

Issues Issues Issues

- **The one true church**
- **Baptism**
- **Testimony**
- **Family**
- **Temples**
- **Prophets**
- **Priesthood**
- **And more and more**

The Greatest Issue: The Lord Jesus Christ

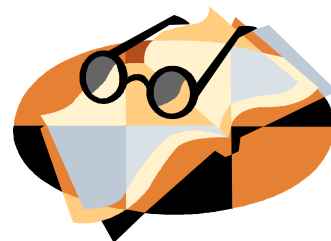
Of all the possible topics for a discussion about religion, none is more important than the Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle Peter, speaking of Christ, said, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). If an individual or a religion is right about everything else but wrong about the Lord Jesus Christ, that error alone is sufficient to deny salvation to anyone so deceived.

A Simple fact

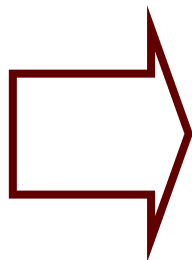
The Bible says, “And this is the record that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **He that hath the Son hath life**; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life” (1 John 5:11-12). How simple! “He that hath the Son hath life.”

These seven words summarize God’s only method for receiving eternal life. The Lord Jesus Christ IS the issue. We must

beware of becoming “. . . corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Corinthians 11:3). Impressive systems of religious thought and practices have been elevated to such an extent that by comparison many have come to believe it is sheer foolishness to declare, “He that hath the Son hath life.” Yet, this simple fact remains Bible truth.



An Important warning



There is no eternal life in a counterfeit and, therefore, nonexistent Savior. We are warned, “. . . There shall arise false Christs. . .” (Matthew 24:24). The tragedy of accepting a false Christ can be averted by knowing just who the Lord Jesus Christ really is.



Lloyd A. Larkin,
Baptist Mid-missions,
Emeritus



“The tragedy of accepting a false Christ can be averted by knowing just who the Lord Jesus Christ really is.”



The Savior is Lord.

Our Savior started His listeners in John 8:58 with the words, “. . . Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am,” thus declaring Himself to be the great “I Am” of Exodus 3:14. “I Am” as a name for Jesus Christ identifies Him as Jehovah, the Eternal God in His fullness who

never had a beginning, who will never cease to be, and who does not change. As Lord He is the sovereign Ruler and Master. A one-time doubter, the Apostle Thomas at last bowed before his Savior with the exclamation, “My Lord and my God” (John 20:28). “Wherefore God also hath highly

exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.” (Philippians 2:9-11).

The Savior is Jesus.

Humanity is communicated by this name. Since, “God is a Spirit. . .” (John 4:24), and, “. . . a spirit hath not flesh and bones” (Luke 24:39), the Lord Jesus has come to declare to mankind just who God is and what He is like. “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the

Father, he hath declared him” (John 1:18). It was necessary for Christ to take upon Himself a body in order to die for sinners. “And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Philip. 2:8). The humanity of Christ was not tainted by even the possibility

of sin. Begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary (Matthew 1:18-23), He was absolutely pure. Only a perfect sacrifice could take the sinner’s place. “. . . Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things. . . But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:18-19).

The Savior is the Christ.

The Lord Jesus was the long promised Jewish Messiah (or Christ). Literally translated, the Hebrew word “Messiah” means “the anointed one.” Three anointed offices are found in the Old Testament: prophet (1 Kings

19:16), priest (Exodus 28:41), and king (2 Samuel 2:4). As the Christ, Jesus is our Living Prophet, our High Priest, and our Greatest Authority. Underscoring the necessity of accepting the true Christ, the Apostle John penned

the Gospel which bears his name, “. . . that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name” (John 20:31).

The Greatest Issue: **The Lord Jesus Christ**

A Personal Invitation

The Lord Jesus Christ has said, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). He has further promised, “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out” (John 6:37). Why be weighted down with religious controversy and unprovable uncertainties when the confidence of eternal life is assured to all who will simply accept the Lord Jesus Christ?

We invite you to discover the complete satisfaction found exclusively in the Lord Jesus Christ of the Bible.

- The forgiveness of sins. “To him [Jesus Christ] give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins” (Acts 10:43).

- Guaranteed eternal life. Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; And they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand” (John 10:27-28).
- Strength for every task. “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13).

To receive this fullness of joy, you must first realize your own inability to merit God’s favor. Romans 8:8 is unmistakable. It reads, “. . .They that are in the flesh cannot please God.” That is precisely why you must turn to the Lord Jesus Christ. His is your only hope. He said, “. . .I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6). If you would now receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your only means of eternal life,

understand that to accept Him is to reject all that is in opposition to Him. This change of mind the Bible calls repentance. God “commandeth all men everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30). As you, in repentance, turn to the Lord Jesus Christ, simply call upon Him to save you. “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13). Trust Him for your eternal life; He has done all the work necessary to save you; rely upon Him and His saving work. “. . .Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. . .” (Acts 16:31). **It is that simple.**

If you have never at a specific point in time received the Lord Jesus Christ in this way, you should do so immediately. We beg you, resist the temptation to argue other issues. Your eternal life is at stake. Surely, no idea or organization is defensible which would lead you astray concerning eternal life solely in the Lord Jesus Christ. **He is the issue!**

“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. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him”
(John 3:16,18,36).



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