

Lesson 4

THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

Prepare for Your Assignment

1. Download message #4, "Christ Above All," from www.gty.org/fof.
2. Use your notebook to take notes on the message.
3. Work through the questions and tasks on the following pages.

Memorize John 1:1, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . . And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus Christ is the central figure of all human history. There has never been anyone like Him. He was regarded as a great teacher, a religious leader, a prophet, the Son of God, even God Himself. The claims He made, as well as those that others have made about Him, have propelled Him into the center of endless controversies throughout history.

Pontius Pilate phrased the question perfectly when he asked, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" (Matthew 27:22). Before you can answer that question, you must first understand who Jesus is. This lesson will introduce Him to you.

I. The God Who Became Man

Jesus Christ came into the world in human flesh. He voluntarily set aside the independent use of His divine attributes and took on the form of a man. He was fully human, a man in every way, except that He was without sin. This is referred to as the "incarnation."

A. What does Philippians 2:6 say about Jesus before He became a man?

Although He existed in the form of God, [He] did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped."

B. According to Philippians 2:7, what did Jesus do?

"Emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men."

C. Jesus was fully human.

1. Describe Jesus' human growth and development as a youth (Luke 2:40, 52).

He grew and became strong; increased in wisdom.

2. What was Jesus' response when He was tired (Mark 4:38)? He slept
3. What was Jesus' response to lack of food (Luke 4:2)? He became hungry
4. How did Jesus feel after a journey (John 4:6)? He was weary
5. How did Jesus react when He was grieved (John 11:35)? "Jesus wept."
6. What did Jesus say about Himself (Luke 24:39)? "See My hands and My feet, that it is I who touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

II. The Man Who Is God

Even though Jesus took on the form of a man, He was still fully God. Consider the following marks attributed to Christ.

A. Attributes

Look up the following verses, which describe various attributes of Christ.

Sovereign.....	Matthew 28:18
Eternal.....	1 John 1:1-2
Unchanging (immutable).....	Hebrews 13:8
All-knowing (omniscient).....	Colossians 2:2-3
Perfect or sinless.....	2 Corinthians 5:21
Holy.....	Acts 3:14-15
Truth.....	John 14:6

Christ demonstrated His power (omnipotence) in His earthly ministry in the following ways:

1. Matthew 8:23-27: power over creation by calming the storm
2. Luke 4:40: power over sickness and disease
3. Luke 4:33-36: power over demons
4. John 11:43-44: power over death

What additional authority did Jesus claim and exercise (Mark 2:3-12)?

(Hint: see verse 10.)

(v 10); Christ has authority on earth to forgive sins.

According to Mark 2:7, who alone can forgive sin? God alone forgives sin.

Since Jesus had the authority to forgive sins, and only God can forgive sins, who is Jesus Christ? He is God.

B. Titles of Deity

1. Matthew 1:23 Immanuel ("God with us")
2. Philippians 2:10–11 Lord (sovereign)
3. John 8:58 I Am (a title reserved for God; Exodus 3:14)

■ It stands to reason, I believe, that the One who is first in rank in the universe; the One who is the point of reference for history; the One who is the Agent, the Goal, the Forerunner, the Sustainer, the Governor in the sphere of creation; the One who is the Head of the church, and the One who is the beginning, the source, and chief One, the One who is the ranking One of all those resurrected, the One who is the Firstfruits, if you will, of them that slept; that One has the right to the title "Preeminent." Wouldn't you say?

John MacArthur

C. Statements of Deity

Write out the key statements.

1. Colossians 2:9 "For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form."
2. Hebrews 1:1–3a "And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature."

3. John 1:1, 14: Jesus Christ ("The Word") is God.

4. Titus 2:13 "our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus."

III. The Christ Who Is Savior

According to John 3:17, Jesus is the Savior of the world. List the following titles that describe God's saving grace.

1. John 1:29 Lamb of God
2. John 6:35 Bread of Life
3. John 14:6 the way, truth, and life

IV. The King Who Comes to Rule

Jesus is not just a person of the past. He is the destined King of kings and Lord of lords (1 Timothy 6:15) who will someday reign over all the earth.

A. According to Daniel 7:14, what three things has Christ been given?

1. dominion
2. glory
3. kingdom

B. What did Jesus tell His followers in Matthew 25:31–32?

“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.”

C. When Christ ascended into heaven 40 days after the resurrection, what were the apostles told (Acts 1:11)?

“They also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking in to the sky? For Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.’”

D. Describe the return of Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:7b–10).

“When the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, as they come to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed for our testimony to you was believed.”

V. Application

Christ is:

- ◆ God
- ◆ Savior
- ◆ King/Ruler

A. In light of this, how can you best prepare for His second coming (2 Peter 3:14)?

“Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.”

(Verse quoted for teacher’s convenience. Answers will vary.)

B. What can you do this week to acknowledge who He is (Revelation 5:11–14)?

“Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, ‘Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.’ And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, ‘To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.’ And the four living creatures kept saying, ‘Amen.’ And the elders fell down and worshiped.”

(Verse quoted for teacher’s convenience. Answers will vary.)