

**“The Meaning Of The Manger”**  
**Christ The Lord!**

**Introduction:**

1. All Throughout The Month Of December:
  - During Our Evening Services:
    - We Have Looked At The “Meaning Of The Manger”:
      - And Just What It Meant To The Shepherds:
        - When The Angel Of The Lord Told Them In Luke 2:11 - “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is **Christ** the Lord!”
  - When The Angel Called The Newborn Savior:
    - “**Christ**” - It Meant That Jesus Was:
      - The “Messiah” – The “Anointed One!”
        - The One Chosen By God The Father To Fulfill All That Was Necessary:
          - To Be The Redeemer & Savior Of His People!
2. Now - It Is Interesting That:
  - In The Old Testament There Were 3 Main Offices:
    - That Were Initiated By The:
      - Anointing Of Oil!
  - Some **Prophets** Were Anointed With Oil!
    - As In 1 Kings 19:16 - God Told The Prophet Elijah:
      - To Anoint Elisha To Be His Successor:
        - “And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room!”
  - The **Priests** Were To Be Anointed With Oil!
    - As In Leviticus 8:10-12 - Moses Anointed Aaron:
      - To Be The High Priest Of God’s People:
        - “And Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein, and sanctified them. / And he sprinkled thereof upon the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all his vessels, both the laver and his foot, to sanctify them. / And he poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron’s head, and anointed him, to sanctify him!”
  - And The **Kings** Were Also To Be Anointed With Oil:
    - As In 1 Samuel 16:1 - When Samuel Anointed David:
      - To Be The Chosen Leader Over God’s Chosen People:
        - “And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons!”
  - This Anointing Was A Sign & Symbol:
    - Of God’s Choice:
      - As Well As Of Their Consecration To God:
        - As His Servant!
3. When Jesus Was Born:
  - He Came To Be “**The Christ!**”
    - Even As It Is Described In Psalm 45:6-7 - “Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre. / Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows!”
  - And So - As “**The Christ**” He Would Be:
    - Their Final Prophet!
      - Their Perfect Priest!
        - And Their Eternal King!
  - And All Of These Offices / Roles:
    - Were Promised By God:
      - All Throughout The Old Testament!
  - Why Were These Roles So Important?
    - Wayne Grudem - “The prophet spoke God’s words to the people; the priest offered sacrifices, prayers, and praises to God on behalf of the people; and the king ruled over the people as God’s representative. These three offices foreshadowed Christ’s own work in different ways. Christ fulfills these three offices in the following ways: as Prophet, He reveals God to us and speaks God’s words to us; as Priest, He both offers a

sacrifice to God on our behalf and is Himself the sacrifice that is offered; and as King, He rules over the Church and over the universe as well!"

4. But How Could Jesus:
  - Be This Kind Of Messiah?
    - As The **Final** Word Of God!
    - As The **Perfect** Mediator With God!
    - And As The **Eternal** Ruler From God!
  - To Fulfill These Offices & Roles:
    - Jesus Had To Be More Than Just A Man!
      - In The Words Of The Angel To The Shepherds:
        - Jesus Had To Be "Christ – The Lord!"
    - Jesus Had To Be God:
      - In The Flesh / In Human Form!
5. So - Although Jesus:
  - Was Truly Man:
    - And Needed To Be:
      - In Order To Be The Messiah!
  - Jesus Also Was Truly God:
    - And Needed To Be:
      - In Order To Fulfill These Offices:
        - Completely & Entirely!
        - And Perfectly!
6. So - For The Rest Of Our Time Tonight:
  - We Are Going To Look At:
    - Jesus As Lord! Jesus As God In The Flesh!
      - The Second Person Of The Trinity!
        - So - What Evidence Is There That Jesus Is God?
  - Let's Look At Several Together:

\* The First Proof That Jesus Is God Is That:

**1. Jesus Possesses The Attributes Of God:**

- There Are Some Attributes:
  - That Can Only Be Used To Describe God:
    - And Jesus Has Those Same Attributes!
      - For Example:
- The Attribute Of Eternity:
  - God Is Eternal!
    - Jesus Is Described As Being Eternal:
      - Even Though Jesus, As A Man, Was Born Into This World – As God, He Is Not Just Another Created Being!
  - John 1:1-4 - "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. / 2 The same was in the beginning with God. / 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. / 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men!"
    - The Word Refers To Jesus Christ:
      - And That He "Was In The Beginning With God!"
  - Jesus Himself Uses An Eternal Description:
    - That Is Used Of God In The Old Testament:
      - Isaiah 44:6 - "Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God!"
      - Revelation 1:17 - "And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last!"
    - Jesus Is The Eternal God!
- The Attribute Of Omnipotence:
  - God Is All-Powerful!
    - And Jesus Displays His Power Over Everything & Everyone While Here On Earth!
      - Especially Through His Miracles!
  - Power Over Creation:
    - Mark 4:39-41 - "And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And

the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. / 40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? / 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

- Power Over Man:

- Mark 1:40-42 - "And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. / 41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean. / 42 And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed!" (Many Other Miracles!)

- Jesus Is The Omnipotent God!

- The Attribute Of Omniscience:

- God Knows Everything!

- And There Are Times When Jesus Shows His Omniscience As God:

- John 1:45-51 - "Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph. / 46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see. / 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! / 48 Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee. / 49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. / 50 Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. / 51 And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man!"

- Other Times - It Is Said & Displayed - That Jesus "Knew Their Thoughts!"

- Matthew 12:25; Luke 5:22; Luke 6:8

- Jesus Is The Omniscient God!

- Other Attributes As Well!

\* Another Proof That Jesus Is God Is That:

## 2. ***Jesus Performs The Functions Of God:***

- The Function Of Creation:

- Genesis 1:1 - "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth!"

- God Is The Creator!

- Yet Jesus Is Described As Performing This Function:

- In Colossians 1:16-17 - "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: / And he is before all things, and by him all things consist!"

- Go To Verse 13 To See Who Is Being Referred To – "His Dear Son" – Jesus!

- The Function Of Salvation:

- Psalm 3:8 - "Salvation Belongeth To The Lord!"

- Isaiah 45:22 - "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else!"

- God Is The Savior!

- Yet Jesus Is Described As Performing This Function:

- 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!"

- Other Functions As Well!

\* Another Proof That Jesus Is God In The Flesh Is That:

## 3. ***Jesus Fulfills Prophecies Referring To God:***

- There Are Many Old Testament Prophecies:

- That Clearly Are Referring To The One True God:

- And They Are Either Fulfilled By Or Ascribed To Jesus In The New Testament!

- Showing That He Is The God That Was Prophesied About!

- The Prophecy That – “Every Knee Shall Bow!”
  - It Is Applied To God In Isaiah 45:22-23 - God Says - “Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. / I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear!”
  - It Is Applied To Jesus In Philippians 2:10-11 - It Is Said Of Jesus - “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; / And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father!”
- The Prophetic & Messianic Title – “Emmanuel” - “God With Us”
  - Prophesied - Isaiah 7:14 - “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel!” (To Ahaz)
  - Fulfilled - Matthew 1:22-23 - “Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, / Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us!”
- Many Other Prophecies Fulfilled By Jesus:
  - As The Messiah – The Christ – The Anointed One Of God!

\* Another Piece Of Evidence That Jesus Is God Is That:

**4. Jesus Claimed To Be God:**

- With His Own Words & Statements:
  - That Were Even Understood By The Listeners As Claiming Deity / Equality With God!
- Jesus Called Himself: “I Am!”
  - Used By God In Exodus 3:14:
    - “And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you!”
  - Used By Jesus In John 8:58:
    - “Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am!”
    - The People’s Response?
    - 8:59 - “Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by!”
    - Why? They Knew What Jesus Meant When He Said This! Look Further:
- Jesus Made The Statement:
  - In John 10:30 - “I and my Father are one!”
  - The People’s Response?
  - 10:31-33 - “Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. / 32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? / 33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God!”
- When Asked By The High Priest:
  - In Mark 14:61-64 - “Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? / 62 And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven!”
  - Response?
  - 14:63-64 - “Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith, What need we any further witnesses? / 64 Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye? And they all condemned him to be guilty of death!”
- These Are Unequivocal Statements Made By Jesus:
  - That Stake His Claim To Be:
    - God In The Flesh!
    - And The People Who Heard Him Clearly Understood What He Meant!

**Conclusion:**

1. With All Of This Evidence:
  - Remember What The Response Was To Jesus:
    - By His Disciple – Thomas – “Doubting Thomas” – After:
      - Jesus Had Risen From The Dead?
  - John 20:26-29 - “And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. / 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. / 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. / 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed!”

- Even “Doubting Thomas” Recognized Jesus:
  - As God In The Flesh!
    - And Thus Capable To Perfectly Fulfill All Of The Offices Of The Promised Messiah!
      - As Prophet, Priest & King!
- 2. So - When We Learn About The True “Meaning Of The Manger”:
  - What Can We Do?
    - How Should We Respond?
      - Since Jesus Is “Christ The Lord”?
  - Since Jesus Is:
    - The Final & Divine Prophet:
      - We Need To Listen To Him!
        - And All Of His Words!
          - This Does Not Mean That We Just Read & Study The “Red Letter” Words Found In The Gospels!
      - Because All Scripture:
        - Is The Word Of God!
          - And Are The Word Of Jesus!
  - Since Jesus Is:
    - The Perfect & Divine Priest:
      - We Need To Lean Upon Him!
        - And His Ministry As Our Mediator!
          - His Sacrifice For Us!
          - His Service To Us!
      - We Need To Keep Trusting In Him!
  - And Since Jesus Is:
    - The Eternal & Divine King:
      - We Need To Live For Him!
        - Serving Out Of Love & Submission!

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