

The Doctrines Of The Faith



What The Bible Says About...

CHRISTOLOGY

The Doctrine of Jesus Christ

"A Study In Truth"

PASTOR ART KOHL

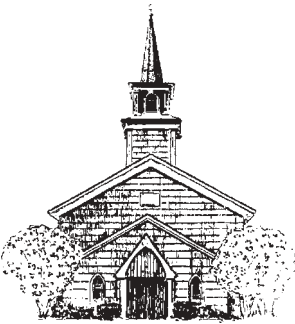
Christology

The Doctrine of Jesus Christ

by Pastor Art Kohl

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The Doctrines Of The Faith — A Study In Truth Series

Christology

The Doctrine of Jesus Christ

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Doctrinal Statement:

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and God the Son. That He is eternally existent. That He was never created but is the Creator and the Second Person of the Trinity.

We believe He was incarnated by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin named Mary, and that He lived a sinless life during all of His earthly days. He then died for all of man's sins on a cross and shed His blood to make an atonement for our souls. He then remained in a grave for three days and three nights. He bodily resurrected from the tomb, walked the earth for forty more days and then bodily ascended into Heaven.

He has the power to save all that come unto God by Him and now sits on the right hand of the Father's throne to mediate for repentant sinners and make intercession for the saints according to the will of God. We believe He will come back in the clouds, at a time appointed by His Father, to meet His church in the air. We believe He then will return with the saints to the earth seven years later to set up His Kingdom on earth. That kingdom will last for one thousand years and be followed by His eternal Kingdom in the new heaven and new earth.

We believe that Jesus Christ is Lord and that every knee will bow to Him someday and every tongue will confess that He is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

I. The Deity Of Jesus Christ

He is said to be divine and possesses the attributes of divinity:

A. Jesus Christ Is God

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." (John 1:1,14).

"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).

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." (1 Timothy 3:16).

"I and my Father **are one**." (John 10:30).

“Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father**; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?” (John 14:9). See also Isaiah 9:6.

“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of **the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ**,” (Titus 2:13).

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of **God**, which he **hath purchased with his own blood**.” (Acts 20:28).

“And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in **his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God**, and eternal life.” (1 John 5:20).

“**Ye call me Master and Lord**: and ye say well; **for so I am**. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet.” (John 13:13-14).

B. Jesus Christ Is The Second Person Of The Trinity

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, **the Word**, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.” (1 John 5:7). Compare with John 1:1,14.

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the **name** of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:” (Matthew 28:19). “Name” is singular - one name.

“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For **in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily**.” (Colossians 2:8-9).

(The word “Godhead” means divinity. Jesus is the embodiment of Divinity.)

“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” (John 14:26).

“But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:” (John 15:26).

“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and **we** will come unto him, and make our abode with him.” (John 14:23).

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.” (2 Corinthians 13:14).

“Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.” (1 Peter 1:2).

Each Person of the Trinity is equal in person but different in role. Jesus Christ took upon himself the form of a servant on earth and humbled himself to do the will of His Father (Philippians 2:5-11). Just like a wife being in subjection to her own husband does not make her any less human, so Jesus being in subjection to the Father does not make Him any less God. Thus we call Him the second Person of the Trinity and helps us understand why He called the Father “My God” at times (Mark 15:34, John 20:17).

Jesus is equal to the Father but subject to Him, to leave us an example that we too should be subject to those in higher places over us (1 Corinthians 15:28, 1 Corinthians 11:3, John 14:31, John 15:10, John 8:29). All of His obedience was inspired by love.

C. Jesus Christ Is The Creator

“**All things were made by him**; and without him was not any thing made that was made.” (John 1:3). “Him” is Jesus (see verse 14).

“But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, **by whom are all things**, and we by him.” (1 Corinthians 8:6).

“And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who **created all things by Jesus Christ**.” (Ephesians 3:9).

“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:” (Colossians 1:16).

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by **his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, **by whom also he made the worlds**;” (Hebrews 1:1-2).

D. Jesus Christ Has No Beginning Or Ending

He was not created. He has always existed and is eternal.

“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; **whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.**” (Micah 5:2). Jesus was born in Bethlehem Ephratah.

“**In the beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” (John 1:1,14).

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

“That which was **from the beginning**, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;” (1 John 1:1).

As typified in the Old Testament Theophany of Melchizedek:

“Without father, without mother, without descent, **having neither beginning of days, nor end of life**; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.” (Hebrews 7:3).

E. Jesus Christ Is Holy And Sinless

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, **who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

“For such an high priest became us, who is **holy**, harmless, undefiled, **separate from sinners**, and made higher than the heavens;” (Hebrews 7:26).

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ **the righteous**.” (1 John 2:1).

“And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had **done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.**” (Isaiah 53:9).

“**Which of you convinceth me of sin?** And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?” (John 8:46).

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, **yet without sin.**” (Hebrews 4:15).

“But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb **without blemish and without spot**.” (1 Peter 1:19).

“**Who did no sin**, neither was guile found in his mouth:” (1 Peter 2:22).

“And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and **in him is no sin.**” (1 John 3:5).

F. Jesus Christ Is Omnipotent (All Powerful)

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6).

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power** is given unto me in heaven and in earth.” (Matthew 28:18).

“As thou hast given him **power over all flesh**, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.” (John 17:2).

“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, **the Almighty.**” (Revelation 1:8).

“And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for **the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.** Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.” (Revelation 19:6-7).

G. Jesus Christ Is Omniscient (All Knowing)

“Now are we sure that **thou knowest all things**, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.” (John 16:30).

“But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because **he knew all men**, And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.” (John 2:24-25).

“That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; **In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**” (Colossians 2:2-3).

“And Jesus **knew their thoughts**, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:” (Matthew 12:25).

“But he **knew their thoughts**, and said to the man which had the withered hand, Rise up, and stand forth in the midst. And he arose and stood forth.” (Luke 6:8).

There is only one thing Jesus does not know. By His own willing subjection to the Father, He has left to His Father only to

know the time of His return for His bride, the church:

“But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, **neither the Son**, but the Father.” (Mark 13:32).

Jesus is omnipotent. He can do anything and even has the ability to limit His knowledge in this one area. Think of it: If He could not limit Himself He would not be all powerful.

By not knowing when He will return for His Bride - the Church - Jesus sets an example for all sons to be obedient to their fathers in regards to choosing a wife and the timing for marriage. If this example were followed in our families, there would be much less divorce today. Wait for your father’s blessing and permission!

H. Jesus Is Omnipresent (All And Ever Present)

“Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with **all that in every place** call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:” (1 Corinthians 1:2).

“And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that **filleteth all in all**.” (Ephesians 1:22-23).

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, **there am I** in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:20).

“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, **I am with you alway**, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (Matthew 28:20).

“And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.” (John 3:13).

Jesus is transcendent to both time and place. He can be everywhere at one time. He can be sitting on the right hand of the Father on High (Acts 2:33) and dwelling in our hearts (Ephesians 3:17) at the same time.

I. Jesus Christ Is Immutable (Unchangeable)

“They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.” (Hebrews 1:11-12).

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” (Hebrews 13:8).

II. The Humanity of Jesus Christ

Jesus was always divine and always will be. He became human around the year 4 B.C. Thus He is the “God-Man”. This section of our study is about His humanity.

Jesus is called the “Son of Man” in 84 references in the New Testament. He is called the “Son of God” on 46 occasions. Thus, His humanity is emphasized often for our sake. Why? So that we could relate to Him and He could relate to us. Consider:

“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”(Hebrews 2:9-10)

“For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour [help] them that are tempted.” (Hebrews 2:18)

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” (Hebrews 4:15-16).

Let us look at the humanity of Christ

A. His incarnation

Incarnation means “to clothe with flesh.” This is declared plainly in the Scriptures:

“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,” (Galatians 4:4).

“And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:8)

“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;” (I Timothy 2:5)

“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.” (I Timothy 3:16)

This was brought about by the birth of Jesus Christ through a virgin named Mary. This was prophesied and fulfilled.

“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a

virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6).

“And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.” (Luke 1:31)

This birth was announced to Joseph by an angel of the Lord (Matthew 1:18-25) and to Mary by the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:26-35) before she ever became with child. She was a virgin and abstained from sexual relations with Joseph, her espoused husband, until after Christ was born (Matthew 1:25). After Jesus was born, Mary had at least 6 children who were fathered by Joseph (Matthew 13:55-56 ; Mark 6:3). Jesus’ birth was a miracle with no human father involved! God became flesh:

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” (John 1:1,14)

“Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:” (Romans 1:3,4)

“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:” (Romans 8:3)

“But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:” (Philippians 2:7)

“Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.” (1 John 4:2-3)

“For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.” (2 John 1:7)

A person cannot be right with God and deny the deity or humanity of Christ:

“ I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.” (John 8:24)

To be saved, a person must acknowledge that Jesus is Lord.

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13) “And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.” (Acts 16:31)

B. Jesus called Himself a man

“But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.” (John 8:40)

“Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:” (Acts 2:22)

As noted earlier, He is called the “Son of Man” 84 times.

C. Jesus had common experiences with humanity

1. He was a baby - Luke 2:12,16
2. He was a child who grew physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually - Luke 2:40 ; Luke 5:52
3. He was an adolescent who was subject to parents - Luke 2:42-51
4. He felt hunger - Luke 4:2
5. He needed sleep - Luke 8:23
6. He suffered sorrow - Matthew 26:37
7. He became weary - John 4:6
8. He suffered extreme infirmity and needed angels to minister to his weak body - Matthew 4:11; Mark 1:13.

He had fasted for 40 days and was in the wilderness with the wild beasts. He suffered horrendously before and on the cross - I Peter 3:18.

9. He had emotions affected by the behavior of those around Him - John 11:33 ; Mark 3:5 ; John 12:27
10. He agonized - Luke 22:44
11. He ate - Luke 24:43
12. He thirsted - John 4:7, 19:28

There are many other examples in the New Testament of His partaking in humanity, including the fact that He died.

D. Jesus came through the lineage of David

Mary had to be married at the time of the birth, so Jesus would not be born of fornication. Her husband Joseph’s lineage was through David and is recorded in Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 3:23-38. He is called, “the Son of David” on 17 occasions in the New Testament.

E. Jesus Christ died on a cross for all mankind

His death is the fundamental theme of the gospels and is essential to our salvation. I Corinthians 15:1-4; John 3:14-16; I John 2:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

F. He was buried in a borrowed tomb

He remained in that tomb for 3 literal and complete days and nights. Matthew 12:40; Matthew 27:57-60; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 24:50-55; John 19:38-42

G. He rose from the grave

He arose in a body of flesh and bones. See Luke 24:3; Luke 24:39-43; John 20:5-7; John 20:27; Romans 6:9,10. He is alive forevermore.

H. He ascended into Heaven

He literally ascended into Heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father as our mediator, High Priest and Advocate. Hebrews 9:24; Luke 24:50,51; Acts 1:9; I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:14-15; I John 2:1

III. The Offices of Christ

A. He first served on earth as a Prophet

Deuteronomy 18:15; John 1:21,25,45; Acts 3:22

B. He today serves in Heaven as our High Priest

Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 8:1; Psalms 110:4

C. He someday will come back to the earth and be King

Hebrews 1:8, Revelations 11:15; Revelations 20:6

This Kingdom will then continue on into eternity and will have no end.

“Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.” (Isaiah 9:7)

IV. Christ fulfilled all of the prophecies of the Old Testament showing that He is the Messiah.

Old Testament Prophecy		New Testament Fulfillment
Genesis 22:18	Seed of Abraham	John 11:51,52
Psalms 72:10	Wise men offered him gifts	Matthew 2:2,11
Hosea 11:1	Called out of Egypt	Matthew 2:13-15
Malachi 3:1	Preceded by a forerunner	Luke 1:17
Isaiah 9:1,2	Ministry commenced in Galilee	Matthew 4:12,16,23
Zechariah 9:9	Public entry into Jerusalem	Luke 4:16,18
Isaiah 53:2	Not highly esteemed	Mark 6:3; Luke 9:58
Isaiah 35:5,6	Worked miracles	Matthew 11:4-6
Isaiah 53:9	Without guile	1 Peter 2:22
Psalms 69:9	Suffered Reproach	Romans 15:3
Psalms 69:8	Rejected by His brethren	John 1:11; 7:3, 5
Isaiah 49:7	Despised of man	John 15:24,25
Psalms 118:22	Rejected by Jewish rulers	Matthew 21:42
Psalms 41:9	Betrayed by a friend	John 13:18-21
Psalms 109:2	Deceitful witnesses at His trial	Mark 14:56-59
Zechariah 11:12	Sold for 30 pieces of silver	Matthew 26:15
Isaiah 53:7	Called the Lamb of God	John 1:29
Zechariah 11:13	His price given for a potter's field	Matthew 27:3,7
Micah 5:1	Smitten on the cheek	Matthew 27:30
Isaiah 50:6	Spit upon and scourged	Mark 14:65
Psalms 22:16	Nailed to a tree	John 19:18; 20:25
Zechariah 12:10	Pierced in His side	John 19:34
Psalms 69:21	Gall and vinegar given Him	Matthew 27:34
Psalms 14, 15	Intense suffering	Luke 22:42
Isaiah 53:4-6,12	Suffered for our sins	Matthew 20:28
Isaiah 53:7	Silent while suffering	Matthew 26:63; 27:12, 14
Psalms 22:18	Garments parted and lots cast	Matthew 27:35
Isaiah 53:12	Interceded for His enemies	Luke 23:34
Isaiah 53:13	Would be cut off (killed)	Matthew 27:50
Psalms 34:20	Not a bone would be broken	John 19:33, 36
Zechariah 12:10	Pierced	John 19:34,37
Isaiah 53:9	Buried with the rich	Matthew 27:57-60
Psalms 16:10	His flesh would see no corruption	Acts 2:31
Psalms 16:10	He arose from the dead	Luke 24:6, 31, 34
Psalms 68:18	His ascension	Luke 24:51
Zechariah 6:13	Our heavenly Priest	Romans 8:34
Psalms 110:1	Sitting on the right hand of the Father	Hebrews 1:3

These are only a few of many prophecies; yet the Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled them all!

**“Study to shew thyself
approved unto God,
a workman
that needeth not
to be ashamed,
rightly dividing
the word of truth.”**

2 Timothy 2:15