



Sunday December 24, 2017
CHRIST : Creator, Redeemer, Friend

Who is this Jesus, whose birth we are celebrating at Christmas?

Many either do not know who Jesus is or worse still, they have a **WRONG** idea of who He is, based on hear-say and other things people have said.

Some say He is a prophet.
Some think He was a great Teacher.
Some think He was the founder of a religion or a religious system.
Some consider Him as a revolutionary.
Some consider Him to be a great leader, an influencer.
And so on....

To really know who Jesus is, we need to go to the Bible, the Word of God, the Scriptures of the Christian faith.

While the Bible has a lot to say about Jesus Christ, we will consider just **three aspects** of His Person, that are relevant to us this Christmas season.

I want you to consider these three aspects of who Jesus Christ really is - and ask yourself what your response would be to Him...how would you relate to Him, in view of these truths.

Jesus Christ is CREATOR GOD

John 1:1-3

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.**
- 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.**

Colossians 1:16-17

- 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.**
- 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.**

Hebrews 1:3

.....upholding all things by the word of His power,...

(please elaborate on each of the statements below and show how we relate to this aspect of who Christ is)

As Creator, He is Eternal, All-Powerful, and Infinite.

As Creator, He is to be worshipped and honored by all of His Creation.



As Creator, He is the Reason for all creation. Purpose and meaning flow out of Him.

AS Creator, Our lives must be devoted to bring Him pleasure (Revelation 4:11 KJV)

As Creator, there is nothing impossible for Him.

Jesus Christ is REDEEMER

Man because of His sin has become enslaved.

Man is enslaved to sin, to self, to satan and to all that sin results in and satan enslaves people with.

Jesus Christ is God who became Man, and He came to redeem us from everything that enslaves us. ***(Tomorrow: The Reason for the Incarnation)***

To redeem is to set free, to liberate, and to elevate to a higher place.

Galatians 1:4

who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

Titus 2:14

who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

Hebrews 2:14-15

14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Jesus had to pay a huge price in order to make redemption possible.

We owed a debt in the court of heaven - a huge debt that we could never pay and redeem ourselves. Because of this debt, we were legally enslaved to sin, sickness, satan and to be sent to hell. But the Lord Jesus Christ paid the debt we owed, settled it in the court of heaven, by giving His own life here on earth - so that we could be redeemed from everything that enslaved us.

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

As Redeemer, He is the only Redeemer we have.

As Redeemer, He is the only one who can redeem us.

As Redeemer, we must believe and receive by faith what He has done for us.



Jesus Christ is our FRIEND

Jesus did not come to form a dead religious system. He came to invite us into a personal relationship with Himself.

John 15:13-14

13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

Imagine, Creator God, and our loving Redeemer, now calling us into a personal relationship of being a friend.

It is not about being a friend's friend...or somebody else's friend....He wants to be your friend.

He wants our response to Him, our love for Him, our obedience to Him, to flow out of this friendship-relationship with Him.

He has promised to speak to us, to commune with us, to share His heart with us because of this friendship-relationship.

As our Friend, He invites us into a personal friendship-relationship with Him. (Are you someone looking for a deep, personal relationship with your Creator?)

As our Friend, He transforms our lives. (He is a 'positive influence' if you will. You will never be the same, once you come into a personal friendship relationship with Him)

As our Friend, He journeys with us. (He sticks closer to you than a brother. He stays with you through the ups and downs of life's journey. He watches out for us.)

As our Friend, He speaks His counsel into our lives.

As our Friend, He works with and through us. (Our true Senior Partner).

WILL YOU BELIEVE IN HIM AND RECEIVE HIM FOR WHO HE REALLY IS

Jesus Christ is Creator, Redeemer and Friend.

John 3:16-17

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**

17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but **that the world through Him might be saved.**