

#3031 1211 22A [Advent]

As God in Person, only Jesus can pay our sindebt—Colossians 2:9 "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Jesus is equal with God so He can forgive sins, heal our body, provide our needs, and grant salvation to anyone who will put their trust on His Atonement sacrifice.

Jesus was born *like us*; lived a sinless life *unlike us*; and died on the cross to *give us* eternal life—*if* we will trust in faith on His shed Blood during our lifetime on earth. Two Gospels tell of His *birth on earth*; and two others begin with His *ministry on earth*. Luke 2:52 "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."

Israel will eventually face judgment Luke 19:44 "Because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation." Moses asked Exodus 3:13 "Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? 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."

Jesus stated Revelation 1:8 "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." God alone knows the beginning and ending of everything. Colossians 1:19 "It pleased the Father that in him should all fulness *dwell.*" The holy Trinity is God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit as One.

There *are* only *two* categories in the universe—*God* who is eternal; and *creation* that is temporary. Jesus is *not* part of creation because He *is* eternal—like *God* is. The apostle said 2 Corinthians 4:18 "*The things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*"

God is unseen [*in secret* Matthew 6:6] but we still pray to Him in faith—knowing He is listening. Thomas said John 20:28, "*My Lord and my God*," to which Jesus replied, John 20:29 "*Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed*."

We should be Titus 2:13-14 "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works"—or kind acts.

The human aspect of Jesus enabled Him to *die* for our sins. Jesus *is* the *Word* and the Word *is God* John 1:1, so the Father speaks through the Bible to inform us of the One on whom we are to put our trust. John 3:18 "*He that believeth [trust] on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*"

It is possible to overcome Satan's temptations—temptations to doubt God; to not trust God; or to disobey God in any way—but *only* with God's help. Having success in overcoming temptation assures us that our name is in the Book of Life. John 5:4 "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

As God Incarnate, Jesus told us to John 15:4 "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me." Jesus took our place on the cross, to disable the sin nature in our *heart*. This new nature must *be in* control in order trust God for things—like healing, health, provisions, protection, and freedom from worldly desires.

Mark 12:32 "There is one God; and there is none other but he." Jesus said Revelation 1:17-18 "Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Only God could say what Jesus said, and only He could offer what He offered—total forgiveness and eternal Paradise!

We listen to what Jesus says because He is God. Galatians 6:7 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap"—that includes obedience to God's Word. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit want what is best for us—but we must ask for their help—like Luke 18:13 "God be merciful to me a sinner."

The Father *loves* us; the Son *forgives* us; and the Holy Spirit *inspires* us to believe in the Atonement for sin Jesus made for us. His perfect *sacrifice* of Atonement enables us to receive perfect *healing*—without drugs; to be divinely protected—without firearms; to have enough finances—without bank loans; and to *claim* anything else God has promised to give us.

Hebrews 2:14 "Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—Jesus also became flesh and blood by being born in human form. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the Devil, who had the power of death."

We are told Philippians 2:5-7 "Let this mind [attitude] be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: "—humble, obedient to the Father, and a forgiving attitude. "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." It was His time to visit us on earth.

Jesus said John 14:28 "My Father is greater than I," but He meant His Father's position was greater. God is God because of His nature—and Jesus had the same nature Philippians 2:6. Pharaoh had a greater position as king, than Joseph as governor, so he told Joseph Genesis 41:40, "You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you." Pharaoh was greater by office—but both had the same nature.

The CEO of a business has a higher *position* than the employees, but he is not greater in *nature*. A husband is the head of the home, but he and his wife have the *same* human *nature*. 1 Corinthians 11:3 "*The head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God*." Jesus would submit to the Father's *position*—but He is not less in *nature*.

After being born in Bethlehem, Jesus Luke 2:51 "Went down with [Joseph and Mary], and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart." Jesus was submissive to His parents as a son and was obedient to God as His Father.

1 John 5:20 "We know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life." The incarnation of Christ is the living form of God with us—to guide us by His Spirit within us. John 10:9 "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved."

There are millions of false *teachers* giving millions of false *messages* that could jeopardize our eternal life—if followed—because they *omit* Jesus' teaching on believing *faith* and *trust* on His Atonement Blood for real-life issues like: healing,

finances, justice, forgiveness, and a Christ-like attitude toward everyone.

Trust-on-God principles *cannot* be omitted, because John 3:18 "*He who trusts in Him does not come up for judgement. He who does not trust has already received sentence, because he has not his trust resting on the name of God's only Son*"—the world's trust is on medication, insurance, etc.

John 14:14 "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it," Jesus said. If a believer in the United States; a Christian in Africa, and another in Asia all prayed to Jesus at the same time, He would have to be God in the Person of His Spirit to answer each request. David wrote Psalm 139:7 "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"

Jesus replied to the ruler Luke 18:19 "Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is, God"—to see if he knew that God was speaking to him. The Lord told him to keep the Commandments—and the ruler said he had kept them from his youth. Luke 18:22 "When Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me." If he believed he would follow.

John 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 5:24 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

Many rejected Jesus when He referred to Himself as God—but *that* is who He *is*. John 8:24 "*If ye believe not that I am he [God], ye shall die in your sins.*" Only *God* can forgive sins; and only Jesus can pay the debt by the shedding of His Blood.

Every prayer in Jesus' Name—prayers for protection, peace, provisions, health, healing, guidance, and victory over Satan's power—is based on *Jesus being God*—who *promises* these things to those who *believe Him* and *trust Him* in faith—but *not* to those who trust something *else*.

All too many proclaimed believers do not give *God* anything to *do*! Instead, they trust a *replace-ment* to do what *God* promised to do. Even so, God is present here on earth in the presence of the Holy Spirit to do marvelous things for His children. Matthew 28:20 "*Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world*"—so anything we could need spiritually, physically, or materially is available *from* Him through *faith* in Him.

We pray to Jesus because Matthew 28:18 "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." He who created the world, parted the sea, and healed the sick is ready to do what we ask of Him. Our part is to believe Jesus, because John 15:7 "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you"— God visited us in Person to give that promise!

†**†**†

www.fcgchurch.org

*Free literature_contact: PO Box 24283 Philadelphia, PA 19120 <u>info@fcgchurch.org</u>

> #3031 1211 22A [Advent]