

What Christ Is to Christians

(All quotations are from the NKJV of the Bible)

Introduction:

He Always Existed as God:

John 1:1-3

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

He Created us for Himself:

Colossians 1:16-17

¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

And He made us knowing beforehand that He would have to redeem us from our sins

1 Peter 1:20-21

²⁰ He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you ²¹ who through Him believe in God,

He Came to Earth as Our Salvation:

Matthew 1:20-21

^{20b} That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

Luke 2:10-11

^{10b} Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

1 Timothy 1:15

¹⁵ This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners

Acts 4:12

¹² Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

He Lived as Our Example:

John 13:13-17

¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Hebrews 12:1-3

^{1b} Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

1 Peter 2:20-23

^{20b} When you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ²² "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; ²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

He Died as our Redeemer:

He paid the price for our sins with His precious blood.

Galatians 3:13

¹³ Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

Titus 2:13-14

^{13b} Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

1 Peter 1:18-19

¹⁸ knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Revelation 5:9-10

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰ And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."

He Rose Again as Our Justification:

Romans 4:25

²⁵ Who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

Acts 2:22-24

²³ Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; ²⁴ whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

He had no sins of His own, so He could take the sins of the rest of mankind on Himself.

He died for our sins, but death had no further claims on Him if the price was fully paid.

The resurrection proves that the price has been paid, and we are completely justified.

Acts 13:37-39

³⁷ He whom God raised up saw no corruption. ³⁸ Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; ³⁹ and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.

He Ascended into Heaven as Our Head:

The Ascension is looked at as all the way up to the right hand of God

Acts 2:34-35

³⁴ For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

"The LORD said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand,

³⁵ Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'"

David didn't ascend, but Christ ascended all the way to the right hand of God.

Ephesians 1:19-23

^{19b} He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. ²² And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 4:10-16

¹⁰ He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

¹¹ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head — Christ — ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

He Lives Today as our High Priest:

Supporting us when we are Tempted:

Hebrews 2:17-18

¹⁷ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Hebrews 4:14-16

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, * Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Heb. 7:26-8:2 Higher than the heavens & seated at the right hand of the majesty on high.*

Interceding for us when we Fail

1 John 2:1-2

¹ My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Romans 8:34

³⁴ Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

His Promise to Return is Our Hope:

John 14:1-3

¹ "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

Acts 1:9-11

⁹ Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. *For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.* ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

How I long for the time when this corruptible fleshly body will be changed into that incorruptible spiritual body that will finally be free from the selfish principle of sin.

When I will never again dislike or despise or even resent another person

When no hint of selfishness, or pride, or arrogance will taint my soul again

When no lustful or covetous thoughts will cross my mind again.

When I will be holy, like our Savior is holy

In **Revelation 22:20**, the last thought expressed in the Bible is:

²² He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."

And the writer exclaims, "**Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!**"

IN SUMMARY CHRIST:

Came as our Savior

Lived as our Example

Died as our Redeemer

Rose for our Justification

Ascended High as our Head

Lives forever as our High Priest

Is Coming Back for us as our Hope