

The Person and Ministry of God the Son

“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” (John 21:25).

Almost 2000 years ago, a Man was born in the tiny nation of Israel who would forever change the world and the lives of individual men and women living in the world. This Man never bought a house or owned property, did not have a regular job for the last three and a half years of His life, never held a political or public office, never did any of the things men normally do to survive and prosper. This Man roamed from town to town on foot, owning only the clothes on His back, yet meeting the needs of people wherever He went. He never did any of the things usually associated with greatness and yet He is revered today more than the greatest men that ever lived. This humble Man was none other than God Himself who left His glory in Heaven to bring salvation to the people He so loved.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

I. God the Son

The ministry of God the Son, as we have seen in previous lessons, is distinct from that of the other two Persons of the Trinity. The Bible gives much more information about His Person than about the Father and the Holy Ghost combined. In fact, Jesus Christ is the Hero of the entire Bible. The Bible records the history of His Story.

The Old Testament records the history of opportunities given to man and his failure to use them properly. It establishes the need for a Savior to rescue man from his own follies and redeem him back to God. The New Testament chronicles the advent of that Savior and shows us how to obtain that redemption based solely on the merits of the Savior.

A. The second Person of the Trinity

Matthew 28:19; 1 John 5:7

B. The God-Man

*John 1:34; Matthew 16:13–16; 1 Timothy 2:5;
Hebrews 4:14–15*

“But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom” (Hebrews 1:8).

1. Physical Son of God—conceived of the Holy Ghost

Matthew 1:18–21; Luke 1:34–35

2. Son of man—born of a woman

Matthew 1:24–25; Luke 2:4–7

C. Creator of the physical universe

John 1:1–4, 9–11, 14; Hebrews 1:1–2

“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: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist” (Colossians 1:16–17).

D. Holder of the three God ordained offices in government of man - Priest, Prophet, and King

When God created the universe, He created Adam to be it's king (Genesis 1:26; 2:15–20). Satan beguiled Eve and thus defeated Adam in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1–7), thereby winning the crown and establishing himself as the “god of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4).

However, God did not utterly abandon us to Satan. He had ready a plan of redemption whereby He would call out a people loyal to His Son, offer His Son as an atoning sacrifice to pay for our sins, defeat Satan and take the kingdom back for His Son.

To accomplish this purpose, God has sent the Second Person of the Godhead down to Earth in 2000 year intervals to obtain the three offices He had ordained for human government—Priest, Prophet, and king.

1. Priest

“Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec” (Hebrews 6:20).

He came as a High Priest by the name of Melchizedek 2000 years after creation.

Hebrews 5:5–11; 6:19–7:7; 7:21–24; Genesis 14:18–20

2. Prophet

“And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house” (Matthew 13:57).

He came as a Prophet by the name of Jesus at the 4000 year point. Since He was already established as a High Priest, He was qualified under God's Old Testament law to offer the sin sacrifice for the people. He did that when He sacrificed himself on the cross at Calvary.

Matthew 21:11; Luke 24:19; John 10:17–18; Hebrews 10:12

3. King

“And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS” (Revelation 19:16).

He's coming again, under a name that no man yet knows, as a King of kings at 6000 years after creation.

Zechariah 14:16–17; Revelation 19:11–16

II. Jesus the Man

It is important for us to understand that Jesus lived His earthly life as a very ordinary and very normal man in most ways. He differed from other men primarily in that He had complete trust and confidence in God. He committed Himself wholly to God's will and plan for His life. His example shows what any of us can do if we will make the same level of commitment to God. We will be able to do whatever Jesus did in our own lives!

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it” (John 14:12–14).

A. Humble life

1. Not wealthy

Matthew 8:19–20

2. Not royalty

Matthew 13:54–55

3. Knew hunger, thirst, tiredness, etc.

Luke 4:1–2; John 4:6; 19:28

4. Not particularly handsome

Isaiah 53:2

B. Loved the multitudes

Matthew 15:32; Mark 2:13; 8:2

C. No compromiser

Matthew 5:36–47; 23:13–26; 27:11–14

D. Spoke authoritatively

Luke 4:36

E. In all points tempted like as we are

Hebrews 4:15

F. Sinless

2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:2–23; 3:18

G. Rose from death and the grave

Matthew 28:5–6; Luke 24:1–8; Revelation 1:18

H. Presently sits at the father's right hand

Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 1:3

I. Is preparing a place for His own

John 14:2–3; Revelation 21:2

J. Will very soon be King of kings

Psalms 72:11; Revelation 17:14; 19:16

III. The Ministry of Jesus Christ

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12).

A. Lived a life of example to us

The term Christian means Christ-like. As Christians we need to learn how Christ responded to, and what His attitudes were towards various situations in life. His life is the perfect pattern for everyone.

Luke 9:23; 1 Peter 2:21

B. Discipled the Twelve (12)

As Christ imparted spiritual knowledge to His disciples, so are we commissioned to impart spiritual knowledge to those of lesser knowledge within our sphere of influence.

Matthew 28:19–20; 1 Timothy 4:1–2

C. Offered the kingdoms

1. To the Jews: the Kingdom of Heaven

Matthew 4:1–7; 11:11–12

Jesus' primary mission to the nation of Israel was to offer them a kingdom in which they would become priests to the entire world and the leading nation of the world (Isa. 61:5–6). He made it clear however, that their then-current leaders were unfit to lead in the new kingdom (Matthew 5:20; 23:13–36). Many of the leaders of Israel at that time simply did not believe that the Son of a humble carpenter (as they believed Jesus to be—Matthew 13:55) could be their Messiah. Because of their hardness of heart, God had blinded their ‘spiritual eyes’ so they rejected Him (John 12:39–40).

2. To the world: the Kingdom of God

Luke 16:16; 17:20–21; John 3:3–7

Although the Jews rejected His gracious offer, Jesus had another kingdom to offer to the whole world (Matthew 21:42–43). We call this kingdom the Kingdom of God. It is a strictly spiritual kingdom in which God reigns in the hearts of anyone who will accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

D. Atoned for the sins of the world

Hebrews 1:2; John 1:29

Jesus' offer of Himself on the cross was so great a sacrifice in the eyes of God that it is sufficient atonement for every sin that has ever been committed or ever will be committed except for two types. There are two sins that can never be covered according to the scriptures. The first one is not accepting the Lord's atonement for your sins or in other words not being Born Again (John 3:3–7). The other sin can only occur during the soon upcoming tribulation. That sin occurs when one takes the "mark of the beast" of Revelation 13 in their right hand or forehead and worships him (Revelation 14:9–11).

E. Became the Savior

God has graciously offered the atonement earned by His Son to every individual who will commit his life to the Lord Jesus Christ.

John 3:16; Titus 2:11–13; Rom. 5:6–9

F. Head of the Church

"Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church" (Ephesians 1:20–22).

1. Established and organized His Church through the Apostles and their epistles

Acts 2:40–43; 14:21–23; 16:4–5; Romans 1:11; Ephesians 2:19–21; John 17:20

2. High Priest

Hebrews 4:14–16; 7:24–27

3. Intercessor

Hebrews 7:25; John 17:1–26

4. Purifier

Ephesians 5:25–27; 1 John 3:1–3

IV. The Sufferings of Jesus

“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s” (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

Because this world is currently ruled by Satan, no man was ever hated by it more than Jesus Christ. In spite of this, our God came from His glory in Heaven to Earth and dwelt among us. He paid a tremendous price to redeem us from Satan’s power. The Bible gives many graphic descriptions of His sufferings at the hands of a rebellious world.

A. Hated by the world

John 7:7; 15:18–19, 23–24; 17:14

B. Rejected by His people

Isaiah 53:3; John 1:11; 5:43; Luke 4:29; 17:25

C. Betrayed by a friend

Psalms 41:9; Mark 14:10; Matthew 26:14–16, 48–50

D. Arrested on false charges

Psalms 27:12; 35:11; Matthew 26:59–66; 27:21–24

E. Mocked, spit upon, and beaten

Psalms 22:7–18; Isaiah 50:6; 52:14; 53:4–12; Matthew 27:26–31; Luke 22:63–65

F. Crucified

Psalms 22:14:17; Matthew 27:32–44; John 19:15–37

G. Descended into Hell

Psalms 16:10; Acts 2:26–27, 31; Ephesians 4:8–10; 1 Peter 3:18–19

V. Jesus the Victor

Jesus endured the agonies of His sacrifice and arose the victor over Satan's domain. He purchased our salvation with His own blood. He will soon return to take His rightful place as King of creation.

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

A. Defeated death and hell

*Matthew 28:5–6; Mark 16:6; 1 Corinthians 15:54–57;
Revelation 1:18*

B. Defeated Satan

Jesus began to get the upper hand over Satan when He came to Earth to live a perfect, sinless life in Satan's domain (Luke 10:17–20). Even though Satan still is the god or prince of this world, he lost the battle for the lives of the redeemed of God when Christ died on the cross (John 12:27–33; 14:29–31; 16:7–11; Romans 8:37–39; 1 John 5:4). He will not lose the war until the end of the millennium when he will be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10–15). However when Christ arose from the dead, His final victory over Satan was assured (Revelation 12:9–12).

C. Openly showed His victory

*Psalms 98:1–2; Isaiah 52:10; Matthew 27:52–53; Acts 1:1–
3; 1 Corinthians 15:3–8*

D. Will return in great power and great glory

*Matthew 24:27–30; Mark 13:24–26; Luke 21:25–28;
Revelation 19:11–21*

E. Every eye shall see Him

Zechariah 12:10; Revelation 1:7

VI. Jesus the King

Jesus will always be the Lord of his Church and we will forever enjoy a very special relationship with Him. We have trusted in Him by faith alone without hard, concrete proof of His existence.

In the millennium, however, the Church Age will have ended and all mortal people (who can never become part of His Church) will have a different relationship with Him. They will have a very definite code of conduct which will be strictly enforced. Because of this there will be virtually no crime or disturbance to the peace and prosperity they will enjoy. Yet for all this, there will be a final rebellion at the end of the 1000 years in which the last of the malcontents will be killed (Revelation 20:7–9).

A. Jesus will rule from Jerusalem (Zion) during the millennium

Psalms 2; Isaiah 24:23; Jeremiah 33:14–17; Revelation 20:4

1. Will reign in righteousness

Psalms 9:7–8; Isaiah 32:1; Hebrews 1:8

2. Will rule with a “rod of iron”

Psalms 2:9; 76:6–9; Revelation 12:5; 19:15

3. Will assign saints to rule with Him

Luke 19:11–19; 2 Timothy 2:12; Revelation 5:10; 20:6

B. Jesus will rule from New Jerusalem through all eternity

Revelation 21:1–8, 22–23

1. Will establish a kingdom that shall never end

Daniel 2:44; Revelation 11:15

2. His kingdom will increase forever

Isaiah 9:7