

The Preeminence of Jesus Christ

I. The Incomparable Jesus Christ of Nazareth

Colossians 1:13–18 | NASB

13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

II. Jesus Christ of Nazareth is God's Last Voice

A Construction Industry Illustration

Fixed-price bids on large construction projects typically include over 1,000 drawings and more than 2,000 pages of specifications. These documents explain in great detail the materials and installation techniques to be used. During the bidding process, architects and engineers often issue changes called *addenda* or *amendments*. These addenda override the original documents and must be acknowledged by contractors in their submissions—otherwise, their proposals will be rejected.

Hebrews 1:1–3 | NASB

1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Revelation 19:10 | NASB

Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; “worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

III. Jesus Christ's Manifesto

John 18:36–37 | NASB

36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."

37 Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1–17) didn't explicitly require us to love each other. Yet we have political fights in America about placing a copy of them on public property.

John 13:34–35 | NASB

Jesus said 34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

35 "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Matthew 5 – Jesus States His Beatitudes (blessings)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the gentle, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, and the persecuted.

Matthew 5:21–22 | NASB

21 "You have heard that the ancients were told, 'You shall not commit murder' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.'

22 "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell."

Matthew 5:27–28 | NASB

27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery';

28 but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

Matthew 5:38–39 | NASB

38 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.'

39 "But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also."

Matthew 5:43–48 | NASB

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

44 "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

46 "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

47 “If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

48 “Therefore, you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Matthew 6:19–24 | NASB

19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal.

20 “But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;

21 for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 “The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.

23 “*But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!*

24 “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The 119th Congress claims to be 87% Christian. Yet those “Christians” seem to be following a “dark light” that produces public policy in America that is untruthful, cruel, hateful, greedy, racist, lacking in compassion, merciless, and inhospitable!

Matthew 6:31–33 | NASB

31 “Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’

32 “For the *Gentiles eagerly seek all these things*; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

33 “*But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Matthew 20:25–28 | NASB

25 But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them.

26 “It is not this way among you, but *whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant,*

27 and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave;

28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 28:18–20 | NASB

18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “*All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.*”

19 “Go therefore and *make disciples* of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I *am with you always*, even to the end of the age.”

IV. The Birth of the Christian Church in Antioch

Acts 11:19–26 | NASB

19 So then those who *were scattered because of the persecution* that occurred in connection with *Stephen* made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone.

20 But there were some of them, men of *Cyprus and Cyrene*, who came to Antioch and *began speaking to the Greeks* also, preaching the Lord Jesus.

21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they *sent Barnabas off to Antioch.*

23 Then when he arrived and *witnessed the grace of God*, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;

24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

25 And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul;

26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the *disciples were first called Christians* in Antioch.

V. The Antichrist Spirit is at Work Today

(To be against or in place of Christ)

1 John 2:22 | NASB

22 Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son.

2 John 1:7–11 | AMP

7 For many imposters (seducers, deceivers, and false leaders) have gone out into the world, men *who will not acknowledge (confess, admit) the coming of Jesus Christ (the Messiah)* in bodily form. Such a one is the imposter (the seducer, the deceiver, the false leader, the antagonist of Christ) and the antichrist.

8 Look to yourselves (take care) that you may not lose (throw away or destroy) all that we and you have labored for, but that you may [persevere until you] win and receive back a perfect reward [in full].

9 Anyone *who runs on ahead [of God] and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ* [who is not content with what He taught] *does not have God*; but he who continues to live in the doctrine (teaching) of Christ [does have God], he has both the Father and the Son.

10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine [is disloyal to what Jesus Christ taught], do not receive him [do not accept him, do not welcome or admit him] into [your] house or bid him Godspeed or give him any encouragement.

11 For he who wishes him success [who encourages him, wishing him Godspeed] is a *partaker in his evil doings*.

Matthew 7:22–23 | NASB

22 “*Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles*

23 “*And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’”*

VI. Two Foundations: Rock vs. Sand

Matthew 7:24–27 | NASB

24 “Therefore everyone who *hears these words of Mine* and *acts on them*, may be compared to a *wise man who built his house on the rock*.

25 “And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.

26 “Everyone who hears these words of Mine and *does not act on them*, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

27 “The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and *great was its fall*.”

Rhema Christian Center

John “Skip” Jones, Prophet |

Saturday, July 12th and Sunday July 13th, 2025

9:30am