

Christology

Lesson 1

Study Notes

The Study of the Life of Christ

His Preexistence and Pre-appearances.

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Text: John 21:25.

John 21:25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

Introduction: The term "Christology" (from Greek Christos meaning "_____" or "Christ") refers to the study of Christ. It often includes such topics as the preexistence and eternality of Christ, Old Testament prophecies about Christ, Christ's humanity, deity, and incarnation, as well as the issue of his temptations and sinlessness, his death, resurrection, ascension and exaltation, return, three-fold office, as prophet, priest and king. The Old Testament opens up with man being made in the _____ (Gen. 1:26). The New Testament begins with God made in the _____ (Matt. 1:23). In the Old Testament we see the sheep dying for the shepherd (Gen. 4:2, 4). In the New Testament we read of the Shepherd dying for the sheep (John 10:11).

In this study we will attempt to examine the life of Christ; however, as the text states there is no exhausting His life, when the world itself could not contain the books that should be written about Him.

The prophecies and promises of the manifestation of Christ as the Redeemer-Messiah are interwoven in _____ Scriptures from the first promise of Him given to Adam (Genesis 3:15), right on to the last promise of His ultimate glory as "the Sun of Righteousness" (Malachi 4: 2).

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Malachi 4:2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

Every single human being since the time of Adam till now shares one vital thing in common. Their purpose if life down here and their eternal destiny afterwards depends completely upon their personal _____ with the Lord Jesus Christ. It is therefore absolutely impossible to overemphasize the importance of His life.

Food for thought:

To the artist He is the One Altogether Lovely (Song of Solomon 5:16)

To the architect He is the Chief Cornerstone (I Peter 2:6)

To the astronomer He is the Sun of Righteousness (Malachi 4:2)

To the baker He is the Bread of Life (John 6:35)
To the banker He is the Hidden Treasure (Matthew 13:44)
To the builder He is the Sure Foundation (Isaiah 28:16)
To the carpenter He is the Door (John 10:7)
To the doctor He is the Great Physician (Jeremiah 8:22)
To the educator He is the New and Living Way (Hebrews 10:20)
To the farmer He is the Sower and the Lord of the Harvest (Luke 10:2)
To the geologist He is the Tried Stone; Rock of Ages (Isaiah 28:16)
To the historian He is the Ancient of Days (Daniel 7:9)
To the industrialist He is the Faithful Servant (Matthew 20:28)
To the jeweler He is the Precious Stone (I Peter 2:6)
To the lawyer He is the Advocate-Mediator (I John 2:1)
To the mortician He is the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
To the nurseryman He is the True Vine (John 15:1)
To the pharmacist He is the Balm of Gilead (Jeremiah 8:22)
To the scientist He is the Creator of all Things (Colossians 1:16)
To the theologian He is the Author and Finisher of our Faith (Hebrews 12:2)
To the United Nations He is Peace (Ephesians 2:14)
To the warrior He is a Shield (Psalm 3:3)
To the zoologist He is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Revelation 5:5)

I. The Preexistence of Jesus Christ as God.

A. *Taught by _____.*

Joh 1:29-30 *The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. 30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me.*

B. *Taught by the Apostle _____.*

John 1:1-2 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God.*

C. *Taught by the Apostle _____.*

Philippians 2:6-8 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Colossians 1:16-17 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

D. Taught by the Apostle _____.

1Peter 1:20-21 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, 21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

E. Taught by the _____.

John 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 8:57-58 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? 58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

John 16:27-28 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. 28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.

John 17:4-5 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

John 17:24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

II. The Pre-Bethlehem Appearances of Christ.

The Old Testament records for us a number of theophanies. The recurring phrase "_____ " in the Old Testament is to be identified with Christ Himself. Here are two key passages that seem to strongly suggest this Angel of the Lord to be Christ Himself.

Genesis 48:16 The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

We know that no _____ angel can redeem men, we can assume the angel here is actually Jesus Christ.

The other interesting passage is that of the parents of Samson visited by an Angel.

Judges 13:18-22 And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret? 19 So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto the LORD: and the angel did wondrously; and Manoah and his wife looked on. 20 For it came to pass,

when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on it, and fell on their faces to the ground. 21 But the angel of the LORD did no more appear to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was an angel of the LORD. 22 And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God.

The word “*secret*” is from the same Hebrew root word found in Isaiah 9:6 where it is translated “_____.” There is no question to whom the prophet is referring to here.

Isaiah 9:6 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 mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

- A. He appeared to Hagar in Genesis 16:7-14.
- B. He appeared to Abraham. Genesis 18 & 22.
- C. He appeared to Jacob. Genesis 28 & In Genesis 32 wrestles with Jacob.
- D. He appeared to Moses. Exodus 3, 23, 33.
- E. He appeared to Joshua. Joshua 5:13-15.
- F. He appeared to Gideon. Judges 6: 11-24.
- G. He appeared to Samson’s parents. Judges 13.
- H. He appeared to Isaiah. Isaiah 6:1-13.
- I. He appeared to the three Hebrews in the fiery furnace. Daniel 3:24,25.
- J. He appeared to Daniel. Daniel 6 (den of lions) in Daniel 7 as the Ancient of Days.
- K. He appeared to Zechariah. Zechariah 1:8-13; 2: 8-11; 3:10; 6:12-15.