



# Who is Jesus

A DEVOTIONAL STUDY ON  
THE NAMES OF JESUS

BY KRIS COX

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***Who is Jesus?***  
***A Devotional Study of the Names of Jesus***

***Written by Kris M. Cox***

**Psalm 135:13 "Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages."**

**This devotional is perfect for reading during Advent or Lent to help you keep your focus on Jesus during these holidays.**

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## Jesus is Called "Immanuel"

**Matthew 1:22-23**

***"And this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel' (which means 'God with us')."***

That Jesus would be born of a virgin and be called Immanuel was prophesied in Isaiah 7:14: *"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel".*

It's amazing that a prophet living hundreds of years earlier could predict this exact occurrence.

But don't miss the meaning of Immanuel -- **GOD** with us! He is GOD Himself. God loves us so much that He came and lived among us. He experienced what we experience in this life. He showed us who He is by living among us. Not only that, but He also died a terrible death so that he could pay the penalty for our sins and restore our relationship with God. Only a loving God would do all that.

Immanuel, God with us also reminds us that the Holy Spirit lives in us when we trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. We have Him as our Counselor. He gives us strength and direction. He is God with us!

Let's focus on JESUS and share His love with others so they can know Him as well. Take time to meditate on the fact that God lives among us and in YOU... Immanuel, God with us.

*Lord Jesus, forgive us for how we've changed the focus of this celebration of Your birth into something entirely different. Help me to focus on You this Christmas season, to learn who You really are and to grow in my love for You. Thank You for coming to live among us, Lord God. Your loving kindness amazes me, that You would sacrifice so much just to draw us back to You. Thank You, Jesus. I love You and pray that You will help me to love You more and more.*

## **Jesus is Called "Wonderful Counselor"**

***Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born and to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor..."***

The Bible dictionary defines "wonderful" as marvelous and extraordinary. And "Counselor" is defined as one who gives counsel, advice, purpose, and plan.

Jesus is our marvelous, extraordinary counselor and advisor! He wants us to come to Him to learn what our purpose is and what His plan is for our lives. I believe He wants us to come to Him with all our concerns, no matter how small. He loves us and cares about the details of our lives, and He knows what is best. When we seek Him for guidance, He is faithful! He is marvelous and extraordinary! He wants to give us counsel and advice; and as we seek Him, He will do so. I have seen it happen over and over. After praying, He puts a thought in my head that must be from Him. Or He speaks through His word or through another person in my life to clearly show me the best way to go.

Seek Him and trust Him as your Wonderful Counselor each day. Encourage others who are struggling. Pray with them when they bring a concern to you. Tell others how God answers your prayers for guidance so they can see that He does hear and answer. May God show you how much He loves you as you seek Him for guidance.

*Lord, you are my Wonderful Counselor. I am so grateful that You love me enough to hear all my concerns, big and little, and that You truly do hear and answer. Help me to remember to come to You with all my problems and to seek You for guidance in all my decisions. Help me to teach my children to seek You for guidance as well. Thank You, Jesus.*

## **Jesus is Called "Mighty God"**

***Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born and to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God ..."***

Jesus is also called "Mighty God." The word "might" is defined as strong, showing superior strength; exceptional. With this name for Jesus, we're again reminded that He is God Himself. He is the one and only true God of the universe, the Creator, and the author of life. He is strong. In fact, He has superior and exception strength and power. His might and power are beyond my understanding. I want to know His amazing power and might. The Lord is our Creator, and when I look at a mountain or the ocean, I'm in awe of how grand it is and how amazing it is that He created it.

Consider the many miracles that you read about in the Bible. Jesus healed the sick, caste out demons, and walked on water. He calmed a storm, more than once!

Think back on how He has worked in your life... where did you see Him answer your prayers or intervene to help you when you needed it? Sometimes it might seem like He doesn't answer our prayers; but if we look back, we often can see that He knew better than we did. He DID answer, just not as we had expected. We serve a Mighty God! Meditate on this today. He is the All-Powerful One.

*Jesus, Almighty God, I praise You. You are the only One worthy of my praise. Help me to understand Your great and mighty power. Help me to remember that You are the Almighty God, my Creator. I humbly come before You, Lord, and pray that You will forgive me for my pride. Forgive me for not coming to You as humbly as I ought to at times. I am unworthy, and yet You've made a way for me to still come to You. Thank You, Jesus.*

## **Jesus is Called "Everlasting Father"**

***Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born and to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father ..."***

I'm hoping we will be able to memorize this verse after these few days of focusing on it! Jesus is called the Everlasting Father. Some translations state it as "eternal." It means that His existence is continuous—and never-ending. He existed before time began and will live forever.

"Father" has many meanings: head of a family, producer, benevolent, protector, a term of respect and honor, and a ruler or chief. Jesus is our eternal, forever Father.

The name Father can bring endearing thoughts for many; but for some whose earthly fathers have not been all they should be, it might bring negative thoughts. We need to realize that our earthly fathers are human, and they make mistakes. They are not the same as our perfect and everlasting, heavenly Father, who is God. Jesus, the everlasting Father, has been our benevolent protector.

He did the ultimate thing-- He gave His life for us, that we might live with God forever. He is a Father who we can trust, and who we can rely on. Talk with your children about how Jesus is our Everlasting Father and what that really means. Our earthly fathers may make mistakes at times, but Jesus does not. He is faithful.

*Jesus, Everlasting Father, thank You for being so faithful. You are my protector and leader. Help me to know You better as my Father, my Lord. Help me to trust You completely, to surrender to Your leadership in my life. I love You, Lord. I know I can trust You to lead me faithfully. Help me to show others how to know You as their Lord and Everlasting Father.*

## **Jesus is Called "Prince of Peace"**

***Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."***

This is one of my favorite names for Jesus. I struggle with worry. I know I shouldn't. But it creeps in unexpectedly almost every day. Jesus is our Prince of Peace. Let's look at what that means.

The title "Prince" means ruler, leader, chief, or chieftain. "Peace" has many meanings: completeness, safety, health, quiet, tranquility, contentment, friendship, and peace with God in a covenant relationship. Jesus is our leader and our ruler. He brings us completeness. He brings us safety, health, quiet, tranquility and contentment.

Most importantly, He brings us peace with God by accepting the punishment for our sins. In Jesus, we have a covenant relationship. We can rest in Him, and He brings us peace like nothing we've ever experienced. He wants us to trust Him, and He will give us peace when we feel unsettled about something.

*Philippians 4:6-7 says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

Jesus brings peace when we seek Him. Give Him your concerns, and He will give you rest from your worries. Teach your children to bring their concerns to Him also-- to pray about everything. Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and He wants you to trust Him.

*Jesus, Prince of Peace, thank You for allowing me to bring all my concerns to You. You hear me and bring me peace. I pray that You will help me to trust You more. I pray that I can teach my children to trust You and that we can all learn that Your peace surpasses all understanding. You are faithful, and I can trust You.*

## **Jesus is Called "Faithful and True"**

***Revelations 19:11 "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice He judges and wages war."***

In the book of Revelation, we see more of who Jesus is. If you have time, read the whole chapter of Revelations 19. Take time to worship the Lord as they did in this chapter. Jesus is faithful-- One who is worthy of trust, who can be relied upon.

Jesus is also called "True." He is real, sincere, and genuine. He is the opposite of imperfect, defective, and imaginary. Jesus is worthy of our trust, for He is real, sincere, and genuine. We can rely on Him completely. Meditate on these names for Jesus.

Do you have things that are weighing heavy on your mind and heart? You can bring them to Jesus. He is faithful and will always help us in our times of need.

*I Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you."*

We follow a Faithful and True Lord, and He wants us to come to Him because He cares for us. People may fail us, but Jesus never will.

*Lord Jesus, I praise You because You are faithful and true. I know that I can trust in You and rely on You. I entrust my children and my family to You, Lord Jesus.*

*Please do Your work in us to make us into the godly family that You are calling us to be. Help us to teach our children to trust in You also, Lord. I pray that we can each comprehend Your faithfulness and the truth of who You are, Lord Jesus.*



## **Jesus is Called the "Word of God"**

***Revelations 19:11-13 "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice, He judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on His head, are many crowns. He has a name written on Him that no one knows but He Himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is the Word of God."***

***John 1:1-5 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."***

Jesus is the Word of God to us. God reveals Himself to us through Jesus. To know God, we need to know Jesus.

Picture Him riding on that white horse, faithful and true, with eyes that are blazing fire and with many crowns on his head. His robe was dipped in blood. That's not something we see every day! Revelation goes on to say that there are armies of heaven following him and riding on white horses, all dressed in white.

White symbolizes heavenly beings and purity. In verse 15 of Revelations 19, it talks about a sharp sword coming out of His mouth with which to strike down the nations. It says He will rule them with an iron scepter. He is God, He is Lord. In John, we see that as well. He is our Creator. He is the Light of the world. Yet He came to this earth so we could know God, to restore our relationship with the living God. He sacrificed so much for you and for me. Take some time to read through the book of John and get to know Jesus better. As you do, you will get to know God better too.

*Jesus, I praise You as the Word of God. Lord, this is a hard concept for me to understand. Help me to understand and to know You better. Show me who You are, Lord Jesus. I humbly come to You and ask for your Spirit to work in me, drawing me to You. Help me to teach my children to reverence You and to know You as the Lord, the Word of God.*

## **Jesus is Called "King of Kings, Lord of Lords"**

***Revelations 19:11-13 "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice, He judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on His head are many crowns. He has a name written on Him that no one knows but He Himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following Him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Coming out of His mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. 'He will rule them with an iron scepter.' He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On His robe and on His thigh, He has this name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords."***

Jesus is the King of Kings, and the Lord of Lords. A king is a leader of the people, prince, commander, and lord of the land. To be the King of Kings means that He is the leader of all kings, or all those in authority. He is the ultimate authority.

Imagine how you would feel in the presence of the President of the United States. Then multiply that hundreds of times if you were in front of the King of Kings.

The Lord means that He is the owner or master, a title which requires respect and honor. A title given to God, to the Messiah. And he is the Lord of Lords, the Ultimate Master, the One that all others bow down to and show reverence to.

When you pray to Jesus, do you picture Him as the King of Kings, Lord of Lords? He is the only One worthy of our praise and honor. Yet He allows us to come to Him freely. And He came to us as a babe in a manger.

Amazing! He is an incredible example of humility and love.

*Jesus, my Lord, my King, I humbly come before You and ask that You will show me more clearly who You are. You are more powerful than anyone and anything I can even imagine. Help me to remember this as I seek You in prayer each day. I can trust You. You are faithful and true. You are my Lord. Help me to completely surrender to You and Your will, Lord Jesus.*

## **Jesus is Called "Son of God"**

***Matthew 14:33 "Then those who were in the boat (the disciples) worshipped Him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."***

Jesus is God's Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. The Trinity, which stands for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has always been a difficult concept for me to understand.

How can God be all three, and yet be each of these individually as well? The Bible makes it clear that there is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. But they are all one in the same as well because there is only ONE God. If we used math to explain it, we wouldn't use  $1+1+1=3$ , but rather  $1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$ . Some try to explain it using water as an example, because H<sub>2</sub>O can have three forms: water, ice, and steam. Likewise, God has three forms: God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

No example is going to be perfect in explaining the concept of the Trinity, so we must take this by faith and believe what God tells us.

The thing that sticks out to me most about this name is that God sent His Son, the one He loves, to be the sacrifice for our sins-- to live as a human being when He was truly God himself, and to die a horrific death to pay for our sins and restore our relationship with Him. When I think of the idea of sacrificing one of our children for anything, I get anxious and resistant. I can't even *imagine* thinking about doing something like that, let alone doing it. Yet God loves us so much, He was willing to sacrifice His only Son to die for our sins!

Meditate on that today--you are deeply loved by the God of the Universe.

*Lord, thank You for Your love and Your sacrifice, in sending Your only Son to pay the penalty for our sins and to bring us back into relationship with You. I praise You and thank You for Your incredible lovingkindness and mercy. I am unworthy, and yet You have chosen me and saved me through Your Son. Thank You, Jesus. Amen*

## **Jesus is Called the "Good Shepherd"**

***John 10:11, 14, 15 "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. . . I am the Good Shepherd; I know My sheep and My sheep know Me— just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep."***

I love the thought that Jesus is my Shepherd, although I'm not very fond of thinking of myself as a sheep! Sheep are not very smart, and they're slow to learn. They are stubborn, and they easily stray. They are dependent animals who follow whatever the other one is doing, and they're unpredictable. It's no wonder they need a shepherd! The Shepherd is their caregiver. Without him, the sheep wouldn't last long. They need their shepherd.

*Psalm 100:3 "Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture."*

This is just one of many references of God as our Shepherd with us as His sheep.

I think the reason we're often compared with sheep is because of our sin nature. We are so like sheep! We are stubborn, straying from God. We are slow to learn and quick to follow others even when they're leading us the wrong way.

We need a Shepherd. We need Jesus! Jesus is referred to as the Great Shepherd, the Good Shepherd, and the Chief Shepherd. He is always watching over us, caring for our needs, and helping us to stay on the right path. He KNOWS us! That is comforting. He knows us, and yet He still loves and cares for us. Take some time to read through Psalm 23 and meditate on Jesus as our Shepherd.

*Lord Jesus, I thank You. Because You are my Shepherd, I will lack nothing. You lead me beside still waters, and You refresh my soul. You guide me along the right paths and provide comfort for me in my times of need. My life is overflowing with blessings. Lord, help me to see how You are blessing me each day. Thank You that Your goodness and love follow me all my days. I praise You and thank You, Jesus, my Good Shepherd. Help me to follow You faithfully.*

## **Jesus is Called the "Lamb of God"**

***John 1:29 "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"***

A lamb was often the sacrifice which was given for sins in the Old Testament. A lamb could also be called a sheep (or sometimes a goat) and was taken from a flock. Only the most perfect lamb was acceptable for sacrifice.

The image of Jesus as a lamb is very symbolic because He is perfect, and He sacrificed Himself for our sins on the cross. He is the perfect Lamb. Because of his willingness to sacrifice himself, we no longer need to offer lambs for sacrifice for our sins like in the Old Testament. We're under a new covenant with God. Jesus takes away the sins of the world!

Meditate on that for a moment. It's huge! Imagine all the people in the world, and all the sins that even just one person can do in one day... Jesus takes away all those sins!

Revelation has many verses about Jesus being the Lamb as well: Rev. 7:17, 14:10, 15:3, 19:9, 21:22-23, and 22:1, 3.

Take time to read about Jesus as the Lamb in the end times and be encouraged. He has paid the penalty for your sin. He is the ultimate sacrifice, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

*Lord Jesus, help me never to take it for granted that You are the Lamb of God, the One who made the sacrifice to pay for my sins. Forgive me for my sins, Lord, and help me to rest in Your forgiveness, mercy, and grace. I love You, Jesus.*

## **Jesus is Called the "High Priest"**

***Hebrews 4:15-16 "Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."***

A priest in the Old Testament was from the line of the Levites and officiated and offered sacrifices for himself and the people. The High Priest was the chief of all the priests, an especially important position. The Old Testament is full of stories of priests offering sacrifices for the sins of the people of Israel. Under the Jewish system, sacrifices were offered daily on the altar for the forgiveness of sins.

I love this name for Jesus because it shows one of the most important aspects of the new covenant we have with God. We no longer are required to offer sacrifices for our sins because Jesus, our High Priest, sacrificed himself for our sins once and for all! He is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners and exalted above the heavens. He is God Himself, and He willingly gave Himself to pay the penalty for our sins. The perfect God Man who loves us so much that He paid the highest price to show us His mercy and grace.

Not only that, but He also gives us the privilege of approaching God's throne of grace with confidence so we can receive mercy to help us in our times of need. He empathizes with our weaknesses because He also was a man on this earth, yet He never sinned.

Jesus lives to intercede for us and wants us to come to Him with our concerns and needs. May you rest in the arms of our loving High Priest who saves completely those who come to God through Him. He cares for you and wants to help you in your times of need. Take some time to read through Hebrews 7-10 for more on Jesus as our High Priest.

*Lord Jesus, our High Priest, thank You for Your willingness to come to this earth and live the life of a human, dealing with all the struggles of man, yet without sin. Thank You for willingly sacrificing Yourself to pay the penalty for our sins. I praise You for You are holy, blameless, pure, and set apart, exalted above the heavens. It's hard to comprehend who You are, Lord. You are more amazing than we could ever imagine. Help me to know You better, Lord.*

## **Jesus is Called the "Light of the World"**

**John 12:46 "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness;" John 8:12 "When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."**

John 1:3-5 says that Jesus created everything. In Him is life, and that life is the light of men. That light shines through the darkness.

I don't like the darkness very much. I can't see where I'm going or what's around me. Without any light, I can't figure out which way to go. I'm afraid of falling or getting hurt.

In the Bible, "the darkness" often refers to evil in this world. Jesus is the light that defeats the darkness that is symbolic of evil. He is the victor over evil! Jesus brings light to our lives, showing us who we really are-- sinners who need a Savior.

He also gives us clear direction for our lives as we seek Him and allow His light to shine in our lives. In the Psalms and other parts of the Old Testament, the Lord is described as a light for our lives.

Spend some time meditating on Jesus as the Light of the World by reading these Old Testament verses: Psalm 4:6, 18:28, 19:8, 27:1, 36:9, 89:15, 119:105, Isaiah 2:5, and Isaiah 60:1, 19. Praise Him for being the light to our world that we need so desperately. Ask Him to help you and your family to be the light to the world that He has called us to be in Matthew 5:14-16. "You are the light of the world...let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

*Lord, I praise You as the Light of the World. You are beautiful, shining through the darkness of evil and giving us new life. I thank You for Your loving kindness and grace, Your mercy and faithfulness. We need You, Lord, to shine Your light in our lives, to reveal our sins to us, to guide and direct our steps. Please show us Your way and help us to be the light to the world that You are calling us to be, Lord.*

## **Jesus is Called the "Vine"**

***John 15:5 "I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him bears much fruit, for [otherwise] apart from Me [that is, cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing." (AMP)***

Jesus calls Himself the Vine and we are the branches. I love this word picture for understanding how our relationship with Him should be. He is our source of nourishment and sustenance – of life itself. We need to abide in Him to bear fruit; and apart from Him, we can do nothing.

"Abide" means to be held, kept, continually, to remain as one, not to become another or different (Blue Letter Bible). We need to be one with the vine. A branch lying on the ground, unattached to the vine, will wither and die. The branch gets its sustenance from the vine, and it can't survive without being attached to the vine.

Similarly, we need to be completely connected with Christ, our Vine, dependent on Him and totally surrendered to Him. Then we will be fruitful and live healthy Christian lives.

How does this play out in daily life? It means a daily commitment, a desire to be with Christ, to stay connected to Him, understanding His will for our lives. Seeking Him each day, reading His Word and learning more about Him and His will. Being connected to the vine is like communing with Jesus all day long, striving to keep my eyes on Him and His will.

The popular WWJD acronym, "What Would Jesus Do" fits well with this because we are just an extension of Jesus in this world. We are His hands and feet as we abide with Him.

It helps me to picture a branch disconnected from the vine and withered. We can use this object lesson with our children to show them how important it is for us to spend time with Jesus and depend on Him. (Find a branch that is dead, and then show them a healthy branch connected to a tree.) Additional verses on this topic: John 15:1-17, John 8:31, Romans 12:1-2

*Lord Jesus, help us to understand how to fully abide in You, to walk so closely with You that we are one with You. Show us Your will for our lives and guide us as we go through our days that we might live each day for You. I praise You and thank You for being there for us and want to be our strength and support in this life and in the life to come.*



## **Jesus is Called the "King of the Jews"**

***Matthew 27:11 "Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You have said so.'***

***John 19:19, 21 "Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' So, the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'"***

The Jewish people were waiting expectantly for their King to come, based on various prophecies, one of which is found in Jeremiah 23:5-6. The Jewish people were under oppression from the Roman empire and wanted to be freed from Roman rule, to have the nation of Israel restored. Jeremiah prophesied of a time when a King from the line of David would come.

When Jesus first started his ministry, many thought that he might be that King who would save the nation of Israel as had been prophesied. Because Jesus did not fulfill their idea of who the Messiah and King would be, Jewish leaders didn't believe that He was the promised Messiah and King. Therefore, they were angry when Pilate wrote the inscription "King of the Jews" and put it above Jesus' head on the cross. Jesus truly was that promised "King," but they had the wrong picture of what the Messiah's purpose was on this earth. Jesus did come to reign and to deal wisely, but not necessarily in the way they envisioned. He came to reign in all our hearts and to be our King, leading and guiding us in life. He also reigns over the things of this world right now. He is in control, and he is dealing wisely with us and executing justice and righteousness in the land. This is comforting, given all that is going on in the world today. We can trust that Jesus is in charge, and He knows everything that is happening and will be executing justice and righteousness.

*Revelation 15:3 says, "He will be King of the nations in the end! And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations!"*

Additional verses on this topic: Matthew 2:2, Matthew 27:29  
*Lord, You are King-- the King of the Jews and of all those who trust in You. I thank You that You are truly in control and are the Lord of the land, and that we can trust You. I praise You as King and Lord.*

## **Jesus is Called the "Messiah"**

**John 4:25-26** *"The woman said to Him, 'I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ). When He comes, He will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am He.' (ESV)*

**Matthew 16: 15-17** *"But what about you?" Jesus asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven."*

Messiah means "Anointed One, the Christ." Jesus confirmed that He was the promised Messiah several times throughout His ministry, as we can see in the Scriptures.

This name of Jesus is referring to Him as the future Ruler, the Anointed One who will be sent from God and sit on the throne of David forever. The Jewish people eagerly awaited the Messiah's arrival and hoped He would free them from the tyranny of Roman control.

Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies that were foretold about the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One. (See article in Decision Magazine for a list of several prophecies He fulfilled: <http://billygraham.org/decision-magazine/november-2006/the-promise-of-the-messiah/>)

Just as the Jewish people hoped to be saved from the tyranny of Roman control when the Messiah became King, we too need to be saved from the tyranny of sin in our lives. We need the Messiah to be the King and Ruler in our lives to free us from the bondage of sin and the separation it causes between us and God.

Without Jesus, the Messiah, we would be separated from God forever because of our sin. Praise and thank Jesus as the Messiah, for His sacrifice and willingness to come and die for us.

*Jesus, Messiah, I thank You that You chose to come to this earth and live and serve and die to save us from our sins. I worship You as the Messiah-- the King of Kings and Lord of Lords-- and pray that You will help me to see You for who You are and know You better. Help me to proclaim to others the many blessings You have given us through Your sacrifice on the cross.*

## **Jesus is Called the "Cornerstone"**

***1 Peter 2:6 "For in Scripture it says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.'"***

In Biblical times, when a building was built, the first stone laid was the cornerstone. It was significant because it determined how the rest of the building would be built. It was usually the biggest stone, and it gave support to the structure. Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone in the church.

Try to picture the Holy Temple of the Lord as described in **Ephesians 2:19-22:** ***"You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of His household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit."***

The church and each person in the church are the Holy Temple of the Lord, and Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone-- the foundation in whom our faith is founded. He is chosen and precious, and the ones who trust in Him will never be put to shame. The Lord is building us up to be that Holy Temple in which the Holy Spirit dwells.

*Thank You, Lord, that you are the Chief Cornerstone in my life, the precious one who directs my life. I pray that You will help me to be built up into the dwelling that You desire for me to be, Lord. Thank You for Your Holy Spirit who lives in me, building me up and helping me be all You have called me to be.*

## Jesus is Called "Jesus Christ"

**Acts 2:38 "Peter said to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"**

The Jewish people longed for the promised Messiah, the Anointed One to come and save them from the persecution and tyranny. As they talked about their Messiah who was prophesied to come, they began to call him their Savior, the one who would save them. It even became popular to name their children names that meant Savior, such as *Joshua, Jehoshua, Yeshua, Jeshua, Hosea, Hoshea*, or *Jesus*. Each of these names means "Jehovah is salvation," or "Jehovah is my salvation."

Christ is not really a last name, but rather a title showing that he is the Messiah, the Anointed One. It became popular to use His name "Jesus" along with His title "Christ." Sometimes Jesus was just called "Christ," and He was also called "Christ Jesus." The significance of this name is that He is the promised Messiah, the Savior of the Jews and of the world. Some believe that the name *Jesus* refers to the "human" aspect of Jesus and *Christ* refers to His divinity as the Messiah.

It's amazing that although Jesus was a man, he never sinned. Hebrews 4:15 says, **"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin."**

Praise Him that he is the Christ, the Anointed One-- and that he is also Jesus, the God-man who understands our weaknesses and comes alongside us to help us in our times of need. He is our Savior and our Messiah, who saves us from our sins! For extra study, take time to read through the Book of John and learn more about Jesus Christ and his life on this earth.

*Jesus Christ, the Son of God, I praise You for who You are-- the Holy One of God, the true Savior and Messiah. Help me to understand how You could be both man and God at the same time and help me to follow Your example as You lived here on this earth. I thank You for Your Word that helps us to know You better. Open my eyes to understand who You truly are, Lord Jesus*

## **Jesus is Called the "Image of God"**

***Colossians 1:15-17, 19 "The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." "For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him"***

I've heard people say that they wished that they could see God, then it would be easier to believe in Him. But God has shown himself to us through Jesus Christ. He is the image of the invisible God, and He shows us who God really is. In fact, all of God's fullness dwells in Jesus!

As we read the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), we can get to know Jesus for who He is and understand God and His character as well. We can see God's grace in Jesus, who unselfishly came to this earth, humbly becoming a man when He is really God Himself (Philippians 2:6-11). We see His love and kindness in willingly giving His life on a cross, a horrible death, to pay the penalty for our sins. God's desire to restore our relationship with Him was so strong that He was willing to take on the form of a man, so we could know Him better and have a true relationship with Him, unhindered by our sin any longer.

God loves us so much that He, the Creator of the world, willingly became a human and lived among us. He did this so that we could know Him better, but primarily so He could restore His relationship with us and take away the dividing wall of sin that was keeping us from Him.

For further study, spend time reading through one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), and write down all you learn about Jesus, God incarnate.

*Lord, I praise You and thank You for Your lovingkindness, for Your readiness to come and live among us and show us who God is and show us Your mercy and grace by dying for our sins. Thank you, Jesus, for spending so much time here as a human and recording Your life in the Bible so those of us who didn't see you in person can get to know You better as we read your Word. Help me to know You better, Lord! Help me to love You more deeply and seek You more faithfully.*

## **Jesus is Called the "Alpha and Omega"**

**Revelation 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, 'who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.'"**

**Revelation 21:6 "And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning, and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.'"**

Sometimes I sit and ponder how the world began. It's hard for me to fathom that God has always existed. There wasn't a time when He wasn't. He is the Alpha, the beginning. The word alpha is used for the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and in Scripture it is used to describe God because He is the beginning, the first One. Everything we know exists because of Him. He is the Almighty God, the One we can trust and turn to for all our needs and worries. It amazes me that the Creator of the Universe cares about each one of us. We are His children, and He loves us.

Jesus says that for those who are thirsty, He will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The water of life is a symbol of eternal life. As we trust in Jesus to give us this eternal life, and as we let Him satisfy our spiritual thirst, we experience the fullness of life with Him. He wants us to have life and have it abundantly. **John 10:10b "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."** Eternal life really means life with God forever. How could we not want that?

Jesus is the Omega as well. He is the end. Omega is the word used for the last letter of the Greek alphabet, and Jesus is the last One to rule in the end times. He is the beginning and the end.

Have you made Jesus the beginning and the end in your life? Is He the first one you think of each day and the last one you speak with as you drift off to sleep? Seek Him fully, the Alpha and the Omega, the Lord of Lords, and King of Kings. The Creator of the Universe wants a relationship with you!

*Lord Jesus, I praise You, the Alpha and Omega, the Creator, and the author of life. May You be LORD in my life at all times. Help me to seek You fully and understand who You are more completely. I want to worship You and give You the glory You deserve, Lord. Help me to worship You with my whole heart and to keep my eyes fixed on You as I go through each day. Thank You, Jesus!*

## **Jesus is called "The Bread of Life"**

**Then Jesus declared, "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**

In the days of Jesus, bread was essential for life. It was a mainstay in their diet. They needed it to survive.

Therefore, when Jesus says that he's the bread of life, he's saying that we can't survive spiritually without Him in our lives. We need him like we need bread and food to survive. And when we seek Him, we'll never go hungry spiritually.

I've heard it said that we have a spiritual vacuum or hole in our hearts that only Jesus can fill. We try to fill it with other things: people, careers, money, etc., but nothing will satisfy us like Jesus will. I think this is expressing the same concept. We won't be spiritually satisfied by anything other than Jesus. He is our 'spiritual bread' that we need to survive spiritually.

Jesus repeats the statement about being bread in a different way a bit later in the sixth chapter of John:

*"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:51*

Jesus is the essence of life and spiritual food to the person who has trusted in Him and His sacrifice on the cross to pay for their sins. When we trust in Jesus, we are metaphorically eating the living bread that He offers us through His sacrifice on the cross. Just as wheat must die to provide us with bread, Jesus died so that we might live.

*Lord Jesus, our Bread of Life, thank you for your incredible mercy and sacrifice on our behalf. You have provided a way for us to have eternal life through your death on the cross and your resurrection. Thank you for this incredible gift of life everlasting with you.*

## **Jesus is called "Lord of All"**

**"You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all."  
Acts 10:36**

The Jewish people have been God's chosen people since early in our world's history. Jewish people were told not to even associate with people who were not Jewish because they were considered unclean and unholy.

In Acts 10, Peter had a vision in which he saw all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air come down from heaven on a great sheet. A voice told him to kill and eat, but according to Jewish laws, these animals were considered unholy and unclean, so he refused. Then the voice said again, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy." This happened three times!

Immediately after this vision, some Gentile men came to the house Peter was at and told him that Cornelius, a Centurian and a Gentile, wanted Peter to come and share the message of Christ with him and his family and friends. Because of the vision in which God showed him that those God had cleansed were no longer considered unholy, he went to visit Cornelius. He realized that God was saying that Gentiles were considered equal with the Jews. The Gospel of Jesus Christ and the offer for forgiveness is for everyone, not just the Jews.

Jesus is the Lord of all peoples. Not just the Jews, not just Americans, EVERYONE! And we as believers have the privilege of being ambassadors to all those who still need to hear the Gospel of Jesus and his love and sacrifice to pay for our sins.

*"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."  
2 Corinthians 5:20*

*Lord Jesus, our Lord, and Savior, help us to faithfully share your love with those who don't know you yet. Thank you for your love and forgiveness and your willingness to be Lord to all people in the world. Help everyone to have a chance to hear this Good News!*



## **Who is Jesus?**

### **A Devotional Study of the Names of Jesus**

**Psalm 135:13 "Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages."**

I hope you've enjoyed these devotionals and the short studies on the names of Jesus!

There are several other names that the Bible uses to describe Jesus. I've just covered some of them. I want to encourage you to take some time to study other names and learn more about Jesus.

Here are some suggestions for further study:

The Way (John 14:1)

Word of Life (1 John 1:1)

Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Revelation 5:5)

Rabbi (Matthew 26:49)

Master (Luke 5:5; Luke 8:24)

My Beloved Son (Matthew 17:5)

Son of Man (Matthew 9:6)

Son of David (Matthew 1:1)

**May the LORD bless you as you seek HIM!**

*Kris*

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