matthew 24:37-40 & Matthew 25:1-13 and Mark 13:35-37).
- e. **Gloriously and Triumphantly.** "...when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that _____, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:... When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe..." (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10 & Revelation 19:11-16).

3. Purpose of His coming:

- a. **Works of believers judged.** "So then every one of us shall give _____ of himself to _____" (Romans 14:10-12 & 1 Corinthians 3:13-15; and 2 Corinthians 5:10).
- b. **Set up His 1000 year earthly kingdom.** See Luke 1:32-33 and Revelation 20:1-6.
- c. **Judge the nations.** "And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another... And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal" (Matthew 25:32, 46 & Jude 14-15).
- d. **Destroy death.** The Devil, his angels, and his followers will be cast into the lake of fire, separated from the presence of God forever (Revelation 20:14-15).

- e. **Complete the redemption of believers.** He will be glorified in the saints and admired in all them that believe; we shall participate with Him in the marriage supper of the Lamb; a new heavens and a new earth, following the millennium, will be instituted; the eternal kingdom will come into being wherein dwelleth righteousness forever. See 2 Peter 3.

B. Relationship of the Christ's Coming to the Believer Today.

1. Watch and be ready. "Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is" (Mark 13:33). "_____ therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come" (Matthew 24:42).
2. We are to be found faithful in doing His tasks (busy in His service) till He comes.
3. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 John 3:2-3). We should live each day as if that is the day of Christ's return.
4. We are to obey the command of the Great Commission. "_____ ye therefore, and _____ all _____, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matthew 28:19-20). We should further the cause of missions.

Are you ready for Christ to come again? He is coming, and soon!

1. Realize that "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
2. Confess your sins to Him, and ask Him to forgive you of your sins and to save you from your sins (Romans 10:9-10)
3. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Trust and Ask Him to save you (John 1:12).
4. Contact the Church or Pastor that gave you this study. They will be thrilled to help you understand God's gift of salvation to you (Romans 6:23). May God help you!