Lesson 3 - Jesus Christ

Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the second Person of the Godhead, the Son of God. One of the most important events in history was the incarnation. This is when God became man. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (John 1:1,14). Jesus Christ "made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:7).

Another very important doctrine in the Bible is the Deity of Christ. The word "deity" refers to a divine nature or Godhead. Jesus Christ is both God and man. He has two natures, but is one Person.

Jesus Christ is God

Some proofs of the Deity of Jesus Christ include:

He is eternal. Jesus Christ's existence did not begin when He was born in Bethlehem. He was present when the world was created. Though Abraham lived about two thousand years before the birth of Christ, "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58). The Father loved the Son before the foundation of the world (John 17:24). We previously quoted John 1:1 that states that Jesus Christ was "in the beginning" and Micah 5:2 says He is "from everlasting."

<u>He is called God.</u> We refer again to John 1:1, which speaking of Jesus Christ, says: "... and the Word was God." Thomas acknowledged this when he said to Jesus, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). Notice the words that God the Father spoke to Jesus Christ: "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever ..." (Hebrews 1:8).

He is omnipresent (present in all places at the same time)

While on earth, Jesus Christ said: "And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven" (John 3:13). Thus, He was in heaven while on earth. He promised His disciples "I am with you alway" (Matthew 28:20).

He is omniscient (knows all things)

His disciples said: "Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God" (John 16:30). In Christ "are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3). The Samaritan woman testified: "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" (John 4:29). Jesus Christ knew the thoughts of men (Luke 11:17). He knew how He would die (John 12:33).

He is omnipotent (has unlimited power)

He upholds "all things by the word of his power" and is called "The mighty God" and "the Almighty" (Hebrews 1:3; Isaiah 9:6; Revelation 1:8). He has

power over demons (Mark 5:11- 15), disease (Luke 4:38-41), and death (Matthew 9:11-25).

He is immutable (never changes)

Speaking of Jesus Christ, Hebrews 1:12 states: "... they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail." "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). [He does not change in His eternal Deity, character, and plans. However, He does change in His form and ministry. For example, He "took upon him the form of a servant" (Philippians 2:7).]

He forgave sins

"And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee" (John 9:2). Only God can forgive sins (Mark 2:5-7; Luke 7:47-49).

He will raise the dead in the resurrection

"And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:40). This is not just raising to life a dead person such as the raising of Lazarus (John 11:38-44). Those raised in the resurrection will have been decomposed, but will be raised, never to die again (1 Corinthians 15:52).

He will execute eternal judgement

"For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgement unto the Son" (John 5:22).

He was called Emmanuel

"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (Matthew 1:23).

Review Questions Lesson 3 - Jesus Christ

True or False

- 1. Jesus Christ is the second Person of the Trinity.
- 2. Jesus Christ had no beginning and will have no end.
- 3. Since Jesus Christ has a physical body, He can only be in one place at a time.
- 4. Jesus Christ has unlimited power.

Multiple Choice

- 5. The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ forgave sin. This proves that He is:
 - a. A man
 - b. A priest
 - c. God
 - d. A prophet
- 6. The incarnation of Christ means that:
 - a. God became man
 - b. Mary was a virgin
 - c. Christ ascended into heaven
 - d. Jesus Christ never changes
- 7. The doctrine of the Deity of Christ means that:
 - a. Jesus lived a good life
 - b. Jesus Christ is God
 - c. Jesus Christ died on the cross
 - d. Jesus came in the likeness of man

Fill in the Blanks

8. God the Father called Jesus Christ _	
9. "Now are we sure that thou	all things"
10. "They shall be changed: but thou art	

Further Study

John 1:3, Hebrews 1:10, Revelation 22:13, Matthew 9:6, John 5:27 Matthew 4:7, Matthew 7:22, Matthew 11:25, Matthew 8:2, John 5:18, John 10:30-33, Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14. Matthew 14:33, Matthew 28:19 John 10:30, John 14:9, Isaiah 9:6-7.