

## Who is Jesus?: The Christ!

John 20:30-31

### Introduction

- This is why John's gospel exists. This is what the sovereign Spirit of God wants us to gain from our 2+ years in this gospel...Belief that Jesus is the Christ and that our believing is the saving (eternal) kind – sustained and increasing.

### The Purpose of Signs – Belief in The Christ

- Other Signs...Other Books
  - Synoptics (much of his reference would be to include what is actually recorded in the synoptics – Matthew, Mark & Luke)
  - Consistency
  - Signs are important, but faith comes by hearing the Word of God – the signs in written record
- Signs point to His Identity
  - Deliverer (Messiahship)
    - “Christ” use 19 times in John's gospel
      - John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus **Christ**.
      - John 1:20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the **Christ**.”
      - John 1:25 They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the **Christ**, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?”
      - John 1:41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means **Christ**).
      - John 3:28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the **Christ**, but I have been sent before him.’
      - John 4:25 The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called **Christ**). When he comes, he will tell us all things.”
      - John 4:29 “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the **Christ**?”

- John 7:26 And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the **Christ**?
- John 7:27 But we know where this man comes from, and when the **Christ** appears, no one will know where he comes from.”
- John 7:31 Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, “When the **Christ** appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?”
- John 7:41 Others said, “This is the **Christ**.” But some said, “Is the **Christ** to come from Galilee?”
- John 7:42 Has not the Scripture said that the **Christ** comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?”
- John 9:22 (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be **Christ**, he was to be put out of the synagogue.)
- John 10:24 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the **Christ**, tell us plainly.”
- John 11:27 She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the **Christ**, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”
- John 12:34 So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the **Christ** remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?”
- John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus **Christ** whom you have sent.
- John 20:31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the **Christ**, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- Understanding “The Christ”
  - From the writings of Moses
  - Also called the “Messiah”

- From David's line – a kingly line
  - God-man quandary
  - One true Messiah
  - Eternal, yet understood mostly to be a super-man, but not God
  - God's deliverer from bondage (yet the bondage was from sin not political enemies)
- Deity (Sonship) – phrase used 9 times in John's gospel
- John 1:34 *And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the **Son of God.***
  - John 1:49 *Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the **Son of God!** You are the King of Israel!"*
  - John 3:18 *Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only **Son of God.***
  - John 5:25 ¶ *"Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the **Son of God,** and those who hear will live.*
  - John 10:36 *do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the **Son of God?***
  - John 11:4 *But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the **Son of God** may be glorified through it."*
  - John 11:27 *She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the **Son of God,** who is coming into the world."*
  - John 19:7 *The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the **Son of God.**"*
  - John 20:31 *but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the **Son of God,** and that by believing you may have life in his name.*
- Among His Disciples
- These who had been taught directly by Christ would be the foundation of the early church with Christ as the cornerstone

### The Purpose of Writing – Belief in The Christ

- Record Signs that Jesus is the Christ
  - John's purpose demands that Christ be at the forefront of every bit of his record
  - This purpose influences every detail of John's writing
  - Boice points out that for all of its theological depth, John's gospel is simply nothing more than a series of testimonies that Jesus is the Christ
- For the Reader
- To Believe
  - Present active subjunctive – BELIEVE and that you may keep on believing
  - Sustaining belief that Jesus is the Christ
  - 1 John is written to help us be certain that our belief is sustaining belief

### The Purpose of Belief in The Christ – Life in His Name

- By Believing
  - Apart from faith there is no life
  - There is the danger of a type of belief that does NOT lead to eternal life
  - **John 2:23-25**
- LIFE in His NAME
  - Apart from Him is no faith, no life
  - The ongoing, banking on, believing in, fruit-bearing faith in Jesus the Christ!

### Application

- Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ? God's only provision for the world to know deliverance from the bondage of sin and death to eternal life and joy in Him?
- Believer, do you see your faith bolstered, strengthened, lengthened at the hearing of the gospel of Christ?