

November 17, 2021

Only Christ Can Save

Having seen that sincerity, righteousness, and the law cannot save, what or who can save? The answer is found in **Romans 10:4**, Christ alone can save. He is the end or fulfillment of the law to everyone who believes in Him. In **John 14:6** Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." There are not many ways to heaven, there is only one way to heaven and that is through the person of Jesus Christ. In identifying Himself as the way to heaven, He excluded or ruled out all other ways. **Acts 4:10-12** "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Salvation is through Christ and Christ alone. But who is Christ that salvation can only be obtained through Him?

First, Christ is the Son of God. In **John 3:16** we read that God sent "His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." How do we know that Jesus is the Son of God? The demons testified that He was. The demons are fallen angels. Prior to the fall they served God in heaven. They knew who Jesus was, because they had served Him prior to Satan's rebellion, **Matthew 8:28-29**, **Mark 3:11**, **Luke 4:41**, and **Luke 8:28**. The Scriptures testify that Jesus was the Son of God, **Mark 1:1**, **John 20:31**, and **Hebrews 4:14**. God the Father testified that Jesus was His Son, **Matthew 3:7; 17:5**, **Mark 1:11; 9:7**, **Luke 3:22; 9:35**, and **II Peter 1:17**. Jesus Himself claimed to be the Son of God, **John 9:35-38** and **John 10:36-38**. Look up the following passages and identify who testified that Jesus was the Son of God, **Matthew 14:33; 16:16; 27:54**, **Mark 15:39**, **John 1:34; 6:69; 11:27**, **Acts 8:37; 9:20-22**, **Romans 1:3-4**, and **II Corinthians 1:19**. The title Son of God, identifies Jesus' Deity.

Second, Christ is the Messiah. The name Christ means Messiah or the anointed one. It identifies Jesus as the promised seed of the woman who would bruise the head of the serpent, **Genesis 3:15**. In **John 4:25-26**, Jesus enters into a conversation with a Samaritan woman at the well of Sychar. "The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he."

Third, Christ is the Son of Man. The title Son of Man identifies Jesus' humanity. Jesus Christ was the only God-man that ever lived. Fully God as though He had never been man, and fully man as though He had never been God. In order to atone for the sin of man, Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, would become a flesh and blood man, to give His life a ransom for many. He would die on the cross of Calvary, shedding His blood for the remission of sin. The atonement for sin required a pure, sinless blood sacrifice. This could only be accomplished through the human, sinless Son of God. The gospels are full of references to Jesus Christ, the Son of Man. Take a few moments to consider the following passages, **Matthew 9:4-6; 12:39-**

40; 16:13-16,27-28; 17:22-23; 18:11; 20:18-19,28, Mark 2:9-11; 8:31; 9:31; 10:33,45, Luke 5:23-24; 9:22; 19:10, and John 3:13-15; 8:28.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became the Son of Man that He might die for the sin of man, thus making a way of salvation for all men. **I Peter 1:18-19** “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” **I Peter 2:22-25**, speaking of Christ, “Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.”

As you meditate on the things of God this week, focus your thoughts upon the blood of Jesus Christ, shed on Calvary’s cross for your sin. Consider the communion of the Lord’s Supper which we are commanded to observe in remembrance of Him. What do the two elements represent and why is it important that they never be forgotten?