

## **I. The Pre-existence and Eternality of Christ**

A. Direct statements about Christ's Pre-existence – (Revelation 1:8,17; 2:8; 21:6; 22:13)

Scripture conclusively states that Christ did not begin His existence at Bethlehem – (Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; John 1:1-3; 8:58; Colossians 1:16, 17; Philippians 2:6; Hebrews 1:8,10)

B. Indirect evidence for Christ's Pre-existence – the Angel of the Lord in O.T. is Jesus Christ, John 1:18 says no one has seen God and Jesus is the Revealer of the Father

## **II. The Incarnation and Virgin Birth**

A. The Incarnation – (Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 9:6,7; Matthew 1:23; Luke 2:11; John 1:14; Romans 8:3; Galatians 4:4; Philippians 2:6; Colossians 1:22; 2:9; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 2:14; 10:5)

B. The Virgin Birth

1. Proof of the Virgin Birth – Isaiah 7:14 "*almah*" – (virgin) ; N.T. uses word *parthenos* (virgin) of Mary three times Matthew 1:23 once and twice in Luke 1:27; also Matt. 1:18, 25; Luke 1:34

2. The Importance of the Virgin Birth – necessary for sinlessness of Christ, His Deity & Atonement

## **III. The Deity of Christ**

**(Main distinguishing mark of a cult is that it denies the deity of Christ.)**

A. Christ directly called "God" in Texts (Isaiah 7:14; Psalm 110:1; Jeremiah 23:5,6; Matt. 1:23; John 5:18; 8:58; 10:30; 14:9; Acts 16:31-34; Romans 9:5; 2 Cor. 4:4; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:15a; 2 Peter 1:1; 2:20)

B. Old Testament: God equated with New Testament Christ

1. Isaiah 40:3 / Luke 1:76
2. Psalm 102:24 / Hebrews 1:8a, 10-12
3. Zechariah 12:10 / Revelation 1:7
4. Psalm 68:17, 18 / Ephesians 4:7,8
5. Isaiah 8:13, 14 / 1 Peter 2:7,8
6. Isaiah 6:1 / John 12:41, 42
7. Joel 3:1, 2 / Matthew 25:31, 32
8. Isaiah 44:6 / Revelation 22:13

C. Old Testament Angel of the Lord was God and was Christ – (Gen. 16:13; 18:1; 31:13;32:30; Exodus 3:6; Judges 2:1; 6:14-16; 13:22) aka Theophany & Christophany

D. Christ as Lord of the Sabbath (Matt. 12:8; Luke 6:5; Mark 2:28)

E. Christ performs the works of God

1. Creator of all things – Genesis 1:26; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:8a, 10
2. Preserver of all things – Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3
3. Author of Life – John 1:4; 5:26; 11:25; 14:6; Acts. 3:15; 1 Corinthians 15:22
4. Judge of all the earth – Gen. 18:25; Psalm 9:7, 8; Matt. 25:31, 32; John 5:22; Acts 17:31; 2 Thessalonians 1:7, 8
5. Christ forgives sins – Luke 5:20-24; 7:44-49; Matthew 9:1-6 Mark 2:5ff

F. Christ possesses the Attributes of God:

1. Eternally self-existent – Micah 5:2; John 1:1; 5:26; 8:58; Rev. 22:13; Isaiah 9:6
2. Christ is immutable – Hebrews 1:8a, 12b
3. Christ is omnipresent – Matthew 18:20; 28:20; John 14:23; Ephesians 1:23
4. Christ is Omniscient – John 2:24; 16:30; 21:17
5. Christ is Omnipotent – Matthew 28:18; John 17:2; Eph. 1:21; Phil. 3:21; Col. 2:10; Rev. 1:8

#### IV. The Humanity of Christ

A. Evidence of Christ's humanity

1. He grew from infancy to adulthood – Luke 2:40, 52
2. He experienced human hunger and ate food – Matt.4:2; Mark 11:12; Luke 22:19ff; John 21:12ff
3. Christ grew tired – Matthew 8:24; Mark 4:38; John 4:6
4. He wept – Matthew 23:37; John 11:35
5. He appeared as an ordinary man – Isa. 53:22ff; John 4:9; Philippians 2:7,8
6. He had a body (John 1:14), soul (Matt. 26:38), and spirit (Luke 23:46)
7. His suffering, bleeding and death establish His humanity – Matthew 26:26-29

B. Meaning of *the Kenosis* – Philippians 2:7 Christ emptied Himself of visible glory and the independent use of His divine attributes. However, He became human without ceasing to be God

C. Perpetuity of Christ's humanity

1. After His resurrection, His appearances were as a human – Matt. 28:9; Luke 24:39; John 20:14,15
2. At His ascension as human. He will come back "in like manner" as He departed - Acts 1:11; 7:56
3. Christ returns as "Son of David" and "Son of Man." All eyes will look upon the One Who was Pierced – 2 Sam. 7:12-16; Psa.89:2-4; 132:11; Jer. 23:5,6; Dan.7:13,14; Zech. 12:10; Matt.24:30

D. Christ's temptation – Matt.4:1ff; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22; Heb. 2:18; 4:15

#### VI. Major Names

- A. Lord – Greek (*kurios*) has a range of meanings from "sir" (John 4:11), to deity (Matt.4:10)
- B. Jesus – Hebrew *Yeshua* (*Joshua*) means "salvation is of *Yahweh*"
- C. Christ – *Christos* is Greek for Hebrew "Messiah" means "anointed one" – Dan.9:25,26; Psa.2:2
- D. Son of God – an assertion He has attributes of God John 5:18
- E. Son of Man – Christ's favorite name for Himself, Dan. 7:13,14, the coming Ruler
- F. The Word – John 1:1, 14; Rev. 9:13
- G. Savior – Titus 2:13; Phil. 3:20
- H. Lamb of God – John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:18, 19; Rev. 5:6ff

I. Master – John 13:13 underlying meaning in Greek is “teacher”

## VII. Christ’s Major Works and Offices

A. Prophet – Deut. 18:15; John 1:21,45; 6:14; Acts 3:22; 7:37; Heb. 1:1,2

B. Priest – Psalm 110:4; 1 Cor. 15:3,4; Heb.1:3; 7:27; 9:12,28; 10:10-14,18; 1 Pet. 3:18

C. He is King – the head of a spiritual kingdom in the world today, the church (Rom. 14:17.

1 Cor.4:20; Col.1:13; 4:11. He will be the monarch of a world-wide political kingdom

When He comes again to assume authority on the throne of David in Jerusalem

(2 Sam.7:12-16; Psalms 2, 45, 72, 89; Isa. 9:6; 33:22; Dan. 7:13,14; Zech. 9:9; Matt.2:2; Luke 1:32, 33)

D. Other Offices, Works and Titles

1. Last Adam – 1 Corinthians 15:21

2. Head of a new creation – 2 Cor. 5:17

3. Head of the body – 1 Cor. 12:12ff; Ephesians 4:15, 16

4. Great Shepherd of the sheep – John 10:11ff; Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 5:4

5. The Vine to the branches – John 15

6. Cornerstone of the building – Matt. 21:42; 1 Cor. 3:11; Eph. 2:20; 1 Peter 2:5

7. The Bridegroom to the bride – Ephesians 5:22ff

E. Christ as Lawkeeper – He came to fulfill the law (Matt.5:17), kept the law fully (2 Cor.5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:22) - His perfect righteousness is credited to believer’s account

F. The Resurrection – Matthew 28:5; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:1f John 20, 21

1. Significance of the Resurrection – a cardinal tenet of Christianity 1 Cor. 15:14ff; Acts 2:32

It demonstrated the Deity of Christ – (Romans 1:4), it forms a basis for believers’ bodies to be raised (John 14:9; 1 Cor. 15:20), it means Jesus Christ is able to be our high priest and intercessor (Hebrews 7:25), it means that Christ will come again (Acts 1:11) and rule as Son of Man over entire human world (Isa. 9:6,7; Da. 7:13,14; Luke 1:32,33)

2. Nature of Christ’s Resurrection Body - flesh and bones (Luke 24:39), yet able to move rapidly through human physical barriers (John 20:19,26), able to enjoy food (Luke 24:30; John 21:12-13) and was glorious (Phil. 3:21). Our glorified bodies will be like His (1 Cor.15:49; 1 John 3:2)

G. Christ’s Ascension, Exaltation and Present Ministry – Acts 1:11;7:56; John 17:1,5;Col.3:1

1. Christ is Head of the Church – Ephesians 1:20-23; Colossians 2:10

2. He is our high priest and intercessor – Romans 8:34 Hebrews 7:25

3. He is our advocate, i.e., helper and defense against Satan’s accusations – 1 John 2:1

4. He is a gift-giver through the Holy Spirit – Ephesians 4:7

H. Christ’s Work at His Second Coming – (will be covered under “Eschatology”)