

SCRIPTURE TRACK

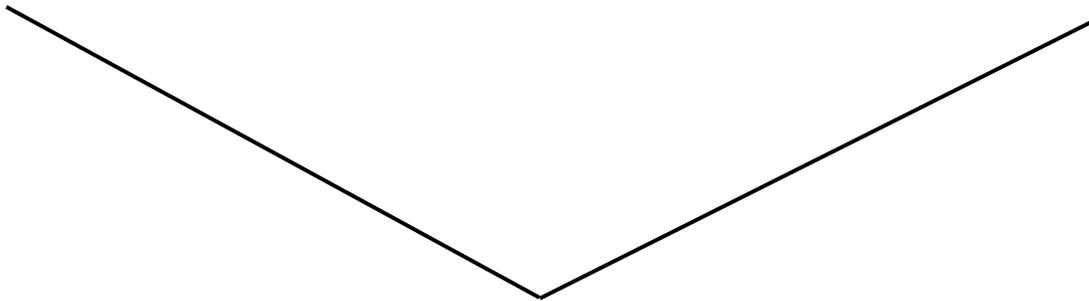
Semester Two - Week Nine - Christology Tour of Theology Week Two

Definition: The study of the person and work of Christ – the very heart of Christian Theology.

Here is Jesus to me:

1. My Lord – the master of the affairs of my life.
2. My God – the one worthy of my praise and worship.
3. My Forgiver – cleanses me white as snow
4. My Redeemer – bought me with a price
5. My Best Friend – walks with me daily

The Stages of Christ's Life:



Because Jesus was fully God,

1. We can have real knowledge of God.
 - Jesus to Philip: “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” John 14:9
 - “It is in Jesus that God is most fully revealed and known.” Erickson, Christian Theology, p. 737.

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2. Redemption is available to us. Only Jesus is able to sufficiently atone for our sins. Christ the Victor.
¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14
3. Worship of Christ is appropriate. Jesus is not merely the highest of humans, but he is God in the same sense and to the same degree as the Father.
 - If Jesus was not God, he cannot be worshiped.
 - We don't just respect or have reverence for Christ. He will not be reduced.

Because Jesus was fully human,

1. He could represent humanity to God as the "Second Adam."
"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous." Rom. 5:15-17
2. He serves as the model/ideal for humanity as the first "True" human.
"None of us are humanity as God intended it to be, or as it came from his hand. Humanity was corrupted by the sin of Adam and Eve. Consequently, we are not true human beings, but impaired, broken-down vestiges of essential humanity, and it is difficult to imagine this kind of humanity united with deity. But when we say that in the incarnation Jesus took on humanity, we are not talking about this kind of humanity. For the humanity of Jesus was not the humanity of sinful human beings, but the humanity possessed by Adam and Eve from their creation and before their fall. There is no doubt, then, as to Jesus'

humanity. The question is not whether Jesus was fully human, but whether we are. He was not merely as human as we are; he was more human than we are. He was spiritually, the type of humanity that we will possess when we are glorified...He most fully reveals the true nature of humanity. Erickson, Christian Theology, p. 736.

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3. We have absolute proof that God is not distant.

Virgin Birth of Christ:

- “Once we establish that God is personal, you can state that he can suspend natural law.”
John Stott
1. Affirmed by the Scriptures (Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:26-38)
 2. Affirmed by early church tradition
 3. Is a reminder that our salvation is supernatural
 4. Is a reminder that God’s salvation is a gift of grace
 5. Is evidence of the uniqueness of Jesus the Savior.
 6. Is evidence of the power and sovereignty of God over nature.
7. This is one of the “Five Essentials of our Faith.”
- Inerrancy of Scripture
 - Deity of Jesus Christ
 - Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ
 - Substitutionary Atonement of Jesus Christ
 - Physical Resurrection and Imminent Return of Jesus Christ

The WORK OF CHRIST:

His “Offices” or Functions → Anointed for these roles as Messiah:

1. Prophet – Jesus as Proclaimer. Fulfilled by Jesus as he preached (Matthew 17:5)
2. Priest – Jesus as Mediator. Appeasement of divine wrath (Romans 8:34), Gives divine aid (John 17)
3. King – Jesus as Protector and Provider – theme of Jesus’ Ministry – the coming Kingdom of God. “He rules more for our sake than for his.” John Calvin

Jesus’ Life’s Work and Importance While He Walked the Earth:

1. Prophetic Ministry and Messianic Fulfillment – Luke 4

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2. Conquest of Evil - Kingly task, triumphal inauguration, Matt 16:18 (we are a part of this now!)
3. Equip and Release the Apostles to carry on the task
4. Call people to belief in Himself.
5. Finish the assigned work to Him as the "second Adam" – Romans 5:19
6. Model the Christian life – a living pattern set before us – Romans 8:29

The Atonement of the Death of Christ

1. The Cross is central.
 - What is affirmed through the Cross.
 - Satisfaction and Substitution (Old Testament)
 - Leviticus 16 and the Day of Atonement
 - Exodus 12 and the Passover Event
 - Isaiah 53 and the Suffering Servant
 - New Testament Images of the Cross
 - Atonement Fulfilled in Christ - Hebrews 9-10
 - Liberation from obligation to fulfill Jewish Practices - Galatians 3:13, 2 Cor 5:21
 - Christ died for our sins 1 Cor. 15:3
 - Jesus the Sacrificial Lamb of God - John 1:29
 - Jesus' wounds heal us through the cross (cf Isa. 53:25, 1 Pet 2:24)
 - CAPSTONE – Jesus HIMSELF taught this understanding of His death in the establishment of the Lord's Supper (Luke 22) – He was the Passover Lamb.

2. The Cross is Significant. Why the Cross is so Significant:
 - Displays Sin's Seriousness – sin can't be trivialized because of what it cost God.
 - God's Character and Methods – guards his "separateness" from man.

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- Redeems Suffering and Hopeless Situations – because of the cross...
- Changes our Destiny – altered God’s view of humanity
- Becomes a Paradigm for our lives (Gal 2:20, Luke 9:23-24) to Replicate
- Extent: Makes Forgiveness of Sin Available to All.

The Resurrection of Jesus. Our Hope Rests on this EVENT.

1. Evidence
2. The Nature of Christ’s Resurrected Body – physical, but controlled by the Holy Spirit

The “Location” of Christ Today – hard to understand, best to say the Holy Spirit is the presence of Jesus in us.

Recommended Resources

The Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert Coleman

Christian Theology by Millard Erickson (covers all areas of “systematic” theology)

The Cross of Christ by John Stott