

- Anytime anyone gets some revelation as to who Jesus is, it is an amazing thing.
- The only way you can know who Jesus is is that He has to reveal Himself to you.
- Man has been constantly trying to figure the things of God out with his natural mind, and you can never figure God out.
- There's just too much of Him to try to figure out; He is infinite, He is immortal, He is eternal.
- We are mortal, we are finite, which means we have limitations; we are human beings.
- There is no way that we can figure God out; there's no way we can know God on our own.
- We can only know Him as He reveals Himself to us.
- Remember in the 16th chapter of Matthew when Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do men say that I the Son of Man am?"
- They told Him, "Some say you're John the Baptist, some say you're Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the other prophets."
- Then He said, "But whom do ye say that I am?"
- The term "ye" in the Bible is always plural, never singular; it's not talking about one person, but more than one.
- He said, "Who do you disciples say that I am?"
- Peter spoke up for the group and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."
- Jesus then spoke specifically to Peter and said, "Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona, for flesh and blood have not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven."
- This is why we say that it is futile to try to show and convince anyone that Jesus is the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost if they are not saved.
- They just can't see it; it has to be revealed to them.
- In order for it to be revealed to them, you have to have the Holy Ghost so that the Holy Ghost can reveal it to you.
- Even with the Holy Ghost, it does not guarantee that you will know, but it means you have the wherewithal to know who He is.
- It is God's will for all of us to know who He is because He wants us to be like Him.
- We can't be like Him if we don't know what He is like.
- Every child of God should know who Jesus is; that is the foundation that the church is built upon.
- The church is built upon the identity of Jesus Christ and who He is.
- He is God manifest in flesh.
- Our lesson this evening veers away from notes as we did in a previous Bible class where we had a good discussion.
- The church has the revelation as to who Jesus is.
- Many people in the church world are singing about Jesus, preaching about Jesus, teaching about Jesus, and they don't know who Jesus is.
- Everybody doesn't know who He is; only those to whom He has revealed Himself know.
- That is His children and no one else.
- The Church of God, the church that belongs to God, is the only one true church.
- Every church does not belong to God; there's only one church that belongs to God.
- That church began on the day of Pentecost, was an Apostolic Church, and has continued to our time.

- We are not looking down on other denominations, but we are establishing the fact that we are the true church.
 - Other denominations are not the true church.
 - Many of them have sincere and honest people, but as a church, they are not the true church.
 - If they are not the true church, they are the false church.
 - Many of them can be saved if they get in the true church.
 - Just like many of us who were part of nominal churches, God brought us from there and put us in the true church.
 - There is only one true church, and that's the church He's coming back for: the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - The rest will have to stay here during the tribulation period.
 - If they are honest and sincere, they will refrain from taking the mark of the beast to be saved during that time.
 - If they take the mark, they are already lost.
 - If they refuse the mark, they will be killed or some will starve to death.
 - Many in the nominal church world now do not know this truth and will miss the rapture.
 - If they are to be saved during the seven-year period, they will have to give their lives to make it.
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- According to the multiplicity of scriptures in the book of Revelation, the subject tonight is the Godhead.
 - God had to take on human flesh for five specific reasons.
 - It wasn't that the Son of God came down from heaven, but God Himself came down from heaven.
 - There is no scripture in the Bible that says the Son of God was manifest in flesh; it says God was manifest in flesh.
 - The Bible says that God is a Spirit, and this Spirit became flesh; the Spirit took on a human form.
 - One of the most popular scriptures in the New Testament is John 3:16, often called the golden text of the New Testament by scholars and theologians.
 - Many people can quote John 3:16, but they may not fully understand its meaning.
 - Let's examine John 3:16 and 17 to highlight some important points that might be new or confirm what you already know.
 - John 3:16-17 reads, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."
 - Some people misuse verse 17 to argue against judging others or pointing out sin, but that's not the context.
 - When God sent His Son into the world, it was not to condemn the world, but to save it through Him.
 - Jesus said on one occasion, "I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."
 - When Jesus came, He initially came to save the lost sheep of the house of Israel, not the Gentiles.
 - However, His ultimate mission was to save all of us.

- Verse 17 starts with "for," which ties it to the previous verse, indicating a continuation of thought.
- Verse 16 also starts with "for," tying it to earlier verses, starting from verse 1 about Nicodemus, a Pharisee and ruler of the Jews.
- Misconceptions and misunderstandings arise when people isolate verse 16 without considering its full context.
- The nominal church often interprets John 3:16 as God sending His only Son to suffer and die for humanity because He loves us.
- They portray it as God punishing His Son instead of taking the punishment Himself.
- This interpretation implies that God, to show His love, inflicted suffering on another person rather than Himself.
- If God had done that, it would paint Him as a monster rather than a loving deity.
- The truth is, God did not put all that suffering on another person; He took it upon Himself.
- God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself.
- Don't think of it as if God sent another individual to go through those things; He took on human flesh and as a man, He went through those things.
- The brutality of the sufferings of Christ was intense because God was putting all those things on Himself as the Son of God and the Son of Man.
- Jesus was the only one who could suffer to the extent that God was satisfied.
- Understand that God did not dispatch another person to go through this suffering; He went through it Himself.
- This is why He came, as He told David, "Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne," referring to Jesus being the son of David according to the flesh.
- Regarding His divinity, Jesus was God.
- Do not think of John 3:16 as God sending someone else; He put all those things on Himself.
- God had to do it Himself.
- We will also need to address the humanity of Jesus Christ because there are aspects that the Scriptures highlight which might not be commonly considered.
- As a man, Jesus had to pray, fast, and weep.
- He was God, but He was also a man who experienced human emotions and actions.
- Jesus was like you and I in every way, except He was not born in sin and did not have a sinful nature.
- Jesus bore in His own body the sufferings; He went through it Himself because no one else was qualified to do it.
- Let's examine Isaiah chapter 53 to further understand this.
- Isaiah 53 is a familiar passage, but we will focus on key points, particularly verse 10.
- God speaks in a way that it seems like another individual is involved, but it was Himself.
- The Son was not God; the Son was a man, but God was in the Son.
- Verse 10 says, "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin."
- It pleased the Lord to bruise Jesus and put Him to grief, making His soul an offering for sin.
- 1 John 2 explains that Jesus was our propitiation, meaning He satisfied the wrath and anger of God.
- Jesus endured the wrath and anger of God because of the sinful state of man.

- Isaiah 53:4 states that He was stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
- Those actions were carried out by drunken soldiers, but it was God's determinate counsel and foreknowledge that dictated those actions.
- Peter mentioned on the day of Pentecost that Jesus was delivered up by God's plan.
- It pleased the Lord to bruise Him and put Him to grief, making His soul an offering for sin.
- The word "soul" here means His life; Jesus' life was God's offering for sin.
- This was God's sin offering to Himself on behalf of humanity to give us an opportunity for eternal life.

- I want to teach on this subject which was taught to me years ago.
- It deals with the first six chapters of the book of Leviticus and the eighth chapter.
- The first six chapters of Leviticus deal with the five offerings.
- There was the burnt offering, the sin offering, the peace offering, the meat offering, and the trespass offering.
- In Chapter eight, there was the offering of consecrations.
- Israel and the priests were mandated to offer these six sacrifices all the time.
- They did this for 1,500 years.
- These offerings included the sin offering, trespass offering, meat offering (which involved bread, not meat), peace offering, and the offering of consecrations.
- All these offerings pointed to the sin offering that would be offered when Jesus was crucified.
- That was God's sin offering.
- All the offerings in the Old Testament typified the sin offering that was to come on Calvary.
- The entire Old Testament, all the things Israel did, as stated in 1 Corinthians 10, happened as examples for us.
- God used Israel to show the church what He wanted when the church was to come into existence.
- It was ordained of God for us to look back at what Israel did, learn from it, and apply it to how we should act in the New Testament.
- Everything Israel did was designed to point to what we were to do in the New Testament.
- All the offerings and feast days they observed and all the sacrifices were examples.
- When God gave them manna from heaven, it was called bread from heaven in the scriptures.
- They ate manna in the wilderness for forty years.
- Jesus said in the Gospel of John that Moses did not give them the true bread from heaven; He said, "I am the true bread from heaven."
- As they ate that manna, it typified the bread of heaven that was to come in the New Testament scriptures.
- Every time they ate that manna and made bread out of it, it pointed to the time when the true bread, Jesus, would come down from heaven.
- We are partaking of that bread right now because Jesus said in Matthew 4:4 and Luke 4:4 that man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.
- The bread they ate, which was manna, typified Jesus, the true bread from heaven.
- Now we are eating His word, which is the bread that came down from heaven.
- That is why God had them eat manna for forty years, to show that He would be the true bread from heaven.
- Once the New Testament church started, we would be feasting on the bread of heaven.

- The songwriter said, "Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more," referring to the Word of God.
 - Everything done in the Old Testament pointed to the time when God Himself would come and take on a body of flesh, be our substitute, and be the Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world.
 - Jesus came to take sin out of the world, and He is doing it one person at a time as people get baptized in Jesus' name and receive the Holy Ghost.
 - Eventually, He will eradicate sin completely out of this world.
 - This is one of the reasons He came in the flesh.
 - In Isaiah 53:10, it says, "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin."
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 - Jesus endured the wrath and anger of God because of the sinful state of man.
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- In verse 11 of Isaiah 53, it says, "He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied."
 - God had no pleasure in the death of the wicked, as stated in Ezekiel, but He did have pleasure in the death of Jesus.
 - The death of Jesus was the one death that satisfied God.
 - Jesus had to suffer until God was satisfied, making Him our propitiation.
 - Jesus had to be beaten, spit upon, stripped naked, and abused until God said, "That's enough."
 - This is how Jesus became the propitiation for our sins, enduring all this suffering to satisfy God's wrath.
 - The brutality Jesus endured was so severe that it shocked those who saw Him, as described in Isaiah 52:14.
 - Jesus' visage was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men.
 - God did not spare anything when it came to putting the sin of the world on Jesus.
 - Jesus was the only one who could endure this because He was God in flesh.
 - By His knowledge, Jesus justified many, as He had perfect knowledge of sin, holiness, righteousness, and the depth of human suffering.
 - Animal sacrifices were temporary because they lacked understanding of sin and righteousness, unlike Jesus.
 - Jesus' perfect knowledge made Him the perfect sacrifice, able to satisfy God's justice.
 - Jesus' death was precious in the sight of the Lord because it was the only death that fully satisfied God's judgment.

- God punished Jesus for the sins of the human race, and Jesus endured it until God said it was enough.
 - Jesus' crucifixion was so brutal that He lasted only six hours, unlike others who could last for days.
 - Isaiah 53:11 says, "By his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities."
 - Jesus bore our iniquities and satisfied God's wrath.
 - Hebrews 2:14 says, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same."
 - This verse shows that God became flesh and blood to destroy the power of death held by the devil.
 - God, who is Spirit and without blood, took on a body of flesh and blood to shed His blood for our redemption.
 - In Acts 20:28, Paul tells the elders to "feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."
 - God did not have blood, so He became flesh and blood to accomplish what He could not do as a Spirit.
 - The fullness of the Godhead dwelt in Jesus bodily, but this does not mean all of God was confined in that body.
 - Jesus was fully God and fully man at all times.
 - There are five reasons why God became a man, illustrated beautifully in the Book of Ruth.
 - The story of Ruth and Boaz shows the concept of a kinsman redeemer, which is a picture of how God became our near kinsman to redeem us.
 - In the custom of Israel, if a man died without having children, his nearest kin would marry the widow to raise up children in the deceased man's name.
 - This concept of the kinsman redeemer is reflected in how God took on human flesh to become our Redeemer.
 - Jesus' purpose was to destroy the power of death held by the devil and to redeem humanity.
 - The Book of Ruth illustrates the process of redemption, just as Jesus, our kinsman redeemer, redeemed us by His sacrifice.
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- Naomi didn't have any other sons, so once Naomi and Ruth went back home, it was realized there were two kinsmen.
 - One kinsman decided he did not want Naomi, so Boaz redeemed her.
 - Boaz could not redeem her unless he became a near kinsman.
 - We all needed to be redeemed because when Adam sinned, we were lost.
 - God became our near kinsman by taking on humanity to redeem us.
 - God purchased the church and redeemed us with His own blood.
 - The Book of Ruth is in the Bible to illustrate this redemption and because Ruth is the great-great-grandmother of King David.
 - Without Ruth and Boaz, there would be no David, Solomon, or Lord Jesus.
 - Ruth was a Gentile, highlighting that God's salvation would extend to the Gentiles.
 - God's church today consists mostly of Gentiles.
 - The Book of Ruth is a beautiful story that symbolizes God's plan to become our near kinsman and redeem us.

- God took on flesh and blood to redeem us with His own blood.
- There are five reasons why God became a man, known as the five works of the sonship.
- Bishop Samuel Nathan Hancock used to teach that Jesus was our Father and that Jehovah was His Father, but this idea was later refuted.
- Bishop Hancock had a significant influence, especially in Pentecostalizing Detroit.
- The five specific reasons why God became a man are as follows:
- Number one: Redemption.
- Number two: To be our mediator.
- Number three: To establish David's throne during the thousand years of peace.
- Number four: To destroy the works of the devil and put an end to death.
- Number five: To judge the living and the dead.
- These are the five works of the sonship that God intended to accomplish by becoming a man.
- The sonship had a beginning and will have an end once these five purposes are fulfilled.
- The concept of an eternal sonship, as taught by Trinitarians, is incorrect.
- The glorified body of Jesus will always be His body, but the sonship will end.
- Let's look at the first reason, Redemption, in Psalms 49:7-9.
- Psalms 49:7-9 says, "None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him: For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever: That he should still live for ever, and not see corruption."
- We could not save ourselves or each other because we were all born in sin.
- Paul said, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God," indicating that all humanity was in need of redemption.
- Some preachers like to say everybody's sinning, but that's not true. Not everyone is doing the same things.
- Just because something is popular, like getting a tattoo, doesn't mean everybody is doing it.
- I don't have any tattoos, and there is nothing that everybody is doing universally.
- I never thought I'd see the day where men would put earrings in their ears, which was an Egyptian practice.
- The Egyptians who did such things were eventually drowned in the sea by God.
- I've seen older men with earrings, and I think it must have hurt a lot to pierce their ears.
- People are now getting piercings everywhere, including their nose, tongue, and eyelids.
- I saw a movie where a man had a lip ring, and another person snatched it off, causing a lot of pain.
- It's surprising how people desecrate their own bodies.
- Someone asked a bishop's wife if it was okay to get tattoos, and she said yes because her children had them.
- She tried to justify it using Revelation where Jesus had a name written on His thigh, claiming it was a tattoo.
- The Bible says we shouldn't get tattoos because it's what the heathen did in devotion to their idol gods.
- No man could redeem his brother because we were all in sin and unqualified.
- Psalms 49:7-8 says, "None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him: For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever."
- The soul is eternal, and we are souls living in bodies.

- Paul prayed that our whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless.
- To make the rapture, we need to be blameless in our spirit, soul, and body.
- There are sins of the body (like fornication), sins of the spirit (which occur in the mind), and sins of the soul (when it ceases to long after God and gives itself to sin).
- We die because God takes the spirit of life out of the body, not because of physical injuries or heart attacks.
- The body without the spirit is dead, as stated in the Bible.
- Many preachers get confused at funerals because they haven't fully studied the subject of body, soul, and spirit.
- The spirit and the soul can sometimes mean the same thing in Scripture, but in other places, they are different.
- Misunderstanding this leads some preachers to say that departed loved ones have gone to heaven when it's really just the life or breath of their body that has returned to God.
- Understanding the difference between body, soul, and spirit is crucial to avoid confusion.

- When the spirit leaves the body, it goes back to God, the life-giver.
- An illustration is that when you see your breath in the cold, it dissipates into the air; similarly, the spirit returns to God.
- In Scripture, sometimes "spirit" refers to the soul, and other times it means something different.
- We are composed of three parts: body, soul, and spirit.
- When we die, the spirit leaves the body, causing the body to fall and eventually return to its original state.
- The soul, the eternal part of us, goes to sleep.
- During the rapture, tombstones won't turn over; the soul will rise.
- The soul is unseen, and you can't see a spirit unless it manifests in some form.
- Once created, the soul is eternal and will live forever.
- We must save our souls.
- The body will dissolve, and God will clothe us with a celestial body from heaven.
- Every soul will receive a body, even those cast into the lake of fire.
- Those in the lake of fire will have bodies that can endure the punishment and pain.
- Jehovah's Witnesses mistakenly believe that souls will disintegrate in the lake of fire, but Revelation states that torment will be eternal.
- In Revelation 20, the beast and false prophet are cast into the lake of fire for a thousand years, disproving instant disintegration.
- Scriptures fit perfectly when rightly divided.
- Ephesians chapter 1 explains how God became like us to redeem us.
- Ephesians 1:3-7 says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace."
- God chose us before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blame.

- He predestined us to be adopted as His children through Jesus Christ.
- We are accepted in the beloved and have redemption through His blood.
- Redemption means the forgiveness of sins, achieved through Jesus' blood.
- God had to become flesh and blood to redeem us because the Spirit has no blood.
- Redemption is achieved through baptism in Jesus' name for the remission of sins and receiving the Holy Ghost.
- Spiritual blessings include being chosen to be holy, predestined for adoption, and accepted in the beloved.
- Clairvoyance, or being a psychic, is not from God but from familiar spirits or the devil.
- The devil can imitate God's works but cannot raise the dead.
- Some people believe in astrology and other supernatural things that aren't from God.
- True knowledge of God comes from living right and understanding His word, not from astrology or psychic readings.