

# *“Christ Came To Us”*

Luke 19:10

August 13, 2017

## **INTRO:**      **Who is Jesus the Christ & why did He come?**

- Continuing our Miraculous Metamorphosis series...
- Entering a new phase & focus on Jesus...

*We were/are His mission*

*&*

*He is our Solution!*

– Disciples Path

- We’re getting to know Christ better **SO THAT** we can get to know ourselves & others better!

## **TEXT:**

<sup>9</sup> And Jesus said to him, *“Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham.*

***<sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man***  
***came to seek and to save the lost.”***

## **CONTEXT:**

**Review last week...** “As disciples, Christians are sent by Jesus to embody the good news of the gospel with both our words and our lives.” – Disciples Path

*“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the person, who proclaims peace, who brings news of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, **“Your God reigns!”** - Isaiah 52:7*

*“The voice of **your watchmen**—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for **eye to eye** they see the return of the LORD to Zion.” - Isaiah 52:8*

**T/S:** Let’s unpack today’s text...

***For the Son of Man***  
**came to seek and to save the lost.**

***For***

- “For” says “Get ready & stay focused!”
- “For” connects 2 thoughts via “cause & affect” (vs. conjunctions which merely connect related items – as in links in a chain)
- What follows is an expanded explanation of the prior point...
- “For” is akin to “since,” “because,” or “therefore”

**CONTEXT:**

a. Luke 18

- i. Parable of Persistent Widow
  - ii. The Pharisee & Tax Collector
  - iii. Let the Children Come to Me
  - iv. The Rich Young Ruler
  - v. Jesus Foretells His Death (3<sup>rd</sup> time)
  - vi. Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar
- b. Luke 19
  - i. Jesus and Zacchaeus (vv.1-**10**)
  - ii. Parable of the 10 Minas/Talents
  - iii. Christ's "Triumphal" Entry...
  - iv. Jesus Weeps Over Jerusalem
  - v. Jesus Cleanses the Temple
- c. Luke 20
  - i. Christ's Authority Challenged
  - ii. Parable of the Wicked Tenants
    1. They beat owner's servants
    2. They killed the owner's son

## ***the Son of Man***

New Testament designation for Jesus as God incarnate in flesh and agent of divine judgment. It occurs some 84 times in the Gospels, all but one being Jesus' self-description.

**The Old Testament** With the exception of Ezekiel and Daniel, the term *Son of man* appears in the Old Testament as a synonym for "man," "humankind" ([Isa. 56:2](#); [Jer. 50:40](#); [Pss. 8:4](#); [80:17](#); [146:3](#); [Job 25:6](#)).

In Ezekiel, God uses the term 90 times to address the prophet... The emphasis seems to be on the *humanity* of the prophet, a meaning which Christians also came to attach to the term when applied to Jesus.

The most distinctive Old Testament use of “Son of man” is in [Daniel 7:13](#). In one of his night visions, the prophet saw “one like a son of man” (NAS) come on the clouds of heaven to appear before the throne of God. He was given dominion over all peoples and an everlasting kingdom.

**The New Testament** The “Son of man” sayings of Jesus fall into three distinct types.

**1. Apocalyptic Sayings** The largest number of Son of man sayings deal with the final times when the Son of man will descend to earth to gather the elect and to judge.

The picture of the Son of man in these passages is strongly reminiscent of [Daniel 7:13](#) (quoted in [Matt. 24:30](#); [26:64](#); [Mark 13:26](#); [14:62](#); [Luke 21:27](#); [22:69](#)). The Son of man will come in glory with His angels and take His seat on His throne ([Matt. 25:31](#)). His coming will be sudden and unexpected ([Matt. 10:23](#); [16:28](#); [24:27](#), [38-39](#); [24:44](#); [Luke 17:22-27](#)). He will come as judge to condemn the unrighteous ([Matt. 13:41](#); [16:27](#); [John 5:27](#)) and to take as His own those who have faith and confess Him ([Luke 12:8](#); [18:8](#); [21:36](#)).

**2. Passion Sayings** The second largest group of Son of man sayings are connected with the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Three times Jesus predicted that the Son of man would be rejected and killed by the priests and scribes but would rise

on the third day ([Mark 8:31](#); [9:31](#); [10:33-34](#); [Luke 24:7](#)). Just like John the Baptist, the Son of man would be treated with contempt ([Mark 9:12-13](#); [Matt. 17:12-13](#)). He will be betrayed ([Matt. 26:24,45](#); [Luke 22:48](#)). Death would be followed by victory, the resurrection from the dead ([Matt. 17:9](#)).

**3. Sayings Connected with Jesus' Ministry** The third group of Son of man sayings is the most heterogeneous, but all refer to some aspect of Jesus' earthly ministry.

### *came to*

- **“Coming to” requires a “leaving from”**
  - See the Salvation component
  - See the Sanctification component
  - See the mMm (miracle, MESSIAH, mission)
  
- These words give **DEFINITION & PURPOSE** to their object's actions
  
- These words are a **DECLARATION...**

***“Came to” is a CLARIFICATION in DECLARATION of the Son of Man's PURPOSE & PRIORITY!*** - JDP

# So...

# So what? & Now what?

\*\*\* What have YOU “come to?” (open ended)

\*\*\* What have you “COME” to do? (action oriented)

\*\*\* What have you “come to” BE-come? (identity question)

## *seek*

- Note the intentionality of that word...
- Contrast “seek” with “bump into”
- Note the “shared” availability of that word...
  - We can join Jesus on this part of His journey
  - While we cannot do the next part... (save)

## *And*

- Note the conjunction...
- Do not put a period where God puts a comma!\

## *Save*

- See the intensity of that word...
- See the exclusivity of that word... (John 14:6)
- See the intentionality of that word... (Lk. 19:10)
- See the “umbrella” nature of that verse...

- Eternal & Transformative
  - Defining:
    - From sin & self
    - From liars to lovers
    - From darkness to light
    - From dead to alive!
    - From damnation to salvation!
- \*\*\* More to come in coming weeks...

### *the lost*

- Romans 3:23; 5:8; 6:23
- The Devil's children... OR... P.O.W.'s

### CLOSE:

### Our People: we ARE Acts 1:8 – AMEN!

- Maryland
- Vermont
- Uganda



- India



- China!
- Beyond.....

## Our Part:

- Live like Jesus!

**Remember: John 16:1-4**

***“I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. 2They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. 3And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. 4But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.*”**

- **John 20:21!!!**

**VIDEO:** *"I Wish I Could Bring You To Jesus"*

- **John 13:34-35**

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

- **I have come to testify to the truth!**

*Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—  
**to bear witness/testify to the truth.**  
Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."*

**BE My witnesses & Go make disciples!**

**VIDEO:** *Daniel & Alicia*



**One FAITH. One FAMILY. One FOCUS.**

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will BE My witnesses (locally, regionally, and globally).” – Acts 1:8*

**One Question:** *WHAT DO YOU WANT?*

**One Offer:** *COME AND SEE.*

**One Promise:** *TRUTH IN LOVE!*

**Our Truth-in-Love Distinctives: We are...**

1. Responding to grace & repenting of sin...
2. Trusting the Bible & obeying God's Word...
3. Growing in-Christ & living Spirit-led...
4. Praying for guidance & following by faith...
5. Dying to self & carrying our cross...
6. BE-ing the Church & loving one another...(*truly loving* one another)
7. Equipping the saints & exemplifying supernatural unity...
8. Ministering as ambassadors & discerning matters shrewdly...
9. Worshipping God vertically & experiencing Him horizontally...
10. Proclaiming the Gospel (*no matter what*) & fishing for men...
11. Making disciples-warriors & winning spiritual-warfare...
12. Loving our King & serving His kingdom!

## Our Prayer: (per GuidePosts)

“I Am” statements can be a great way to pray, particularly when your faith and hope need a boost.

We can always pray something like this:

- 1) Lord Jesus, you said, ***“I am the bread of life.”*** Your nature is to provide and sustain life as You did for crowds on Galilean hillsides. I pray for You to meet my need today.
- 2) You said, ***“I am the light of the world.”*** It is Your very nature to dispel darkness. Please light the path ahead of me and shine Your light on me.
- 3) You said, ***“I am the door of the sheep.”*** You protect and shelter those who depend on You. Let nothing come my way that You have not approved.
- 4) You said, ***“I am the good shepherd.”*** Your nature is to care and lead and guide. Please do that for me today.
- 5) You said, ***“I am the resurrection and the life.”*** You banish sadness and impart vitality and abundance. Please resurrect my hopes and enliven me today.
- 6) You said, ***“I am the way, the truth and the life.”*** Your very nature is to drive away confusion, distraction, error, doubt and death. Please banish those things from my heart, mind and spirit today.

7) You said, ***"I am the true vine."*** You impart Your divine beauty, grace and vitality to all those who abide in You. Help me to abide in You today and infuse me with Your nature.

## Our Passion:

- **Matthew 10:16 (mMm)**
- **He came to destroy the work of the devil!**

- **1 John 3:8b** (and 3:18!)

**Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil,**  
*for the devil has been sinning from the beginning.*

***The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.***

- **Beware the WOLVES!**
  - Wolves from within...
  - Wounded wolves...

- **Psalm 55:21**

***His speech was smooth as butter,  
yet war was in his heart;  
his words were softer than oil,  
yet they were drawn swords.***

- **Romans 16:17-18**

*I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.*

- **VIDEO:** *Monet's "Fight Song"*
- Live like Jesus!

## **Our Proof:**

- **VIDEO:** *John & Brenda's Baptisms*

# Let's PRAY!

## Prep NOTES

**Verse 9.** *Salvation is come to this house.* This family. They have this day received the blessings of the gospel, and become interested in the Messiah's kingdom. Salvation *commences* when men truly receive Christ and their sins are pardoned; it is *completed* when the soul is sanctified and received up into heaven.

*Forasmuch.* Because. For he has given evidence that he is a new man, and is disposed to forsake his sins and receive the gospel.

*The son of Abraham.* Hitherto, although a Jew, yet he has been a sinner, and a great sinner. He was not worthy to be called a son of Abraham. Now, by repentance, and by receiving the Christ whose day Abraham saw and was glad ([John 8:56](#)), he has shown himself to be worthy to be called his son. Abraham was an example of distinguished piety; the father of the faithful ([Romans 4:11](#)), as well as the ancestor of the Jews. They were called his sons who were descended from him, and particularly they who *resembled* him. In this place the phrase is used in both senses.

(\*) "son of Abraham" [Luke 13:16](#)

- Barnes' Notes on the New Testament.

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the Son of Man

- Jesus
- God
- Jesus, the Christ... God the Son

## SON OF MAN

New Testament designation for Jesus as God incarnate in flesh and agent of divine judgment. It occurs some 84 times in the Gospels, all but one being Jesus' self-description.

**The Old Testament** With the exception of Ezekiel and Daniel, the term *Son of man* appears in the Old Testament as a synonym for "man," "humankind" ([Isa. 56:2](#); [Jer. 50:40](#); [Pss. 8:4](#); [80:17](#); [146:3](#); [Job 25:6](#)).

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The most distinctive Old Testament use of “Son of man” is in [Daniel 7:13](#). In one of his night visions, the prophet saw “one like a son of man” (NAS) come on the clouds of heaven to appear before the throne of God. He was given dominion over all peoples and an everlasting kingdom.

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**2. *Apocalyptic Sayings*** The largest number of Son of man sayings deal with the final times when the Son of man will descend to earth to gather the elect and to judge. The picture of the Son of man in these passages is strongly reminiscent of [Daniel 7:13](#) (quoted in [Matt. 24:30](#); [26:64](#); [Mark 13:26](#); [14:62](#); [Luke 21:27](#); [22:69](#)). The Son of man will come in glory with His angels and take His seat on His throne ([Matt. 25:31](#)). His coming will be sudden and unexpected ([Matt. 10:23](#); [16:28](#); [24:27](#), [38-39](#); [24:44](#); [Luke 17:22-27](#)). He will come as judge to condemn the unrighteous ([Matt. 13:41](#); [16:27](#); [John 5:27](#)) and to take as His own those who have faith and confess Him ([Luke 12:8](#); [18:8](#); [21:36](#)).

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\*\*\* What have you “come to” BE-come? (identity question)

seek

and

save

the lost

Jesus had associated with tax collectors throughout His ministry, yet He never stopped receiving criticism for it. We might even wonder if the people who complained ([19:7](#)) included the apostles. **Jesus doesn't demand that Zacchaeus sell all his possessions to benefit the poor as He had the rich ruler ([18:18-23](#)), but Zacchaeus's response is voluntary and generous ([19:8](#)).** And regardless of the attitudes of others, Jesus celebrates the salvation of Zacchaeus ([19:9-10](#)).

Jesus explains to Zacchaeus that He has come to seek and save what is lost ([19:10](#)). **Jesus did not come to associate with the rich and powerful. He did not come to provide positions and power for the disciples. He came to save sinners,** people like Zacchaeus, the hated and evil tax collector. To do so, He had to associate with sinners. Thus, while it may offend the sensitivities and the social mores of His day, **Jesus would go where sinners were, so that the gospel could come to them and they could be saved.** If one's goal is to save sinners, then associating with sinners is simply a means to that goal.

**Jesus' climactic statement about seeking and saving the lost provides a beautiful summary of this whole Gospel—it is the lost (the outcast, the sinners, the Samaritans, etc.) He has come to save.**

***Those who recognize their need of salvation are being saved, while the self-righteous are losing out.***

## Critical Observation

When you compare Zacchaeus's story with the story of the blind man named Bartimaeus ([18:35-43](#)) you see an interesting picture of the tension that is maintained here between the sovereignty of God and the responsibility of humanity. The blind man called out to the Savior for mercy and received it. Zacchaeus did not call upon the Lord, but the Lord called to him. **The scriptures clearly teach that no one who truly comes to Jesus for mercy, on the basis of faith, will be turned away. The scriptures also teach that anyone who comes to Christ for salvation does not come on their own initiative, but is drawn by God.**

*Both of these perspectives are true. God seeks us, and we give ourselves to Him, and it all happens only through the faith that He enables in us.*

- Layman's Bible Commentary

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1. Ezekiel In Ezekiel, God uses the term 90 times to address the prophet. The exact nuance of this usage is widely debated. Is the emphasis on the humanity and frailty of the prophet? It is used, perhaps, as a title to distinguish him from other men. Or, it may reveal the prophet's sense of identity with his people. In any event, the emphasis seems to be on the

*humanity* of the prophet, a meaning which Christians also came to attach to the term when applied to Jesus.

2. Daniel The most distinctive Old Testament use of “Son of man” is in [Daniel 7:13](#). In one of his night visions, the prophet saw “one like a son of man” (NAS) come on the clouds of heaven to appear before the throne of God. He was given dominion over all peoples and an everlasting kingdom. Scholars are divided over whether the Son of man of Daniel’s vision should be seen as an angel, as the Messiah, or as all of Israel. (The latter conclusion is drawn from the fact that in [Dan. 7:27](#) the “saints of the most High” were granted dominion over an everlasting kingdom.) Later, Jewish interpretation of [Daniel 7:13](#), however, is at one in seeing the reference as messianic. This is true of the later apocalyptic writings such as Enoch and 2 Esdras as well as the rabbinic writings.

**The New Testament** The “Son of man” sayings of Jesus fall into three distinct types.

**1. Apocalyptic Sayings** The largest number of Son of man sayings deal with the final times when the Son of man will descend to earth to gather the elect and to judge. The picture of the Son of man in these passages is strongly reminiscent of [Daniel 7:13](#) (quoted in [Matt. 24:30](#); [26:64](#); [Mark 13:26](#); [14:62](#); [Luke 21:27](#); [22:69](#)). The Son of man will come in glory with His angels and take His seat on His throne ([Matt. 25:31](#)). His coming will be sudden and unexpected ([Matt. 10:23](#); [16:28](#); [24:27](#), [38-39](#); [24:44](#); [Luke 17:22-27](#)). He will come as judge to condemn the unrighteous ([Matt. 13:41](#); [16:27](#); [John 5:27](#)) and to take as His own those who have faith and confess Him ([Luke 12:8](#); [18:8](#); [21:36](#)). Faithful disciples are to join the Son of man in this judgment ([Matt. 19:28](#)), which perhaps reflects the dual role of the Son of man and saints of the Most High found in [Daniel 7:13,27](#). These sayings could be taken as referring to another than Jesus, but the Gospel writers unquestionably saw Jesus as referring to Himself and connected these events with His second coming.

**2. Passion Sayings** The second largest group of Son of man sayings are connected with the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Three times Jesus predicted that the Son of man would be rejected and killed by the

priests and scribes but would rise on the third day ([Mark 8:31](#); [9:31](#); [10:33-34](#); [Luke 24:7](#)). Just like John the Baptist, the Son of man would be treated with contempt ([Mark 9:12-13](#); [Matt. 17:12-13](#)). He will be betrayed ([Matt. 26:24,45](#); [Luke 22:48](#)). Death would be followed by victory, the resurrection from the dead ([Matt. 17:9](#)).

In his own way, John highlighted this dual emphasis on the humiliation of the cross and the glory of the resurrection. The Son of man is to be “lifted up” on the cross, but this “lifting up” is in reality His exaltation, leading to His ascension to the Father ([John 3:14](#); [8:28](#); [12:34](#)). As with a seed, death must first come for there to be new life, and thus Jesus’ death became His hour of greatest glory ([John 12:23-4](#); [13:31](#)).

Nothing in Jewish messianic expectation connected the Son of man with suffering and death. In the Old Testament, one finds that only with the Servant of [Isaiah 53](#). That connection is clearly made in this group of Son of man sayings, and it is explicitly made in [Mark 10:45](#) ([Matt. 20:28](#)). The Son of man, the messianic Judge of the final time, is also the Suffering Servant of God. That connection is unique to the teaching and ministry of Jesus.

**3. *Sayings Connected with Jesus’ Ministry*** The third group of Son of man sayings is the most heterogeneous, but all refer to some aspect of Jesus’ earthly ministry. Many could be understood in the sense of the Hebrew idiom—“a man, this man, I.” Yet, all have a deeper implication than any human I, for all point to some unique quality about Jesus’ ministry. Even in these sayings, “Son of man” should be seen as a title pointing to Jesus’ special role. He is the One who has authority to forgive sins ([Matt. 9:6](#); [Mark 2:10](#); [Luke 5:24](#)) and to interpret the meaning of the Sabbath ([Matt. 12:8](#); [Mark 2:28](#); [Luke 6:5](#)). In His preaching, He sowed the seed of God’s kingdom ([Matt. 13:37](#)), for He came to seek and to save the lost ([Luke 19:10](#)). Blessed is the disciple who suffers for His sake ([Luke 6:22](#)).

Some of these sayings reflect an incarnational emphasis. The Son of man in His earthly humiliation had no place to lay His head ([Matt. 8:20](#);

[Luke 9:58](#)). He was misunderstood and rejected ([Matt. 11:19](#); [Luke 7:34](#)), but such personal rejection is forgivable—it is only the rejection of the work of the Spirit that is beyond forgiveness ([Matt. 12:32](#); [Luke 12:10](#)). John’s Gospel especially highlights this incarnational emphasis. The Son of man is true flesh and blood. One must accept that humanity to find true life ([John 6:53](#)). The Son of man is also Son of God, the One who came from above, the Ladder which links all humanity with God ([John 1:51](#)).

**4. *The Rest of the New Testament*** “Son of man” occurs only four times in the New Testament outside the Gospels. All four reflect understandings of the title already found in the Gospels. In [Acts 7:56](#), Stephen beheld the ascended Son of man standing beside the throne of God to receive him. In [Revelation 1:13](#); [14:14-16](#), the Son of man appears as Judge. In [Hebrews 2:6](#), the reference to Son of man in [Psalm 8:4](#) which originally applied to humanity in general is specifically applied to Jesus as the unique Son of man and representative of humanity. In the context of [Hebrews 2](#), all the Gospel emphases on Son of man coalesce—a strong incarnational emphasis on His real flesh and blood, a vivid depiction of His representative suffering, and the note that by that suffering He acquires His glory and honor and leads many to glory.

**Conclusion** Why are there so few references to Son of man outside the Gospels? Perhaps it was not a familiar term in the Gentile churches to which most of the New Testament writings were addressed. In any event, the significance of the term was not lost, for *the New Testament writers all attest to the profound teachings which this term embodies—the true humanity of the Word made flesh, the necessity of His suffering and death for salvation, the glory of His reign over an everlasting kingdom, and His final coming to judge the just and the unjust.*

- Dr. John Polhill,  
Holman Bible Dictionary.

# 15 Biblical Reasons for Christ's Incarnation

1. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15, "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."

2. Jesus Christ came into the world to call sinners to repentance.

Mark 2:17, "When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

3. Jesus Christ came into the world to seek and save the lost.

Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

4. Jesus came into the world to demonstrate the true purpose of life and give Himself a ransom.

Matthew 20:28, "Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

5. Jesus Christ came into the world to be a King and bear witness to the truth.

John 18:37, "Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice."

6. Jesus Christ came into the world to do the Will of His Father.

John 6:38, "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."

7. Jesus Christ came into the world to be a Light in the world.

John 12:46, "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness."

8. Jesus Christ came into the world that men might have the Abundant Life.

John 10:10, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

9. Jesus Christ came into the world to Judge the world.

John 9:39, "And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind."

10. Jesus Christ came into the world to Proclaim or preach the Good News about the Kingdom of God.

Mark 1:38, "And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth."

11. Jesus Christ came into the world to die on the cross.

John 12:27, "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour."

12. Jesus Christ came into the world to fulfil the law.

Matthew 5:17, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil."

13. Jesus Christ came into the world to be a Divider of men.

Matthew 10:34, 35, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law."

(Christ makes it necessary to choose between relatives and the truth. This choice often causes division.)

14. Jesus Christ came into the world as a demonstration of God's Love.

1 John 4:10, "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

15. Jesus Christ came into the world because the Father sent Him.

John 20:21, "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

a. The Father SENT Jesus to be the Propitiation (atonement) for our sins.

1 John 4:10, "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

b. The Father SENT Jesus and gave Jesus as the Saviour of the world.

John 3:16-18, "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. He that believeth 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."

c. The Father SENT Jesus to bless us by turning us from our iniquities.

Acts 3:26, "Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities."

d. The Father SENT His Son to redeem us from the curse of the law.

Galatians 4:4-5, "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

e. God SENT His Son to make possible a new power in the hearts of men, a power to enable him to fulfil the righteousness of the law.

Romans 8:3,4, "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin,

condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

**Question: "What was Jesus' mission? Why did Jesus come?"**

**Answer:** Several times in Jesus' life, He shows that He was a man on a mission. He had a purpose, which He intentionally fulfilled. Even at a young age, Jesus knew that He "must be about [His] Father's business" (Luke 2:49, KJV). In the last days of His earthly life, Jesus "resolutely set out for Jerusalem," where He knew He would be killed (Luke 9:51). **It could be said that the fundamental mission of Christ's time on earth was to fulfill God's plan of saving the lost.**

Jesus put it this way in Luke 19:10: "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Jesus had just been criticized for going to the house of a "sinner." Jesus responded by affirming His mission was to save people who needed saving. Their reputation for sinfulness was not a reason to avoid them; rather, it was a reason to seek them out. Many times during Christ's ministry, He sought to forgive those whom the self-righteous leaders of the day shunned. He sought out and saved the woman at the well and the Samaritans of her town (John 4:39–41), the sinful woman with the alabaster jar (Luke 7:37), and even one of His own disciples, Matthew, who had been a tax collector (Matthew 9:9).

In Matthew 9, once again Jesus was criticized for "eating with tax collectors and sinners" (verse 11), and once again Jesus responded by stating His mission: "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners" (verse 13). Jesus' goal was to save. It was a goal that He reached: "I have brought you glory on earth by

finishing the work you gave me to do” (John 17:4).

All through the Gospels, we see Jesus call to repentance and forgive the worst of sinners. No one is too sinful to come to Him. In fact, He goes after those who are lost, as the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin show (Luke 15:1–10). In the story of the prodigal son, Jesus teaches that God will always welcome with open arms those who come to Him with a repentant heart (Luke 15:21–22; cf. Isaiah 57:15). Even today, Jesus continues to seek and save those who humbly place their faith in Him (Matthew 11:29; 18:3–4; Revelation 3:20).

**Recommended Resource:** Jesus: The Greatest Life of All by Charles Swindoll

## The TOP 10 Reasons Jesus Christ Came into the World?



Many times we study the Bible and only see one perspective, because that is where our focus is. Our minds, our preconceived thoughts and prejudices can

cause us to miss what the Bible actually says. People's Bible study approach is very much like my approach to proof reading my blogs. Many times I type what I think I should say, but when I go back and reread it a few days later, it turns out what I typed was not actually what I had originally intended. Also, many times my typing errors are missed, because I read what I thought I typed and not what it actually says. All this does is prove that people can look right at the words written on a page and still not ever tell what they exactly said or meant. Students in school prove this everyday with their textbooks. This is why I believe that many times people do not see what the Bible actually says either. They see what they think it says and ignore what it actually says and they end up missing what God wanted to teach them in the first place..

I have already blogged on the fact that Jesus Christ was God in the flesh. God purposely becoming a man can cause many people to stumble. The Creator becoming a part of His creation, that just boggles many people's minds. However, God did this and you either have to accept it or choose to reject it by your own freewill. Today I want to discuss some of the top reasons that I have found, why God did this. What does God and the Bible say, were the top reasons for God's personal appearance on this planet? If you think it was just for one reason, you would be greatly mistaken. God rarely does only one thing at a time for a single threaded purpose or plan. God is a highly complex and intelligent being that can accomplish many things with one simple act. We just have to be smart enough to read and find out what these were and then why God said that He came to visit us. While I do not profess to know every reason I will give at least 10 of the top reasons that I have discovered from the Bible.

## **1. To Die**



I believe the number one reason why Jesus came to the earth and was born a human man, was so that he could die. Did you know that it is impossible to kill God? God is a supreme spiritual power and it is impossible to eliminate God from existence. But, that does not mean that God as a man could not die a normal physical death. It is pretty obvious that Jesus proved that after hanging on the cross. When Jesus said it is finished, He fulfilled His number 1 purpose for coming into the world. His death accomplished more than you can imagine right now, but read this verse:

**Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of Jesus, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.**

Jesus Christ was born a human male on the earth so that he could taste death for all of us. The Bible says that it is appointed unto every man, once to die ([Heb 9:27](#)). In becoming a man we can clearly see that God did not intend for Jesus the man to live on the earth forever or to set up a natural kingdom or rule in this dimension of time. God specifically came to the earth in a very temporary capacity, on purpose with the set goal to die after 33 years of being present as a man. Death is also a separating force that terminates covenants. You can learn this by reading the words of Ruth, when she says “Until death separates me from thee”. If God wants to die on the earth, you can conclude that He wants to end whatever covenants that He was previously tied to. I know that is not a popular teaching, but it is a logical deduction based upon the facts established in the Bible. You do realize that the

living mortal man Jesus of Nazareth did not establish a New Covenant with anyone while He was here in His mortal physical state? You see the New Covenant was implemented by the risen from the dead Jesus Christ. The Risen Jesus is now an immortal and omnipotent spiritual being and only He can implement a new eternal covenant that never existed before. This is a fact that you rarely hear taught in church. Jesus Christ is the first born from the dead and the heir of everything ([Heb 1:2](#)). What is an heir? An Heir is only someone who inherits what someone who died has left. Uh oh? Who died? What was left? Who are the heirs? You see why the Bible is so difficult to understand for most people? The Bible is more complex than most understand.

## 2. To Save Sinners



I believe the number two reason Jesus came to this planet in a physical form was so that He could save us. We of course are like everyone else and we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God ([Rom 3:23](#)). Even though we are not really worthy of salvation, God chose to save us anyway. I have heard many people in the world say we just want what we are deserved. In other words in their minds the government owes them something and they deserve to get it all just because they belong in this country. That is an attitude that is based upon pride and error. You do not want what you are deserved, you are far better off asking for mercy.

**1Ti 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.**

Sin was a separating force from the righteousness of God. God had to do something with the sin problem of man, if we ever were to have any hope. God does this by becoming the Lamb that takes away the sin of the world ([John 1:29](#)). God's own personal blood was shed to pay the price for our sin. The Bible says without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin ([Heb 9:22](#)). It also goes on to say that the blood of natural bulls and goats cannot take away the sins of the world. So it required a higher price and only the blood of God Himself could satisfy this price.

### 3. To Save That Which Was Lost



This reason I will probably not be able to elaborate on fully in this lesson. Many will read this next verse that I give and think that it is talking about the previous reason, but I do not personally think that is what Jesus was talking about. Jesus did tell us that He was sent to the lost sheep of the House of Israel ([Mat 15:24](#)). So we do understand that people are spoken of in the Bible as being lost. What I think is that it was more than that, which Jesus was talking about in this next verse.

**Luk 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.**

Did you notice that this verse does not say, “Those Who Were Lost”? Why is that important? Why is that necessary to see? What was lost? What must be saved? Many just think we the people were what was lost and that is the only thing that God came here to save. That of course is a very narrow minded focus on what God is capable of doing. Let me answer these questions by asking you a question. Why is it necessary for God

to create a new heaven and a new earth? You should really give that some serious thought before you try to answer that question. Could it be that is what was lost? I only buy a new car because something happened to my old car, either a wreck, or just old age and it died. Some people trade cars like they buy new underwear or socks, but God is not this way. You have to realize that there is a major problem with the old, if God implements a new anything. I mean think about it, can't God ever create anything that lasts? Is He not God? It would appear that something happens to the old heaven and the old earth that causes God to create a new physical and spiritual realm. So I do not deny that people are also lost. In 2nd Corinthians 4:3 it says "If our gospel is hid, it is hid to them that are lost". But, this word can mean "destroyed" or "perishing". So while you could say people are lost, you actually find this statement:

**Col 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.**

You see you can find more scriptures about people having been reconciled back to God in the New Testament than you can find scriptures that speak about people being lost.

**Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.**

So the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ's death is that we have been reconciled back in right relationship with God. I think I will leave the rest of this discussion to a future lesson on the subject.

#### **4. For The Resurrection of the Dead**



God told Adam, not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and said that in the day that you do, you will surely die. That of course represents the poor choice that Adam made that perpetuated death upon the entire human race. Death ruled man, man feared death, death is an enemy to man and God came to solve the problem of death. Here is a scripture verse that helps us to see this:

**1Co 15:21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.**

Jesus Christ is called the “Last Adam” and because the first Adam brought death into the world, Jesus was able to come as a second man to end death’s domination over us. You see death was a separating force that kept us from God because of Sin. Adam sinned and sold himself into the bondage of sin and Christ came and paid the cost for our redemption with His blood. It is an awesome work of God that He has accomplished. The immortal God becomes mortal and dies so that the mortal men and women in the world can become immortal and live with Him forever. It’s all a part of God’s great exchange offer. Exchange your life for His life and you become the winner!

## **5. To Undo the Works of the Devil**



I hope that you do understand who the devil is? I hope you also understand that Satan is not on God's payroll and does not work for God. You see God has the power to tell Satan what to do, but yet is this the way God is? Is God pulling all of the strings in heaven and causing everything in the world to happen exactly like He wants it to happen? You see I do not think so. You do understand that the Sovereign God is able to give man "freewill" by His choice and design? If you do not understand that man has a "freewill" you do not understand that it was you that chose to get out of bed this morning and not God. If you think that God controls what you do every day, then you need to come to understand the Bible with greater clarity. Let's keep going and look at what the Bible says about Satan:

**Heb 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;**

**1Jn 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.**

Both of these verses speak of God attempting to "destroy" the devil or the works of the devil. Why would this be necessary, if God is in control of the devil already? You see the problem that some seminaries teach, don't you? The term "destroy" does not mean to obliterate into non-existence as you would think it does. It means to "loosen", "dissolve", "undo" or "reverse"

the actions of the devil. In other words Jesus came to undo the consequences of something that Satan directly caused. I hope you understand the concept of “cause” and “effect” found within the physical sciences. I think I first learned this concept in a High School Physics class, that every effect that we can observe always has a root cause. For example, when you see waves in a pond, you can deduce that something was thrown into the pond to cause the waves. It is not a hard concept to grasp. What you have to ask yourself is what were the effects of Satan’s work that God had to come personally to reverse? This is a tough question to answer in this lesson, so we will continue on.

## 6. Jesus Came and Died, So that the Holy Spirit Could Come In and Abide



This is a simple truth, but yet very important to understand. Without Jesus’ death we would not have the Holy Spirit living on the inside of us today. Of course the Holy Spirit is only in those who have received Him and not in everyone. God does not force His entrance into the spirits of anyone. Here is a verse of scripture that tells us something that Jesus said to us personally:

**Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;**

Jesus said in Revelation 3:20, “Behold I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice and will open the door, I will come in a sup with him”. So Jesus said I will come inside, if you open the door to your house and let me in. This is a symbolic representation of the heart of man. The comforter

residing on the inside is a benefit, that nobody possessed before Christ died. Jesus told us that it was better that he go away so that he could send us the Comforter ([John 16:7](#)). While Jesus was here in the flesh, that would have been really cool to see. However, Jesus clearly tells us that it is better the way we have it now than the physical Jesus when He was here. You see a physical Jesus was the manifestation of the omnipotent God of Creation with limitations. Jesus could only talk to a limited number of people at a time. Jesus could only say one thing to everyone at the same time. Jesus had to eat, sleep and do other business, just like we do every day. Jesus was God with severe limitations and restrictions. If you do not understand that statement, I'm sorry I do not have time to explain it. Now that every Christian has God on a personal internal level, they have a teacher, the guide, the comforter and a true friend on the inside that can speak to everyone independently and say something different to each of us at the same time. That is the benefit of the Holy Spirit over the physical Jesus.

## 7. To Fulfill the Law



Jesus made several statements about the law that are very profound. One of them was that heaven and earth would pass away but the law (God's Word) would never pass away ([Luke 21:33](#)). This would indicate that the Word of God is something that is eternal. What does it mean to fulfill something said? I believe that it means to perform that which was spoken.

**Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

God's words are prophetic and contain information about coming events. God tells us that the "End is declared from the Beginning" ([Isa 46:10](#)). God therefore knows the outcome even before He started. God always recorded the outcome in the Bible for us to see before it actually happens on our timeline. Before God did anything, God spoke and then it happens. Jesus spoke repeatedly about the words of the prophets being fulfilled while they were walking about. Jesus declared that everything written about him would be fulfilled. We can therefore logically conclude that Jesus came to fulfill the Words of God that were prophesied about him.

**Luk 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.**

As you can see the Old Testament Law of Moses is said to be words that describe Jesus and what He will do and accomplish. These are very important things to note.

## 8. To Reveal the Hidden Wisdom and Words of God



The Natural Nation of Israel and the Natural Jews have held the Words of God for thousands of years and yet they still do not understand what they say. Jesus tried to teach as many who would hear the truth, but not very many people actually grasped the truth. What you must realize is that the Bible was written in a manner that concealed information making it difficult for natural men to understand. I believe that

Jesus came to give us understanding and teach us the truth. Now that Jesus is raised from the dead, I believe this understanding has been made available to us by the work of the Holy Spirit within us.

**Mat 13:35 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.**

God has recorded many of the hidden wisdoms of God in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Jesus came and taught about natural things in the form of parables that revealed vastly profound spiritual truths, yet most of the listeners did not understand them.

**Luk 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.**

You can go into many of the verses in the New Testament and see what Jesus revealed to His disciples. Jesus went through the Old Testament starting with Genesis and showed these followers that He was written about on almost every page. All of this was secrets hidden from the plain view of man. I call this hiding the truth in plain sight. God used many techniques to disguise the truth, but yet it was right there for us to see. Did you know the term “mystery” only occurs in the New Testament? While God wrote the mysteries in the Old Testament, God did not specifically tell anyone that they were there. Jesus came along and read the scriptures and could see and understand the hidden secrets in the Word of God, since the Author of the Word was inside of Him. Jesus took these secrets and opened them up for people to see and after He was raised from the dead the disciples finally got it.

## **9. To Build a New Spiritual City**

# 9

Jesus Christ became the chief cornerstone to a new spiritual City of God, called the New Jerusalem. This spiritual city reflects a new beginning, with a spiritual people who are called those who are righteous in the eyes of God. This organized spiritual structure is a new spiritual family of God and many of the old family members of God's previous family have been omitted. That is not very good news for them. **Heb 11:10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.**

You see even as Solomon built God a temple in Jerusalem as a type and pattern for the future spiritual work of the One that is greater than Solomon, Jesus came to the earth to become the builder of a new name of God. As the Son of God, a son's responsibility is to marry and carry on the family name.

**1Pe 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.**

God tells us very clearly that each of us in the church is a "Living Stone" in a "Spritual House". Do you understand this type of building project? Probably not, but yet God is using natural things to describe a spiritual structure made up of people. This new spiritual house is the Bride of Christ, called the New Jerusalem in Revelation. If you want to learn more about that you can go and read my blog on that subject, "[The Bride of Christ Revealed](#)".

10. To Divide



Here is my reason number 10 for the coming of Jesus Christ into the world. This is of course a controversial reason for the coming of Jesus Christ, because it is not widely taught nor understood by many. As you read this statement that Jesus makes, it would appear to contradict what the Bible says in other places. Let's just read and see what Jesus said personally about coming to the earth:

**Luk 12:51 *Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division:***

Jesus is called the Prince of Peace ([Isa 9:6](#)), yet here in Luke Jesus said this is not why I am here. That is a pretty radical statement being made by the Son of God. God says I came to divide the earth and not to bring peace on the earth. What is God talking about? If you have read my other blogs you may already know the answer, but I will tell you again briefly. On the 4th day of creation God divides Day from Night and gives the Sun to Rule the Day and the Moon to Rule the Night. The Night is a 12 hour period of darkness, the Day is a 12 hour period of Light. These two separate divisions are symbolic representations for what Jesus is talking about in this verse in Luke. Jesus is called the "Sun of Righteousness" ([Mal 4:2](#)). Jesus is called the "Light of the World" ([Jo 8:12](#)). Jesus is called the "True Light" ([Jo 1:9](#)). Jesus is called the "Day Star" ([2 Peter 1:19](#)). Jesus is called the "Bright and Morning Star" ([Rev 22:16](#)). All of these are synonymous terms for the Sun that produces light on our planet. Jesus came into the world as the spiritual Light of the World and His Word causes illumination in the hearts of men and women so that they no longer live in darkness. Being children of the light and children of the day, we are the ones that have been divided from those that remain in the darkness ([1 Th 5:5](#)). All of this is a division

that is taking place in the spiritual realm. God is dividing those who belong to Christ from those who belong to Satan. The end result is said to be completely different for both of these groups.

***Mat 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.***

Jesus speaks of two divisions of people in this one basic statement. Those that are righteous go to a realm of life everlasting, and those that are unrighteous to everlasting punishment. Two different results, two different people, two different divisions. This was one of the key reasons Jesus came to the earth and God declares it. You can choose to believe it or reject it.

### **See beautiful BRIDGE contextualization:**

- Matthew 28:18-20: Acts 1:8 & 2:41-47
  - DiscipleTrip
  - Dedicated...
  - Fellowship... (koinonia)
  - Together... (homothoomadon – for His glory)
  - Local, Regional, Global: (see pictures)
    - LOCAL
      - GoodNewsInStevensville
      - GoodNewsInSt.J
    - REGIONAL
      - GoodNewsInNEK
    - GLOBAL
      - GoodNewsInKampala
      - India seminary connection (pic)
      - Sarah... with MD family IN VT family!

"Jesus came to" statements are invaluable for Christians who want to walk like Christ. - JDP

- Jesus came to seek & save that which is lost.
- I (Jesus) came to testify to the truth.
- ...that they may have life, life to the full
- 1 John 3:8b... "He came to destroy the work of the devil..."
  - \*\*\* Romans 16:17ff
  - \*\*\* Psalms... smooth as butter...
- He came to drink the cup...
- He came to finish DEATH!
- To give us His full armor!
- He called & made disciples (i.e. FOLLOW Me!)
- to endure the cross (Hebrews 12:1-2)
- to relieve the weak & heavy laden
- 7 I Am statements (unique to Christ)
- Duet 20:1-4... to fight for His people

- John 16:1

Mt. 10:16 & Jn. 20:21 are BOTH missional & Messianic!

## Praying the 7 I Am Statements of Jesus (per GuidePost)

To some people, “Iams” is just a brand name for pet food. For others, it is a powerful and inspiring way to pray.

One of the unique features of the fourth Gospel, written by John (the beloved disciple) a few decades after the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, is its singular structure, which is more thematic than chronological. And part of that structure is the inclusion of seven striking statements Jesus made, which have come to be called “The Seven I Ams.”

The first occurs in John 6:35, soon after Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of 5000 with a few loaves and fishes. He said:

***“I am the bread of life.*** *Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”* (John 6:35, NIV)

It was the first of seven metaphors Jesus used to portray his divine nature and redemptive mission. And those “I Am” statements can be a great way to pray, particularly when your faith and hope need a boost.

For example, you may make a list of the seven “I Ams” and pray something like this:

- 1) Lord Jesus, you said, *“I am the bread of life.”* Your nature is to provide and sustain life as You did for crowds on Galilean hillsides. I pray for You to meet my need today.
- 2) You said, *“I am the light of the world.”* It is Your very nature to dispel darkness. Please light the path ahead of me and shine Your light on me.

- 3) You said, "*I am the door of the sheep.*" You protect and shelter those who depend on You. Let nothing come my way that You have not approved.
- 4) You said, "*I am the good shepherd.*" Your nature is to care and lead and guide. Please do that for me today.
- 5) You said, "*I am the resurrection and the life.*" You banish sadness and impart vitality and abundance. Please resurrect my hopes and enliven me today.
- 6) You said, "*I am the way, the truth and the life.*" Your very nature is to drive away confusion, distraction, error, doubt and death. Please banish those things from my heart, mind and spirit today.
- 7) You said, "*I am the true vine.*" You impart Your divine beauty, grace and vitality to all those who abide in You. Help me to abide in You today and infuse me with Your nature.

Those prayers are offered as a mere example, of course. Yours will be more specific to your situation and need. And you may find, as I do, that the "I Ams" are so rich and meaningful that you can pray them every day for a week and never pray the same way twice.

Give it a try. It is a great way to connect your praying to the beauty, power and wealth of Jesus Himself.