

Who Is Jesus Christ?

By REV. W. W. KETCHUM
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TEXT—Whom say ye that I am?—Matthew 16:15.

Christ asked this question of his disciples ages ago, and he is still asking the same question today.



Not only is Christ asking this question, but men are asking it of each other, "Who is this Christ?" They ask, "A mere man, one individual of the race like the rest of us, or something more?" It is the challenging question of the ages, and calls upon us to determine what rank Christ holds in the hierarchy of beings.

There are those who try to make us believe that Christ is a mere man, and nothing more; but we are not persuaded that they have answered the question correctly. We readily admit the humanity of Christ. It is rarely ever challenged today. In fact, the tendency of the age is towards the humanizing of Christ altogether. But after we have admitted that Christ is a man, there is that about him which tells us that we have not fully answered his question.

It was Napoleon Bonaparte who said: "I know men, and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man." That is just it; we, too, know men, and, because we do, we know that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Every one agrees that Jesus Christ is the one sinless personality of the race. Twenty centuries of hostile criticism have not found a flaw in his character. It is as stainless and spotless as ever. Of what mere man can you say that? There has never a man lived whose character could stand the white light of criticism as has the character of Christ.

And his character is no figment of the fancy. It is not the product of the imagination of a few unlearned fishermen. As Theodore Parker says: "Shall we be told such a man never lived? His whole story is a lie? Suppose that Plato and Newton never lived? But who did their works, and thought their thoughts? It takes a Newton to forge a Newton. What man could have fabricated a Jesus? None but a Jesus."

Before, then, we can answer Christ's question aright, we must consider his stainless, spotless character, unequalled by any man in the past and unattained by any man in the present. Robert Ingersoll, who never admitted more than he was obliged to, acknowledged that Christ was a good and heroic man. That was a great concession for the avowed infidel, and, when weighed carefully, it is seen to be an argument in favor of the unique character of Christ, which lifts him above mere men. For it is obvious to anyone that there can be no discrepancy between a good man and his word. If Christ is all Robert Ingersoll is willing to admit—a good man, then Christ's word must be "a good word." What he says of himself must be true, or he at once loses his good character and becomes a charlatan.

So Christ, then, must be heard. It is absolutely imperative to pass judgment upon him without hearing him. And it will help us in view of all that is admitted concerning him, if we listen to him speak.

First, he bears testimony to his own character by publicly challenging anyone to convict him of sin (John 8:10). No one was ever found who accepted the challenge, and Pilate, who examined him on a spurious complaint of the Jews, said: "I find no fault in him." By his own testimony, confirmed by the word of Pilate, he stands before us as the one without spot or blemish.

Again, he claims that the record he bears of himself is true. If it be not true, then we are shut up to one alternative, and that he was not, as Robert Ingersoll has admitted, "a good man"; for a man is not good if he ever breathes falsehood.

He plainly states that he knows whence he came, and whither he goes (John 8:14), and who he is. Hear him as he says: "No man hath ascended up into heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of Man, which is in heaven" (John 3:13). To the woman of Samaria, who says: "I know that Messias cometh which is called Christ," he replies: "Thou speakest unto thee as he" (John 4:19-20); and to the one born blind, whose eyes he had opened, he asked: "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?" To which the man once blind replied: "Who is he, Lord, that I might believe?" To which Jesus answered: "Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that speaketh unto thee" (John 9:25-27).

Having noted the matchless, sinless life of Christ and heard his wonderful words concerning himself, how dost thou reply to his question?

Canst thou, a blessing who God bestows the answer to your prayer by order to enlarge your capacity to receive.

MASONIC ELECTION.
Notice is hereby given that La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. & A. M., will hold its annual election of officers on Saturday evening, February 1, 1919, at 7 o'clock.
By Order of the Master,
A. C. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

News of the Churches

SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army, week end services will be as follows:
The prayer meeting tonight will commence with a prayer meeting in the hall at 7:15, followed by an open air meeting at 7:55, followed by another service in the hall at 8:00 o'clock. The ladies will have charge of the service tonight. Mrs. E. F. Cobb takes the Bible lesson.
Sunday services as follows:
Holiness meeting, 11 a. m., subject, "Sanctification, What it is."
Sunday school, 2 p. m.
Prayer meeting, 7:15.
Open air meeting, 7:30.
Salvation meeting, 8 p. m.
The meeting at 8 o'clock will be of a special nature. Capt. Smith will publicly enroll some new soldiers.
You are cordially invited to attend.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.
Young People's meeting will be held at the Christian church at 6:30 p. m.
No preaching service.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY
Sunday morning service at 11:00 a. m.; subject, "Love."
Sunday school at 10:00 a. m.
Wednesday evening service at 7:30.
The reading room is open to the

public Monday, Wednesday and Saturday afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 p. m.
All are welcome to attend our services.
Corner First and Washington sts.

FIRST M. E. CHURCH
Services at the First M. E. church on Sunday, February 2nd.
Sunday school at 9:45.
Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.
Morning subject, "A Matchless Compassion."
Evening subject, "What Will You Get?"
Epworth League at 6:30 p. m.
Come and enjoy these services with us.
N. SHERMAN HAWK, Pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH.
Services on Sunday, February 2nd, will be as follows:
Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.; preaching services, conducted by Rev. Otto at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.
Prayer meeting will be held Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m.

M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH
The meetings at the M. E. church, South, every night this week, in-

crease in interest at every service. There will be services tonight at 7:30.

Sunday, at 11 a. m. the subject will be "A Divine Prophet," and at 7:30 p. m. "The Reconstruction, a Government Discovery, Health and Social Morals."

Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.; Epworth League at 6:30 p. m.
There will be no services Monday and Tuesday, but they will resume Wednesday or Thursday, to continue indefinitely.
All who want a better La Grande are invited to co-operate with us.
W. H. S. SMITH, Pastor.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.
Sunday, February 2nd.
Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.
Communion services and preaching at 11 a. m., the subject, "The Unity of the Spirit." We will have special music. James M. Daly, a singer of note, will sing.
At the evening service at 7:30 "God's Outline—in the Beginning." Everybody invited.

We are very glad to have been able to resume all our regular services with such a good attendance. Even our prayer meeting last Thursday evening was well attended.
R. H. COKER, Minister.
E. W. Eastman, Supt. S. S.
S. H. Roe, Chairman of Board.

SCHOOLS OPEN AT SUMMERVILLE

MR. AND MRS. JOHN GOLDEN LOST INFANT SON.

Miss Ida West and Charles Sanderson Married and Leave on Tour of Coast Cities.

SUMMERVILLE, Jan. 30.—(Special)—School opened Monday morning with a good attendance and with C. M. Hale as principal. Mr. Hale will have charge of the school until Mrs. Hill is able to work again. It is sincerely hoped there will be no more vacations during this term.

Harry Sanderson has sold his butcher shop in Inlander and has bought J. M. Conte's store. He hopes to get opened up for business within the next few days.

Irene Ott is now in Lostine visiting her aunt, Mrs. Elmer Rucker.

Clyde McKinzie is now on the sick list.

Jim Combs has received his discharge and has returned home.

Frank Oliver has purchased a new Ford car.

Tilla Hug, who has been visiting with friends and relatives here, has returned to her home in La Grande.

Mrs. T. A. Choate has gone to spend a week with her mother at Elgin.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Golden passed away Thursday morning, after a short illness. The funeral services were held at the home, Rev. Gano officiating. The body was laid to rest in the Summerville cemetery.

J. M. Choate and daughter Juanita are transacting business in town this week.

Mr. Ackard, who has been quite ill, is some better at this writing.

If Summerville and surroundings are still "flooded," the Ladies Aid society will hold its regular business meeting the second Thursday in February. They hope to have as many members present as possible so as to get the ball rolling again. It will be decided later, and announced where this meeting will be held.

Wallace Irvin has gone to Sumpter, Ore., to visit relatives.

The friends of Edgar Woods, a prosperous young farmer of this place, will be glad to learn he is now in Camp Lewis, awaiting his discharge, and will soon return home.

Most everyone is anxious to get their summer wood cut, as the buzz saw is now in good running order.

While buzzing Monday for Clifton Wagner, John Wagner had the misfortune to get his foot badly crushed. He is now on crutches.

Otto Ott has gone to Wallowa, where he will make an extended visit with relatives.

Mr. Chapel of Rinehart, was demonstrating a site in town this week. The farmers were much pleased with some of the samples of ensilage exhibited.

The lineman of the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company was recently in town and wired D. R. McKinzie's new garage.

Rev. Gano will be here each Sunday afternoon to fill his regular appointment. Don't forget Sunday school at 2 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Burr Slack were transacting business in La Grande this week.

Among the ones who attended the Speechart and were Mr. and Mrs. Clem McKinzie, Frank Oliver, George Hart, Ross, Frank, Preschuch and Clifton Wagner.

Grande to serve on the grand jury. F. Slack has returned from La Grande, where he had been transacting business for the past few days.

The Summerville Stock association held its business meeting this week. The Winchea forest rangers were here to help make the dividing lines between the sheep and cattle ranges.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Royce were La Grande visitors Wednesday.

Mrs. Richards and Mrs. Sullivan are spending the week-end in La Grande, visiting relatives.

A beautiful wedding was solemnized by Rev. Archer at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. West last Sunday, when their daughter, Ida May, was united in marriage to Charlie Sanderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Sanderson of Dry Creek. The groom is a well-known and prosperous young farmer of this place and is to be congratulated on winning a bride of such rare popularity and beauty. Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson have gone to visit the cities along the coast and when they return will make their home at the Sanderson ranch north of town, among their many friends and relatives, who wish them a long and happy married life.

GEN. PAVLO SKOROPADSKI



Gen. Pavlo Skoropadski is the hero of the Ukrainians and a pilot-boat of Germany.

COASTING POPULAR SPORT AT KAMELA

WARM DAYS AND COLD NIGHTS PROVIDE SLIPPERY SLIDING SURFACE.

KAMELA, Jan. 31.—(Special)—Howard Schaffer was here transacting business the first of the week.

Mrs. Mabel Math's and daughter, Dortha, returned Tuesday evening from Pendleton, where they have been working in the woolen mills for the past month.

The Red Cross met Wednesday at the home of Mrs. L. T. Fugit. They finished the twenty-four garments that were started last week.

Mrs. L. T. Fugit has gone to La Grande to spend several days visiting with Mrs. Clyde Peterson.

Mary E. Swauger was a visitor in La Grande Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Barnes went to La Grande Wednesday where they will take up their residence. Mr. Barnes has been working on one of the hospital engines here for the past two weeks.

Mrs. Elizabeth Truax was transacting business in La Grande the first of the week.

About fifteen of the younger set have enjoyed the opportunity of sleigh riding the past few nights. The thawing in the daytime and freezing towards evening makes the coasting fine.

Frank Hanlon was a visitor in La Grande Friday.

Mrs. Ed Allen went to La Grande this morning to visit her daughters, Mrs. Basil Collins and Mrs. Henry Hickey.

Engine Foreman Ingerson was quite badly burnt by a hot boiler, while connecting a grate in an engine recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Ward left Thursday for Tolocast where Mr. Ward will be in the employ of the O. W. R. R. & N. as fireman.

OLD HATS made to look like new at Wilson Bros. new Foley building. 2-1-19

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A CHINESE GIRLS MARRIAGE
A Chinese girl's marriage day is about the most miserable day in her whole life. For days beforehand she has been in the hands of "dressers," who washed her face in hot water, applied powder and rouge, dressed her hair elaborately, and early on the wedding morning arrayed her in heavy satin robes, richly embroidered, placing a heavy crown and tinsel veil upon her head. She cannot partake of any food, she must fast all day long, every one is at liberty to tease her, examine her clothes and generally test her temper. There are clashing of cymbals, playing, singing and much talking. The poor child is quite worn out by the end of the day.
To all this tiresome clamor is added the fact that the bride has never seen her husband.
Of late years a number of progressive young women in China formed a club, the members of which were pledged to commit suicide rather than marry a man of whom they knew nothing. About one hundred young women have actually fulfilled this pledge.

BORAH SAYS WILSON MUST ENFORCE THE FIRST POINT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—If President Wilson fails to enforce his first peace point, calling for open diplomacy, the other thirteen will be whittled away in secret at the peace conference, Senator Borah of Idaho declared in the senate.

He read to the senate a newspaper report that Colonel House and General Smuts had reached an agreement whereby the secret treaties between England and Japan dealing with Germany's colonies in the Pacific would be accepted by the peace conference.
"I rise to protest against members of the American commission accepting in secret the secret treaties of other nations. This spells defeat of our American president in his battle for open diplomacy."

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