



# CHRISTOLOGY PT II

## *The Doctrine of Jesus Christ II*

### The Works of Jesus Christ

#### *I. Jesus Christ, Savior, AND Lord*

Jesus Christ is savior and Lord. This fact sometimes confronts the limitations of our logic and the expansiveness of Christ's lordship. Which will sit on the throne of your heart? Your logic or the leadership of the Lord? The fact still remains that Jesus has to be Lord AND Savior. To receive one and not submit to the other is to limit God's intention to fully express Himself to the world through you.

#### *Jesus is Lord!*

One of the central claims of Christianity is that Jesus is *not only* Savior (rescuer/liberator/deliverer) but also Lord (ruler/leader/director). Yes, Jesus saves, yet a part of His salvific expression is His desire to lead, reorient, guide our lives. Jesus expresses Himself to us through his leadership of us. **(Deuteronomy 6:4)**

To say, 'Jesus is Lord,' was as much a social statement to the current world order of the day, as it is a spiritual statement in eternity. It is not just a claim *unto* Christ but also a claim against the ravenous social rulers and systems of that day (Caesar). Jesus's impact is not just internal or personal but intentionally expressed externally. The Gospel of Luke paints Jesus as a social-political activist and advocate of the least, the lost, the left out, the looked over, and the looked down upon. His birth, death, and resurrection was a statement against imperialism and the rule of an empire. He spoke truth to power and represented those who were marginalized and oppressed. He was for the have *and* the have-nots. The God of ALL.

We can't reduce Christ's role to just personal piety. God transforms individuals in community to impact world systems.

Jesus Christ can't just be Savior, He has to be Lord.



God anointed Jesus to proclaim, advocate, deliver, enlighten, and heal. **(Acts 10:38; Luke 4:18; Matthew 12:28)** Jesus moved with compassion (The biblical term for the contemporary phrase, "Do you feel me?") **(Luke 10:25-37; Matthew 23:37; Luke 7:13; Matthew 15:32)**

Everything Jesus did was to make and model a new pattern for human society. He always demonstrated what He said and practiced what he proclaimed. He did not do one without the other. Just as we don't just hear the Word of God, we do what we hear. They are synonymous and not optional. This is the Kingdom of God (Eternity meeting Time). It includes dealing with this tension of the not-yet and creating hope with His works.

## ***II. Jesus Christ, the Standard-Bearer of Leadership***

The three types of Old Covenant leadership commissioned by God and affirmed through the anointing of oil were the Prophet, Priest, and King. Jesus embodied these roles every time he stated, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me and has anointed me..." **(Luke 4:18)**

God anointed Him functionally and as the standard-bearer of the offices. He commissioned in the Old Covenant within the New Covenant. This is a beautiful journey regarding the fulfillment of the law.

There was no Prophet, Priest, or King that did not come into contact with oil. Jesus functioned formally as Prophet, Priest, and King.

Often, prophets proclaim God's will by foretelling future events. Moses was the greatest Old Testament prophet. He proclaimed the wisdom of God to the Israelites in the form of the Law. The author of Hebrews also expresses the prophetic mission of Jesus Christ to the people. (Deuteronomy 18:18; Hebrews 1:1-2)

### ***A. Jesus, the Prophet (Message-Bearer)***

#### ***5 Typical Functions of Prophetic Ministry:***

##### ***1. Preaching***

Just as prophets, Jesus in His communications strategically spoke truth to power within His social context.

What was it about the holiness of Jesus that attracted sinners but repelled religious people versus the 'holiness' of the religious that repelled sinners?



Jesus didn't mince words. He spoke strategically, intentionally, and boldly.

In Matthew chapters 5-7, the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus preaches the new way of life and begins a discourse on how humanity is to express. Jesus was the love expression of God in the earth and became the model for all of humanity. It was his proclamation and demonstration of how love must be exhibited and experienced in our everyday lives. Jesus is love. He became love and now wanted to teach us how to exhibit who He is and what He came to give.

In his preaching, Jesus stirs, encourages, and inspires us to truth. He pivots our hearts and perspective to receive.

The prophetic preaching ministry of Jesus was revolutionary. When he spoke, people moved and were activated **(John 3:3)**.

Prophetic preaching moves you to see what is ahead and causes you to align your life and adjust your faith to move towards what God intends for your life.

It's important to note that Jesus was not a doomsday prophet. His messages were always littered with hopeful assurances. You can respond and repent. It wasn't a closed deal where you stay stuck in where He currently sees you.

If all you can do is incarcerate the already captured, and not point them towards the way through or out, then you are not speaking for God. You just have an awareness of his judgments. But the truth is: God does not need our help concerning His judgments. Jesus expressed, "I see where you are, respond and repent, and the way out is available to you." (John 4)

Prophetic preaching causes us to be moved to respond and repent. It is a call to action out of our present-day dilemmas.

His prophetic call was also to clarity **(Matthew 5:17-48)** even if it meant not being claimed by crowds.

Jesus's preaching and teachings not only drew crowds but often offended them because of the truth. They were often mesmerized by His miracles and the depth of His teaching but became confronted when He began to expound on why and what He was preaching. His intent was to draw the people to the heart of God; oftentimes what God asks is the opposite of what we want.



He wasn't into collecting crowds just for fame but was intentional about making sure that he expressed the heart of the matter through doctrine and proclamation.

Jesus used Scripture intentionally and consistently. His Word accompanied His signs.

## **2. Teaching**

Jesus used a lot of parables to teach and attract people where they are in ways that they could understand. He uses the power of prophetic teaching to make the Gospel chewable. (Ex. Take the cow and make it into beef jerky)

He does not merely quote authorities but IS the authority. He didn't merely show the way, He IS the way. He's not just the test taker but the template. He's not just inheritance but He has to be application. He is a masterful teacher.

In his teaching, Jesus dissects and builds upon what he stirred us to see. It is inspirational and didactic. It awakens and stirs the power of God inside of you by providing understanding to precepts, concepts, and ideologies. In His teaching, He unveils what is not readily perceived and explains what needs proper comprehension. **(Matthew 11:15)**

Teaching opens up your ears to receive more revelation. It allows you to see differently and further than what was initially seen or consumed. It unlocks and brings depth to that which you have come to know and learn.

Jesus modeled the kind of life that demanded exegesis (to draw out and properly explain) through teaching. **(Luke 11:1)** He lived the kind of life that required some sort of interpretation.

"Preach/Teach the Gospel, use words if necessary." -attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi

Your life is so powerful that what I see needs to be said. It is like your life is a living epistle. People should look at your life and need an explanation. **(2 Corinthians 3:2-3)**

Live a life that demands a Gospel explanation. It is a by-product of being sold out to Jesus Christ.

Jesus, in Jewish tradition, was Rabbi. This was also proved by way of his call to the disciples to "follow Him." He modeled life in front of them that caused them to follow Him.



### 3. *Discipleship*

Jesus loved making disciples. It was a by-product of his life and ministry. Some of Jesus's disciples became the apostles of the Church. Jesus's disciples did not just learn concepts and theories, but they also monitored His life and the presence of their Teacher, and thus embodied His example and emulated His character. This fellowship and fellowship gave Jesus the green light to authorize and endorse and give power to His Disciples. Disciples are covered. **(Luke 9:1; Acts 19:4-16)**

Discipleship screams out: "You do not have to live life alone." A byproduct of discipleship is submission. Submission is humility. It is when one subjects their power and strength under the mission of another authority for a common goal. Disciples are students. They are intentional about learning, knowing, seeking, gleaning, listening, and growing whether by way of close proximity or not (virtual, books, resources).

Discipleship gives an account for your life. It requires us to be transparent, honest, compassionate, and accountable. Discipleship makes people accounted for.

Discipleship requires relationships and mutuality. Not everyone has done a good job of making disciples because they confuse making disciples with making duplicates of themselves or cultures, instead of Jesus. I will mirror what I'm taught but the focus and image are that of Jesus, not one's isms or personality traits. **(Matthew 28:19-20)**

Discipleship is about your witness to Jesus Christ **(Acts 1:8)**

Jerusalem (Same place, same culture); Judea/Samaria (Same place, different culture); Ends of the earth (different place, different culture). Make disciples of people who are near you and are like you and those who are near you and not like you; then go beyond to those who are not near and are not like you. Making disciples is about being like Christ and not like culture or establishment.

Anytime a movement is trendy beyond it being effective unto the revelation of Jesus Christ. We don't need to deify leaders. Honor them, but do not deify them. I don't need any mini-mes. Jesus is the Spirit behind your discipleship but He is not discipling you. I am not your only discipler.



That is why when the Founder of our Faith died and subsequently rose, we saw the real power of the movement. That is a futuristic return on investment. Some people disciple because they want compensation for their investment, NOW. You should not steal treasures; especially those in earthen vessels.

God give us disciplers!

#### **4. Predicting**

This is an important function of the prophet. If the prophet is going to foretell future events then prophetic predictions should come to pass AND glorify God, along with your heart posture.

***Some of the things Jesus predicted:***

***(1) His own death and resurrection (Matthew 16:21)***

***(2) The persecution of the church (Luke 12:11)***

***(3) The coming of another Helper, the Holy Spirit, to abide in the church (John 14:16-17; John 16:7-11)***

***(4) The church's triumph (Matthew 16:18)***

It is important to note that not only did Jesus predict, but He fulfilled what He predicted. Jesus also performed prophetic acts. Everything He did pointed to a new reality. We should also not only speak prophetically but model it. (Hosea)

Jesus pondered on the Father's heart and instructions intently until it manifested. He was able to translate what was happening and going to happen in the moment. (Luke 19:1-10; John 1:43-51)

#### **5. Performing Miracles**

Jesus as a prophet was not just a miracle worker, He's the fountainhead of the Supernatural.

Prophetic acts and miracles often foretold or were hints on what to believe about Him as we would meet Him in the future.



- (1) Jesus's birth.*
- (2) Jesus's resurrection.*
- (3) He walked on water.*
- (4) He spoke to storms.*
- (5) He multiplied bread and fish.*

And the list goes on. Every miracle Jesus displayed was unto deliverance so that we could know Him greater.

### ***B. Jesus, the Priest: (Sin-Bearer)***

Jesus as our Great High Priest was chosen to represent humanity to God. The prophet represented God to humanity.

#### ***4 Things that Characterized the work of the priest:***

- (1) The priest was chosen from among those He represented. (Exodus 28:1)*
- (2) The priest offered sacrifices to God to atone for sin. (Leviticus 4:13-21)*
- (3) The priest is a mediator who made intercession for the people. (Isaiah 53:12; I Timothy 2:5)*
- (4) The priest assumed the priestly role on behalf of all believers. (Hebrews 7:24-26)*

***Jesus is both priest and sacrifice (I Timothy 2:5; John 1:29; I Peter 1:19)***

### ***3. Jesus, the King: (Sceptor-Bearer)***

As a prophet, Jesus is a Message Bearer. As a priest, Jesus is a Sin Bearer. As a king, Jesus is a Sceptor Bearer. Jesus has to be king.

Jesus has a kingly mission. His birth gives the awareness of the arrival of a new king. It gave fear to other kings such as Herod (Matthew 2:7)

Jesus was aware of his royal mission when it was announced by John the Baptist. (Matthew 3:1-2)



Jesus presented Himself to Jerusalem as their king, which was prophecies in **Zachariah 9:9.**

Pilate asks him. **(John 18:36)**

On the cross, they labeled Him king of the Jews. **(John 19:19)**

If Jesus is a king, He has to have a kingdom. If He has a kingdom, you and I don't have a right to restructure the culture of that kingdom. We would be in danger of spiritual treason to redefine what our King has already designated as acceptable and not acceptable (Conflicted themes and stolen authority)