

# The Three Aspects of Jesus Christ the Lord

## *The Lessons Peter the Apostle Learned*

### 1. HIS PERSON Jesus asked, *“Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?”*

To some Jesus is just a famous Jewish carpenter – to others a prophet – to others a teacher of good – to some, a fearless reformer of a corrupt establishment – yet to others a moral example – to others a brave martyr who dared to die for a cause – and yet to others the ideal expression of love and compassion. Many try to follow Christ at one of these levels and consider themselves “Christian” in that sense.

But His followers get fewer when His deity is proclaimed. Jesus being God establishes His authority over us as well as His being the only Savior – since only God can save.

When the disciples witnessed Jesus’ miracles, Peter proclaimed with them, *“What manner of man is this?”* But later he confessed as a minority, after having the revelation of evidences from the Father, *“Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”* Indeed the resurrection by the Father has declared Him to be the Son of God – the Lord Jesus Christ. The demons addressed Him as Jesus. Others called Him Master (teacher) or Rabbi – but Peter knowing who He was came to call Him “Lord.”

### 2. HIS WORK *“Christ died for our sins...he rose again” and “maketh intercession for us.”*

Yet there are many who acknowledge His deity that do not understand the work He accomplished for our sins on the cross. His sinless and pure blood sacrifice was a full redemptive payment for our sins. No works need to be added by the sinner to obtain a full pardon from God. And He is the only human mediator by which we come to God.

Now Christ’s followers get even fewer when His finished work for sin on the cross is presented as our means of total and eternal forgiveness apart from any human contribution. When the Lord spoke about eating His flesh (body) and drinking His blood (His sacrifice being appropriated in the heart by faith) to have everlasting life, then *“many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him”* John. 6:66.

At first Peter didn't understand His sufferings for sin. When the Lord told him that He would be killed and raised again, Peter said, *“Lord: this shall not be unto thee.”* Yet later when Peter’s understanding was opened, he would write about the sacrifice of Christ and claim believers are redeemed *“with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”*

### 3. HIS WORDS *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word...out of the mouth of God.”*

The risen Jesus is Lord, Son of God, and the Head of the church, His body. He uses His authority over us to lead us in God’s ways of holiness and righteousness. Thus we see instructions and commandments from Him to us in the New Testament. The Lord said, *“the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life”* (John 6:63). Paul stated: *“the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord”* (1Cor. 14:37).

Now when it comes to His teachings and commands for His church, the followers get even fewer yet. Some merely admire His example – others wisely bow the knee to Him as both the Son of God and Lord – and others also further glory in the grace of His cross (praise the Lord) that has saved them. But how many believers attempt through His Spirit to follow all of His teachings – an attempt which would significantly impact their life?

Peter saw others forsaking Jesus over His words (teachings). And then the Lord Jesus asked His disciples, “*Will ye also go away?*” “*Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life*” (John 6:67, 68). Peter would later write: “*That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour*” (2Pet. 3:2).

Here are some aspects of our lives on which the Lord gives us instruction in His Word.

**His words on sin** – “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man”, **Mk. 7.**

**His words on language** – “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying” (**Eph. 4:29**).

**His words on love** – “Love one another; as I have loved you” (**John 13:34**).

**His words on divorce and remarriage** – “Let not the wife depart from *her* husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to *her* husband: and let not the husband put away *his* wife” (**1Cor. 7:10,11**).

**His words on the different roles between men and women** – “But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence” (**1Tim. 2:12**).

**His words on church order** – “And when they had ordained them elders in every church” and “For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn” (**Acts 14:23 / 1Cor. 14:31**).

**His words on prophecy** – “I will come again” and “The world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever” (**John 14:3 / 1John 2:17**).

To the Lord, following His words is an expression of love to Him. He is not here to physically hug or walk along side Him. But to trust His Word and follow it – no matter what the cost – when the world doesn’t, demonstrates sincere love unto Him. Some say, “Don’t bother me with the details of the Bible, I just want to follow Jesus”. Well, that is impossible to do apart from the Bible for it reveals His person, work and will.

The Lord Jesus said, “*If ye love me keep my commandments.*” As Scripture says: “*Seek ye out of the book of the Lord, and read*” (Isa. 34:16). Peter once said, “*Not so, Lord,*” but later wrote, “*desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby*” (**1Pet. 2:2**).

How far will we go in our love for the Lord Jesus? “*His name is called the Word of God.*”